

September, 2020

♪ ♪ *SFAC Accordions Live* ♪ ♪

Online-only performance

Sunday, September 20, 2020

via Zoom - 2:00pm

Members will receive email with Zoom link

Kenneth.E.Schwarz@gmail.com



The SFAC is pleased to present

Alicia Jo Straka

Alicia Jo Straka (previously Baker) is a professional accordionist, singer, pianist, and composer from Portland, OR, currently residing in Denver, CO. Alicia earned 3 bachelor of arts degrees from Oregon State University (piano performance, vocal performance, and choral music education) in addition to a Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy from University of Colorado Boulder - all of which were funded by full-ride scholarships. Throughout her career, Alicia has won multiple International accordion competitions, worked as an artist for the prestigious Roland Corporation, sung leading operatic roles, and has performed at many notable venues including Carnegie Weill Hall and the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki. Versatility has always been a point of pride for Alicia, which is highlighted through her diverse repertoire: jazz, parisienne, pop, funk, opera, polka, and techno, to name a few. Alicia currently spends her time teaching private students, performing, composing, and arranging. You can visit her website for recordings and more information: www.aliciajostraka.com.



2020 Cotati Virtual Accordion Festival: Event Review

By Ken Schwartz

This just wasn't meant to be the summer for live music at sunny La Plaza Park, perched on a haystack, enjoying the camaraderie of our club's tent at the annual **Cotati Accordion Festival**. Sadly, pandemics don't appreciate fine accordion music. Thus, addressing obstacles facing performing arts organizations and performers this year, the festival, out of necessity reinvented itself with its first **Cotati Virtual Accordion Festival**. Performances by 14 talented accordionists from across Europe and North America were featured. There were only a few glitches, all related to broadband issues, but none detracted from the fine performances and great music from a talented group of musicians. The festival presented the first-ever virtual Lady-of-Spain Play along, with pre-recorded mini-performances, all perfectly synchronized.

See if you can recognize your fellow members in the snapshot. The SFAC was well represented with talented performances by Pamela Lister, Colette Ogata, Marilyn Valentino, Pamela Tom, Lorna Anderson, Siyuan Donnelly, Lou Jacklich, Paul Cain (with Pele, his adorable daughter dancing in pink), Glenn Cohen, Barbie Wong, and Rosemary Busher. (I, too, submitted a video but it apparently didn't make the "cut" for the performance). Great job, fellow members! (Our apologies if we've inadvertently omitted anyone here).





SFAC Zooming into the Virtual World

When the SFAC made the transition to Zoom in place of live musical programs for the time-being, our first thought was to recreate a virtual venue to continue our tradition of alternating programs featuring professional accordionists and others where our own members, with various degrees of accomplishment, could play for each other. That has worked out exceedingly well, with relatively high attendance and virtually no problems implementing the Zoom format. Suddenly everyone, including people who were not initially comfortable with the streaming world, has become proficient in logging in and getting all their settings correct.

After several months had passed with no obvious timeline for resuming in-person programs, a question emerged for the SFAC: should we allow and even encourage our professional accordionists to solicit "virtual tips" during their online performances, as so many professional musicians around the country are now doing? The SFAC Board of Directors, after considerable discussion, has decided yes, our professional performers should be allowed to request virtual tips. The Club pays a relatively modest stipend to our Zoom performers, but this in no way offsets their considerable loss of income due to the cessation of live performances and many of their teaching engagements. It would be nice to see SFAC members step up to offer additional support.



So, don't be surprised if our performers, if they choose to do so, provide a PayPal address in the chat window during their performance, or even place a placard of some type on the screen with instructions how to donate while they are playing. The SFAC would rather not receive tips earmarked for performers, we strongly prefer such tips go straight to them.

In other news: SFAC member Colette Ogata has agreed to become the new president of the Silicon Valley Accordion Society (SVAS)! Congratulations to Colette! As a goodwill gesture, the SFAC has invited the membership of SVAS to visit our September 20th *Accordions Live* event featuring **Alicia Jo Straka**.

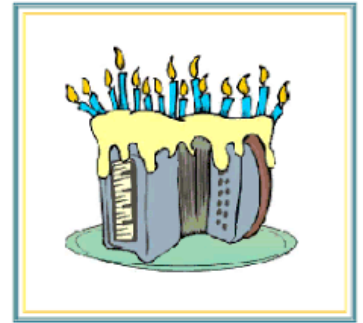


Zoom Birthday Honors Lou Jacklich

By Pamela Tom

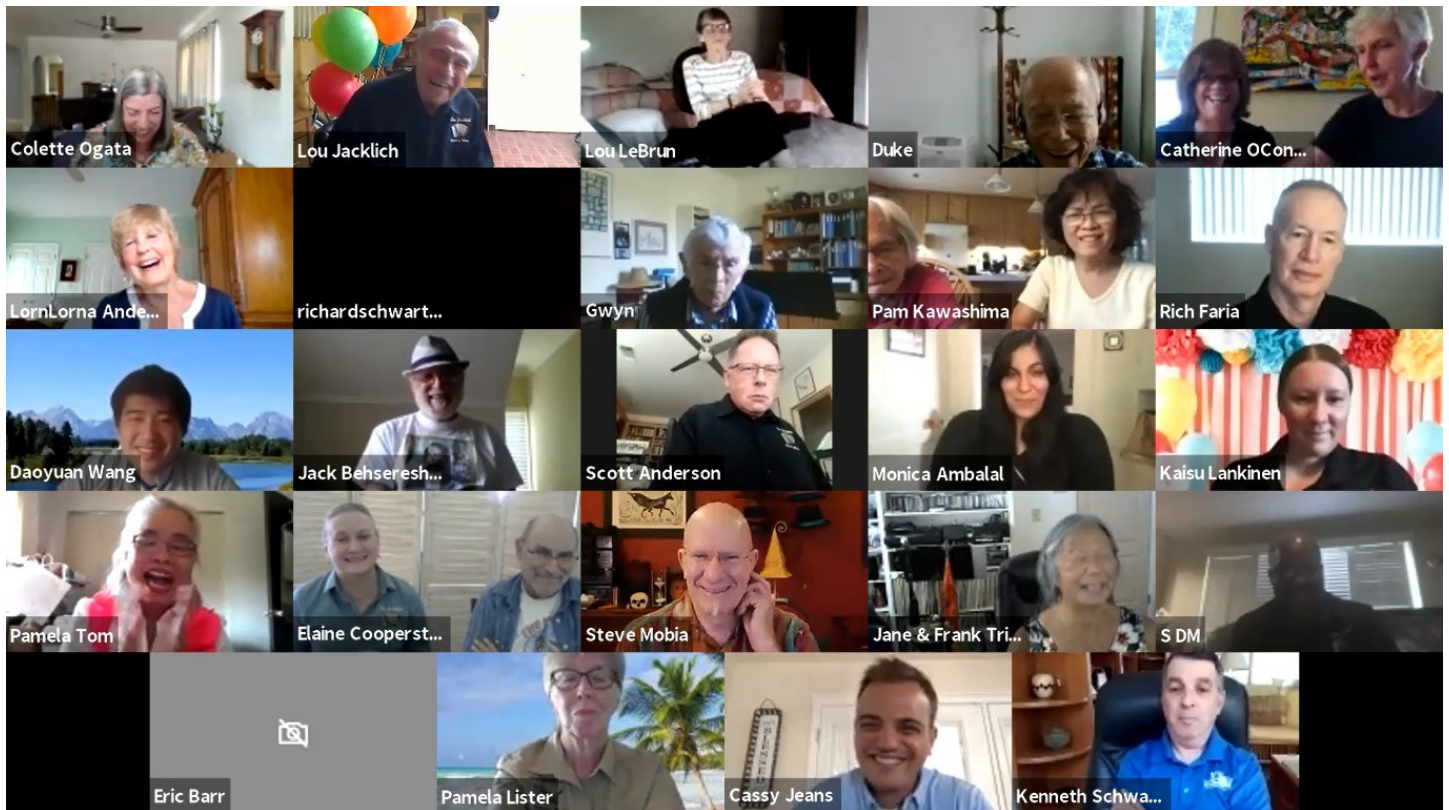


SFAC Lifetime Achievement Award (2014) honoree, Lou Jacklich (pictured left) was fêted August 2020 by his students and friends across the US via Zoom in honor of his 92nd birthday and 75 years as an outstanding accordion teacher, performer and electronic accordion pioneer. The celebratory program included almost 30 self-introductions and fond reminiscing by each guest who all had interesting experiences to share about the maestro. Attendees gained a closer perspective of our beloved teacher and friend.



Touching remembrances coupled with heartfelt toasts to Lou Jacklich's continued success, longevity and health were raised by Steve Marshall, Scott Anderson MD, Monica Ambalal, Colette Ogata and Rich Faria. Lou Le Brun (Springfield, MO), virtuoso accordionist, performed an excellent jazz rendition of "Misty." Students who also entertained on Zoom included: Scott Anderson MD, Jeremy Jeans, Kaisu Lankinen, Pamela Tom, and Jane Tripi.

PowerPoint slide presentations were synchronized with solo accordion music recordings by students (Kaisu Lankinen, David Lanyon, Pamela Tom, and Jane Tripi) and excerpts from Lou's 1962 Capitol 33 RPM Custom Label record, "Lou Jacklich Plays" to highlight his career over time: 1) early years, 2) teaching, 3) band leader [with combos, student, and community bands], 4) virtuoso soloist, 5) current and past students, and 6) past birthday photos.



See Stas Venglevski online – Special Mesa Accordion Event!

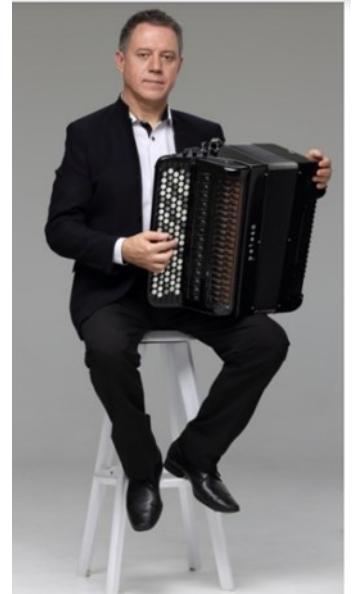
On August 30, 2020, Accordion Renaissance (a Virginia-based non-profit charity) presented another installment of its Mesa Accordion Event, a virtual live concert featuring Stas Venglevski, no stranger to the SFAC. The flyer for the event said of Stas that “his artistry, sensitivity, and dazzling technical command make him one of the most sought after bayan players in the world.”

According to Accordion Renaissance, the performance included both new compositions and old favorites. Not to worry if you missed the event, as it is archived for viewing by the public at <https://www.facebook.com/events/s/concert-with-stas-venglevski/303493944405217/>. Treat yourselves to spending 75 minutes or so enjoying Stas' very special performance!

SFAC member Marian Kelly had the following to say about Stas:

Stas has been a part of the Bay Area accordion scene for....at least 20 years. He has played at all three clubs MANY times. Ed Massolo first hosted him and he stayed at my home three times, I believe. At first, he played almost exclusively Russian music, having recently emigrated from Moldova with his cellist-wife, Rosa. Last year after Cotati he came here to the Forum and gave us a concert; I even managed to play a duet with him! He plays a Petosa bayan - in a word, effortlessly.

According to Marian, The Mesa Accordion Event began as an accordion “camp” in Mesa, AZ, hosted by Frank Marocco and organized by Joan and Dan Graumann. It consisted of 60 or so accordionists until Frank passed away. To this day Joan and Dan are big Stas supporters.



GUESS WHO:

He's no stranger to the SF Accordion Club. He started playing at 8 years old and here is shown at the annual formal student recital at age 12, wearing a big smile and his big accordion. White sport coats were required as well.

Guess Who? Answer on page 8.

SFAC – Looking Ahead!

- **October 18, 2020**
Accordion Circle
(virtual) participation meeting
- **November 15, 2020**
SFAC Accordions Live!
Pre-holiday Extravaganza
Featuring (via Zoom)—
 - ◇ **Peter Di Bono**
 - ◇ **Alex Meixner**
www.alexmeixner.com
- **December 20, 2020**
Accordion Circle
(virtual) participation meeting

1940's Guerrini Co Accordion made in No. Beach, SF. \$375.



It's been stored with care in its original case by me, the original owner.
Played recently, looks & sounds great!

120 Bass, Ladies sz
contact Arleen in San Mateo

ajej@comcast.net



Membership Update by *Robert Cooperstein, Membership Director*

Here it is, only September, and we already have had 22 new members join our Club this calendar year! Please join me in welcoming our newest members: **Drew Hart** (Oakland), **Mark Greathouse** (Tigard, OR), **John Lister** (Corte Madera, rejoining the Club), and **Arleen Johnson** (San Mateo).

Renewal letters went out about a week ago. We made a direct appeal to renew if possible using PayPal, which is **contactless** and thus spares our volunteers from having to deal with opening letters, handling checks, and visiting banks to deposit checks. So far 90% of renewals that have come back did use the PayPal platform, and we are thrilled to see our members take heed of our request! This is not only safer for us, but saves a lot of time.

Many thanks to all who have already paid 2020-21 SFAC dues via US Mail and PayPal! What a wonderful world it will be if the great majority of our members will renew in a timely manner, sparing our staff the task of having to send additional reminders.

NOT JUST OOM-PAH! PRESENTS A FREE ONLINE CONCERT FEATURING BRUCE SUNPIE BARNES



Concert on FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/brucesunpiebarnes>

**Monday, October 5, 2020
7:00 – 8:00 PM Central Time**

8:00 – 9:00 pm Eastern

6:00 – 7:00 pm Mountain

5:00 – 6:00 pm Pacific

Concert is FREE, but

Virtual Tips appreciated!

Log into your  **PayPal** account & send a

Virtual Tip to sunpie@cox.net

ZYDECO & BLUES

ACCORDION HAPPENINGS

Accordionists & Teachers Guild, INTL (ATG)

Presents an ONLINE Master Class (FREE event)
With Joan C. Sommers
Sunday, September 27, 2020 at 1:00 pm PST
ZOOM Link available at 12:50 pm (PST)
www.atgaccordions.com

Coupe Mondiale 2020

Confédération Internationale des Accordéonistes (CIA)
October 2 - 4, 2020
Algrave, Portugal
www.coupemondiale.org

Not Just Oom-pah! Concert & Workshops

Zydeco & Blues with Bruce Sunpie Barnes
October 5 (Concert), October 6 (Meet & Greet)
October 11-12 (Workshops)
Online workshops - with printed materials provided in PDF
\$65 for all workshop sessions on Zoom
Register by October 3 at www.NotJustOompah.org

Houston Accordion Orchestra Retreat

Designed for serious accordion ensemble musicians
January 14-16, 2021
For information contact meghada33@gmail.com

Leavenworth International Accordion

Northwest Accordion Society
June 17 - 20, 2021
Leavenworth is Washington's "Bavarian Village"
www.accordioncelebration.org

American Accordionists' Association (AAA) Festival

Marriott Philadelphia West—Conshohocken, PA
July 14-18, 2021
<http://www.ameraccord.com/festival.php>



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

Thank You, Donors!

Sincere Thanks to those who generously donate to support the SFAC. We would like to thank the following members who have made donations during membership year October 2019 - September 2020. Donations received during the current membership renewal will be acknowledged beginning in October 2020.

Paul Aebersold; Chris & Tor Arild; Evelyn Baulch; Anthony Bologna; Dave Braun; Phil Carmo; George Chavez; Xavier & Candace de la Prade; Vince Cukar; Aldo Didero; Ed Gorzynski, Jr.; Dominic Granelli; Gus & Sharon Greyhosky; Ron & Mary Jo Harris; Franco, Jerry Keifer; Susan & Lorenzo Lucchesi; Michael A. Marotta, Jr.; Stephen Marshall; Nora & Tony Mazzara; Herb Meier; James Monfredini; Mary Nelson (in honor of Christopher Bronte); Anna Nicora; Gisele B. Oakes; Colette & Casey Ogata; Alexander Roitman; Michael Sanossian; Don & Mary Savant; Kenneth Schwartz & Jayne Tan; Bill & Gloria Tapogna; Pamela Tom; Jane & Frank Tripi; Frank Venturelli; Barbara Winter; Richard Yaus; Mike Zampiceni; Marlen 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.

SFAC Directors

Rosemary Busher (510)220-2931, rosemary@busher.org
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
Dominic Palmisano (Honorary Director) accord47@gmail.com

Webmaster & Accounting

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

Newsletter team: Content collection & writing, Layout, Copy Editing, Print shop pick-up, Labels/Stamps, Mailing

Elaine & Robert Cooperstein, Rosemary Busher, Pamela Tom

Scholarship

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

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.

Please contact Kenneth.E.Schwartz@gmail.com

GUESS WHO (from page 5) — It's Ken Schwartz!

Ken Schwartz began playing the accordion at age 8½ after 3 years of joint formal piano lessons with his twin brother, Richard. The piano bench was wide enough for only one, however, so Ken eagerly jumped (or was gently “pushed”) to the instrument with the piano-like keyboard and all those buttons; he liked pushing buttons, even then! The rest is history. Ken started on classical accordion and later learned jazz and popular tunes, skills which served him well when as an undergraduate at UCLA, he was the only accordionist listed in the campus directory (25,000+ students). Ken mixed chemistry by day with music by night and earned his way through college, playing numerous parties and weddings with his brother in the West Los Angeles area. Although his professional career has been in medicine and biotechnology, Ken has never wandered too far from his musical roots, however, and he continues to enjoy learning and performing on the accordion to this day.



A side note: Ken's accordion teacher, Harvey Tarter, instructed him in Long Beach, NY. Mr. Tarter was still in his teens (18 years old!) when he began to teach Ken and others and sponsored his annual student recitals, and he's still teaching to this day, 60 years later, now in Oceanside, NY!

Houston Accordion Orchestra Retreat 2021

January 14-16, 2021
Kemah Boardwalk Inn
Kemah, TX

Music Director: Stas Venglevski
Guest Artist: Joan Cochran Sommers



- Enjoy
- ✓ 3 full days of orchestra rehearsals
 - ✓ Open mic and jam session every night
 - ✓ Final public concert at Theater (Jan 16)

Come, and Join Playing with Stas.

This retreat is designed for the serious accordion ensemble musicians. Limited number (**maximum of 35 accordionists-availability** on a 1st come, 1st serve basis). Contact Megumi to participate in the retreat and secure your spot.



For more information contact Megumi (Meg) Hada, meghada33@gmail.com

Area Accordion Groups/Clubs

*Most clubs are on hiatus or meeting virtually (online).
Check each club's website and/or club contacts to verify
current meeting schedules*

Accordion Club of the Redwoods

Contact: Tony Mustaro, President
(707) 318-0474, dcdacapo@gmail.com

Good Time Accordion Club (GTAC)

Contact: Ed Sciarini (209) 545-3603

Humboldt Accordionaires

humsqueez44@yahoo.com

Napa Valley Accordion Party

gbachich@accordionrevival.com

Northern California Accordion Society (NCAS)

Contact: Jim Shoemaker (916) 443-0974

Sacramento Jammers

accordiondave1@gmail.com

Silicon Valley Accordion Society (SVAS)

www.svasociety.org

Small 8-year-old grandson seeks small piano accordion

Under 15 lbs. 48 bass or fewer.
Thanks.

Alan Venable 415/431-8822
alan@onemonkeybooks.com

Accordionist Reno di Bono

Plays 6pm to 8pm each Saturday evening at:

Tre Monti Italian Restaurant
270 Main Street
Los Altos, CA 94022

Reservations recommended:
650-935-2197



ACCORDIONISTS & TEACHERS GUILD, INTL. (ATG)

member Confédération Internationale des Accordéonistes (CIA)
International Music Council (IMC), an NGO official partner of UNESCO

presents an
**ONLINE
MASTER CLASS**

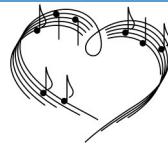
with
**Joan C.
SOMMERS**

**Sunday
27 September 2020
3:00 PM**
USA Central Standard Time (CST)

Free Online Event

Our e-learning series participants:
Beatrice Makdah (advanced)
Zach Grindle (intermediate/advanced)
Tazia Machl (intermediate)
Joyce Litoff (adult advanced beginner)

Zoom link available 2.50 PM (CST) - www.atgaccordions.com



FOR SALE

GrandVox 140 bass accordion 26 LBS
\$2400. Proceeds benefit SFAC
4/5 with tone chamber, selling "as is"
info@sfaccordionclub.com

Support the Businesses That Support the SFAC!

BRUCE KIRSCHNER, M.D.
OPHTHALMOLOGY
LASER VISION CORRECTION



1828 EL CAMINO REAL
SUITE 404
BURLINGAME CA 94010

PH: 650-692-8788
FX: 650-692-8798

WWW.DRKIRSCHNER.BIZ

Castiglione

Accordions and Distributing Co LLC

JOHN CASTIGLIONE Director

13300 E. 11 Mile Rd. Suite A
Warren MI 48089-1367

Tel: 586 755 6050
Fax: 586 755 6339

Email: johncast@bignet.net
www.castiglioneaccordions.com



Smythe's

2511 Broadway
Oakland, CA 94612
510-268-4084



Kimric
Smythe

Accordions Center

Accordions Repair Shop San Jose

Professional, high quality work with warranty

Prof. Valdet Jakubovic
Owner

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

Fax. 408-238-7637
vjakubovic@yahoo.com
http://www.
accordionsrepairshopsanjose.com



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



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:

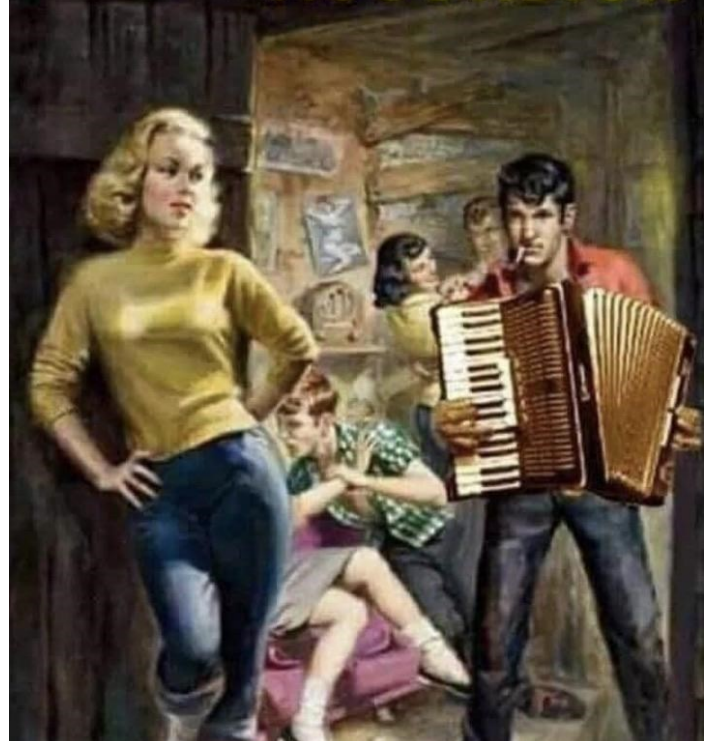
1/4-page: \$25: 1/2-page: \$50: Full-page: \$100.

Non-member rates are double.

Accordions for Rent

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

SHE TRIED TO BE GOOD, BUT KNEW SHE COULDN'T RESIST THE SHACK AND FALLING UNDER THE SPELL OF THE REBEL WITH AN ACCORDION



Accordion getting heavy?
Playing LESS never sounded so good!



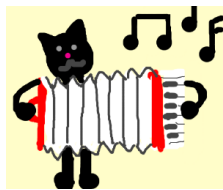
petosa
"Leggera"

- 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!



petosa accordions
GIULIETTI Bugari-evo Roland
ZORO SOTTO ACCORDION FACTORY HOHNER YAMAHA BUGARI ARMANDO

www.petosa.com
206.632.2700



ACCORDION INSTRUCTION

RON BORELLI (650) 574-5707
 DAVID CHELINI (916) 428-8764
 PETER DI BONO (415) 699-8674
 LOU JACKLICH (510) 317-9510
 MARIAN KELLY (650) 954-3711
 JOE SIMONI (650) 867-1122
 PAMELA TOM (530 AREA) accordionpam@gmail.com
 JOEL WEBER (510) 655-4398
<https://joelseastbayaccordionlessons.weebly.com/>
 MIKE ZAMPICENI (408) 569-2579 MikeZamp.com

Music Lessons

Peter Di Bono

415-699-8674
peterdsf@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/>

ROBERT KENNEDY
robertkennedymusic.com
missionhotclub.com

BRUCE KIRSCHNER & THE KLEZMAKERS
kirschner@aol.com

TANGONERO (Alexander Roitman)
www.tangonero.com

PAMELA TOM Yolo & Solano Counties
accordionpam@gmail.com

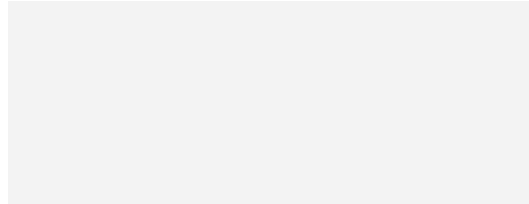
MIKE ZAMPICENI East Bay & South Bay
eclecticguy@comcast.net
www.mikezamp.com

San Francisco Accordion Club
Newsletter

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

First Class
Postage

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE



3rd Sundays – Monthly Musical Meetings

SFAC Sunday Meeting

***Virtual* Accordions Live!**

Sunday, September 20

Join us for fun and great music!

Online at Zoom.com

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

Sunday, September 20, 2020

2:00 pm

fb.com/sanfranciscoaccordionclub 

ALICIA JO STRAKA

Accordionist, Vocalist, Pianist, & Composer



SFAC ACCORDIONS LIVE!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2020 VIA ZOOM

WWW.ALICIAJOSTRAKA.COM