

NEWSLETTER OF THE

Silicon Valley Accordion Society

June 2014

SVAS NEXT MEETING:

July 6, 2014 at Harry's Hofbrau



Check these guys out. See how they have changed and how they play. It is not often we get a family performance.

Richard & Larry Denier began playing accordion in the early 1960's at the Neronde accordion studio in Sacramento. Being of Swiss heritage, their repertoire included many folk songs from their home country. As youngsters they competed in both individual and duet categories at the Accordion Conventions prominent in those days. Their accordion playing continued in college, but when their business careers began, Larry found himself on the East Coast and Richard was traveling internationally. The accordions went on the "back burners" for about 25 years. Then about 15 years ago at their parents 50th wedding anniversary, Larry and Richard surprised them by bringing out their accordions and again performing duets of folk music from Switzerland. Since that time, whenever they get together they "pull out" the accordions. Larry lives in Santa Barbara and is a member of the Santa Barbara AIMS accordion club. Richard lives in Carmel and can be found every Thursday night performing at Lugano's Swiss Bistro, in The Barnyard at the mouth of Carmel Valley, just off Hwy 1.

24th annual

Cotati Accordion Festival
Aug. 16 & 17 2014

Discounted tickets now for sales at SVAS
July and August meetings.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE at SVASociety.org and visit us on Facebook
Watch our Videos on: youtube



Ken Caple,
President

Summer is back. Festival Season has started again. I hope some of you had a chance to see your SVAS Bands play at Boogie on the Bayou last month. It was a lot of fun for the participants and the crowd seemed pleased also.

This month started with a great Sunday 7 Band performance. They sounded a little Boogie. I recognized some of the songs they played so well at the festival in Campbell. It is good that SVAS has bands organized to play for us from time to time. I like the orchestration effect of multiple instruments all playing at once.

I wish to thank Reno Di Bono for playing in the first half for us. He is a great musician and I hear a great teacher. Everyone who is going to his group class at the senior center is very happy with their instruction and progress. It is a great thing to pass on you knowledge and talent to others who really appreciate it.

I was very pleased to hear Rene play as our featured performer. He seemed to be a complete package of entertainment for us. I liked the way he controlled the bellows and volume of his music. To stand and play from memory for one hour I think is awesome, but it seems professional musicians have the ability to do this.

A reminder for anyone who wishes to play a few songs next month in the pre-program time between 1:00 and 2:00 to bring your accordion. We will have open play for everyone to play.

The Board has elected to make some changes in the meetings performance schedule and format. You will see the changes soon. We all hope it will improve your musical experience with us.

I will be absent in July and will miss the brothers play. I would like to see them. Have a wonderful time at next months meeting.
- Ken



Bill Tapogna
Master of Ceremonies

Bob Stanfield's Sunday 7 Band played country and western, Dixie tunes, Cajun melodies, polkas, old-time songs, military melodies and sing-alongs like Edelweiss and Happy Wanderer. We loved it. And Lyle Gilleson, the sax and clarinet player and Don Brayton, the tuba player, both add interesting emphasis to the melodies. Also it was fun to hear Victor Corsiglia sing "Is It True What They Say About Dixie." When they played Your Cheatin' Heart, Ed and Mindy danced, and with O Marie, Ray and Mindy danced. Rene Sevieri joined in on the fun with Sunday 7 and played along with them. The music was so inviting.

The Sunday Seven Band



Sue Douglas
SVAS
Reporter



Did you miss a meeting performance? You can view some of it on youtube. To View Pam's Videos from past meetings: Go to youtube.com, type in accordionpam in the search field (next to the magnifying glass on top) for videos from the club .

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| | |
|--|----------------|
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| Marian Kelly: Portola Valley | (650) 854-1896 |
| Richard Yaus: San Bruno | (650) 832-1740 |
| Mike Zampiceni: Sunnyvale | (408) 734-1565 |
| Norma Zonay-Parsons: San Jose | (408) 244-2762 |
| Aaron Wayne: Santa Cruz | (831) 332-0589 |
| Sheri Mignano, Petaluma | (707) 765-1657 |

Cotati Accordion Festival
August 17 & 18, 2014



On the left is Art Maggio signing in a new guest. Art has been our Club Secretary and Front Desk Man for many Years now.

On the right is our Raffle King, Dick Siudzinski, a long time Board member and Manager of Raffle ticket sales. He only sells lucky tickets if luck is on your side.



President, Ken Caple, announced that Cotati Accordion Event announcement cards were available on the entrance table. Also he encouraged us to look into the Las Vegas event and reminded us that the Oktoberfest in Campbell would be in the third week in October. Lynn Ewing, San Francisco Accordion Club's President, announced that there will be a special ATG accordion event in Burlingame in July.

Vice President, Bill Tapogna, welcomed back Ivan Klitgaard, who has been helping his loving wife, and Bill also welcomed his longtime friend, Bud Bye. We had newcomers, one of whom is Mary Chiaramonte, who heard of our accordion society by one of Bill and Gloria's neighbors. Welcome all! Happy birthday to Victor Corsiglia who is now 74 years old, and he still sings great! Then Bill shared the background of SVAS member, Braulio Escoto, who was a military medic in Normandy, and experienced much conflict while aiding other soldiers. Brave and consistent!



ATG Festival Accordionist Teachers Guild 2014

At: Crowne Plaza Hotel
San Francisco Airport Hotel
On: July 23-26, 2014

There will be Competitions,
Featured Performers, Festival
Orchestras and Workshops.



Peter Di Bono

Lynne Ewing

For additional information and event application forms please contact Lynne Ewing at: ewinglynn@gmail.com.



Raffle-time and John won the \$60.00, Art Brown won the Hofbrau meal ticket and Lynn Ewing won the CD. Congratulations!

WELCOME New Members:

Our first-half performer, **Reno Di Bono**, is a well appreciated accordion teacher. One of the heaviest challenges is to touch the right note when you're shaking the bellows, and he did just that! Another challenge is to touch the right lower note at the glissando zip, and he did just that also. Some of the pieces that Reno played were Tico Tico, Espana Cani, a French Medley, Volare and A Di La. Then Reno and Peter played the Godfather Theme. For his finale Reno played and sang That's Amore. Molto buono!



Our featured player, **Rene Sevieri**, is one who Bill Tapogna first heard perform in San Martin last year. When Rene performed for us, he expressed strong feeling as he played and sang Italian pieces, I Left My Heart In San Francisco, Kansas City, California Girls, I Love You, New York New York, Volare and My Love Is True. Then he played a French waltz called Boum Musette and the German Blue Danube waltz. His fingers flew when he played Brazil and Quando! For his last request he played a tango medley including "Dicitenciello Vuie", "Chitarra Romana", and "La Comparsita". He also played a superb rendition of 'Flight of the Angels'. Phenomenal Rene!



24th annual

Cotati Accordion Festival

Aug. 16 & 17 2014

See artists now confirmed for 2014

Russians, Brazilians, Chinese, USA
Some new faces and a lot of favorites

Santa Rosalia Fishermen's Festival

September, weekend after Labor Day, the St. Rosalia is the patron saint of Palermo and Sicilian Americans living in Monterey, CA observe a two day festival in her honor in hope she will protect the fishermen at sea. The festival includes fireworks, parades, water events, contests and colorful fishing net decorations in downtown Monterey. The festival also celebrates Italian heritage with a traditional bocci ball competition, Italian music and food.

Go to **FACEBOOK** to make comments and upload your photos

COMING EVENTS

Coming Events at SVAS: July 6, Meeting

Doors open at 1:00 pm

1:15-2:00 pm Preprogram: Open Play2:00-2:15pm Presidents Message & Master of Ceremonies Introductions2:15-3:00pm First Half Program : Maggie McLoughlin, Hermann Schmalzried & Kate Froeberg3:00-3:15pm Break & Drawing3:15-4:15pm Featured Player: Richard Denier and his Brother Larry DenierAugust - Peter Di Bono TrioSeptember— Frank Lima & Jana Maas & Marian KellyOctober—Richard Noel

Visit SVAS on FACEBOOK and post your photos

SVAS BOARD of Directors / Officers

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♫ **Who's Playing???** ♫

William DeMichelis—Music with an accent, 408-375-0001, accordionist.sanjose@comcast.net

Reno di Bono plays the second Friday of each month at **Montavalle** in Scotts Valley, dancing to the **Blue Moon Trio**.

Joe Domitrowich/AlpinersUSA: see www.alpinersusa.com or www.capricious-accordion.com or call 408-255-1259

Mike Zampiceni - Accordionist 408 734-1565

AbsolutAccord: Schedule Concerts with Norma Parsons (408) 246-3073, www.absolutaccord.com

Sunday 7 : Schedule Concerts with Bob Stanfield (650) 888-3701

Happy Days Band: Schedule Concerts with Ken Caple (408) 892-2760

Due Zighi Baci— Schedule Performances with Sheri Mignano @ sfmignano@yahoo.com

WHEN THE ACCORDION CLUBS IN THE BAY AREA MEET?

Accordion Club of the Redwoods (ACR) meets on the third Monday of the month. Herman & Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma CA 94952. Contact: (707) 795-4060.

Golden State Accordion Club (GSAC) has three divisions:

1. **The Vacaville Club** meets the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM, Pietro's N.2, 679 Merchant St, Vacaville, CA 95687, Starting July 12, 2012, Except for June and December.
2. **The Humboldt Club** meets on the third Tuesday, 7:00 PM., Humboldt Swiss Club, 5403 Tompkins Hill Road, Loleta, CA 95551.
3. **The Sacramento Club** meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Old Spaghetti Factory, 12401 Folsom Rd., Rancho Cordova CA, 95742. Contact for all the GSAC: Carole Enneking (707) 864-2359.

Good Time Accordion Club (GTAC) meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM, Escalon Community Center, 1055 Escalon Ave., Escalon, CA 95320. Contact Ed Sciarini (209) 545-3603.

Northern California Accordion Society (NCAS) meets on the first Wednesday of the month 6:30 PM 6365 Douglas Blvd., Lutheran Church Social Hall, Granite Bay, CA 95746. Contact: Jerry Choate, President (530) 345-2031

San Francisco Accordion Club (SFAC) meets on the third Sunday of the month 2:00 PM . Oyster Point Yacht Club, 911 Marina Blvd. South San Francisco, CA 94080. Contact Lynn Ewing 650-453-3391.

Silicon Valley Accordion Society (SVAS) meets on the first Sunday of the month, 1:00 PM at Harry's Hofbrau, 390 Saratoga Avenue, San Jose, CA 95129. (between Kiely Blvd. and Stevens Creek Blvd. Contact: Bill Topogna (408) 984-5290.



Victor Kolesnichenko

When I was about 10 years old (young), my father bought me and my little brother an accordion. It was a small, one-and-half octave, toy with twelve bass pushbuttons. The first lessons we got was from our father, and I remember that my brother started playing with two hands before me (he was about 6). Very soon my father bought us another accordion, and it was a real one: Magister (made in west Germany). It had three reeds, 34 keys, and five registers on the right side and five reeds, three registers, and 80 pushbuttons on the left side. I started attending lessons at my school and made a good progress: by 14 years of age I played "Carousel" = "Flik-Flak" and some other sophisticated tunes. And at this age our family moved to another part of the city, so I had to change the school and find another organization to continue my musical education. It happened to be the "House of Pioneers" – an institution for school-children - providing free lessons, meetings, jams,

and labs in different areas, such as arts, music, singing, technical activities, and so on. I attended the House for three more years and even went to Moscow with concerto (not the solo but collective, where six of us played accordions and bayans and about fifty students sang various songs while ballerinas were dancing on the stage).

After finishing high school (named after the first cosmonaut Gagarin) I was admitted to a university and during first three years (the most difficult part of my study) I did not have a chance to play. And during the fourth and fifth years (higher education lasts for five years) I was invited to join a band, and we played for parties and weddings. I played accordion and keyboard, and it was a happy period of my life...I got married in 1977 to Olga, a daughter of my favorite teacher in my high school.

In 1983 I was a last-year post graduate student at a Moscow university. When I came to Izhevsk for my wife's birthday, she told me that her boss brought her – for a few days – a table clock. Considering his reputation as a mall (KGB informant), we did not have any doubt that the clock had a "surprise". During the whole party, the clock remained near a speaker. When the party ended, and all guests went home, I opened the clock and revealed the transmitter... To make the long story short, I spent the summer of 1983 in jail and lost the last argument to survive in the USSR. So Olga and I went to American Embassy in Moscow and obtained status of political refugees. In 1987 we moved to Kherson (city in Ukraine now) where I became an associate professor of Electrical Engineering and in a year - a vice dean of the Faculty of Automation. We could not get a permission to emigrate from the collapsing USSR until 1991. Our new life started on December 12 of 1991, in San Francisco. We celebrate this day as our second birthday.

It was a big shock for us, especially, in comparison with gray and hungry life in the agonizing USSR. In 1993 I found a good full-time job as a design engineer in San Jose, and in a few months we moved to Sunnyvale. In 1994 we realized our (and most people) dream and bought a house in San Jose. In 1997 I passed an exam and received a license of a Professional Engineer in California. Marina, Olga, and I visited Izhevsk together in 1998. We saw a lot of changes in politics, economy, culture, and people. In December 1999 – January 2000 Olga's parents and my mother (my father died in 1994) visited us in California. It was a first trip abroad in their life. They were impressed very much by economy, culture, and friendliness of American people.

In 2004 I got a telephone number of a lady who played accordion, Lynn Bonino, called her and attended a meeting in Hofbrau's restaurant. That meeting inspired me to think about accordions again and I bought one, Italian Lira, 120 bass, 3 reeds. And soon I bought another one, Italian Rondini (4 reeds, 11 registers). And several years ago I bought a new accordion, so I have a lot to learn now. I have been a member of SVAS, SBAJ, and Friday Night Live clubs, Sunday Seven and what a great time was that!

In 2012 our family moved to San Diego – the "finest city in the country", and we are happy to live here (ocean, bay, beaches, parks, sun...), but I am missing my friends in SVAS. Thank you for the music!

NEWSLETTER OF THE

Silicon Valley Accordion Society

P.O. Box 1513
LOS ALTOS, CA
94023

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE 🎵



Silicon Valley Accordion Society meetings held first Sunday of each month at Harry's Hofbrau, 390 Saratoga Avenue, San Jose, corner of Kiely. Doors open at 1:00, Music begins at 1:15, Meeting begins at 2:00 p.m. door fee \$5, under 16 no charge.