

**SEPTEMBER
2014**

**Next Meeting Sunday,
September 21, at 2 PM
Jam Band at 1:15 PM**

**Featuring
ALICIA BAKER**

Alicia Baker has been a passionate musician since early childhood. She recently competed at the Accordionists and Teachers Guild International Festival held in San Francisco in July, and she performed and taught at the Las Vegas International Accordion Convention last month.

She began studying piano at age 4, the accordion at age 6 and vocally at age 14. Alicia graduated from Oregon State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music Education, Piano Performance, and Vocal Performance.



**Join us as SFAC presents
a Lifetime Achievement
Award to Lou Jacklich**

**Also Performing (See page 2):
Pamela Tom Scott Anderson
Kate Froeberg Yifan Tong**

S F A C
*San Francisco Accordion Club
Newsletter*

Alicia has found the most tangible success with the accordion. In addition to her award(s) at the ATG Festival in July, she placed third at the Coupe Mondiale Accordion World Championships in the digital division, which were held in Victoria, BC, last August. Alicia has also won several other International competitions, including the Happy Hans Open (four times) and the Leavenworth Open.

Aside from competitive events, Alicia has performed solo accordion concerts at many notable festivals. These include the American Accordion Association Convention, Cotati Accordion Festival, previous Accordionists and Teachers Guild International Festivals, KIOTAC, Leavenworth Old-Time Accordion Festival, and the NAMM show. In 2011, she was privileged to join the Corvallis symphony as the soloist for **Nikolai Chaikin's** Accordion Concerto in B-flat Major.

In addition to her three instruments, Alicia also discovered a passion for musical composition. She has composed many solo accordion pieces, a few piano solo pieces, and two works for choir. Alicia won the KRAFT composition competition held at OSU in 2011, and was honored to have her composition, *The Unseen*, written for choir, cello, and piano, performed by the OSU Chamber Choir. She plans to continue composing, and hopes to become a published composer.

On Tuesday August 12, Alicia performed with China's **Jianan Tian**, a world-class accordionist and winner of 28 international competitions, in her home town of Milwaukie, Oregon.

ALSO PERFORMING THIS MONTH:

PAMELA TOM

Native San Franciscan, **Pamela Tom**, has been a pianist since she was twelve years old for numerous venues: church, weddings, teas, and choirs. Since 2011, Pam has been an accordion student under the tutelage of accordion maestro, **Lou Jacklich**, and has been mentored by accordion pros: **Gloria Ensign**, **Sylvia Marie Barber**, and **Shelia Lee**. Pam has performed privately and publicly in nine California counties.



She plays a wide genre of music in her versatile accordion repertoire. Pam enthusiastically attends accordion events across the nation and is an active member with the San Francisco Accordion Club, Golden State Accordion Club, and the Accordionists & Teachers Guild International.

KATE FROEBERG

Kate Froeberg started playing accordion at four years of age when all the other neighborhood children went off to kindergarten. Her teacher, Victor Leone, was a protégé of Joe Biviano, and was an instructor at the Biviano Studios along with Tony Mecca. He was a terrific teacher, not only of accordion technique, but also of jazz theory and improvisation. Over the 12 or so years that she took weekly private lessons from him, he endeavored to instill a deep appreciation for jazz standards as well as the beauty and passion the instrument could bring to classical arrangements and popular music.



Thirty years later, her two children were actively involved in Peninsula Youth Theater. "Fiddler on the Roof" was one of their performances, and, at her musician husband's urging, she learned the show which was the first new piece of music she had learned since she was 17. She had fun and was recommended by her fellow musicians to other conductors. She played "Fiddler" for the St. Lawrence Academy, Woodside Community Players, and West Valley Light Opera.

A couple of months ago, she saw a notice for an Accordion Class at the Cupertino Senior Center, met Reno Di Bono, and was inspired by SFAC to revisit her musicianship roots. She is now a happy new club member.

SCOTT ANDERSON

Scott Anderson will perform for us as well. Scott was exposed to accordion music while living in Paris as a child, and later in San Antonio, Texas.

He began studying with **Lou Jacklich** 15 years ago, and jokes, "I may be Lou's slowest learning student, but the accordion rounds out my life and has introduced me to many friends." Scott has participated in the Orchestra Projects organized by **Richard Yaus**.



YIFAN TONG

Yifan Tong came to the United States in 2011. He now lives in San Ramon, a beautiful city with good schools, according to his mother.



Yifan is almost 10 years old and played two pieces for the recent competition at the ATG Festival. He had played the accordion for about two years before his family left China. His teacher was **Shouzhi**

Wu, a professor at the Sichaun Conservatory who lives in Chengdu, Sichuan, China.

3 2014 COTATI FESTIVAL - A BIG SUCCESS

By Lynn Ewing

The 2014 Festival at Cotati was a big success this year. I found that the mix between entertainment, fine musicianship, and young people worked extremely well. My absolute favorite performer was

Jianan Tian, a young lady from China who is only 21 years old. She is a real virtuoso of the instrument, with dazzling command of her repertoire.



Jianan Tian

Closely following her were my next favorites, the **Trio Voronezh**, and **Alicia Baker**. The trio is a



Trio Voronezh

Russian group consisting of **Vladimir Volokhin**, **Valerie Petrukhin** and **Sergei Teleshev** who started playing together in 1993. They now make

base in Oregon. And we are so pleased that **Alicia Baker** will be performing for us this month.

Other favorites with the audiences were **Bruce Gassman** from New Jersey, who plays "rock" accordion; **Vincenzo Abbraciante** from Italy, a handsome young composer and performer we were

fortunate to host at SFAC a couple of years ago; **Matuto**, a group from New York which combines their talents for a "Pan American" sound with diverse influences from North and South America; and **Sourdough Slim**, one of the most original and



Lady of Spain-a-thon!

beloved Western entertainers of our time. SFAC's own **Big Lou** was the "Lady of Spain," who was joined by a number of other "Ladies" from various places, including yours truly, whom she invited up to be the "Lady of San Francisco." Next time I'll dress for it!

I want to specially mention the members of SFAC who performed: **Aaron Seeman** of **Polkacide**, **Big Lou's Dance Party**, and the **Rob Reich Trio**. Also performing were many accordionists who we have had the pleasure of hearing at SFAC meetings: **Due Zighi Baci**, **The Great Morgani**, and **Jet Black**



The Great Morgani

Pearl. The Jam Tent, sponsored by the **Golden State Accordion Club** was a real highlight as was the **GSAC Band** whose performances kicked off the entertainment both days.

(Continued on next page)

COTATI FESTIVAL

(Continued from page 3)

I enjoyed the performances of the young people of "Future Accordion Stars": **Joey Mantella**, age 9; **Derek Yuan**, age 10; **Susanna Leon**, age 11; **Christopher Steffan**, age 12; **William Steffan**, age 14; **Mira Spremich**, age 16; **Jonathan Lathrop**,

The festival was rounded out by Jazz artist **Paul Betken**, from the Phoenix area, who is a friend of mine from the Mesa Accordion Event; **the Mad Maggies** from Canada; **Rory McNamara & the Ring of Truth Trio**; **Tara Linda & the Tortilla Western Posse**; superstars **Andre Thierry & Zydeco Magic**; and, of course, the legendary **Dick Contino!**



Elaine and Robert Cooperstein and Lynn Ewing

Huge thanks to **Robert and Elaine Cooperstein**, who set up our table and spent large amounts of time there, as well as **Maryanne Romanowski** who tended the table most of Saturday. **Sharon and Gus Greyhosky**, **Taffy Steffen** and **Gwyn Lister** and her daughter, **Pamela** also staffed our table, overseeing our sheet music sale and give away. Through their efforts SFAC is now richer by four new members!



Ron Borelli at the 2014 Cotati Festival

THE PETER SOAVE MUSIC ACADEMY

By Gwyn Lister

My daughter, **Pamela Lister**, and I had a wonderful two weeks at the Peter Soave Music Academy in Sauris, Italy. Professional accordionists, **Peter** and **Madeleine Soave** offer Master Classes for musicians (primarily accordionists) that provide insight into their personal perspectives about music-making.

The charming village of Sauris is located two hours from Venice in the Dolomite mountains. The lovely Hotel Margenleit was modern, quaint and has outstanding regional cuisine.



Peter and Madeleine Soave

Peter and his wife, Mady, were caring hosts. Our group was very international including accordionists and one violinist from France, Italy, Germany, Canada, and the two of us from the USA. We had daily workshops, a music lesson every day, and orchestra practice for the concert we gave on our last day. The orchestra, made up of about 15 piano accordion players and Bayan players, practiced and played 15 classical pieces at the concert.

Our instructors were Peter and Mady, **Mary Tokarski**, **Dennis Tini** and **Stas Venglevski**. Everyone was very friendly, even if we did not speak their language. Think about making the trip at some time – it was an out-standing experience.

Details can be found at:

<http://www.petersoavemusicacademy.com/index.php>

Lou Jacklich Honored at ATG as an Accordion Legend

By Pamela Tom and Scott Anderson

Lou Jacklich (veteran accordion performer, teacher and pioneer) was honored on July 25, 2014, at the **74th Accordionists & Teachers Guild International Festival** in San Francisco, California.

Lynn Ewing, San Francisco Accordion Club President, paid tribute to Mr. Jacklich and recounted his career and accomplishments during 70 years of teaching and 78 years of performing. A dedicated teacher, he still has gigs and teaches in his studio in San Lorenzo, CA.



"The Maestro," as he is affectionately called by his students, was born across the San Francisco Bay in Hayward in 1928. His love affair with the accordion started at age 7, and, nearly 78

years later, his passion for the accordion remains strong.

At 11 years old, he played solo with a **Thousand Violins** at the San Francisco Treasure Island World's Fair. At 16 years old, he sported a moustache to appear older, started giving lessons and joined the Musicians Union to play the vaudeville Orpheum Circuit (from Portland, Oregon, on down the West Coast). In his teens, he landed a job at a night club in Daly City and performed a solo with the **Horace Heidt** Show.

In addition to attending SF State College where he studied Counterpoint, Theory, Conducting and Psychology of Music, he was also honored with a degree from the California Music Teachers Association, one of the few accordionists to receive this distinction.

Lou served in the Navy and was lucky to be based in Oakland where he could retain his students as well

as give the Admiral lessons. A versatile musician, he also plays piano, organ, xylophone, violin, steel guitar and drums. His knowledge was of great value in writing arrangements for his Combo which had bookings for radio, clubs and USO tours throughout the country.

When Lou opened the Jacklich School of Music in Castro Valley, it became one of the busiest in the 50's during the heyday of accordion teaching. The School grew to 400 students and had 4 accordion bands, and 19 combos. He created the successful "Composers Workshop" where students learned to write and compose their own music.

Lou was also a pioneer with MIDI equipment and sophisticated amplification on stage using the Lovell organ attachment for accordion. Lou was one of the first accordion artists to introduce the "electronically" enhanced accordion playing it both for his recording, *Lou Jacklich Plays*, and on engagements throughout the country. Artistically and brilliantly, he created a unique sound that set him apart from the rest of the accordionists. He recorded for Capitol Records and appeared on many TV, radio and concert programs.

Lou is very generous in sharing his knowledge and is a natural teacher. He has enriched the lives of over one thousand music students.

Some comments from his students:

"Lou treats all students as aspiring professionals. The teaching, coaching and mentoring are all designed to have the student achieve their potential."

"Lou is a great historian who can always be counted on to share a story or two about accordion life in the Bay Area... Spanning seven decades of teaching, he relates interesting anecdotes on the history of accordions. He is much more interesting than reading a book."

Contributors to this article include Lou's students whose cumulative years of learning easily exceed 50 years: **Jack Behseresht, Elaine Cooperstein, Randy Hicks, Sue Hirigoyen, Steven Marshall, Jan Toepfer, Pamela Tom** and **Jane Tripi**.

Scholarship Information

Scholarship Applications are due in OCTOBER and the award will be announced in November.

Twice a year, our club awards scholarships to accordion students who have a financial need and demonstrate dedication to pursuing their study of the accordion. Students must study with a teacher who is an SFAC member in good standing.

Applications can be obtained by emailing **Mike Zampiceni**, at eclecticguy@comcast.net and should be returned to him at:
220 Tasman Dr, #106, Sunnyvale, CA. 94089.



TIME TO RENEW YOUR SFAC MEMBERSHIP

It is that time again! All members should receive a renewal letter in the US Mail. Membership is \$30 per household, and runs from October 2014 to September 2015. If you are a Lifetime member or have already paid through next year, we won't be soliciting dues from you, but we hope that you might consider making a donation.

The San Francisco Accordion Club is a 501 (c)(3) Charitable organization and your donation will be tax deductible. Donations help us defray the cost of our lovely facility at Oyster Point Yacht Club, and providing you with quality entertainment month after month.

Please send renewals to
Treasurer Elaine Cooperstein
539 Elsie Ave
San Leandro, CA 94577;

or you can bring your renewal form to the next couple of club meetings;

or it is now possible to pay dues with PayPal or credit card at www.sfaccordionclub.com.

JOIN US and VOTE!

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The annual meeting and general election for the Executive Board will be held at the beginning of our September meeting. The only order of business is to conduct the election, so it won't take too long before the entertainment begins.

Thanks to our nominating committee of **Dominic Palmisano** and **Vinny Rinaldi**.

Our Board nominees are:

President: **Lynn Ewing**

Vice president: **Dominic Palmisano**

Treasurer: **Elaine Cooperstein**

Directors: **Jean Moshofsky Butler, Robert Cooperstein, Don Savant, and Vinny Rinaldi**

Nominations will be accepted from the floor. We are still looking for a Secretary. If you might be interested, please contact **Dominic Palmisano**, (415) 587-4423
accord47@gmail.com

Thanks so VERY much to retiring Board members **Mike Zampiceni** and **Corinne Chandel**.

ACCORDION FOR SALE:

Orla Quartet Reedless Virtual Accordion. Must be played through an amplifier. Weighs 14.3 lbs. Has 128 available sounds plus 164 variations. Comes with 2 power transformers, 2 midi cables and 2 power cords and a case.

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ACCORDION EXCHANGE

If you are seeking an accordion, or have one to sell, you are welcome to submit the details to the newsletter editor. This is strictly a service to our members, and SFAC cannot take responsibility for the condition of any accordion advertised.

Club Member Participation and the Jam Band

By Don Savant

At a recent board meeting there was much discussion about fostering a welcoming informal atmosphere before our meetings and during breaks, so that club members will feel encouraged to bring their accordions to every meeting and play some tunes and/or join in a jam with other members.

Club co-founder **Dominic Palmisano** recalled, “When the club first started there was a glut of players wanting to perform at each meeting. We had to promise those who didn’t get to play a turn at the next one. People brought their accordions to every meeting hoping for a chance to play during breaks, and there were always members warming up before the formal program. The sound of the instrument was omni-present! However, as the club matured, this happy informal scene began to disappear.”

Today, our meeting format is based on solid individual performances with only a token amount of informal free play by our members-which is now embodied in the Jam Band. The Jam Band has demonstrated its ability to entice members to bring their instruments and enjoy the group activity. It’s also starting to sound great! “So, let’s use the Jam Band as the vehicle to invigorate the club and bring back those moments of spontaneity and member participation in **all** our future meetings,” suggested Dominic.



**JAM BAND performing at
December 2012 SFAC Club meeting.**

Based on these thoughts the board has decided to have the Jam Band meet before all future meetings, rather than merely every other month. Members are encouraged to bring their accordions to all future meetings and to play during breaks as well as before the formal meeting. Members are also encouraged to bring multiple copies of music to share with other Jam Band participants. In this way the Jam Band repertoire can evolve and retain its spontaneity, rather than remain static.

Dominic had one other comment and made a very generous offer. “When we first started the club, we had instruments available for others to play. We figured it was the best way to encourage members or guests to pick up an accordion and try it out! Perhaps we could add this feature to our monthly meetings as well. Personally I’m willing to bring one to make available for anyone to pick up and play and not worry about it being damaged!”

Thanks, Dominic, for your insight as well as your generosity!

NEW MEMBERS

We are so happy to welcome 4 new members this month!

Ronni MacLaren, Chris Ackers, Bob Stanfield and **Pam Kawashima** all joined the SFAC after visiting us at our table at the Cotati Accordion Festival in August.

Ronni, Bob, and Pam all enjoy playing oldies and standards. Bob and Chris both play classical, and Chris also plays modern/jazz music.

Pam and Bob are both Board Members of the Silicon Valley Accordion Society, so their joining adds more connection with our brethren accordion club.

Again, from all of us at SFAC, let us join together in welcoming our new members!

Ron Borelli • San Mateo
RonBorelli@aol.com,
www.ronborelli.com

Richard Denier • Carmel
rdenier@sbcglobal.net

Peter Di Bono • San Francisco
www.peterdibono.com

Reno Di Bono • South Bay
ourhike@aol.com
www.italianaccordion.com

William De Michelis • South Bay
wdd777@comcast.net

Joe Domitrowich • South Bay
www.capricious-accordion.com or
www.alpinersusa.com

Skyler Fell, Hobo Gobelins Oakland
www.myspace.com/hobogobelins

Ed Gorzynski, Jr. • East Bay
edspolkas@yahoo.com
Bruce Kirschner & The Klezmakers
kirschner@aol.com
www.klezmakers.com

Big Lou, aka Linda Seekins • San Francisco
www.accordionprincess.com

Rob Reich • East Bay & San Francisco
robbyreichmusic@gmail.com
www.robreich.com

Diana Strong • Pacifica
dianajstrong@gmail.com
www.dianastrong.webs.com/DianaStrong-accordion/Home.html

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Mike Zampiceni • South Bay
eclecticguy@comcast.net

Members may place one small ad (business-sized card) for one month free of charge in a given year; thereafter, the charge is \$10 per issue or \$100 per year.

Monthly ad prices for members:
Quarter-page ad - \$25.00; half-page ad - \$50, and
a full page ad - \$100. Non-member rates are
double member rates.

A poster (no larger than 5" x 8") advertising an
event may be included in one issue for \$50 for
members and \$65 for non-members.



CHANGE IN MEETING SCHEDULE

Your Board has decided to make a bold change in our club schedule. Meetings in 2015 will be on the **SECOND SUNDAY of the month. This change will BEGIN with Sunday, January 10, 2015.**

Next meeting is September 21 but the October meeting is on October 12 (2nd Sunday) due to a conflict with Oyster Point scheduling

PLAY FOR US!

Playing warm up or during the break is a great, casual way to share your talent and hone your performance skills. Although our featured performers are scheduled in advance, we have lots of opportunities during the first part of the meeting for people who would like to play a short 10 or 15 minute set, or even just a couple of songs. Contact **Dominic Palmisano** at (415) 587-4423 or accord47@gmail.com, or **Lynn Ewing** at (650) 453-3391, or ewinglynn@gmail.com.

ACCORDION EVENTS

There are events happening all over the US. Check out AccordionUSA.com for all kinds of cool festivals and performances.

2014 COUPE MONDIALE & FESTIVAL October 27 to November 2, 2014



The 67th Coupe Mondiale and the 132nd CIA International General Assembly of Delegates Congress will be held in Salzburg, Austria.

The Austrian Accordion Association Harmonikaverband

Österreichs (HVÖ) is delighted host this event in their beautiful Salzburg. The organizers have coordinated with several hotels in Salzburg to offer a variety of accommodation options within 3-15 minutes walking distance from The Congress Center, the venue for all events. This promises to be an exciting, never-to-be-forgotten event on the International accordion calendar for 2014!



Fourteen year-old **Naomi Harris** from Spokane, Washington, winner of the 2014 Leavenworth Competition, and **Nathan Chapeton**, winner of the 2014 AAA Virtuoso Category, have qualified to represent the USA at the 67th Coupe

Mondiale. Naomi performed *Opale Concerto* and won 1st place in the Leavenworth Open Competition. Nathan is 13 years old and studies accordion with ATG and AAA Board Member and well known concert accordionist, **Mary Tokarski**.

For complete information, go to:

www.coupemondiale.org/2014/at_coupe_main.htm

Anthony Galla Rini 'Collectors' Edition' CD Available Now by Rita Barnea

The **Anthony Galla-Rini** 'Collectors' Edition' CD includes such numbers as *Begin the Beguine*, *Yesterday*, *Italian Medley*, *Speak Softly*, *Torna A Surriento*, *That Old Black Magic*, *Rhapsody in Blue*, *Accordion Concerto in G Minor*, *The Lord's Prayer*, *Lara's Theme*, *Fascination*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, and more.

This release includes tracks from Galla Rini's last studio session, with half the tracks being solo recordings whilst the other half are from Galla-Rini's 1967 Accordion Symphonette Orchestra album. The CD normally costs \$15, and is special offer for \$10.

For further information email: petosa@petosa.com.

BAY AREA ACCORDION CLUBS

Accordion Club of the Redwoods 3rd
Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m.
Hermann Sons Hall • 860 Western, Petaluma, CA
\$3 admission donation Contact: Tony Mustaro—
President (707) 318-0474 dcdacapo@gmail.com

Golden State Accordion Club (GSAC)
President/CEO: Carole Enneking (707) 864-2359
gsaccordionclub@netfirms.com

The Vacaville Chapter meets monthly on the second
Thursday, 6:30 p.m. at Pietro's No. 2 at
679 Merchant Street, Vacaville, CA 95688
(707) 448-4588

The Humboldt Chapter meets monthly on the third
Tuesday, 7 p.m. at Humboldt Swiss Club, 5403
Tompkins Hill Road, Loleta.

The Sacramento Chapter meets monthly on the fourth
Wednesday, 7 p.m. at the Old Spaghetti Factory, 12401
Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova. Contact for all three
Chapters: Carole Enneking (707) 864-2359

Good Time Accordion Club (GTAC)
meets monthly on the second Wednesday, 7 p.m. at
Escalon Community Center, 1055 Escalon Ave,
Escalon. Contact: (209) 545-3603

Northern California Accordion Society (NCAS)
meets monthly on the first Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. at
Lutheran Church Hall, 6365 Douglas, Blvd, off Hwy
80, Granite Bay, CA. Contact: Jerry Choate (530)
345-2031

Silicon Valley Accordion Club (SVAC)
meets 1st Sun. of each month at Harry's Hofbrau, 390
Saratoga Avenue, San Jose, corner of Kiely.
1 p.m. \$5, under 16 - no charge.

Accordion Instruction

Bart Beninco (707) 769-8744
Ron Borelli (650) 574-5707
David Chelini (916) 428-8764
Peter Di Bono (415) 753-1502
Lynn Ewing (650) 453-3391
Skyler Fell (415) 596-5952
Lou Jacklich (510) 317-9510
Marian Kelly (650) 854-1896
Vincent Rinaldi (415) 824-7609
Big Lou (Linda Seekins) (415) 468 5986
Joe Simoni (650) 867-1122
Sharon Walters-Greyhosky (650) 731-6010
Richard Yaus (650) 832-1740
Mike Zampiceni (408) 569-2579
Norma Zonay-Parsons (408) 246-3073

SFAC Officers

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ewinglynn@gmail.com

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Mike Zampiceni, Secretary, (408) 734-1565
eclecticguy@comcast.net

Elaine Cooperstein, Treasurer, (510) 921-9323
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Don Savant, (408) 257-0379
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Deeana McLemore, (650) 483-4223
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**Join us one Sunday each month at the Oyster Point Yacht Club,
911 Marina Blvd, South San Francisco**

**Club & Musical Meeting
September 21 @ 2 p.m.
Admission: \$6 members,
\$8 guests**



**Please Note:
October meeting is
on October 12
(2nd Sunday)**

DIRECTIONS:

From 101 traveling either North or South, Oyster Point exit. Turn right onto Marina Blvd. (be careful not to turn right onto Gull Drive, just before Marina Blvd.) Continue past the gate house to the sign Oyster Point Yacht Club. There is plenty of parking and ramp access. Visit us online @ www.sfaccordionclub.com

SFAC Membership is

\$30.00 per year for individual or family.
See page 6 for more information.
**Renew or Join using PayPal or a credit card at
www.sfaccordionclub.com**

NEW MEMBERS, please include your name and address along with your check, as well as a phone number and email address, if you wish.

**Newsletter of the
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