

**Come to Our Next  
Music Program**

**2:00 pm Sunday September 20**

**Oyster Point Yacht Club**

**South San Francisco**

*See the back cover for directions*



September 2015

**RON BORELLI IS  
PERFORMING IN SEPTEMBER**

*Ron Borelli*, a San Francisco native and son of well-known bandleader, Al Borelli, began playing the accordion at age seven. Ron began his professional career at age 13 playing for many Italian parties and performs at a wide variety of local and international venues. He has appeared with the San Francisco Symphony, San Francisco Opera, the Berkeley Symphony, Santa Rosa Symphony and Diablo Ballet, and was the accordionist for the Three Tenors in their 1999 Bay Area concert. He has worked with noted composer Stephen Swartz in his production of *My Antonia* at Theatre Works. Ron instructed and performed at the Las Vegas International Accordion Convention from 2001 to 2009. In 2010, he was honored to perform with the Art Van Damme Quintet at Art's memorial service. Ron appeared on the TV series *Trauma* in 2011, playing accordion for a wedding scene. In 2015, he performed the accordion part of the *Godfather* movie with San Francisco Symphony as well as the SF Opera's production of *Two Women*.



Ron also performs for private, corporate and public events; he was a regular at actor Robin Williams' family house parties for 15 years. Ron plays a wide variety of jazz, opera and American standards, as well as Italian and French music, and is a featured artist on many professional CDs. Ron and his quintet perform monthly at the Doubletree Hotel in Burlingame featuring the music of Art Van Damme. ❖

**MORE GREAT MUSIC  
IN SEPTEMBER**

*The Lister Family*

*Gwyn Lister*

began playing the accordion at age nine when she visited her grandparents in Petaluma and grandma gave the newspaper to the man next-door and he gave her an accordion lesson. She continued to take lessons and went on to instill a love of the accordion in her son *John* and daughter *Pam*. High school, college, marriage and children—the accordion has always been part of their lives. They play a wide variety of music and love playing together. Accordions are the language of the heart and Gwen was smitten early. Even better, now it's a family affair.



*Lorenzo Lucchesi* was born in San Francisco in 2001, and is happy to be an only child. When he was seven years old, Lorenzo came upon reruns of the Lawrence Welk Show on TV and decided on the spot that he wanted to learn to play the accordion. His mom and dad agreed to lessons but said he'd have to stick with it for at least a year before they would

buy him an accordion. Lorenzo got his own accordion and

*Continued on pg 2*



## MORE GREAT MUSIC IN SEPTEMBER



continues his studies with Peter Di Bono. On occasion, you can hear him up in North Beach playing for a crowd and “earning money to invest in the stock market.” When he isn’t playing the accordion, Lorenzo loves to travel, sample new and interesting foods from many cultures and study maps of the United States and the world.

Lorenzo is currently a freshman at Saint Ignatius College Preparatory. He is part of their cross-country running team and is learning Mandarin. On the musical side, earlier in the year Lorenzo joined the Sunset Youth Orchestra where he has not only played as part of a traditional orchestra in a formal concert, but is looking forward to playing with them in Carnegie Hall in June of 2016.



*Xavier de la Prade* was a French teacher at the College of Marin for 26 years, and he also taught for many years at Marin Country Day School. Xavier has used his accordion as a teaching instrument in his French classes throughout his career. His accordion has opened many doors for him, especially as a Peace Corps volunteer in Tunisia. His specialty

is French music and he plays for many functions in the French community.

Being a teacher, Xavier likes to get his audience to participate. He will bring along lyrics of the French songs he will be playing for the Francophiles, and he hopes that everyone will sing along. ❖



## The Cotati Accordion Festival

NON-PROFIT – MULTI-GENERATIONAL – MULTI-CULTURAL – MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA – BENEFITS LOCAL YOUTH GROUPS

We are so lucky to have the great annual accordion celebration in Cotati! As a first-time visitor I was impressed by almost everything at the festival, including the organization of the event. Although space in the pretty little park is limited, the layout was perfect. There were friendly local folk at the gates, a separate parking for handicapped drivers and musicians, and enthusiastic people running everything, everywhere I turned. The event was just the right size and had a great mix of vendors, food, performance and seating. I *will* be going back!

This festival draws lovers of the accordion from many states and from a number of other countries. There were two main performing stages in La Plaza Park in the center of town, and another in the Polka Tent in the same park. In addition, there was accordion music at all three Oliver’s Markets (Santa Rosa, Petaluma and Cotati), The Redwood Cafe, Friar Tuck’s Pub and the Lagunitas Brewing Company. It was an embarrassment of riches—who could cover all that territory in two-and-a-half days?

The absolutely perfect weather gave us beautiful days for sitting in a lawn chair, eating guilty-pleasure carnival food and drinking a beer while listening to our favorite musical instrument. The charming outdoor venue drew performers and audience together for an intimate shared experience. The Cotati Festival attracts many excellent accordionists, and this year’s schedule boasted an amazing variety of instruments, musical genres and performing styles—Stas Venlevski, Those Darn Accordions (reunion), Mattias Matke, Steve Albin, Ginny Mac and MORE . From Sourdough Slim to the Great Morgani and many stops in between, the accordion inspires musicians to express their most authentic selves—and we love it when they do!

The photo spread on the next two pages provides a glimpse into the fun. Thanks to everyone who sent us photos for the newsletter—I was spoiled for choice!

*Shirley Brim, newsletter editor*

*Our thanks to Accordion Club of the Redwoods for sharing their booth with us, and to the people from both clubs who helped in the booth.*





# The Cotati Accordion Festival

NON-PROFIT – MULTI-GENERATIONAL – MULTI-CULTURAL – MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA – BENEFITS LOCAL YOUTH GROUPS

## Performers



## Vendors



Photo credits— (1) Jeanine Aguerre (2) Steve Mobia (3) Elaine Cooperstein (4) Lynn Ewing

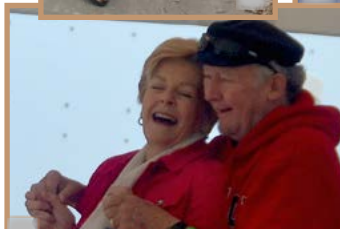




# The Cotati Accordion Festival

NON-PROFIT – MULTI-GENERATIONAL – MULTI-CULTURAL – MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA – BENEFITS LOCAL YOUTH GROUPS

Fun!





## In Memoriam

The SFAC is saddened by the loss of *Jim Holliday*, 96, on August 7th from a sudden heart attack. Jim will be remembered as a founder of the San Francisco Accordion Club (SFAC), a Pan Am Captain, terrific dancer and all around great guy. He is survived by Evelyn, his companion of 35 years, and many friends from his years at Pan American World Airways (PanAm) and the SFAC.

Jim was born in Washington DC in 1919, but lived most of his early life in Chicago with his mother until he graduated from high school. He excelled at swimming and diving and was active with the Sign Club that made signs for all of the high school's games and social events. His first job was with a sign company in Chicago.

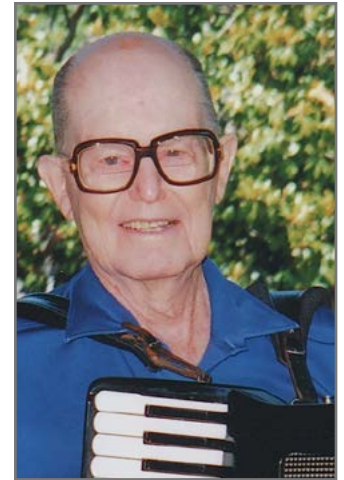
Jim developed an early love of airplanes and built many finely detailed model planes as he grew up. He also fell in love with accordion music. He first heard an accordion group playing at a family picnic, and he sat and listened all day. It touched his heart and he was captivated. Although he bought an accordion and wanted to play for years, his busy flight schedule took all his time.

Jim won an opportunity to attend the Roscoe Turner Flight School in the late 1930s, and when he graduated with top honors he won a scholarship to flight instructor school, with an agreement that he would train pilots for a year after he completed his training. After his year of training pilots was complete, he began applying to airlines as a pilot and was hired by PanAm in 1942, beginning his 39-year career as a pilot.

Jim happily took his accordion out of the closet at age 60 after retiring from PanAm in 1979, and he immediately began to take lessons. He told Evelyn how much he wished he knew someone else who played the accordion. His wish was granted when he and Evelyn met Lou and Mary Soper at an Art Van Damme concert in Napa a few years later and Jim and Lou became close friends. Lou introduced Jim to several other accordion players that he knew in the Bay; this group became the foundation of the new club.

Jim, Lou, Dominic Palmisano, Walter Traverso and Rusty Bartoli worked with Tom Torriglia and other accordion lovers to get San Francisco to select the accordion as the city's official instrument in 1990, and then they formed the Bay Area Accordion Club the same year. (The name was changed to the San Francisco Accordion Club in late 2003, with the welcome addition of new accordion clubs around the Bay.) These same five guys also helped Jim Boggio start the annual Cotati Accordion Festival and convinced Paul Pasquali of the need for an international accordion convention; Paul sponsored the first Las Vegas International Accordion Convention in 2000.

Jim and Evelyn volunteered time and talent to support the club for 20 years until Jim's health began to decline, but his memory lives on at the SFAC. We remember Jim with great affection and we are sorry to lose him. Jim's love of the accordion and long service to the club leave a lasting legacy; we'll be forever grateful for his vision and dedication. ❖



## Accordion Tidbits

The San Jose Mercury News published a fun article (8/14/15) about the Cotati Accordion Festival in particular and the comeback of the accordion to polite society in general. The article is a great read and is available online:

[http://www.mercurynews.com/entertainment/ci\\_28644077/love-accordion-get-thee-cotati](http://www.mercurynews.com/entertainment/ci_28644077/love-accordion-get-thee-cotati)

**Check it out!**

## Sit in with the Jam Band

Our informal jam band is open to everyone, regardless of experience. Learn new riffs, meet crazy new accordion friends and have WAY TOO MUCH FUN! We meet regularly before the monthly Sunday music program—

**1:15-2:00 pm for a traditional jam session**

**COME ON DOWN! We're waiting for YOU!**

# Honors Accordion Retreat

NOVEMBER 12-17, 2015

FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON  
8720 Gulf Freeway, Houston TX 77017

## Mario Pedone Performance & Dance Party



Mario Pedone, Ph.D. world-famous accordionist, performer and teacher. He was born in Italy, raised in Venezuela, and now resides in Sugarland.

Nov. 13 (Fri) 7:30 pm

## Workshops and Private Lessons

14 workshops to meet your needs. Master teachers, **Stas Vanglevski, Shelia Lee, Mario Pedone, Mike Kelly, Debra Peters**, and more will be conducting workshops and private lessons.

## Russian Accordion Virtuosi Orchestra



This outstanding accordion orchestra has a repertoire from folk to rock to classical. They have astounded audiences worldwide for over 80 years – including 3 performances for the Olympic Games. Accordion Virtuosi consists of young Piano and Chromatic accordionists. Group Rate for choice seating at concert includes an afternoon Master Class. \$40

Sat, Nov 14, 2015

Cullen Theater, Wortham Center, Houston



## Wurstfest

New Braunfels, TX  
One Day Bus Field Trip  
to the Texas Largest  
German Festival  
Sun, Nov 15, 2015

## Stas Vanglevski Concert

World class accordionist, musician, arranger, composer, entertainer, and accordion teacher.

He is a native of the Republic of Moldova, part of the former Soviet Union and now resides in Milwaukee.



Nov. 16 (Mon) 7:30 pm

## Two Public Performances

Rehearse with an accordion orchestra and opportunity to perform at Jones Hall and Wurstfest.

*Bring your Accordion!  
DO IT ALL or just a FEW DAYS –  
Plan to HAVE FUN!!!*

For more information / registration [www.accordionhonors.com](http://www.accordionhonors.com)

E-mail: [slee@shelialee.com](mailto:slee@shelialee.com)

Call: (281) 780-8656

## ACCORDIONS 4 U

ACCORDIONS 4 U is *Griff Ziegler's* new project to promote accordion music to children in elementary, middle schools and high schools in the Wallowa Valley of northeastern Oregon. He wants to introduce the next generation to the love of the accordion.

So...he needs your help.

Griff says, “I need older but usable 12-, 24-, and 48-bass accordions, junior-sized accordions, woman’s 120-bass, music stands, and music books to begin. Please help support this project by donating whatever you can to Accordions 4 U. In return, I can offer you a tax write-off for the value you put on these donations.”

We all know of someone with a dusty old accordion and accessories stashed away in a closet somewhere. Help Griff kick off the project and **give those old accordions a chance to sing again!** If there are four or more accordions from the Bay area, he’ll drive down to pick them up.

Call or email him at: 208-651-2536. [griffbz@gmail.com](mailto:griffbz@gmail.com)

Or you can send your accordion directly to him at the address below:

Griff Ziegler  
504 N. College Street  
Joseph, Oregon 97846





Sunday, September 27th

# Day of the Accordion!



1:00pm to 8:30pm

at the historic  
**North Star House**  
12075 Auburn Rd.  
Grass Valley, CA 95949

Starring the premier accordion talents in the West!



**Corky Bennett**

Nationally known music & comedy artist



**Pete Contino**

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**Ron Borelli**

Bay Area Artist Extraordinaire



**The Truccos**

Central California Legends



**Patsy Hannebrink**

Grass Valley Favorite



with Emcee  
**Fran Cole**

Accordion Open Jam and Socializing 1-3pm. *Bring your accordion!*

Concert artists 3:00pm - 8:30pm

Only \$20 for all-day pass! Bring your own food and beverages (wine or soft drinks).

Limited patio seating. Bring lawn chairs and blankets. Get cozy.



## ACCORDION-LOVERS' TRIP!

May 17-21, 2016  
Departing London Heathrow

This is a bucket-list trip for all true accordion aficionados! Come to Castelfidardo, Italy—the spiritual home of the accordion—and renew your love affair with this amazing instrument. Wander the streets and sample the culture of Castelfidardo. Learn more about the artistry of accordion design and manufacture. Revel in the company of accordion lovers from all over the world. Enjoy jam sessions with your fellow travelers.

There's still room! We currently have 30 people confirmed (including four Americans), and there are still places for a few more. Travel options, costs and trip highlights are included below. For more information contact:

Peter Le Geyt—Member, Guildford Accordion Club  
PLG Marketing Associates, London  
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Email: [plg@plgmarketing.com](mailto:plg@plgmarketing.com)



## *Accordion Wanted!*

I'm looking for a C Chromatic button accordion. I play primarily Eastern European minor-mode music, and ideally I'd like a used French-style musette with a few treble registers; good tone and range on treble to pretty low and deep; but any C Chromatic with good tone will work. Tone and maximum height of keyboard are critical; the other factors are all pretty flexible.

Desired features:

- 3–5 treble rows; about 42 r-h buttons in the first three rows, plus the additional duplicate buttons if there are rows 4 and/or 5
- Keyboard height—I prefer 16" or less, and not more than 18"
- 60 to 80 bass buttons; 5 or 6 rows
- Weight is not an issue, but lighter is always better
- Price: \$1,500 max

Will drive up to 1.5 hours from Oakland; contact Joan Warren at [joan@joanwarren.net](mailto:joan@joanwarren.net) or 510-390-8692.





## ♪♪ SFAC Scholarship ♪♪

The SFAC awards two scholarships a year to accordion students studying with teachers who are SFAC members in good standing. The student must have a financial need and demonstrate dedication to pursuing the study of the accordion. Contact **Mike Zampiceni** for a scholarship application.

**Mike Zampiceni**  
6923 Gold Oak Lane  
Citrus Heights CA 95621  
[eclecticguy@comcast.net](mailto:eclecticguy@comcast.net)  
408-569-2579

## BAY AREA ACCORDION CLUBS

### **Accordion Club of the Redwoods**

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

### **Golden State Accordion Club (GSAC)**

President/CEO for all three chapters:  
Carole Enneking (707) 864-2359  
[gsaccordionclub@netfirms.com](mailto:gsaccordionclub@netfirms.com)

#### **Vacaville Chapter**

2nd Thursday at 6:30 pm.  
Pietro's No. 2, 6  
79 Merchant Street, Vacaville

#### **Humboldt Chapter**

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

#### **Sacramento Chapter**

4th Wednesday at 7 pm.  
Old Spaghetti Factory,  
12401 Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova

### **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 Sunday at 1pm. Harry's Hofbrau,  
390 Saratoga Avenue (corner of Kiely), San Jose  
\$5 for adults, no charge under 16

## ♪♪ Performing Around the Bay ♪♪

**RON BORELLI** San Mateo  
[RonBorelli@aol.com](mailto:RonBorelli@aol.com) [www.ronborelli.com](http://www.ronborelli.com)

**RICHARD DENIER** Carmel  
[rdenier@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rdenier@sbcglobal.net)

**PETER DI BONO** San Francisco  
[www.peterdibono.com](http://www.peterdibono.com)

**RENO DI BONO** South Bay  
[ourhike@aol.com](mailto:ourhike@aol.com) [www.italianaccordion.com](http://www.italianaccordion.com)

**WILLIAM DE MICHELIS** South Bay  
[accordionist.sanjose@comcast.net](mailto:accordionist.sanjose@comcast.net)

**JOE DOMITROWICH** South Bay  
[www.capricious-accordion.com](http://www.capricious-accordion.com) or  
[www.alpinersusa.com](http://www.alpinersusa.com)

**SKYLER FELL; THEE HOBO GOBBELINS** Oakland  
[www.myspace.com/hobogobbelins](http://www.myspace.com/hobogobbelins)

**ED GORZYNSKI, JR.** East Bay  
[edspolkas@yahoo.com](mailto:edspolkas@yahoo.com)

**GLENN HARTMAN** San Francisco  
[glennhartman@gmail.com](mailto:glennhartman@gmail.com)

**BRUCE KIRSCHNER & THE KLEZMAKERS**  
[kirschner@aol.com](mailto:kirschner@aol.com) [www.klezmakers.com](http://www.klezmakers.com)

**NADA LEWIS** East Bay & San Francisco  
[folkloric@value.net](mailto:folkloric@value.net) [www.folkloric.net](http://www.folkloric.net)

**BIG LOU, aka LINDA SEEKINS** San Francisco  
[www.accordionprincess.com](http://www.accordionprincess.com)

**ROB REICH** East Bay & San Francisco  
[robbyreichmusic@gmail.com](mailto:robbyreichmusic@gmail.com) [www.robreich.com](http://www.robreich.com)

**RENE SEVIERI** East Bay & San Francisco  
[rene@accuratefirestop.com](mailto:rene@accuratefirestop.com)  
[www.facebook.com/rene.sevieri?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/rene.sevieri?fref=ts)

**TANGONERO**  
[tangonero.com](http://tangonero.com)

**WHISKEY AND WOMEN**  
[www.whiskeyandwomenmusic.com](http://www.whiskeyandwomenmusic.com)  
or Facebook, MySpace and You Tube to view videos

**MIKE ZAMPICENI** Sacramento  
[eclecticguy@comcast.net](mailto:eclecticguy@comcast.net)



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 internet www.castiglioneaccordions.com



## ACCORDION EXCHANGE

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### Rare Accordion For Sale



**BRETTONEL**  
Italian-style chromatic button accordion, a French Musette, made in Paris in (probably) the late 50's. This instrument is in nearly perfect condition and has

exceptional reeds. It was brought back from Paris by Arrigo D'Albert in 1982.

Debra Dawson, Arrigo's long-time partner, is selling this accordion and will bring it to the Cotati Festival in August if it hasn't sold sooner; call Debra to arrange to see this beautiful accordion at Cotati. The estimated value is \$4000; serious inquiries should be directed to Debra at (707) 964-0509, or [goodthym@mcn.org](mailto:goodthym@mcn.org).

### ACCORDION INSTRUCTION

- BART BENINCO** (707) 769-8744
- RON BORELLI** (650) 574-5707
- DAVID CHELINI** (916) 428-8764
- MYRLE DAHL** (415) 897-2283
- PETER DI BONO** (415) 753-1502
- LYNN EWING** (650) 453-3391
- LOU JACKLICH** (510) 317-9510
- MARIAN KELLY** (650) 954-3711
- NADA LEWIS** (510) 243-1122
- 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

**Lynn Ewing**, President (650) 453-3391  
[ewinglynn@gmail.com](mailto:ewinglynn@gmail.com)

**Dominic Palmisano**, Vice President (415) 587-4423  
[accord47@gmail.com](mailto:accord47@gmail.com)

**Elaine Cooperstein**, Treasurer (510) 921-9323  
[elainedc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:elainedc@sbcglobal.net)

**Don Savant**, Secretary (408) 257-0379  
[donsavant@yahoo.com](mailto:donsavant@yahoo.com)

### SFAC Directors

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[threehummingbirds@gmail.com](mailto:threehummingbirds@gmail.com)

**Robert Cooperstein** (510) 207-6009  
[drcoop@sbcglobal.net](mailto:drcoop@sbcglobal.net)

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**Randall Hicks** (510) 750-6858  
[hickr01@sprintmail.com](mailto:hickr01@sprintmail.com)

### Newsletter

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[shirleyb77@gmail.com](mailto:shirleyb77@gmail.com)

### Scholarship

**Mike Zampiceni** (408) 734-1565  
[eclecticguy@comcast.net](mailto:eclecticguy@comcast.net)

#### 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 per issue or \$100 per year.

#### Monthly ad prices for members:

Quarter-page \$25 • half-page \$50 • full page \$100.

Non-member rates are doubled.

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



Join us the third Sunday of each month at the  
Oyster Point Yacht Club • 911 Marina Blvd • South San Francisco

## MONTHLY SUNDAY MUSIC PROGRAM

Come for fun and great music!!

**September 20 @ 2:00 pm**

Admission: \$6 for members, \$8 for guests

The jam band will play from 1:15-2:00

Visit us online at [www.sfaccordionclub.com](http://www.sfaccordionclub.com)



### DIRECTIONS:

Traveling either north or south on Highway 101 in South San Francisco, take the Oyster Point Blvd exit and follow it to Marina Blvd. Be careful not to turn right onto Gull Drive, the right turn immediately before Marina Blvd.

Turn right onto Marina Blvd and continue 0.7 mile, past the Oyster Point Marina gatehouse to the Oyster Point Yacht Club sign on the left. There is plenty of parking and ramp access.

## Amp up THE FUN!

**SFAC Membership** is \$35 per year for individual or family (\$5 discount for taking the newsletter online). Join or renew using PayPal or a credit card at: [www.sfaccordionclub.com](http://www.sfaccordionclub.com)

### San Francisco Accordion Club Newsletter

P.O. Box 318175

San Francisco, CA 94131-8175

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

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By renewing now, ahead of our formal membership drive in August, you can spare our volunteers lots of time and the SFAC lots of postage and printing costs. Please **send a check** for \$35 (mailed newsletter) or \$30 (email newsletter) – **OR – renew your membership and/or make a donation to the SFAC online** using your credit card or PayPal at our webpage [www.sfaccordion.club.com](http://www.sfaccordion.club.com)

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

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An additional donation of any amount will help our club thrive! \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your generosity! Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail your check payable to SFAC to our treasurer:

**Elaine Cooperstein, 539 Elsie Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94577**