

**NEWSLETTER OF THE**

# **Silicon Valley Accordion Society**

**MARCH 2015**

**SVAS NEXT MEETING:**

**Saturday April 4 2015 at Harry's Hofbrau**



**Ron Borelli**, a San Francisco native and son of well-known bandleader, Al Borelli, began playing the accordion at age seven. His first professional engagements began at age 13 playing for many Italian parties. He became interested in jazz accordion upon listening to Art Van Damme. This led him to study with renowned accordionist, Don Haas. Later he also became interested in classical piano and studied with pianist/composer, Julian White.

Ron has performed in a wide variety of musical settings, including internationally. He has appeared with the San Francisco Symphony, 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 composers. From 2001 to 2009, Ron instructed and performed at the Las Vegas International Accordion Convention. In 2010, he was honored to perform with the Art Van Damme Quintet at his memorial service.

His complete resume is extensive. In addition to performing with many high-powered orchestras, Ron Borelli performs for private, corporate, and public events. He is well versed in jazz, opera, American standards, Italian and French styles of music. He is a featured artist on many CD releases. Ron lives in San Mateo, California.

**Anyone Plays –1:00 to 1:45 pm**

**Bring your accordion for the OPEN PLAY session at 1:00pm until 1:45 pm**

**First Half: Ron Harris, Bill Tapogna & William, De Michelis, and Kate Froeberg**

**Bring your friends to join us at the next meeting with your SVAS Accordionists.**

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



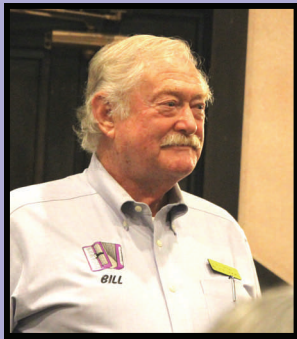
**Ken Caple,**  
President

I'm sorry I missed a good meeting and a lot of great music. Unfortunately I had to take a sick day. I wish to thank everyone that filled in for me.

It won't be long and your SVAS Bands will be beginning their Festival Season. We will all play at Boogie on the Bayou on May 16, & 17. Please come to see us.

We were all sorry to hear of Bob Parsons passing, Norma's husband. We all wish Norma well and a speedy recovery (if that's possible) from this great loss. -Ken

You really have to arrive early at a SVAS meeting in order to hear everyone that wants to play! Your reporter arrived a minute or so before 1 pm, and there were already two accordions making music. One was played by Eric Scheel, the other was played by William De Michelis, who was sitting at least 12 feet away, and quietly accompanying Eric. William can accompany anyone, and as I was sitting right in front of him, I really appreciated that. When Eric finished, Sue Douglas continued the Pre-Program by playing five songs for us. Again, William accompanied softly as we enjoyed Sue's music. Sue's final song, entitled "Feather Light Waltz," was a piece that she composed herself. William continued the Pre-Program by playing us a couple of Irish tunes in honor of St. Patrick's Day; and he and Eric played "Fascination" together.



**Bill Tapogna**  
Master of Ceremonies



All during the time of the Pre-Program, various members of the Happy Days Band were arriving and taking their seats on stage. While this was happening, Max Tarmann stepped in front and enthusiastically led a couple of songs with his accordion and his singing. One of these he announced as the Milwaukee Anthem; it was "Beer Barrel Polka."

We then heard a two-song set by Don Savant, who was trying out a spectacular Giulietti Concert Accordion. This instrument has an expanded keyboard and 140 bass buttons. Don's first song was sent to him by a bassoon player, who thought Don would enjoy "Accordion Joe." Don first read us the corny lyrics, which were: Accordion Joe, that musical beau. The gals are all sigh'in 'Oh, Accordion Joe!' His rhythm is slow. His music is low. And they still all cry, 'Oh, Accordion Joe.' In the eve-nin' when the moon high up above is bright, All the married men lock up their bungalows tight. The fellows all know his melody's low. The women all go, go for Accordion Joe." Despite the corny lyrics, the melody was cute, and afterwards Don referred to himself as Accordion Joe. He finished his set by playing "Blusette."



**Gloria Sutherland**  
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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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) 734-1565
Norma Zonay-Parsons: San Jose	(408) 244-2762
Sheri Mignano, Petaluma	(707) 765-1657
Ernie Beran: Aptos, reeds@baymoon.com	(831) 238-4961

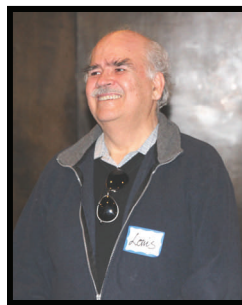


**The Happy Days Band**

William De Michelis Don Savant Bud Bye Marcia Coullahan Jay Glanville Hubert Kallabis

We moved right into the First Half Program without a break. Playing in the Happy Days Band on this day were Gloria Tapogna (recorder, and band leader in place of Ken Caple, who was ill), William de Michelis (accordion), Bud Bye (accordion), Marcia Coullahan (accordion), Jay Glanville (clarinet), Hubert (accordion), Kerstin Stone (violin), Sharon Teeter (violin), and Bill Tapogna (accordion). Crashing the party was Don Savant (who couldn't resist playing that concert accordion some more). Don was the only one "out of uniform." All the regular members were nicely dressed in black and white! They played a total of twelve numbers, starting with "Happy Days are Here Again" and ending with "Yellow Bird." Along the way I had a thought of how nice it is that as adults we have a way of participating and expressing ourselves in music.

The First Half Program continued with Bob Stanfield and Bill Tapogna playing "Down by the Sally Garden," which is an Irish duet arranged for accordions. Then Bob continued on alone playing six more songs. One of these was a Scott Joplin number entitled "The Easy Winners." Scott Joplin still sounds like Scott Joplin, even though an accordion is playing instead of a piano! Bob then enthusiastically played Happy Birthday as we all sang to Louis Rodriguez! After the break, emcee Bill Tapogna welcomed Frank La Ducca back after a long absence. We were also glad to see Ivan Klitgaard back among us. There were no first-timers present on this occasion.



Louis Bob Stanfield Bill Tapogna  
Rodriguez



Raffle winners were Pam Kawashima (\$35 cash), Kerstin Stone (bottle of wine), and Ivan Klitgaard, who won both the \$20 gift certificate from Harry's Hofbrau AND the CD by Alicia.

Your reporter gave an enthusiastic pitch for Richard Yaus' upcoming Accordion Orchestra Project. See page 7 of the February newsletter for more information.

Please plan to see your SVAS Accordion Bands at **BOOGIE ON THE BAYOU** on:  
May 16 th & 17th in Downtown Campbell, CA

**BRING YOUR FRIENDS TO OUR SVAS MEETING AT HARRY'S HOFBRAU**





**The Happy Days Band continued.**

Gloria Topogna

Sharon Teeter

Kerstin Stone

Bill Tapogna



**Frank Petrilli,**  
Accordionist

with

**John Chiodini** on Guitar



Helpers: Lynn & Paul working on Franks stuff.



Sue and Max  
Tearing up the  
dance floor.



Finally it was time for our featured performers, **Frank Petrilli on accordion and John Chiodini on guitar**. This is a wonderful pair of musicians, and their arrangements allowed them both to shine, while being very melodic together. It was interesting watching two such different instruments playing together. They told us that they play a little bit of everything, but especially enjoy jazz and Latin numbers. Their first song was "Meditation," written by Antonio Carlos Jobim, a Brazilian songwriter and performer. Later on in the program, they played another of Jobim's songs. A third song was by another Brazilian songwriter, and a traditional song called "Speak Low" was given a Latin treatment that was very pleasant. They played a total of ten songs. The others were familiar standards like "Moonglow," "It Could Happen to You," "I Thought about You," "You'd Be So Nice to Come Home to," and "Like Someone in Love." All these songs were played with feeling and with great variety, and though each song lasted between four and five minutes, the songs were fresh all the way through. I never had the sense that they were repeating anything, and that was quite impressive to me. I think everyone present would tell you that it was a very fine concert indeed!

Bill Tapogna closed the program with a reminder that the April meeting will be on Saturday, April 4, due to Easter Sunday falling on April 5 this year.

-Georgia Sutherland

Reporter

## COMING EVENTS

### Coming Events at SVAS: Saturday April 4 , 2015 Meeting Doors open at 1:00 pm

1:10-2:1:45 pm Preprogram: Open Play

2:00 Presidents Message & Master of Ceremonies Introductions

2:00-3:00pm First Half Program : Ron Harris, Bill & William , David Profio

3:00-3:15pm Break & Drawing

3:15-4:15pm Featured Player: Ron Borelli

May—SVAS Picnic

June—Richard Yaus Orchestra

July—Denis D'Aoust

### 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/Alpiners**: see [www.alpinersusa.com](http://www.alpinersusa.com) or [www.capricious-accordion.com](http://www.capricious-accordion.com) or call 408-255-1259

**Mike Zampiceni** - Accordionist 408 734-1565, Plays on Friday nights at Paesano Restaruant (Reservations required)

**AbsolutAccord**: Schedule Concerts with Norma Parsons (408) 246-3073, [www.absolutaccord.com](http://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](mailto:sfmignano@yahoo.com)

*Lets Please support our Clubs Professional Musicians*

### 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.

**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.



As kids, Bruce Pastorius and Ken Mahler made an odd pair: Mahler, the quiet kid who dutifully practiced his accordion 45 minutes every day as his excitable friend from parochial school impatiently waited to go play in the streets of St. Paul's West 7th Street neighborhood.

But the sound of that accordion kept a link between them as they went to different high schools and pursued disparate career paths. Now, it has turned the lifelong friends into co-workers.

Mahler Music Center, a 25-year-old bandbox of an accordion shop on Raymond Avenue, is enjoying new life as one of the nation's preeminent online

accordion dealers, thanks to a makeover Pastorius gave his buddy's business. The store's companion site, [Accordion-Heaven.com](http://Accordion-Heaven.com), turns 50,000 hits a month and that's helped push Mahler Music's yearly revenues to \$250,000 and give the business a second market.

Mahler has also kept the store going thanks to his fanatical collecting of old accordion parts for future repairs and the success of his self-designed, Italian-manufactured accordion line. Check out "ACCORDION HEAVEN"

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

### Attention All SVAS Accordionists

We want to publish your Photo and Biography  
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At : [kenc@htphotomask.com](mailto:kenc@htphotomask.com)

Please invite your friends  
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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.**