

# NEWSLETTER OF THE

# Silicon Valley Accordion Society

February 2015

SVAS NEXT MEETING:  
March 1 2015 at Harry's Hofbrau



## Frank Petrilli with John Chiodini

Frank Petrilli began the study of the accordion at the early age of 7 and later began playing accordion professionally in 2006. He studied with Frank Marocco and they became close friends. Frank is said to give the accordion a new life with his own style. Frank has played in many venues at home and in Europe. Frank currently resides in southern California.

John Chiodini, guitarist and composer, began his career performing in clubs, recording studios and theaters throughout New England in the 1960's & 70's. As a member of the Boston Pops Orchestra under Arthur Fiedler, John made numerous appearances in concerts and on recordings, including the PBS television series "Evening At Pops".

In the early 1980's he relocated to the Los Angeles area. He has toured and recorded with Peggy Lee, Natalie Cole, Buddy DeFranco, Maynard Ferguson, Carl Andersen, Louis Bellson, Tony Bennett, Michael Bolton, Bobby Caldwell, Celine Dion, Dr. John, Arthur Hamilton, Shirley Horn, Lainie Kazan, Hubert Laws, Barry Manilow, Rebecca Parris, Terry Harrington, Diane Schuur, Nina Simone, Barbra Streisand, Nancy Wilson, Michael Burble and more.

SVAS is very happy to have such fine talent for our Feature Performers at our Club Meeting.

Anyone Plays -1:00 to 1:45 pm  
Bring your accordion for the OPEN PLAY session at  
1:00pm until 1:45 pm

From 1:45 to 2:45 will be the "Happy Days Band"  
followed by Doris Sprugasci until 3:00.

The Break and drawing from 3:00 to 3:30

VISIT OUR WEBSITE at [SVASociety.org](http://SVASociety.org) and visit us on Facebook

**Presidents Message:**

**Ken Caple,**  
President

This year has come in like a lion and we're hoping it will go out like a lamb but this is wishful thinking.

We have had another fantastic program by Absolut Accord. In June they will be back in force. We expect their ensemble to be a very large gathering of accordions according to Richard Yaus.

Your Board of Directors has a new member: Scotty Williamson. Scott has been a big help in the past at our festivals with the set up and tear down of our stages. He is a cheerful volunteer. We all will welcome the help. Welcome aboard Scott.

Bill is back to his old antics with Dick (pictured). Now that Dick is almost recovered from his surgery we figure he is up to some of our old tricks. Dick is back to playing his accordion but isn't quite ready to do a gig for us yet, meantime he will continue to sell those lucky winning drawing tickets.

I haven't heard from Art Maggio yet but he has been through a lot. We all are wishing him a speedy recovery. Hope to see you back to us soon.

We had quite a large turn out for Superbowl Sunday. I want to thank all of members for supporting the Silicon Valley Accordion Society.



**Bill Tapogna**  
Master of Ceremonies



**Sue Douglals**  
SVAS Reporter

You "early-birds" heard President, Ken Caple and William DeMichelis playing delightful melodies like Neapolitan Nights, Sailor, Sentimental Journey, the Just Because Polka and plenty of other pieces. In essence, they were saying, "Welcome to SVAS. Come in and enjoy." Eric Scheel played Give My Regards to Broadway and By the Light of the Silvery Moon. When he played When You're Smiling, some of us sang that one. His last two pieces were Bogalusa Strut and Por Una Cabeza, classical Latino compositions. Paul Aegersold, all the way here from back east, took us to France with C'est L'Amour, La Seine, Un Jour tu Verras, Un Homme et Un Femme, Valse Brillante and Hymme a L'Amour. When he played CanCan, we were energetically tapping our feet! He played De L'Autre Cote De La Rue. It was a pleasure to meet Paul's very friendly wife, Jean, and it would be nice to see them again sometime. Sandie Stut Walters played Santa Lucia, Tick Tock Polka, Fascination and a Polka medley. Before she played You Are My Sunshine, she said, "You folks will have to sing this one since I can't play and sing at the same time." So we happily sang that as she played it. Her finale was Spanish Eyes, and she stood up the whole time she played!

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.

ADVERTISEMENTS :

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- SVAS 2015 Meeting Schedule

- January 4
- February 1
- March 1
- April 4 (Sat)
- May 3
- June 7
- July 5
- August 2
- Sept 13
- October 4
- November 1
- December 6

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Sharon Walters Greyhosky: Daly City	(650) 731-6010
Lou Jacklich: San Lorenzo	(510) 317-9510
Marian Kelly: Portola Valley	(650) 854-1896
Richard Yaus: San Bruno	(650) 832-1740
Mike Zampiceni: Sunnyvale	(408) 569-2579
Norma Zonay-Parsons: San Jose	(408) 244-2762
Sheri Mignano, Petaluma	(707) 765-1657

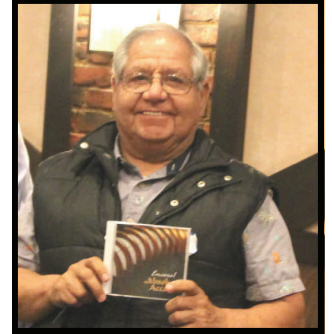


Master of Ceremonies, Bill Tapogna, had the audience sing Happy Birthday to Norma, Carmella and Al. And we appreciate that Al brought tasty treats for us to nibble on, and Shirley brought candy, adding to our pleasure. And Bill found three first-time guests, a young woman named Brea, her daughter, Pele, and Pele's friend, Amelia were with Paul Cain. Welcome! President, Ken Caple, announced that since the first Sunday in April is Easter Sunday, SVAS will meet on the first Saturday in April. And since the first Sunday in September is Labor Day, SVAS will meet on the second Sunday in September. Also, for the May picnic, the audience is encouraged to buy their own food at the restaurant counters and bring their food into the SVAS meeting room.

Norma Zonay-Parson and Hubert Kallabis were going to play for our first-half, but they aren't feeling well, so Ken Caple and William DeMichelis filled in for them. They entertained us with Anytime, Edelweiss, I Left My Heart in San Francisco, Just Because Polka and Never On Sunday---ON SUNDAY? H-M-M-M!! Anyway, we hope Norma and Hubert are feeling better soon. Paul Cain enthusiastically lifted up his 2014 Concerto accordion and said, "If I plug it in, it can do almost anything!" Then he brought back memories of the Beatles by playing In My Life and Eleanor Rigby. And when was the last time we heard the Theme from Pink Panther? And Paul wasn't using the base side of his accordion to just accommodate the treble side; he was playing actual melodies on the base! Wow! How often do we hear that? Rudy Pivk played Balkan music, an unusual experience for us to enjoy, and a foreign language for us to learn. Kao Sto Je Tvoja Casa, Uzicko Kolo, Moja Mala Nema Mane, Mustafa and Slovenian Polka. Rudy probably knows what all those titles mean.



WELCOME New Members: Patricia Brown



Raffle-time and Margie Brown won half the pot, Frances Lam won the \$20.00 Hofbrau meal ticket, Steve and Sandie Walters won the Michael Bridge and Alicia Baker CD. Maggie McLoughlin won the bottle of wine and John won the Absolute Accord CD. Congratulations! Sandie gave her CD to Carmella for her birthday.

Our featured players, **Absolute Accord**, including Grigory Krumik, Randall Hicks, David Perry, Lynn Ewing, Marion Kelly and founder, Richard Yaus very expressively played ancient melodies composed from 1735 to 1986! We missed hearing Absolute Accord member, Norma Zonay-Parsons play; she was not feeling well. However it was enjoyable to hear Richard Yaus give special comments about some of the pieces they played. For instance, before they played the 1912 Hoch Heidecksburg Concert March, Richard told us that it isn't a military march. Instead it's meant to be an enjoyable, melodic march, and, yes, it was almost danceable! And before they played Plaisir d'amour, from 1784, Richard said that Elvis Presley sang a similar melody called I Can't Help Loving You. They played Le Coucou, from 1735, and Richard implied that it could remind us of the cuckoo-bird sound. They are absolutely in accord with each other playing symphonies, serenades, Hungarian music, tangos etc. You name it, they could honor it! We recognized the Skater's Waltz from 1882 and the Phantom of the Opera Medley from 1986. And because Norma wasn't feeling well enough to perform with them this time, they played the Liechtensteiner Polka in honor of Norma, essentially telling her that they look forward to her feeling better and being able to join them again. ABSOLUTELY!



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

## COMING EVENTS

### Coming Events at SVAS: March 1 , Meeting

Doors open at 1:00 pm

1:00-1:45 pm Preprogram: Open Play

1:45—2:40 pm Happy Days Band

2:45--3:00 pm Doris Sprugasci

3:00-3:30 pm Break & Drawing

3:30-4:30 pm Featured Player: Frank Petrelli & **John Chiodini**

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April—Ron Borelli

May—Picnic

June—Richard Yaus Orchestra

Visit SVAS on FACEBOOK and post your photos

### SVAS BOARD of Directors / Officers

PRESIDENT:	KEN CAPLE, 408 892-2760
VICE PRESIDENT:	BILL TAPOGNA , 408 984-5290
SECRETARY:	ART MAGGIO , 408 269-4122
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NEWSLETTER EDITOR:	KEN CAPLE, 408 892-2760
SVAS REPORTERS:	Sue Douglas , Marcia Coullahan Marybarbara Zorio, Georgia Sutherland

Thanks to the SVAS VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE

Bernie Coullahan and Karen Buonomo

### ♪ 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) 569-2579, Mike plays at Paesano Restaurant on Sunday evenings.

**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

**Ernie Beran** — Plays at the Tyrolean Inn Restaurant in Ben Lomond, CA every Saturday 6:00-9:00 pm

**Richard Denier**— Plays at Lugano's in the Barnyard, Carmel on Thursday evenings.

### Northern California ACCORDION CLUBS Meeting schedules:

**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:

**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.

## Sandie Stut

Hi, my name is Sandie Stut, and I play the accordion. Yes, I am like a lot of us. I was a kid from San Francisco, California. Yep, you got it, Italian Central! Lots of us kids, who couldn't play wind instruments, got stuck with the accordion. With the large older Italian population, there were a lot of accordion teachers. My mother, as it turned out, was a bowler on Tuesday mornings, and wouldn't you know it, the bright red head lady on the opposite team, was an accordion teacher! So there I was at 11 years old, starting lessons with her on a little black twelve base rented accordion. When I was 12 years old, on Christmas Day, my Dad had a really great surprise, a really interesting suitcase for me. I said, "Dad, what's this?" He said, with a big grin, "Open it." As I did, my eyes grew wide and I screamed, "It's a red 120 base accordion!" Well I played for all my family that morning. I continued lessons until I was 17 years old, when my teacher moved away. My Mom and Dad had some tough times and they needed me to sell the accordion. I did with great trepidation. At age 22, I took lessons again from an Italian man, John Senengini, who was an accordion maker for the San Francisco Accordion Factory. When I moved to Utah, I had to send the accordion back to San Francisco, using the U.P.S. shipping and the instrument arrived all broken up on the inside! The base side was cracked and bases were falling out. Mr. Senengini took it to repair and sold me one of his best ones in exchange. Well since that time, I played music at my Mom's Funeral, and now I play at retirement homes and nursing homes. As a kid, I at first wanted to play the flute, but fate knew better and so did the accordion! I have faithfully loved and played one for 45 years.



Dear Accordion Friends:

Many of you have expressed interest in playing in a larger accordion ensemble/orchestra. If you're curious about participating in an orchestra, you now have the opportunity to join a group for a short duration, play some familiar tunes, and create a one-of-a-kind musical experience.

The Accordion Orchestra Project III will have its kick-off rehearsal on April 25<sup>th</sup> with four subsequent rehearsals scheduled throughout the months of May and June. The orchestra schedule will then conclude with a performance at the Silicon Valley Accordion Society in San Jose on June 7<sup>th</sup>. There is also the likelihood of a showcase concert on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> following the final rehearsal.

There is no cost associated with attending this Project. The rehearsal site is conveniently located in San Mateo at Laurel Elementary School with plenty of parking.

This event is made possible by some of Bay Area's finest accordionists and their friends devoted to bringing accordion orchestra music to San Francisco's backyard and enhancing the accordion landscape within the area. Both the San Francisco Accordion Club and the Silicon Valley Accordion Society are endorsing these events!

To this e-mail I'm attaching the flyer about the Accordion Orchestra Project – also the registration forms. If you're interested please let me know. Should you have any questions simply contact me at (650) 832-1740 or via e-mail at [ryaus@earthlink.net](mailto:ryaus@earthlink.net). And feel free to forward this e-mail to any other accordionists in the area. - Richard Yaus

**GORDON PIATANESI passed away Feb 1, 2015. Gordons grandfather, who came from Castelfidaro, Italy, founded the COLOMBO & Sons Accordion Company in San Francisco. It was passed to Gordon after his father retired. The Company moved to San Rafael. Gordon finally retired the nations oldest accordion shop. Paul Pasquali of "Accordions International" in Salt Lake City was Gordons last business partner and still makes and sells the Colombo Brand Accordion. You Can still find them as pictured here and as beautiful as they are.**



NEWSLETTER OF THE

**Silicon Valley  
Accordion Society**

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**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.**