

May, 2019

♪ ♪ SFAC Accordions Live! ♪ ♪
SPECIAL EVENT

Sunday, May 19, 2019

Chetcuti Community Room
450 Poplar Street, Millbrae, CA

2:00 pm—5:00 pm

\$10 SFAC members / \$13 general public



Presenting ...

Cory Pesaturo

We are excited beyond words that world-famous **Cory Pesaturo** will perform and direct the entirety of our May meeting! In the first part of the meeting, Cory will put on his patented "styles" workshop, where he deconstructs a simple tune like *Mary Had a Little Lamb*, only to reconstruct it in a myriad of musical styles – from jazz to French, Klezmer to rock – who can predict his flights of imagination?

Following the break, Cory will play a set guaranteed to create future memories of rarely seen accordion virtuosity. Finally, Cory will join our jam band, leading it to parts unknown. Don't miss this!

Cory Pesaturo ("C Pez") is on the forefront of the accordion world, pushing the boundaries on multiple fronts of what is possible with the accordion. He is the only person to ever win the trio of World Championships on Acoustic, Digital & Jazz Accordion, and the only accordion graduate of the prestigious New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, MA. In 2017, Pesaturo became a Guinness World Record Holder, as Red Bull® flew him to Austria to break the Marathon Accordion Record, in which Cory played for over 32 hours. Cory's main contribution is his visionary thinking of how the accordion should be used, played, taught, and presented in modern music. He has given 2 TED Talks and 2 Google Talks about this, which are currently the only TED or Google talks in the world about the accordion. Pesaturo is also developing his own electric accordion, and already has made the first ever skinned accordion, which includes a symmetric lighting system attached to the keys.



Pesaturo's extensive resumé includes appearances at the White House for President and Mrs. Clinton on 4 different occasions, starting at age 12, and eight other appearances for the Clintons since 2000, along with 14 letters from the first family. On one of those occasions, he became the youngest person to ever perform at a State Dinner, performing with the Marine Band Strolling Strings for the

continued on page 2 ...

May 19 Special Event — Cory Pesaturo *(continued)*

President of Hungary. Some TV appearances include the Late Show with David Letterman, performing with Johnny Depp, and nationally televised programs in New Zealand, Canada, Italy, Tunisia, France, and Finland. On an NYC broadcast, CNBC/FOX host Maria Bartiromo once said “No one is currently doing more for the Accordion than Cory”. Cory has judged accordion competitions in the US, Canada, and Europe, in addition to other music competitions, and currently gives masterclasses at various universities throughout the US and Europe on Accordion and Improvisation.

For his classical side, which is lesser known, a win in a concerto competition at 16 years old gave Pesaturo the rare opportunity to perform with the Brockton Symphony Orchestra as a featured soloist, where he became the youngest accordionist to ever solo with a symphony orchestra in the US back in 2003.

Concerning his jazz side, Cory recorded two CD's with saxophone legend George Garzone and his band “The Fringe” at age 19, and has become friends with jazz and music legends Quincy Jones and Wynton Marsalis. Cory's performances at all three of his World Championships were played on accordions that were not his, and were generally 90% improvised; both feats are unheard of in the accordion world.

The instrument's most famous legend in the U.S., Dick Contino, said when Cory was only 15, “Of all the accordionists I've seen over the years, Cory is the one to pass the torch to, the only one who has all the tools to bring the accordion back to its former glory.” Guido Deiro's son, the “Father of Piano Accordion”, has stated “I've worried greatly about the future of the accordion since my father died, but not anymore since seeing and hearing Cory.”

Pesaturo is also heavily involved and respected with the weather and motor sports worlds as



well. He composed the official list of records set by the record-breaking 2005 Atlantic hurricane season and wrote the lists for the 2007 and 2008 seasons as well. Moreover, he has put out reports on Winter Seasons for the U.S. which have been featured on Accuweather.com, HurricaneCity.com, and others. Cory is known for his FreeSledding work, including his own sledding mountain called “CN Mountain”. He has written sports blogs for sites like Bleacher Report, and collaborated with members of the Red Sox and the Drop Kick Murphys on the “Fenway 100” album released in 2012. Cory's music has been played on Formula 1 broadcasts on NBC, FOX, and Velocity, and additionally has an ongoing musical relationship with 98.5 The Sports Hub in Boston.



April SFAC Accordion Circle Summary

by Ken Schwartz

photos by Steve Mobia

Our April 28 jam session was led by **Lou Jacklich** and introduced SFAC's new jam books, updated by **Robert & Elaine Cooperstein**. There were many new songs, which Lou guided us through, including various tempos and high registers, even one selection featuring bellows shakes! We performed only a small sampling of the songs in these new books and will look forward to enjoying them for many meetings going forward. Many thanks to Elaine and Robert for creating these fabulous new books!

Elaine Cooperstein moderated the intermission; **Ken Schwartz** moderated the remaining portion of our April meeting.

Dr. Scott Anderson demonstrated a harmonium (photos on page 4), which was invented perhaps a year before the accordion and is a "relative" of the accordion. This one was a gift to Scott from his step-mother, Edna, and was purchased in the country of Nepal for \$50 in the 1970's. It was used in the Hindu temples to accompany worshipers during prayer; they would play chords with the right hand while pumping the bellows with the left. Edna was told that this harmonium was around 100 years old; the white keys seem to have a plastic surface, however, suggesting its age might be more recent. Scott played a few bars from *Fascination Waltz* to demonstrate the harmonium's tones. Lou noted that it's not tuned to concert key, but rather ½ step higher! The Beatles included a harmonium in one of their albums.

We were fortunate to have a group of very talented accordionists play solo today.

Ray Celentano played *Anema e core (With All My Heart and Soul)* and his jazzy version of *Beyond the Sea*, a 1945 pop romantic love song by Jack Law-



rence, with music take from the song *La Mer* by Charles Trenet. Next, **Ed Massolo**, 95 years young next month, performed *Toscana*, written by Carl Fortina, followed by Gary Dahl's arrangement of *Come Back to Sorrento*. Ed reminisced on his friendship with the late Carl Fortina, Hollywood accordionist who was perhaps the most-ever recorded accordionist in Hollywood. Carl performed with the Beach Boys, Barbara Streisand, Paramount Studios, dozens of movie soundtracks (The Godfather, Star Trek and others) and over 25,000 TV shows, including Bonanza.



Kaisu Lankinen and **Lou Jacklich** demonstrated Kaisu's chromatic button accordion. Lou provided a discussion on the chromatic button accordion; it's the domi-



nant form of accordion played in Europe and pre-dates the piano accordion we know so well here. The piano accordion was introduced by Pietro Deiro, Sr. in the early 20th century in response to the popularity of the piano in this country. Kaisu hails from Finland.



Continued on page 4 ...



photos by Robert Cooperstein April 2019

Continued on page 5 ...

(Continued) *April SFAC Accordion Circle Summary*

Other April SFAC performers included **Caitlin Hall**, **Clarence Witzel, Jr.**, and **Ken Schwartz** (*In the Mood*, *Flight of the Bumblebee*). Finally, the afternoon concluded with duets by **Collette Ogata** and **Lou Jacklich**, including *La Promesa de Amor*, a tango which Lou wrote in 1960 while in was performing in Mexico City, and *El Choclo*. Lou and Collette will be performing more duets at the upcoming Las Vegas International Accordion Convention in October. Lou next performed an extraordinary rendition of *Holiday for Strings* (composed by David Rose of *Theme from Bonanza* fame). Some in attendance may have recognized this familiar tune as the theme song for the immensely popular Red Skelton TV show of the 1950's and 1960's. Lou followed with an impromptu performance of a tango, which he composed on the spot, followed by *Lullaby of Birdland* and *Lara's Theme*.

We were extremely fortunate to have such talented accordionists in our midst! Thank you, all!



ATG Meets in Denver, July 24-27, 2019

By Pamela Tom

The Accordionists & Teachers Guild, International Festival takes place in Denver, Colorado from July 24th - July 27th. Accordionists and accordion enthusiasts are welcome to attend the annual ATG Festival.

The organizers have a great lineup of concerts and guest artists as well as competitions, workshops, food and the opportunity to be a member of the ATG Festival Orchestra under the direction of the renowned Joan Cochran Sommers. This is also a wonderful opportunity to network and broaden your horizon with accordionists and exchange ideas and experiences.

For more information and to register, visit: <https://www.atgaccordions.com/2019-festival>

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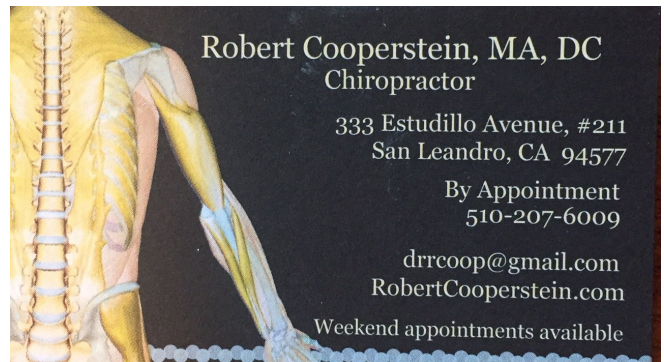
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World Accordion Day & Palmer Festival Videos On-line

The musical program and audio highlights from the 2019 World Accordion Day (May 4) and the 7th Willard Palmer Festival (May 5) at The World of Accordions Museum in Superior, WI were captured on video. There are 15 videos which can be viewed on the internet at: <http://www.accordionusa.com/#art3715>

World class accordionists (including Stas Venglevski, Murl Allen Sanders, Joan Cochran Sommers, Dee Langley, Mary Tokarski, Betty Jo Simon, Jane Christison, et al.) and accordion enthusiasts participated at this annual event.

Donations to support future programs at The World of Accordions Museum can be contributed via: <http://www.worldofaccordions.org/donations.html>



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For more information and to register, visit: <https://www.atgaccordions.com/2019-festival>



Paul Cain and his family recently visited Castelfidardo!

BAY AREA ACCORDION CLUBS

Accordion Club of the Redwoods

3rd Monday at 7:30 pm. — \$3 admission
Hermann Sons Hall, 860 Western, Petaluma
Contact: Tony Mustaro, President (707) 318-0474
dcdacapo@gmail.com

Golden State Accordion Club (GSAC)

gsaccordionclub.netfirms.com

Contact: Jean Stevens, President (916) 872-8081
accordionriffs@gmail.com

GSAC Napa Valley Chapter (formerly Vacaville)
2nd Thursday at 6:00 pm.
The Runway Restaurant
2044 Airport Road, Napa

GSAC Humboldt Chapter
3rd Tuesday at 7pm.
Humboldt Swiss Club
5403 Tompkins Hill Road, Loleta

GSAC Sacramento Chapter
3rd Wednesday at 6:30 pm
Elks Lodge No. 6
6446 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento

Good Time Accordion Club (GTAC)

2nd Wednesday at 7 pm. Escalon Community Center
1055 Escalon Ave, Escalon
Contact: Ed Sciarini (209) 545-3603

Northern California Accordion Society (NCAS)

1st Wednesday at 6:30 pm. Lutheran Church Hall,
6365 Douglas Blvd, off Hwy 80, Granite Bay
Contact: Jim Shoemaker (916) 443-0974

Silicon Valley Accordion Society (SVAS)

1st Sundays at Christ Episcopal Church, 1040 Border
Rd., Los Altos, CA
Doors open at 1:30pm. www.svasociety.org

SFAC Newsletter Ad Policy

Members may place one small ad (business-card size) free of charge for one month, once a year. Additional ads are \$10/issue or \$100/year. Monthly ad prices for members:
1/4-page: \$25; 1/2-page: \$50; Full-page: \$100.
Non-member rates are double.

Event Reviews:

Member volunteers are needed to assist with the monthly event summaries (see pp. 2-3). This is a great opportunity to express your creative writing skills while assisting your club!

Please contact Kenneth.E.Schwartz@gmail.com

SFAC Members Performing Around the Bay

RON BORELLI San Mateo - RonBorelli@aol.com
www.ronborelli.com

RICHARD DENIER Carmel - rjd.denier@gmail.com

PETER DI BONO San Francisco www.peterdibono.com

RENO DI BONO South Bay - ourhike@aol.com
www.italianaccordion.com

JOE DOMITROWICH South Bay
www.alpinersusa.com
or www.capricious-accordion.com

ED GORZYNSKI, JR. East Bay - edspolkas@yahoo.com

IL DUETTO MUSICA (aka Paul Aebersold & Gloria Gazave)
mazurkaman@yahoo.com
<https://www.facebook.com/Il-Duetto-Musica-992981207392410/>

BRUCE KIRSCHNER & THE KLEZMAKERS
kirschner@aol.com www.klezmakers.com

BIG LOU, aka LINDA SEEKINS San Francisco
www.accordionprincess.com

KAY PATTERSON Napa Valley & Surrounding
AccordionKay@comcast.net

TANGONERO www.tangonero.com

PAMELA TOM Yolo & Solano Counties
accordionpam@gmail.com
April 27—Davis Farmer's Market, 8:30am—12:30pm

MIKE ZAMPICENI East Bay & South Bay
eclecticguy@comcast.net
www.mikezamp.com

SFAC Scholarships

Your club has scholarship funds available to support accordion students studying with teachers who are SFAC members in good standing. Preference is given to students who demonstrate dedication to pursuing the study of the accordion. Contact **Mike Zampiceni** for a scholarship application.
eclecticguy@comcast.net
408-569-2579

Music Lessons

Peter Di Bono

415-699-8674

peterdsf@gmail.com

www.peterdibono.com



ACCORDION HAPPENINGS

Leavenworth International Accordion Celebration

June 20-23, 2019

Leavenworth, Washington

www.accordioncelebration.org

AAA Festival—American Accordionists' Association

July 17-21, 2019

Valley Forge Casino Resort (Radisson Hotel)

King of Prussia, PA

<http://www.ameraccord.com/festival.php>

ATG-Accordionists & Teachers Guild International

29th Annual Festival

July 23-27, 2019

Denver, Colorado

www.atgaccordions.com/2019-festival

29th Annual Cotati Accordion Festival

August 17-18, 2019

<https://www.cotatifest.com>

72nd Coupe Mondiale Festival & Competitions

Shenzai, China

August 12-17, 2019

https://www.coupemondiale.org/coupe_index.htm

Las Vegas International Accordion Convention

LVIAC—20th Anniversary

October 14-17, 2019

<http://accordionstars.com>

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Got Straps?

Does anyone have a spare set of **accordion straps** sitting around? The club owns a few accordions in need of updated strap assemblies. We will gratefully accept gently used straps as a tax-deductible donation to SFAC.

Contact Lynn at ewinglynn@gmail.com



Ron Borelli

& the Art Van Damme Tribute Band

Every 1st Thursday of the month performing at The Double Tree Hotel, 835 Airport Blvd., Burlingame 6PM to 9PM, no cover, great dinners & drinks, reasonably priced.

To connect with Ron:

- ◆ 415 203 6700 cell
- ◆ or ronborelli@aol.com

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Newsletter team: Layout, Content Coordinators, Proofing,
 Mailing: Elaine Cooperstein, Rosemary Busher, Robert Cooperstein, Pamela Tom

(Newsletter volunteers needed!)

Scholarship Awards

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*Honorary Director

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 KAY PATTERSON (707) 666-2849
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 JOE SIMONI (650) 867-1122
 PAMELA TOM (530 AREA) accordionpam@gmail.com
 JOEL WEBER (510) 655-4398
 MIKE ZAMPICENI (408) 569-2579

Thank You, Donors!

Sincere Thanks to those who generously donate to the Club. We would like to thank the following regular and lifetime members who made a donation during the past renewal campaign (October 2018 - September 2019 membership year):

Paul Aebersold, Anthony Bologna, Scott Anderson, Chris & Tor Arild, Evelyn Baulch, Dave Braun, Dr. & Mrs. Anthony Bruno, Gail Campanella, George Chavez, Elaine & Robert Cooperstein, Xavier & Candace de la Prade, David G. Deanda, Peter & Victoria Di Bono, Aldo Didero, Lynn & Gail Ewing, Ed Gorzynski Jr., Dominic Granelli, Gus & Sharon Greyhosky, Johan & Marja Gullmes, Ron & Mary Jo Harris, Lou Jacklich, Jerry Keifer, Marian Kelly, Gwyn Lister, Franco & Susan & Lorenzo Lucchesi, Nora & Tony Mazzara, Herb Meier, James Monfredini, Anna Nicora, Julie Norman, Gisele Oakes, Colette & Casey Ogata, Paul Pasquali, Diana Purucker, Alexander Roitman, Ed Salvador, Michael Sanossian, Don & Mary Savant, Kenneth Schwartz, Richard & Leslie Selfridge, Georgia Sutherland, Bill & Gloria Tapogna, Pamela Tom, Jane & Frank Tripi, Barbara Winter, Clarence Witzel Jr., Richard Yaus, and Mark Zhagel

If you have donated and your name doesn't appear here, please contact elainedc@sbcglobal.net. We greatly appreciate your support and we want to be sure you are recognized.

The 2nd Annual San Diego Accordion Camp

An All-Encompassing Learning Experience

By Gay Castellano

The 2nd annual San Diego Accordion Camp, sponsored and taught by Gordon Kohl, was held on April 4 – 6, 2019, at the Mangia Italiano Restaurant in Chula Vista, California.

Gordon Kohl's camp provided the novice-to-advanced attendees, with acoustic or digital accordions, an awesome learning experience covering everything you need to know and more, plus every question answered. Because the camp was interactive with your own accordion, it allowed everyone a hands-on, musical learning experience during every segment of the camp.

This year, the course text book was "First 50 Songs" (You Should Play on the Accordion), arranged by Gary Meisner and published by Hal Leonard (2018). Study of tunes from the book, as well as other songs selected by Gordon Kohl, featured instruction on harmony, the application of chord cadences and progression, music theory, expression, bellows control, tempo and rhythm, fingering and technique, decorating a song by adding melodious notes and ornaments, improvisation, building and design of short introductions and endings, developing your repertoire, and much more.

Time incorporated for breaks and lunch (provided) allowed everyone to meet and network. The farthest camp traveler attending, Lawrence S. from Alberta, Canada, expressed that the camp greatly exceeded his expectation.

Watch for an announcement of Gordon Kohl's 3rd annual San Diego Accordion Camp which will be held during the same week of April in 2020.

Contact Information:

Gordon Kohl

444-C Colorado Avenue

Chula Vista, CA 91910

Phone: 919-395-0454

Email GordonKohl@GordonKohlAccordions.com

Website: www.gordonkohlaccordions.com



Gordon Kohl is in the upper right corner facing and speaking to the group of attentive accordionists.



Northern California accordionists at the San Diego Accordion Camp included: SFAC member Gay Castellano is in the front row (2nd from left).



San Francisco Accordion Club

Newsletter

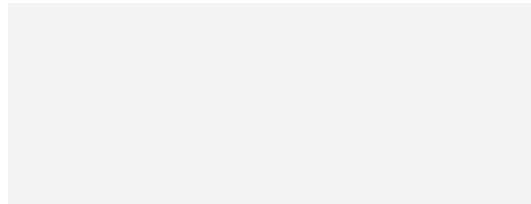
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May 19, 2019 2pm—5pm

Special Event - World-Champion

Cory Pesaturo!

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