



October, 2021



♪ ♪ **SFAC ACCORDIONS LIVE!** ♪ ♪

ONLINE-ONLY MUSICAL PROGRAM

OCTOBER 17, 2021

VIA ZOOM — 2:00 PM

RON BORELLI'S GERMAN VILLAGE TRIO

♪ SFAC Members will receive ZOOM link via email ♪



Ron Borelli is a local favorite as well as a member of the San Francisco Accordion Club. He is an active and much-sought-after musician in the San Francisco Bay Area, both as a solo performer on piano and accordion and as the leader of the *Ron Borelli Orchestra*.

Ron has connections with some of the Bay Area's finest musicians and can assemble any combination of instrumentalists and vocalists to entertain at any event.

Ron and his Oktoberfest trio—**The German Village Trio** - have agreed to dust off their lederhosen and spread a little Oktoberfest *Gemütlichkeit*. Ron promises the program will be only fun, fun, fun!

Please visit ronborelli.com for more information about Ron, his Orchestra, and where you might see him performing next.



An email announcement to members will be forthcoming in the week prior to the event with additional instructions on how to join the meeting. Please RSVP to us at info@sfiaccordianclub.com, so we can plan for how many of you plan to attend this event.



In Memory: Robert LeRoy Smith (October 30, 1930 — September 3, 2021)



It is with great sadness that we say farewell to fellow club member Bob Smith, who passed away at the age of 90, on September 3, 2021.

Due to health reasons, we haven't seen much of Bob these last few years, but in our days at the Oyster Point Yacht Club, Bob was a frequent performer at Club meetings and a regular contributor to the Newsletter with articles on accordion technique and tuning. Bob is recognized by performers and teachers alike for his published book "Fingering for the Accordion."



Bob's professional life was as an electrical engineer and computer programmer, but his favorite pastime was all things accordion, which began when Bob started lessons at the age of 10. Bob was a dedicated member of the



San Francisco Accordion Club Band (aka the "Fun Band") and of the *San Francisco Accordion Chamber Ensemble* (ACE). With Bob's scientific background, it comes as no surprise that he did accordion repair work on the side.

Before his passing, Bob left the San Francisco Accordion Club with a priceless legacy that we can enjoy now and for years to come! Bob took it upon himself to scan and digitize every one of the Club's paper newsletters from the very first issue into 2008. Bob presented this archive, captured on CD, as a gift to the Club. Thanks to Bob, you can now go to our website and follow the "de facto" history of the Club through our newsletters.



Bob will be missed, but will never be forgotten for his dedication and lasting contributions to the San Francisco Accordion Club. R.I.P.

---Randy Hicks

The SFAC Vendor Space #6, Cotati Accordion Festival 2021

By Robert Cooperstein



For the last several years the SFAC has taken a vendor's slot at the Cotati Accordion Festival. Although we do manage to accumulate some merchandise to sell, and lots of sheet music to give away for a mere donation, the main reason we set up our canopy is to carve out a place to call our own for the weekend. Lots of our own members come by to say hello and stay for a while, as well as other accordion friends from all over the Bay Area and beyond. Perhaps best of all, we get to meet people who did not know about the SFAC, some of whom may join us in the future. Even if they don't, we are very glad to have become more visible!



To tell the truth, there's a lot of work involved, which begins in the weeks prior to the festival: lining up portable tables and chairs, appraising and bubble-wrapping accordion-themed figurines and other stuff, sorting through and arranging mountains of sheet music, making sure we have the various supplies we will need to make things work, erecting the canopy early Saturday morning, and putting out our stuff and putting up our banners. And then there's the really hard part: getting all this stuff to Cotati and then from the parking lot to our canopy, only to play that in reverse late on Sunday when we would rather be on the way home

like everyone else. Although several people participated in various ways, the lion's share of the many tasks involved was executed by Rosemary Busher and the Coopersteins, Elaine and Robert.

Casey and Colette Ogata pitched in and spent a lot of time yakking it up under the canopy, as did Pamela Tom and Monica Ambalal. And of course, let us call out the Maestro, Mr. Lou Jacklich, who spent a lot of time under and in front of the canopy, playing the accordion for passers-by and jamming with other accordionists.



We fully intend to play out the same cycle next year, 2022. If you want to join in the fun, let us know!

SFAC Performers on the Main Stage at the CAF!

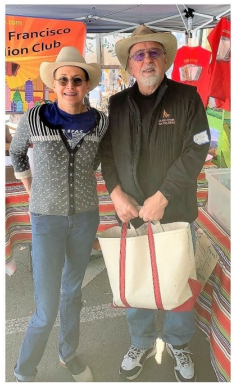
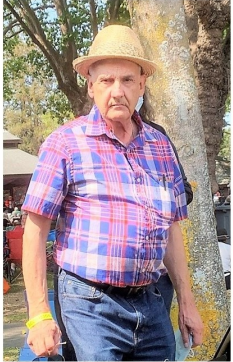
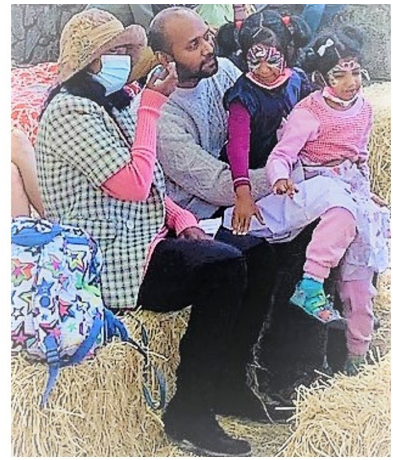
Three members of the SFAC took the main stage at the Cotati Accordion Festival this year. Let's give it up for **Mike Zampiceni**, his student **Colin Kennedy**, and **Gail Campanella**!

Colin appeared with other young accordionists as "Future Stars" on Sunday morning, after being awarded the top scholarship!

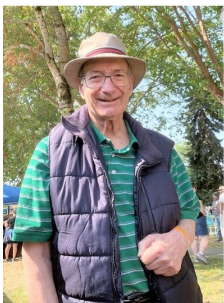




SFAC & Friends - Cotati 2021



Cotati 2021



Volpi's Ristorante & Bar – Hangout for Cotati Attendees

by Pamela Tom



Lou Jacklich & Colette Ogata Duo

Traditionally, **Volpi's Ristorante & Bar** in Petaluma has been one of the locations for accordion evening entertainment during the Cotati Accordion Festival. On Friday, September 24, 2021 after the Cotati Accordion Festival Student Stage fundraising concert, several accordionists headed over to Volpi's Ristorante & Bar for a fabulous Italian dinner and performed some great jazz and standards after dinner. The SFAC was well-represented by the duo of **Lou Jacklich and Colette Ogata**, plus **Mike Zampiceni** who played and sang as a soloist. Cory Pesaturo appeared and performed on his electronic Roland accordion and played several numbers on Colette's Bugari accordion. Attendees in the backroom bar were treated to a variety of excellent accordion performances.



Lou Jacklich solo



Mike Zampiceni searching for Mars as he accompanies himself to "Fly Me to the Moon"



Cotati Accordion Festival star, Cory Pesaturo made a guest appearance

Unveiling the 'Mayor of Alvarado Street' statue

Judy Marotta and Mike Marotta Jr. were among the more than 500 guests celebrating the unveiling of the Mike Marotta Sr. statue on a Wednesday evening in September at the Monterey Conference Center. Marotta Sr., who died two years ago, was a popular musician known as the "Mayor of Alvarado Street." His statue is now in place at the corner of Alvarado and Franklin Streets in Monterey.



Credits: Photo and article *Monterey Herald Newspaper* September 16, 2021.



Mike and Dave Marotta with "Pops"
Photo Courtesy of Mike Marotta Jr.

Cotati Accordion Festival Attraction: Accordion Autopsy

As told to Pamela Tom

George Bachich, the Accordion Autopsy booth master at the Cotati Accordion Festival has been sharing his knowledge about buying and repairing accordions for several years. George has 19 years of accordion repair experience. He started into repair work after seeking repairs for his own accordions. He received initial guidance on leathers, tuning reeds, and waxing them back into the reed block from Kimric Smythe (Smythe's Accordion). And he learned about unsticking a key and treble keyboards from Tempo Trend Music (Canadian vendor). Thereafter, George started reading everything he could find written about accordion repair, which was very little. He visited several accordion factories in Castelfidardo, Italy and carefully observed as workers assembled accordions, waxed and tuned reeds, built keyboards and bass machines, and made reeds and bellows. George bought old accordions and fixed some of them up for sale and in the process learned a lot by making mistakes and correcting them.

The Accordion Autopsy booth is located in front of the Jam Tent at Cotati. George gives a presentation on how accordions work, what commonly goes wrong with them, and what to look for before buying a used accordion. George says, "I think the most common questions are about what their old accordion might be worth and about whether they should buy a particular accordion they found at the festival."

George also says that "Accordion repair is not rocket science, and that with a bit of coaching from my website (accordionrevival.com) they can do much of it themselves. They should also know that reading [my book] 'Piano Accordion Owner's Manual and Buyer's Guide' [available on my website] before they purchase their next accordion could save them a lot of money and grief."



Left: George Bachich generously sharing his knowledge of accordion anatomy with SFAC member, Tibor Sarkany.



Right: George Bachich's Accordion Autopsy booth has a constant stream of visitors and is a popular annual attraction at Cotati.

*This year, the Cotati Accordion Festival had surprise artists from **Symmetry Design and Entertainment** appearing on the stage and grounds. Attendees were treated to stilt walking, juggling, and belly dancing performed by **Symmetry Entertainment Design**, a full circus/theater/event company.*



Juna on stilts
[No last name given.]

Cory Pesaturo was surprised on stage by the appearance of a lithe belly dancer.



SFAC performers at the Student Scholarship Fundraiser

by Robert Cooperstein

On Friday night some of our members performed in a fundraiser at the Church of the Oaks Social Hall in Cotati. And of course, many of our other members were in the audience and helped ensure this would be a very successful event – and according to Sheri Mignano, it was! Let's thank **Pamela Tom, Mike Zampiceni, Lou Jacklich, and Colette Ogata** for their role in making this a great success, and for so ably representing the SFAC. If you wondering why we are providing a picture of the great Frank Lima as well, who is not currently a member of the SFAC, it is because we could not resist the temptation to show *The Great Morgani* (right) out of character!



One night at Cibo Rustico of Santa Rosa

by Robert Cooperstein

It is not surprising, with all those great accordionists hanging around Cotati over the weekend during the annual Cotati Accordion Festival (CAF), that some of them would get together and jam somewhere on Saturday night. Usually the venue is the tiny backroom bar at Volpi's old speakeasy in Petaluma, but this year it transpired at Cibo Rustico Pizzeria in Santa Rosa. Why? The word had spread that **Steve Albini**, a long-time fixture in the wine country north of Marin County, would be playing there. A bunch of us from the San Francisco Accordion Club headed out!

After some opening tunes from Steve, jazz accordionist **Paul Betken** stepped up. Following Paul's great set, **Maestro Lou Jacklich** was drafted by acclaim to continue the show. His jazz solos from that night are still reverberating in my ears. Next up were virtuosos **Sergei Teleshev** and daughter **Maria**. When **Cory Pesaturo** arrived a little later, an impromptu quartet took shape featuring Cory, Steve, Sergei, and drummer **Bob Belanski**.

In addition to the SFAC people who managed to get to Cibo Rustico, the other diners were equally agog at the totally unexpected, virtually explosive mostly jazz tour de force that took place.

Within a day, Steve Albini had posted several photos and music from the night on his Facebook page. He wrote "What an amazing night we had at Cibo Rustico in Santa Rosa . . . Thank you to all the fantastic musicians who joined me. Bob Belanski, Paul Betken, Lou Jacklich, Sergei and Maria Teleshev and Cory Pesaturo."



ACCORDION PRINCESS, MARIA TELESHEVA, IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

by Pamela Tom

The youngest headlining performer among accordion royalty at this year's 30th annual Cotati Accordion Festival was **Maria "Masha" Telesheva** (13-year old international chromatic accordion champion from Eugene, OR). Maria made her on-stage debut with her internationally renowned dad, **Sergei Teleshev** (chromatic accordion champion of numerous regional and international competitions). The charismatic father-daughter team were featured both days at Cotatifest. During Steve Albini's gig at Cibo Rustico Pizzeria in Santa Rosa, Sergei Teleshev and Maria delighted diners with their numbers.

Sergei and Maria's versatile repertoire spans classic to rock (from J.S. Bach to AC/DC). Their performances were full of musical surprises on stage and had great appeal to the Cotati audience as evidenced by the thunderous and long applause. Maria was six years old when she took up the accordion under her father's tutelage. Two months after Maria started playing, she won her first international competition. Since then, Cotati's accordion princess of 2021 has won several international competitions in the United States, Canada, Australia, Italy, and Belarus. Maria's musical abilities extend beyond her exceptional duet and solo accordion performances. She's also a talented singer in Russian and English! Maria's perfectly-on-pitch voice and singing style covers a wide range of genres to suit the occasion. Watch for Maria Telesheva... her star is rising!



1. (Left) Sergei Teleshev and Maria Telesheva giving an after-hours impromptu performance at Cibo Rustico Pizzeria in Santa Rosa, CA, where Norcal accordionist, Steve Albini, was the featured artist that evening.
2. (Below, left) Maestro Lou Jacklich demonstrates his artistry with his jazz arrangements, accompanied by drummer Bob Belanski of Vallejo, who is recorded on Vince Guaraldi's album "Charlie Brown Suite and Other Favorites."
3. (Below, center) An appreciative accordion audience at Cibo Rustico; Lou Jacklich (2nd from left) with some of his students.
4. (Below, right) Guest artist Steve Albini of Santa Rosa, performing at Cibo Rustico.





**Ron Borelli,
Accordionist**
*Music for Dancers,
Entertainment, and
Fine Artistry*
Ronborelli.com
415-203-6700

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

Event Reviews:

Volunteers are *very much* needed to assist with the monthly event summaries. This is a great opportunity to express your creative writing skills while assisting your club! Please volunteer to write up a meeting review for an upcoming newsletter.

Contact: Kenneth.E.Schwartz@gmail.com

Accordion getting heavy?

Playing LESS never sounded so good!



- Leggera is 15% lighter than our AM-1100
- Tone Chamber (L/M)
- 41/120 (or 37/96)
- Available LMMH Concert or LMMM Musette
- Hand made reeds
- At only 23 pounds, you'll think it's as light as a feather!



www.petosa.com
206.632.2700



The San Francisco Accordion Club is a **501(c)(3)** tax-exempt charitable organization whose purpose is to enhance, promote and stimulate an appreciation for the accordion within the membership and throughout the general public. Donations are tax-deductible and gratefully accepted by using the **Donate** button at www.sfaccordionclub.com or by mailing your contribution to the SFAC Treasurer, Elaine Cooperstein, 539 Elsie Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577

Support the Businesses That Support the SFAC!

CONCERTO - COLOMBO - PIERMARIA

Accordions International

"Home of the Concerto"

- ◆ Italian artisan accordions
- ◆ Large Showroom
- ◆ Straps Cases, Music
- ◆ Factory Repair Facility

(801) 485-5840

1760 South 450 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84115
www.AccordionInfo.com
Email: Paul@AccordionInfo.com



Accordion Repair Shop San Jose

Professional, high quality work with warranty

Prof. Valdet Jakubovic
Owner

1888 Macduce Ct
San Jose, Ca., 95121
Tel. 408-903-9290

Fax. 408-238-7637
vjakubovic@yahoo.com
<http://www.accordionrepairshopsanjose.com>



SFAC Newsletter Ad Policy

Members may place 1/8 p. (business-card size) free of charge for one month each year. Additional ads are \$10/issue or \$100/year.

Monthly ad prices for members:

1/8 page: \$10; 1/4-page: \$25; 1/2-page: \$50; Full-page: \$100.

Non-member rates are double.

Membership Report

Letters asking SFAC members to renew went out in early September. We are already about 65% renewed! Technically, the membership year ends on October 1, so if you have not yet renewed but intend to do so, please take care of that as soon as possible. Apart from saving our volunteers some time in sending reminders to renew, only members in good standing receive links to our ongoing ZOOM musical programs. We will be featuring the always-popular **Ron Borelli** on October 17, playing Oktoberfest music and dressed appropriately!

🎵 Thank You, Donors! 🎵

Sincere Thanks to those who generously donate to support the SFAC. We thank the following members who have already made extra donations during our Oct. 2021– Sep. 2022 membership year.

Scott T. Anderson; Dave Braun; Rosemary Busher; Raymond Celentano; George Chavez; Elaine & Robert Cooperstein; Edward Crnich; Xavier & Candace de la Prade; Christine Esteban; Terrie Frankel; Carly & Janet Jensen; Arlene Johnson; J. Robert Kennedy; Christina Knapp; Linda Lonay; Franco, Susan & Lorenzo Lucchesi; Michael A. Marotta, Jr.; Nora Mazzara, James Monfredini; Anna Nicora; Laura Jean Niland; Julie Norman; Gisele B. Oakes; Colette Ogata; Robert D. & Dil Pisani; Michael Sanossian; Don & Mary Savant; Kenneth Schwartz; Bill & Gloria Tapogna; Pamela Tom; Jane & Frank Tripi; Frank Venturelli; Barbara Winter; Barbie Wong; Mike Zampiceni; Marlen Zhagel

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

ACCORDION INSTRUCTION

- ◆ **Gail Campanella*** GailCampanella@gmail.com
- ◆ **David Chelini** djchelini@sbcglobal.net
- ◆ **Peter DiBono** 415-699-8674
- ◆ **Reno DiBono** 30-minute online group lessons
Sundays 11am, request link from OurHike@AOL.com
- ◆ **Lou Jacklich*** 510-317-9510
- ◆ **Marian Kelly** 650-954-3711
- ◆ **Joe Simoni*** jsimoni2000@gmail.com, 650-867-1122
- ◆ **Pamela Tom*** accordionpam@gmail.com
- ◆ **Joel Weber***
www.joelstbayaccordionlessons.weebly.com/
- ◆ **Mike Zampiceni*** www.mikezamp.com

* = remote lessons (ZOOM, Facetime, Skype) available

SFAC Members Performing Around the Bay

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

RICHARD DENIER *Carmel* - rijd.denier@gmail.com

DAVID CHELINI *Sacramento area, Soloist & Duo,*
djchelini@sbcglobal.net

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/>

ROBERT KENNEDY
robertkennedymusic.com, missionhotclub.com

TANGONERO (Alexander Roitman)
www.tangonero.com

PAMELA TOM *Yolo & Solano Counties*
accordionpam@gmail.com

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

Accordions for Rent

Do you know someone interested in renting an accordion? The SFAC has instruments available for members to rent. See our [June 2020 newsletter](#) for descriptions and rental terms.

SFAC Directors

Rosemary Busher (510)220-2931, rosemary@busher.org

Paul Cain paulrussellcain@gmail.com

Robert Cooperstein (510)207-6009, drcoop@sbcglobal.net

Ken Schwartz (650)344-6116, Kenneth.E.Schwartz@gmail.com

Elaine Cooperstein (510)921-9323, elainedc@sbcglobal.net

Randall Hicks (510)750-6858, hickr01@sprintmail.com

Dominic Palmisano (Honorary Director) accord47@gmail.com

Webmaster & Bookkeeping: Randall Hicks

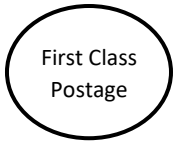
Newsletter: *Content, Layout, Edit, Print shop pick-up, Labeling, Mailing*
Elaine & Robert Cooperstein, Pamela Tom, Rosemary Busher

Scholarship:

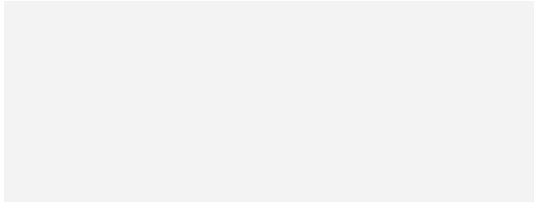
Mike Zampiceni (408)569-2579, eclecticguy@comcast.net

San Francisco Accordion Club
Newsletter

c/o 539 Elsie Avenue
San Leandro, CA 94577
www.sfaccordionclub.com



FIRST CLASS POSTAGE



3rd Sundays – Monthly Musical Meetings

| |
|---|
| SFAC Sunday Meeting |
| Accordions Live! <i>Ron Borelli - German Village Trio</i> |
| Sunday, October 17, 2:00 PM |



Join us for fun and great music!

Check email for **ZOOM** link

See newsletter email for details, or
contact Kenneth.E.Schwartz@gmail.com



fb.com/sanfranciscoaccordionclub