

A very happy hello Accordion Friends:

Wow, we are already halfway through the year... I hope this newsletter finds you all are doing well. For now, we get to enjoy the best of both worlds because not only do we get to come in person, but for those who are so far away or not able to come in person, we can utilize Zoom to see the featured performer. I have to say it has been marvelous to see every one of you in both places! At our last meeting, we had 26 in person and 15 via Zoom.

To start, we had an exciting open mic for the month of May. Thank you, all who played for us. We very much enjoyed the talent, vast array of music styles, singing, the duets.

For June, we had Mike Marotta and Dave Dally as our featured performers. What a beautiful sound, accordions and violins go so beautifully well together. The world needs more accordions and violins for sure. We would be a much happier place.

Richard Noel had to cancel our July meeting, but he has rescheduled for September 11, 2022.

For our July 10, 2022 meeting, Adam and Emma Dohner have graciously stepped in to entertain us with their lovely violin and Accordion skills for about 30 minutes, and then Mike Zampiceni will play for the other 30 minutes. And finally, we will have Joe Domitrowich for August 7, 2022 – yet another excellent player we will not want to miss.

Please, we need HELP. We are extremely short on volunteers to write up the monthly meeting reports. If we are able to get six volunteers, the reports could be split up to where you would only have to write up once or twice a year. We are also in need of a newsletter editor. Currently we are creating the NL every other month to help save on costs. We very much need folks to send me any accordion related event or any write ups of accordion interests to help us fill the newsletters. Contact colette.ogata@gmail.com. Any help is very much appreciated. Please help give relief to those dedicated few who have been keeping our club alive through this pandemic. Call, text or email me.

Thank you

Colette Ogata 510-789-9739



TICKETS ARE ON SALE

\$19.00 for one day ticket purchased in advance .

\$28.00 for two-day ticket purchased in advance.

\$23.00 for a one-day ticket **at the gate.**

\$32.00 for a two-day ticket **at the gate.**

\$17.00 for one day senior discounted ticket purchased in advance.

\$21.00 for one day senior discounted ticket purchased at the gate.

<https://cotatifest.com/ticketing/>



Silicon Valley Accordion Society

PO Box 1513
Los Altos, CA 94023

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE





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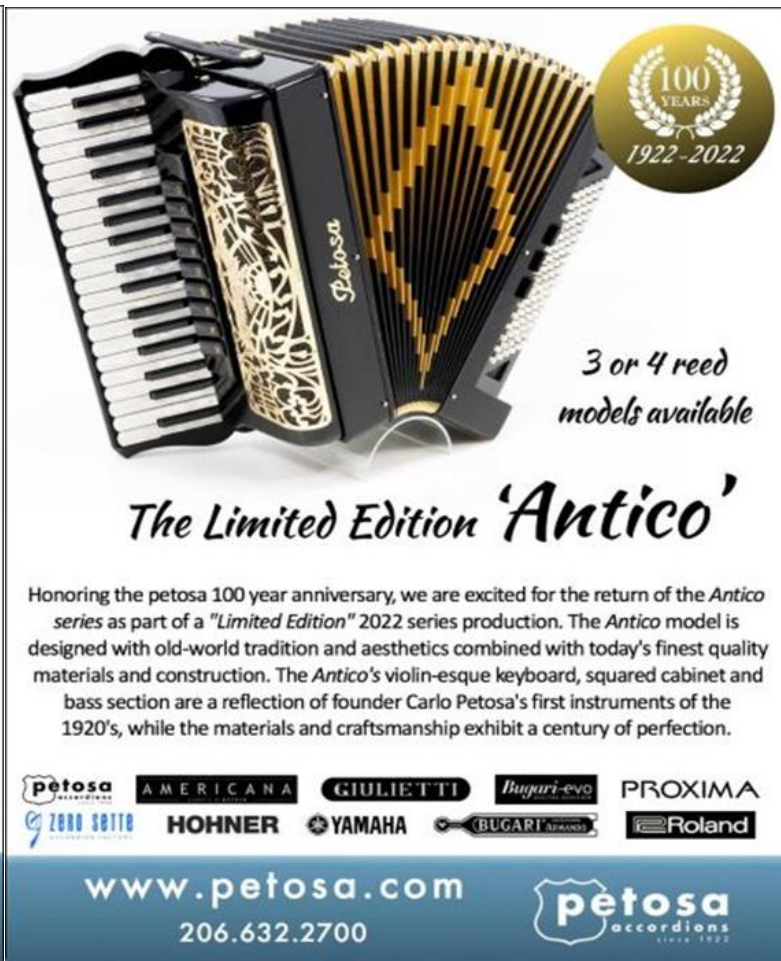
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Honoring the petosa 100 year anniversary, we are excited for the return of the *Antico* series as part of a "Limited Edition" 2022 series production. The *Antico* model is designed with old-world tradition and aesthetics combined with today's finest quality materials and construction. The *Antico's* violin-esque keyboard, squared cabinet and bass section are a reflection of founder Carlo Petosa's first instruments of the 1920's, while the materials and craftsmanship exhibit a century of perfection.

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You played the Accordion with much heart and soul. To hear you play never grew old.

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LD

Silent Auction "Majortone" July meeting
\$150.00 minimum. Goes to highest bidder



SVAS Board of Directors/Officers

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Vice President: Bill Tapogna 408-984-5290

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Program Schedule / Webmaster: Pam Kawashima

Pkawashima@outlook.com

Newsletter Editor: Open – volunteers welcome

Newsletter Reporters: Marcia Coullahan and Georgia Sutherland

June 5, 2022, SVAS Open Mic:

Rudy Pivk graciously stepped up to be first on the agenda. Rudy has so much control and plays with ease. He says he feels the butterflies, but it is not at all visible. Today we were treated to hearing Rudy play "Chitarra Romana." We always enjoy hearing Rudy's homeland music. Balkan music is unique.

Misha Studenkov is home for the summer after completing his first year of college. Misha is studying jazz piano. He proved that accordion is still a part of his music career. He has purchased a new instrument, a Baile accordion that has all the bells and whistles. Misha played "Blame It on My Youth," using lots of chords, and "The Best Thing for You Is Me." You could hear the jazz influence. Don Savant played "Blue Moon," "Lazy River," and "Come Back to Sorrento" on that beautiful Guiletti, such a rich sound. Don also played "Accordion Joe" and gave us some of the comical lyrics, "The melody is low. Women go for Accordion Joe" and so on.

Reno De Bono showed his ease playing his Sonola while standing. He played "Time to Say Goodbye" Andrea Bocelli, "Nabucco," which is such a beautiful piece, "Mussetta's Waltz," "Guilietta Polka," "Once in a While," and "Here's That Rainy Day," and "Lazy Mary" in Italian and English. Reno's tip for the day: Crawl up the wall like a four-legged bug with your fingers. It will help to keep your fingers strong.

Then a break and a raffle for Cash: The Winners: Bill Tapogna, Mei Lu, and Misha Studenkov.

After this short break we were treated to a fine performance by Diane Salmon playing "España" and Por una Cabeza accompanied by Mike Marotta. In the last few years Diane has made leaps and bounds in her playing. She plays with great feeling.

Dave Dally and Mike Marotta have been playing together for years. One of the best parts of their performance is to note how closely they listen to each other. They started with songs from Mamma Mia: "I Have a Dream," "Winner Takes it All," and "Fernando." These were new to their program and delightful. Then they played an upbeat tune, "You've Got a Friend in Me," from the movie Toy Story. This was followed by "The Prayer," also pleasing as an instrumental. We relaxed to "Ashokan Farewell" which was played over 50 times in the Civil War series. When these Pros played it sometimes it was a duet, and sometimes it was more like a conversation between the two instruments. They seemed to play off each other. From Man of La Mancha we heard "Impossible Dream," "Don Quixote" and "El Relicario." We enjoyed three French tunes, "Mademoiselle de Paris," "Bourrasque," and "Les Bicyclettes de Belsize." These songs sound terrific with the violin accordion combo. A few more songs and Mike and Dave opened to requests: Something from the Beatles, "Penny Lane," "Hey Jude," and "La Vie en Rose" and "If You Love Me." They finished with their great rendition of "Tico Tico," such talent! We can't wait to book them again.

Marcia Coullahan



Tseli Wu Shines at International Accordion Virtual Competition

Submitted by Pamela Tom



Tseli Wu joined Reno Di Bono's accordion class at the Cupertino Senior Center and the SVAS in 2018. Tseli thanks Reno for his teaching, friendship and getting her to pick-up the accordion again after a break of over 40+ years. Her dad taught her how to play the accordion when she was 12. She studied accordion for about 8 years as a youngster.

Tseli enjoys playing a wide variety of genres: well-known accordion favorites; waltzes; polka; French tunes and what sounds good to her!

In May 2022, Tseli debuted as an accordion soloist at SVAS's in-person meeting. She also entered the adult amateur category of the 2nd Annual Accordion Stars International virtual competition and received 2nd place and the best showing of all the US competitors who participated! Tseli said that she "was very surprised and didn't expect this honor." You can watch Tseli's award-winning performances of "Light and Shadow Waltz" by Paolo Pizzigoni and "Czárdás" by Vittorio Monti at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gb5ndPmgJek>

Congratulations Tseli Wu!

ASI 2023 will be held next May. There are separate professional and amateur categories. Numerous categories of varying genres, combos, age groups and instruments (piano, button accordion, digital accordion, etc.) are available to enter. Program details, competition rules, judges, etc. are posted on ASI 2022's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/accostarfest. For further information contact Sergei Teleshev, ASI Founder and Director, email: accostarfest@gmail.com

ACCORDION HAPPENINGS

ATG 80th Anniversary Festival July 20-24, 2022

Chicago (Lisle), IL www.atgaccordions.com

AAA Festival July 13-17, 2022

Conshohocken, PA www.ameraccord.com

AAA Accordion Master Class (a.k.a. the Seminars 2022) July 29 - 31, 2022

Too Much Information, So Little Time but We Do It Anyway"

New York, NY Contact: Accordionbill@gmail.com

Cotati Accordion Student Stage Scholarship Fundraiser August 19, 2022

Cotati, CA Contact:

cotatiaccordionstudentstage@yahoo.com

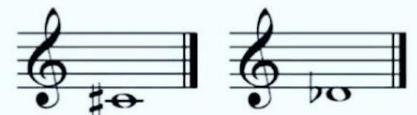
Cotati Accordion Festival August 20-21, 2022

Cotati, CA www.cotatifest.com

Oregon Alpenfest September 29 - October 2, 2022

Joseph, OR Contact: alpenmeister@mail2oregon.com

"Babe, I swear
I've changed."

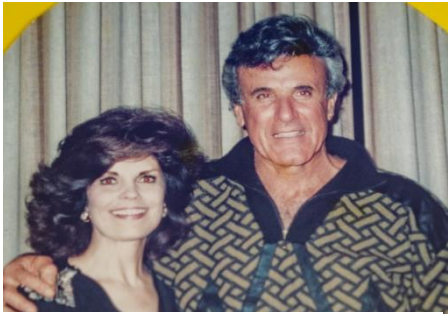


Cotati Accordion Contest with Serious Cash Prizes for Talented Students

Submitted by Pamela Tom

It's not too late for students 18 yrs. and younger to register and compete at the Cotati Accordion Student Scholarship. All accordion students are welcome to apply regardless of nationality and residency. Students are encouraged to apply after consulting with their teachers. There is no fee associated with the application form. All materials, including application forms and copies of all sheet music are the responsibility of the applicant, and due July 1, 2022. The student competition takes place Saturday, August 20, 2022, 9:30 A.M. to 12:00 noon at the Church of the Oaks (175 Page St. at Sierra, Cotati, CA). Free admission, donations are welcome. For the registration form and further details visit: <https://cotatifest.com/performers/student-stage/>.

If you are in Cotati on August 19 (accordion festival eve), Friday, plan to attend the scholarship's fundraising concert 4:00 to 6:00 P.M. at the Church of the Oaks. There is a fabulous lineup of accordionists (featuring Paul Betken, Lou Di Maggio, Pamela Tom* and Mike Zampiceni*) who generously donate their talents and time for this annual event. Come out and support them and the students. Again, free admission, donations are welcome. *SVAS Member



Dick and Judy Contino (Dec. 1990)

CASS awards are based on accumulated points. The top-scoring student receives a \$500 scholarship; second place receives \$400 and third place receives \$300. Only the top three-scoring competitors will be awarded scholarships on the stage. The Dick and Judy Contino Scholarship (\$1000) and the San Francisco Accordion Club Scholarship (\$500) are based on the highest scores in addition, age eligibility and level of difficulty may apply to the winning student(s).

Contact: Sheri Mignano Crawford, CASS Coordinator

E-mail: CotatiAccordionStudentStage@yahoo.com

Phone: (707) 772-9816



OLD TOWN SALINAS FESTA ITALIA CELEBRATION

Jul 2, 2022, at 11:30 AM to 8:30pm

Old Town Salinas
Salinas, CA 93905

Come down to Old Town Salinas on July 2nd for the Salinas Festa Italia Celebration presented by the Santa Lucia Rotary club 11:30 am – 8:30 pm. Eat and drink while enjoying live music on 2 stages, a Bellini booth, plus a pizza & pasta eating contest.

Come support two of our beloved Accordion friends who will be playing, **CORY PESATURO** and **MIKE MAROTTA**

Sunday, May 1, 2022

SVAS OPEN MIC

(Continued on page 5)

It certainly is a pleasure to be back meeting in person. It is so enjoyable to meet with those who you have not seen in person in the last two years. Our first get together in April just made each of us look forward to our next meeting. It was great to see friends enjoying snacks and camaraderie.

We did prove that we could entertain ourselves. There were thirteen performers participating in our May meeting. It was a consensus that not playing before a live audience for a long period of time causes undue anxiety. One performer compared it to how a prostitute sitting in church might feel.

Rudy Pivk kicked off our program by playing "Que Sera," "Hi-Lili Hi Low," "Mañanita," "Swag," "Roman Guitar," and a few other enjoyable tunes. Rudy played his Petosa, one of several of his fine accordions. He sounds terrific on all of them.

Marcia played Norma Parsons, Ottavianelli playing "My Wild Irish Rose," "Pennsylvania Polka," and "Johnson Rag." "Johnson Rag" is a catchy tune with ridiculous lyrics, ex. Hep Hep, Hoy Hoy, Jump Jump, Jeep Jeep, Juke Juke, there goes the Johnson Rag. We were spared the lyrics!

Paul Cain played his flashy blue and white rhinestone Petosa. It's a 1990 custom made to look like the 1930

model, terrific sound and volume. Paul played and sang, "The Drunken Scotsman" and never missed a word. This was first recorded in 1926, then by Mike Cross in 1980 as "The Scotsman." "Eleanor Rigby," "Big Rock Candy Mountain," & "Hawaiian War Chant" were also part of his entertaining performance.

Colette Ogata entertained us by playing, "Lisa" using full chords. Colette does not shy away from the heavy weight accordions. Her Petosa weighs 30 lbs. and has a rich sound. Colette also played "Siboney" 1927 written by Ernesto Lecuona who was homesick for his homeland. Siboney was the name of the indigenous people of Cuba before the Spanish colonists arrived. Great job Colette and such challenging music.

Bill Likens really enjoys Bulgarian music. The unusual timing does not seem to intimidate Bill. He played "Cerkurjankino Horo," 7/8 Ruchenitsa timing 12-12-123, "Jankinata," 11/8 Kopanitsa timing 1212-123-1212, "Djado Mitjovata" translated Grandfather Mitjo Dance 2/4, and brought us back home with "Begin the Beguine."

Mei Lu has put in her time practicing in the last two years. Playing an instrument certainly helps the mind to stay active. Mei did a fine performance of "Danube Waves" and "Helena Polka." Marcia Coullahan



Please note - Effective January 1, 2022, SVAS Membership dues are due. Please send dues via PayPal located on our website, SVASociety.org, click more, click contact us/membership, scroll to bottom, and click PayPal, OR you can send a check to:

SVAS

PO Box 1513, Los Altos, CA, 94023

SVAS OPEN MIC

(Continued from page 4)

Don Savant treated us to a few tunes on his Giuletta. That accordion has such a mellow sound and Don plays from the heart. He played, "Angel Eyes" by Matt Dennis 1946, "Lazy River" by Hoagy Carmichael 1930 and according to his wife, Mary, a modern song, "That's All" written in 1952. This crowd prefers the oldies!

Peter Di Bono came down from San Francisco and joined his brother, Reno. We could have listened to these two for another hour easily. These fellows are experts, their Sonola and Giuletta blend so well and they anticipate each other's moves. They played "St. Louis Blues," "Oh Marie," "I'll Take Manhattan," and opened to several requests which we all appreciated. Gloria and Bill Tapogna treated us to "Blue Canadian

Rockies" by Cindy Walker, "Ain't Got a Barrel of Money," and "Mansion Over the Hilltop." The latter was a favorite of our dear friend William De Michelis.

Tseli Wu entertained us on her new wood tone Pigni. Tseli plays with great feeling and truly has command of the bellows. For her repertoire she played, "Cuckoo Waltz," "Light and Shadow," "Princess Accordion," and "Pretty Face."

Bob Stanfield and Bill Tapogna finished off our program with "Edelweiss" as a sing along, and that truly upbeat tune, lupali lupala. Thanks to all who made this program a success. It is a blessing that Bob is familiar with the building, so we leave things in proper order.

Marcia Coullahan

