



*Official Instrument of San Francisco  
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***OCTOBER 21 MUSIC***  
 Sol Fenster on Harmonica  
 Lynn Ewing and Sharon Walters Greyhosky duo  
 Naomi Zamir playing Klezmer Music  
 Mike and Steve Trucco from Stockton (see page 5)

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

On May 7, 1990, a group of us met in a room at Westlake Joe's to form what we called the Bay Area Accordion Club. This meeting had been preceded by an action some weeks earlier by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, following presentations by local accordionists, in which the Supervisors named the Accordion the Official Instrument of that city.

Much has happened since that day. Our membership has grown to almost 300. We have had monthly gatherings for 17 years during which we have been entertained by scores of talented musicians. Exceptional accordionists from parts of our country and Europe have heard about us and have come to share their talents with us over these years. We have welcomed young students of the accordion to be part of our club.

We have also stimulated interest in at least five communities around the San Francisco

Bay Area, and this has led them to forming their own accordion clubs. We have an excellent "open border" with our Bay Area neighbors and often exchange players with them.

Now, as your new Board of Directors takes office, our task is to make our organization better known to the music community. We call on all of you to help us. There is a job for everyone, and you don't have to play accordion to be an important part of the San Francisco Accordion Club.

If you play an accordion of any type and at any level, we invite you to play for us. We have a very friendly audience who are always attentive and will honor you with their applause.

If you don't play accordion, we need you as our audience. As some of us can tell you, we musicians play our best before a live, appreciative audience. We also need you to fill the many jobs that are required to run our organization.

In summary, you don't need any further invitation. Look around and see what you can do to maintain our presence.

*Frank Montoro*

***Directions to Oyster Point Yacht Club, 911 Marina Blvd., South San Francisco***

*From 101 traveling either north or south, take Oyster Point exit. Turn right on Marina Blvd. (be careful not to turn right on Gull Drive, just before Marina Blvd.). Continue past gate house to sign "Oyster Point Yacht Club." There is plenty of parking and ramp access.*

***Our Website [www.sanfranciscoaccordionclub.com](http://www.sanfranciscoaccordionclub.com) is incomplete and under construction***

## September Music and Election

Yours Truly started the pre-meeting music until she handed the accordion to **William De Michelis** who was willing to take over; and then Pres. **Peter Di Bono** conducted the election, which was the first order of business. By a majority of those present, the following **Executive Board** was elected for the coming year: **President: Frank Montoro; Vice President: Val Kieser; Secretary: Lore Warren; Treasurer: Maryanne Romanowski; board members-at-large: Judy Dale, Telmo Echeverría, Lynn Ewing and Sharon Walters Greyhosky.**



The new Executive Board: Judy Dale, Sharon Greyhosky, Frank Montoro, Lynn Ewing, Telmo Echeverría, Maryanne Romanowski, Val Kieser, Lore Warren

Our first musical performance was by Peter Di Bono's young and talented student, **Isaac Teich**. This confident eight-year-old played a very nice version of

*On Top of Old Smoky*, followed by *Bingo* and *Do Re Mi*.

Isaac will receive another year of free membership for stepping up to the stage and performing for us. Thanks, Isaac!

**Skyler Fell** has been apprenticing with **Vince Cirelli** and is becoming an expert accordion repair technician. She brought greetings from Vince, who couldn't be here (see notice about Vince elsewhere in this newsletter—some very bad luck has confronted him). Anyway, Skyler is also an accordion player, and she entertained us with *Skulker's Joy* in a minor key; a Klezmer *Boys and Girls*; *Bei Mir Bist Du Schoen* with vocal; and *Le Chocolatier* with **Melody Guzman** juggling while Skyer played and sang. This duo is always very entertaining.

After the break it was "Happy Birthday" to **Amil Samayoa** who turned 83, and also to **Tony Di Bono**,



Peter's and Reno's dad, for his 90th.

**Norma Zonay-Parsons** normally performs with a musical partner playing either violin or accordion. Today we had expected Norma and her accordion partner, **Bruno Bianchini**, but Bruno



Melody Guzman and Skyler Fell

has had some health problems, and so Norma performed

alone today and, as always, she played and sang just beautifully. She played *Breezin' Along with the Breeze* with lovely vocal; *Luci e Ombre* (one of my favorites); *Cruising Down the River*; and *Life Is Just a Bowl of Cherries*, the latter being accompanied by an anecdote about a guru on top of a mountain being



Norma Zonay-Parsons

asked, "What is the answer to life?" and his answer being the above song title! Norma concluded with her signature song, a lovely *Musetina*.

Thanks so much, Norma!

Among the winners of the drawings were **Bob Smith** (twice???), **Mary-Alice Eldon**, **Jane Di Maggio** and **Stig Bjork**.



**Jana Maas** came from Modesto to play for us on her beautiful Excelsior accordion. I've known Jana for many, many years, and you'll never find a more pleasant personality or smoother player. Jana teaches music in a public

Jana Maas

school in Modesto, and what lucky kids those are! Jana played *Never On Sunday/White Ribbons* (music to both songs by Manos Hadjidakis); *Black & White Rag*; *Crazy Accordion*; *Pirate's Life*; and, by popular demand, Jana's ever-favorite *I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas*, including the hilarious words! That brought the house down!

Our last performance was by **Joe Domitrowich** (Alpiners USA) and singer/yodeler from Oregon, **Margot Turrell**. The first piece included Margot yodeling *Ich Brauch' Keine Strümpfe* (I Don't Need any Socks); then *Alpine Tirolerland*, the title song of their album; *Mein Herz Ist Im Hochland*, a beautiful



Joe Domitrowich and Margot Turrell

duet yodel, of which the second time they made a funny play on words, using "Oakland" instead of "Hochland." Margot then played

the *Goldgruber Polka* on button box. Margot, by the way, together with **June Diess** from Oregon, won 2nd as a duet at Kimberley this year, playing the *Goldgruber Polka*. Margot is President of the Rogue River Accordion Club, and June is Treasurer. Margot also was a co-founder, along with Stas Wisniach, of the Golden State Accordion Club (Vacaville).

The music continued with *Erherzog Johann Jodler*, a gorgeous slow yodel that I've known for years, and it is difficult even for the best yodeler; then a specialty tune of Margot's, with a very fast yodel at the end, *Bravour*, which brought on enthusiastic applause from the audience. Next was the *Tiroler Kirschen* yodel, and *Wannst Mi Gern Hast*, a very lovely waltz. For an encore they did *Der Elefant im Tirolerland*. How many elephants have you seen in the Tirol? It was very funny!

The Alpiners USA band has lots of gigs, including Oct. 14 at the Villages Gold and Country Club in San Jose, Oct. 19 at the Salinas Elks Lodge, Oct. 20-21 Oktoberfest in downtown Campbell, and Oct. 26 at Lugano Swiss Bistro in Carmel. A busy schedule! Anything else you'd like to know about them you can find at [www.alpinersusa.com](http://www.alpinersusa.com) or by calling Joe at (408) 255-1259.

What a program! Many of us were in the mood for a relaxing drink in the lounge following the performance.

Val 🎵



William De Michelis helping out with the pre-meeting music



The accordion got a lot of attention from the kids at this September playing job. Turns out that the kids are all musical in one way or another (piano, guitar, ballet, etc.) and Dad even played accordion!



A Budding Dick Contino?

### RIDE WANTED

Our beloved **Frances Benedetto** of Redwood City, who catered our events in first-class manner for many years, would like to attend our musical meetings if she could get a ride. She lives on Brewster Avenue in Redwood City. If you could help out by giving Fran a ride, please call her at (650) 368-6477 or e-mail her at [nick19279@cs.com](mailto:nick19279@cs.com). Many thanks.

*Some very disturbing news . . .*

Vince Cirelli had an unfortunate accident in which someone fell on him and broke his hip. Vince has had surgery and, thank Heaven, appears to be on the mend. I'm sure everyone at SFAC joins in sending Vince our love along with warmest wishes for a fast and complete recovery. Vince is in Mills Peninsula Hospital, 1873 El Camino Real, Burlingame 94010. Cards can be sent there (he'll be there for at least three weeks) or to his home. Meanwhile . . .

Here is a very precious photo of Vince with his great-granddaughter Victoria Marie, who had her first accordion lesson on her first birthday! (Isn't she adorable?) —————>



**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

A hearty **Welcome Aboard** to **Alex Roitman** of San Francisco, who enjoys "Oldies," Classical, and European accordion music. Alex plays piano accordion, and we hope he'll play for the club soon.

**Alan Venable** of San Francisco, who enjoys "Oldies" and European accordion music—and Alan plays piano accordion.

**Grigoriy Krumik** is a returning member signing up all over again. Grigoriy is an accomplished bayan player. Welcome back, Grigoriy! *We hope that Alex, Alan, Grigoriy and any member will call anyone on the board (see last page) and tell us you'd like to play so we can get you scheduled. If you're uncomfortable with playing in the show, you can volunteer to play pre-meeting "warmup" music—so don't be shy! Give us a call!*

**DID YOU KNOW . . .**

. . . That any youngster under the age of 18 who plays for the club gets a free year's membership?

. . . That any youngster under the age of 18 gets into our monthly musical events free?

. . . That we welcome *anyone* to play for the club, no matter what the playing level? That's how we amateurs gain experience in performing before an audience! Just call any board member (last page)

**NEWS FLASH !!!**

*Our float in the Columbus Day Parade in SF won second prize in its division (Amateur Floats)—there were 6 entries in that category. That means that a check for \$300 will be coming our way! (Photos next page)*

*I congratulate and thank the Fun Band participants for playing on the float, and the Corsiglias' grandkids, Chloe (8) and Camille (6) Smallwood and Max and Santiago Weschler, and Judy Dale's granddaughter (I didn't get her name but she was great), for participating with us and dancing the Tarantella in front of the Reviewing Stand, which put us over the top! I also thank the parents of these great kids, Patti and Horacio Weschler Corsiglia, and Julie and Aaron Smallwood who allowed them to participate, and for helping out. And thanks, Aaron, for driving the car. Everyone pitched in with the decorating and other details. Telmo went with me (Val) to pick up the trailer. The Corsiglias provided the best sound system we ever had.*

*Band members who were able to participate (some wanted to join us but were unable to): Victor and Barbara Corsiglia, Judy Dale, Telmo Echeverría, Val Kieser, Gwyn and John Lister, Bob Smith, and Scott Williamson (fresh back from Scotland). NICE JOB, EVERYONE!*



### About Steve and Mike Trucco

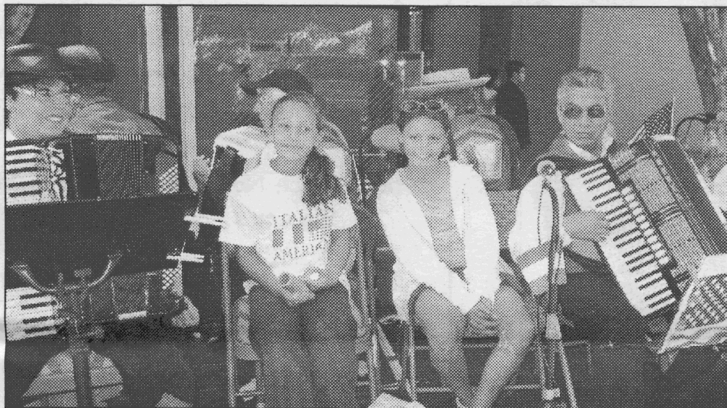
This father & son duo have been playing together for at least 16 years, and they will amaze you with their togetherness, as well as their great spirit and *joie de vivre*.

Their style of Italian waltzes and polkas is unforgettable. Each of these men began learning accordion at a very early age, and they have had the opportunity to develop their own unique style together. They never fail to bring the house down!

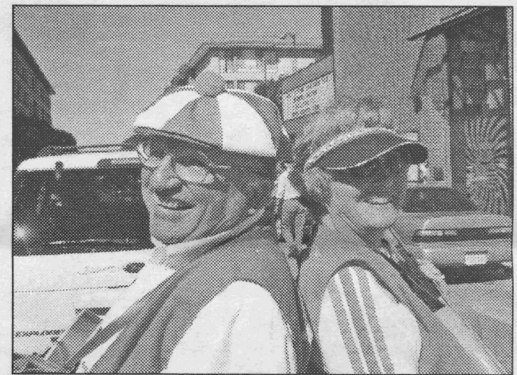
### ← Our Prize-winning Float

I wish I could have taken photos of the kids dancing the Tarantella, but I couldn't since I was playing with the band. We had such fun, we are excited about doing it again next year, only even better!

Below: Vic & Barbara Corsiglia ↓



Judy Dale; Chloe Smallwood, age 8 (Corsiglia family); granddaughter of Judy Dale, age 9; Telmo Echeverria



### FUN BAND NEWS

With the parade prize under our belts we're feeling more enthusiastic than ever, and are now hard at work on our Christmas program, to play for the club on December 16! We welcome new players, so don't be shy if you'd like to join us! Call Val (510) 531-4836 or [vtkacc@ifn.net](mailto:vtkacc@ifn.net). Also: we are available to play for a club or event, so please call Val or Frank (510) 339-1163 if you know of a performance opportunity for us!

### ACE ENSEMBLE NEWS

The ACE Ensemble also is working on our Christmas program for the December meeting. In addition, we are getting ready to make our first official recording. Upcoming performances: Lake Park Senior Center in Oakland Monday, Nov. 5; concert at Zion Lutheran Church in Piedmont Sunday, Nov. 25; Filoli Gardens in Redwood City Monday, Nov. 26; Silicon Valley Accordion Society Sunday, Dec. 2; SFAC Sunday, December 16. Call Val for details.

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS !!!

We have received most of the renewals, and want to remind the rest of you to send yours in! A few (about 8) of the self-addressed envelopes we enclosed with the last newsletter apparently fell out and were returned, so even if you didn't get an envelope, if you haven't renewed, please do so as soon as possible. \$30 per household, send to Valerie Kieser, 3437 Crane Way, Oakland, CA 94602. Thanks much!

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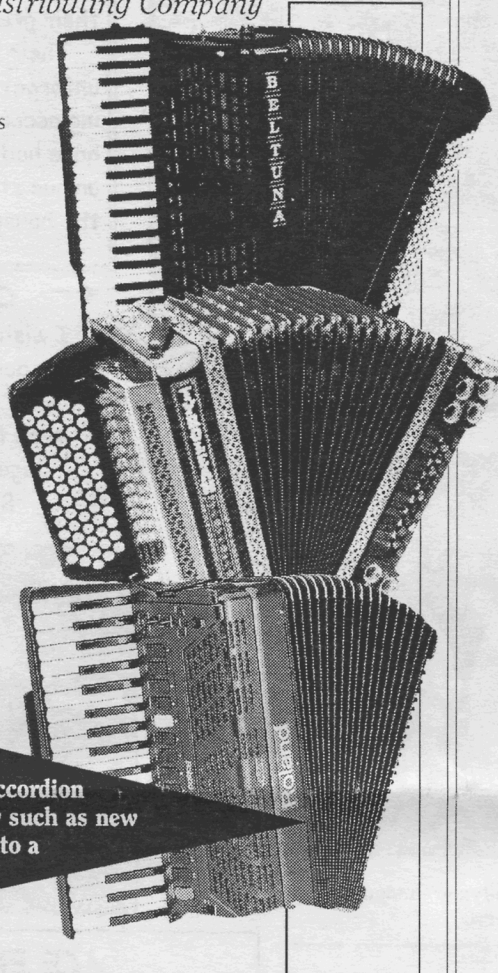
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## "Where is my friend playing?"

Contact:

Steve Balich North Bay (707) 874-3494

Big Lou's Polka Casserole

[lou@accordionprincess.com](mailto:lou@accordionprincess.com)

Ron Borelli Peninsula (650) 574-5707

[rborelli@aol.com](mailto:rborelli@aol.com)

Richard Denier in Carmel

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Joe Domitrowich South Bay

[www.capricious-accordion.com](http://www.capricious-accordion.com) or

[www.alpinersusa.com](http://www.alpinersusa.com)

Mike Zampiceni South Bay

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Zighi Baci San Francisco

[www.zighibaci.com](http://www.zighibaci.com) or [www.zighi@sonic.net](mailto:www.zighi@sonic.net)

## When Do Our Fellow Accordion Clubs in the Bay Area (and slightly beyond) Meet?

**Accordion Club of the Redwoods (ACR)** regularly meets on the third Monday of the month, Hermann & Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma. Contact: Kris Nelson [krisnelson@aol.com](mailto:krisnelson@aol.com) or (707) 795-4860.

**Silicon Valley Accordion Society (SVAS)** meets on the first Sunday of the month, 1:30 p.m. at Harry's Hofbrau, 390 Saratoga Avenue between Keily Blvd. and Stevens Creek Blvd. Contact: Bill Topogna (408) 984-5290.

**Golden State Accordion Club (GSAC)** has three chapters: The Vacaville club meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30, at a new location: Creekside Bar & Grill, 555 Main street, Vacaville. The Humboldt Club meets on the third Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Humboldt Swiss Club, 5403 Tompkins Hill Road, Loleta, CA 95551. The Sacramento group meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at the Dante Club, 2330 Fair Oaks Blvd., Sacramento. Contact for all the GSAC Chapters: Carole Enneking (707) 864-2359.

**Good Time Accordion Club (GTAC)** meets on the second Wednesday of the month 7:00 p.m. in the Music Auditorium, Escalon High School, Escalon (just east of the Community Center). This is a New Meeting Place beginning in October. Contact: (209) 545-3603.

**Northern California Accordion Society (NCAS)** meets 6:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month at Lutheran Church Hall, 6365 Douglas Blvd, off Highway 80 in Granite Bay, CA. Note: This is a new location! Contact: Vince Cukar (916) 791-3041.

### SFAC Band Practice

Wed., October 17, 7 p.m. at Val Kieser's Home in Oakland

CALL AHEAD!! Please join us!

Info: call Frank Schlotter (510) 339-1163 or Val (510) 531-4836

### SFAC Evening Ensemble Practice

Sadly, we have had to give up the evening ensemble, at least for now, because Joe Smiell's schedule just does not allow him the time for it.

### Our Sincere Thanks

To those who generously donate to the Club.

Each year we start a new cumulative list of donors. If you donate and your name doesn't show up in this column, please call Val (510) 531-4836 or [vtkacc@ifn.net](mailto:vtkacc@ifn.net) and let me know. We want to be sure you are recognized! Thanks! So far this year your Editor has learned of donations from: Mark Zhagel (3); Don Haga in memory of Lou Soper; Thelma Bartoli in memory of Lou Soper; Valerie Kieser in memory of Lou Soper; Amil Samayoa in memory of Lou Soper; Richard Yaus; Scott Williamson; Louis Traverso; James Monfredini; Bruce Kirschner; Lawrence Caserza; Vinny Rinaldi; Frank Montoro; John Gullmes; Sue and Mike Hirigoyen; Herb Meier; Ray Abinanti; Sundi O'Mara; Paul Thiel; Lee and Walt Woodall

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO LEAVE THE MEETING HALL CLEAN AND FREE OF FOOD, PAPER PLATES, NAPKINS, CANS, BOTTLES, ETC. !!!**

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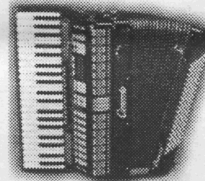
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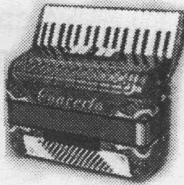
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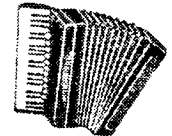
Members may place one small ad for one month free of charge in a given year; after that the charge is \$6.00 per issue. A business-card-size ad costs \$6 per issue or \$60 per year for members; a quarter-page ad costs \$15.00 for members; a half-page ad costs \$25 for members. A full-page ad costs \$50.00 for members. Discount available for ongoing ads. Ads placed by non-members will cost twice the above-quoted prices. A flyer advertising an event may be included in one issue for \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members.

**SFAC Executive Board**

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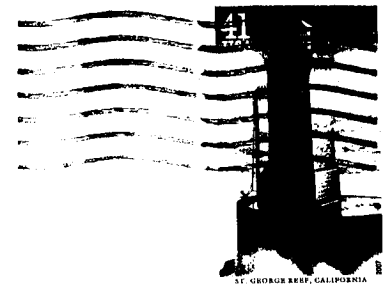


**NEXT MEETING: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21**  
2:00 p.m. promptly (see page 1 for directions)



***Newsletter of the  
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