

# **Silicon Valley Accordion Society**

**February 2019**

**The March 3rd meeting will be held at  
Christ Episcopal Church in Los Altos  
(Driving instructions on page 3)**

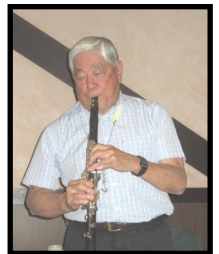
## **The Reno Di Bono Trio**



RENO is a retired Monte Vista High School teacher. He is a professional accordionist, "Italian Style" and is a regular performer at the Silicon Valley Society meetings. He is currently a lecturer of American History and is an instructor of the accordion. Reno often teaches accordion lessons at the Cupertino Senior Center.

DAVE KAWAMOTO plays sax and clarinet like Benny Goodman, and he can play any song that he hears. His speciality is Dixieland jazz.

Dave was a pilot for Pan Am and Delta, and is now retired. He is married to Sonia and lives in Almaden and Hawaii.



BOB BELANSKI is the drummer. Bob studied music at New Mexico State University. He has also studied privately with Ludwig Drum Company education director James Sewrey, national rudiment drum champion Frank Arenault, jazz and studio drummer Ed Thigpen, and all-star drummer Louis Bellson. He played with the Benny Goodman Orchestra, and with Glenn Miller Orchestra. Bob teaches drums in Cupertino.

**NO Jam Band session in March.**

**However, we do have a long open mike session. Several players already signed up. Check page 3 for sign-ups, and call Pam for a slot. YOU CAN DO IT!!**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE at [SVASociety.org](http://SVASociety.org) and visit us on Facebook  
Watch Pam's Videos of SVAS meetings on YouTube at: [accordionpam](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCv8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8)**

*Bill Tapogna - President's Message*

Hi, Folks: Here we are into February already! We just passed Valentine's day. I hope you found time to serenade your sweetie and friends (OR NOT -- depending on their responsiveness to accordion

music!). "Have I Told You Lately That I Love You?" Good choice!



Our Feb. 3rd meeting was a great success, thanks to all of you who came out to our concert! We had "3-Strikes" potentially against us: a new venue, less-than-perfect weather, and Super Bowl LIII ! But we had 55 or so enthusiastic attendees in spite of the odds! **Thanks for your support!**

**Marybarbara Zorio** is doing her usual, wonderful job of writing up the program, so I will leave that part to her. Thanks, Mb!

We moved the time-slot for the Jam Band to the end of the program to allow Ron Borelli and his group to leave early for another commitment. This seemed to work out well, and we will continue with that policy **for the Jam Band only**. The other bands (Bob's Sunday Seven Band and Ken's Happy Days Band) will continue to be in the first half of the program.

Our fiscal situation is stable. However we now have the added expense of insurance, which the Church requires, and which Bob Stanfield went to great lengths to obtain for us. If our attendance drops appreciably on a regular basis, our income will also drop. So, please come out and **support your SVAS!!** Also, by purchasing raffle tickets you will add further financial support to SVAS, and **Bob Stanfield** does a fabulous job of supplying many great raffle prizes! Thanks, Bob!

Our sound system was on loan (with option to buy) from **Ken Caple**. **Lou and Karen Buonomo** were kind enough to store this equipment and haul it to our meeting and set it up. Many thanks to you both! It seemed to work well. Lou, Scott Williamson and I have also checked out other systems for possible future consideration, if required.

On a sad note, **Jim Basso**, who fell at our concert a few months ago and broke his hip, has died. We will miss Jim greatly (and his wife Lucille, who passed away just last July.) Jim loved SVAS and accordion music. Vic and Barbara Corsiglia and Gloria and I have been invited to play some music at his entombment, and Vic has selected some beautiful Italian music which I know Jim would appreciate.

Our sincere thanks to the team that prepares and distributes the Newsletter. There is quite a community of writers who regularly contribute articles. The Reporters write up an account of the most recent meeting, like Marybarbara does beginning on page 4. This is always an interesting item to read, for different reasons if you were at the meeting, or not. There are articles of interest. Pam Kawashima has written up her interviews with some performers. There is this fine epistle, and Lou Buonomo, our VP, occasionally sends in his messages. We also can't forget to thank Bob and Scott Stanfield. The printer sends them the pages which they assemble, address and stamp to produce the final Newsletter that you receive. And, with many people also taking the email version of the Newsletter, thanks to Dennis Judd for sending out these emails, and keeping up with the list of addresses as they change from month to month.

We look forward to seeing all of you on March 3<sup>rd</sup> when Reno Di Bono and his Trio will be our featured performers.

THAT'S ALL, FOLKS!

Bill Tapogna

*The new performance hall*

We received several favorable comments on the hall at the Christ Episcopal Church, and NO complaints. This is a thumbs-up for the new home for monthly SVAS meetings. Any suggestions would be welcome. For example, did you like the semi-circular arrangement of seats around the performer area? We were set off to one side of the big hall—was that a good idea? Should we encourage more folks to bring in snacks and treats? It's surprising what bubbles up once everyone starts thinking about possibilities!

**BUGARI EVO NOW AVAILABLE**  
exclusively at petosa accordions **NEW**



The most acoustically advanced **DIGITAL** accordion

The perfect combination of Bugari acoustic accordion experience with Roland's unsurpassed sound generation.

**REVOLUTIONARY**  
**NEW** Accordion Amplification



- Ultra high fidelity electronics
- Switchable output, mono or stereo
- Separate volume and EQ controls for both sides
- Innovative shock-mount system mechanically isolates the microphones in the body of the accordion for *extraordinary* feedback resistance
- High reliability, lightweight and affordably priced with configurations from \$350
- Call for more information

[www.petosa.com](http://www.petosa.com)  
19503 56th Ave. West Ste. B  
Lynnwood, WA 98036 206-632-2700




**LIGHTWEIGHT & PERFECTLY BALANCED**

**AM 1000 LEGGERA**  
FULL SIZE 41/120  
ULTRALIGHT DESIGN  
4/5 SETS OF HANDMADE REEDS  
DOUBLE TONE CHAMBER  
AN AMAZING 23LBS.



**AM 1050 LEGGERA**  
FULL SIZE 37/96  
ULTRALIGHT DESIGN  
4/5 SETS OF HANDMADE REEDS  
DOUBLE TONE CHAMBER  
AN AMAZING 21LBS.

206-632-2700  
[www.petosa.com](http://www.petosa.com)

Bill Cosby



**GIULIETTI**

Joan Cochran Sommers



Rose Marie & Louis Coppola



The return of tradition in Fine Italian Accordions  
[www.giuliettiusa.com](http://www.giuliettiusa.com)  
206.632.2700

**Driving directions to Christ Episcopal Church, 1040 Border Road, Los Altos, CA 94024**

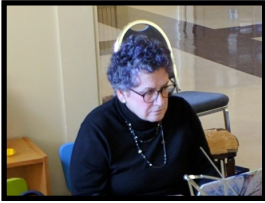
From Hwy 280, San Jose area: North on Hwy 280, exit at El Monte Road, East (toward the Bay, away from the hills) at the 3<sup>rd</sup> signal, turn right on University Ave, (if you get to the Foothill Expressway, you have gone one block too far) approx. ¼ mile to end of University, turn right, go about 100 feet, turn left on Border Road. In one block you will see the Christ Episcopal Church sign, turn right into driveway and go to the top of the hill for parking.

From Hwy 280, San Mateo and other northern locations, take 280 south to El Monte Road and go east away from the hills and toward the bay. At the 3<sup>rd</sup> signal, turn right on University Ave, drive approx.. ¼ mile to end, turn right, go 100 feet, turn left onto Border Road. In one block, you will see the Christ Episcopal Church sign, turn right into the driveway and to top of hill for parking.

***Playing at meetings, sign-ups, individual performers:***

With strict time limits at our new location, there will sometimes be less time for individual performers, and less flexibility for drop-ins hoping to play. **HOWEVER**, this month, we have a relatively long open mike session: 1:30—3:00 pm. Please make a request to Pam to play. She will schedule you in. In April, there will be much less time for Open Mike, so go for it this coming month!

### Report of the Meeting on Feb 3. Marybarbara Zorio



Marybarbara at work

February, the month of love, romance and music did not disappoint. From individual players who kicked off the afternoon to **Bob Stanfield's Jam Band** who sent us off wanting more, there was something for every taste to make this month of hearts and flowers memorable.

Songs can speak to us for many reasons. **Ed Massola's** interpretation of the traditional Italian folk song "Carnival of Venice" was particularly lovely. His other selections entertained the gathering crowd with a repertoire of melodies that spoke to our hearts.



Ed Massola



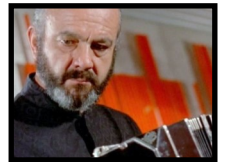
Joe di Vittorio and Reno diBono

**Reno Di Bono**, aka "The Italian Accordionist," and clarinetist **Joe Di Vittorio** serenaded us with such heart thumping, foot tapping selections as "Ferry Boat Serenade," "Woodpecker Polka," and of course a lively tarrentala. Reno and Joe closed with "Ciribiribin," a merry Piedmontese ballad composed by Alberto Pestalozza in 1898. Reno frequently performs at Italian festivals, wineries, weddings, funerals, and local restaurants. [https://www.gigsalad.com/reno\\_di\\_bono\\_the\\_italian\\_accordionist](https://www.gigsalad.com/reno_di_bono_the_italian_accordionist) will allow you to learn more about Reno. And the Reno diBono Trio will perform for us next month.



Ron, Carl &amp; Tomoko

SVAS favorites **The Ron Borelli Trio (Carl Rosenblum, Tomoko Funaki and Ron Borelli)** were the featured performers at our first meeting of the year, and in our new hall. Tango is one of the most beloved partner dances in the world. With its restrained passion and controlled movements, it is no wonder tango is often referred to as the dance of love. The musically accomplished Trio featured the tangos of Astor Piazzola, famed Argentine tango composer, bandoneon player, and arranger. Ron informed us that Piazzola's arrangements revolutionized the traditional tango into a new style termed *nuevo tango*, incorporating elements from jazz and classical music. One of Piazzola's most popular songs is "Adiós Nonino" which he wrote as an homage to his father. The story goes that upon hearing of his father's death he hurried to his father's New York City apartment. Astor asked to be left alone with his father's body. Legend has it that in less than an hour he wrote "Adiós Nonino." One of the interesting pieces Ron, Carl and Tomoko played was "Oblivion," which brought together a colorful blend of melodies, rhythms, and harmonies. Perhaps the most famous composition of Piazzola is Libertango, recorded and published in 1974 in Milan. The title is derived from merging *Libertad* (Spanish for liberty) and *Tango*, symbolizing Piazzola's break from Classical Tango to Tango Nuevo.



Astor Piazzola

French virtuoso accordionist, Richard Galliano is stepping into Piazzola's shoes and was the next artist to be featured in The Trio's performance. Galliano and Claude Nougara met in Paris and quickly became friends. Galliano's composition, "Tango for Claude," was dedicated to this friendship. From this close collaboration came many popular songs that set Galliano as a major figure on the international music scene.

The Trio next featured Brazilian composer, pianist, songwriter, arranger, and singer, Antônio Carlos Joblim, whose most famous composition is "The Girl from Ipanema," a bossa nova jazz song that became a worldwide hit in the mid-1960s and won a Grammy for Record of the Year in 1965. Tomoko and Carl took center stage as featured artists in the song. For obvious reasons, "The Girl from Ipanema" is one of the most recorded songs of all time. The Joblim set ended with "One Note Samba," another bossa nova.

*Continued on page 5, opposite*

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

*Meeting report, continued from page 4*

Ron is currently working on a gypsy jazz project based on the music of Django Reinhardt, a Belgian-born Romani-French jazz guitarist and composer who is regarded as one of the greatest musicians of the twentieth century. We were all left hoping that Ron, Carl and Tomoko will return soon to showcase their new arrangements.

Because of what Argentina went through as a country - civil wars, economic hardships and political unrest, tango has become the soul of Argentina. Music is always one way people can speak when they aren't allowed to express themselves otherwise. The tangos that Ron, Carl and Tomoko gifted us with on Sunday - showcased the great strength of Argentina's true voice. Tangos played by the oh-so-talented Ron Borelli Trio are endlessly passionate, full of yearning and infused with deep undercurrents. Learn more about Ron and the Ron Borelli Trio at <https://www.ronborelli.com/>

February is the month of love. And while I love romantic love as much as the next gal, I was reminded how important it is to celebrate the friendships that join us as SVAS members. Today at our first SVAS meeting of the year approximately 60 of us came from different places to celebrate and enjoy the music and the people we love.

### What is the bandoneon?

The bandoneon, is a type of concertina, played by holding the instrument between both hands and pushing in or pulling out, while pressing the buttons with the fingers. It has an essential role in the tango orchestra (orquesta tipica), and in fact has become almost the symbol of tango. Its beauty is in its power; it provides a somber, sensual sound.



- **When one door closes . . .**

SVAS sure had one sweetheart of a deal at Harry's Hofbrau! Thanks to Norma Zonay-Parsons and Don Pandori who negotiated with Harry's management, the back room at Harry's served as our SVAS meeting home for over 15 years. Harry's Hofbrau had been in business on Saratoga Avenue, for 42 years. This message was posted on their door on the day they closed:

"Thank you for your patronage and loyalty throughout the years. We will miss you ALL."

SVAS members will miss you too, Harry.

- **. . . another one opens!**

Welcome to our new home at Christ Episcopal Church. Bob Stanfield managed the move to our new venue. The Parish Hall has perfect acoustics and plenty of room for musicians and fans alike. Only a few turns off Rte 280, drivers follow the picturesque tree-lined streets to Christ Episcopal Church where there's plenty of parking as well as ramps to serve those of us who need them. See you on Sunday, March 3 at 1040 Border Rd, Los Altos, CA.

- **Welcome to new members**

**Silvia Griswold**, from Palo Alto. **Ken Schwartz**, from San Mateo. Ken is an enthusiastic member of the San Francisco Accordion Club. We are lucky that he joined our club too, And, he won a bottle of wine in the raffle. The Cosmos is speaking to you Ken! **Misha Studenkov** from Cupertino. Misha joined the jam band session—almost at center in photo on cover page.

It is great to welcome new members—thank you for joining. Hope to see you again in March.



A reminder: the 2nd annual San Diego Accordion Camp (SDAC), under the musical direction of Gordon Kohl, will be held April 4-6, 2019 from 9 AM to 4:30 PM at the Mangia Italiano Restaurant, 248 Third Ave., Chula Vista, CA. For an enrollment form go to: <http://www.gordonkohlaccordions.com/> or contact Gordon Kohl. His mobile phone is (619) 395-0454 and his email address is [Gordon-Kohl@GordonKohlAccordions.com](mailto:Gordon-Kohl@GordonKohlAccordions.com). Enrollment deadline is coming up fast: March 15.

**ACCORDION TEACHERS:**

Peter Di Bono: San Francisco,  
(415) 699-8674  
Lynn Ewing:  
San Carlos, (650) 867-2633  
ewinglynn@gmail.com  
Lou Jacklich: San Lorenzo,  
(510) 317-9510  
Marian Kelly: Cupertino,  
(650) 954-3711  
Pamela Tom: Davis,  
accordionpam@gmail.com  
Mike Zampiceni: Sunnyvale and  
Hayward, (408) 569-2579  
[Mikezamp.com](http://Mikezamp.com)  
Ernie Beran: Aptos,  
(831) 238-4961  
[reeds@baymoon.com](mailto:reeds@baymoon.com)

**Coming Events at SVAS:**

-----  
**March:** Doors open at 1:00pm  
1:30—3:00 Open Mike session  
3:00—3:30 Break and raffle  
3:30—4:30 Reno Di Bono Trio.

**April:** Aurora Mandolins, led by  
Jo Pelligrini

**May:** SVAS Spring Festival, with  
SVAS players and bands

**June:** Gail Campanella

**SVAS BOARD of Directors / Officers**

**PRESIDENT:** BILL TAPONGA,  
408 984-5290  
**VICE PRESIDENT:** LOU BUONOMO,  
650 940-1599  
**SECRETARY:** SUE DOUGLAS  
**TREASURER:** BOB STANFIELD ,  
650 888-3701  
**PROGRAM SCHEDULE:** PAM KAWASHIMA  
pkawashima@outlook.com  
**WEBMASTER:** PAM KAWASHIMA  
pkawashima@outlook.com  
**NEWSLETTER Editor:** SCOTT WILLIAMSON  
aswy01@gmail.com  
  
**NL Reporters:** MARCIA COULLAHAN,  
SUE DOUGLAS,  
GORGIA SUTHERLAND,  
MARYBARBARA ZORIO  
  
**Board Committee:** Dennis Judd  
Art Maggio  
Norma Parsons  
Dick Siudzinski



♫ **Who's Playing???** ♫

**William DeMichelis** - Music with an accent, 408-375-0001, [accordionist.sanjose@comcast.net](mailto:accordionist.sanjose@comcast.net)

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

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

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

**Sunday 7 Band** - Plays every first Friday of the month in Los Altos in front of Le Boulanger bakery on Main and Second in the down town area. Schedule Concerts with Bob Stanfield (650) 888-3701

**Mike Zampiceni** - Plays at O Sole Mio restaurant, Millbrae, 6:00-8:30 on Sundays. Also from April - Oct at the Tee Nee Thai restaurant, San Jose, on Friday nights.

**Gloria Gazave and Paul Aebersold**, "Il Duetto Musica" - Gloria Gazave and Paul Aebersold will perform at Angelica's, Redwood City on Thu, March 28. Tickets free if reserved in advance, otherwise \$10 at the door. Contact Gloria at 415.845.0772, or email [mazurkaman@yahoo.com](mailto:mazurkaman@yahoo.com)

**ACCORDION CLUB MEETING SCHEDULES IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA**

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

**Golden State Accordion Club (GSAC)** has three divisions:

**The Napa Valley Chapter** meets the second Thursday of the month at 5:30 PM, Runway Restaurant, 2044 Airport Rd, Napa, CA 94558. Contact George Bachich for more information, (707) 738-5276.

**The Humboldt Club** meets on the third Tuesday, 7:00 PM., Humboldt Swiss Club, 5403 Tompkins Hill Road, Loleta, CA 95551.

**The Sacramento Club** meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Elks Lodge No.6,6446 Riverside Blvd, Sacramento, CA. 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.

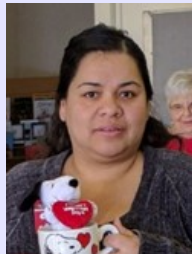
**Northern California Accordion Society (NCAS)** meets on the first Wednesday of the month 6:30 PM 6365 Douglas Blvd., Lutheran Church Social Hall, Granite Bay, CA 95746.

**San Francisco Accordion Club (SFAC)** meets on the third Sunday of the month 2:00 PM . Chetcuti Community Room, Civic Center Plaza, 450 Poplar Ave., Milbrae, CA 94030 ; Contact Lynn Ewing 650-453-3391.

**Silicon Valley Accordion Society (SVAS)** meets on the first Sunday of the month, Christ Episcopal Church, 1040 Border Road, Los Altos, CA 94024. Contact: Bill Topogna (408) 984-5290.

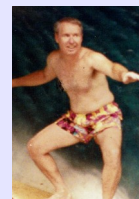
*The raffle*

Bob outdid himself again with 10 raffle prizes. Congratulations to John, Jane & Ken (from the SF Accordion Club), Jena and Gary (of Fête Musette), Marcia & Bernie Coullahan (from Maui, Hawaii!), Arsey (who always wins, together with Ed Massolo), and the brothers Dan and Dennis. Apologies to anyone whose name escaped the list—come back in March and give us another chance to get it right!

**Around the accordion world:**

*(You can access the links below by holding down the control button and clicking on the link. As long as you are connected to the Internet, the webpage will automatically open. Of course, you can also select, copy and paste the link into your browser.)*

- If you stretch your mind way back to the Beatles era, another famous composer and musician of that time was Michel Legrand. Perhaps his top piece was a full-length movie sung as an opera: *The Umbrellas of Cherbourg*, with the song “If it takes for ever”. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=stvlkOmaLeM> There were many others, such as “The Windmills of Your Mind,” used as the theme music for the Thomas Crown Affair. He passed away in January.
- The state musical instrument of South Dakota is the fiddle (Note: NOT the violin.) However a movement to replace that with the accordion is crescendoing as we go to press. <https://www.argusleader.com/story/news/politics/2019/01/29/south-dakota-legislature-accordion-attempts-play-off-fiddle-official-state-instrument/2709637002/>
- Out of season, but what the heck. Here are Lawrence Welk, Myron Floren and Joey Schmidt playing Beer Barrel Polka on the Lawrence Welk show. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fq0pCQXuh6g>
- And finally, who is this? The photo shows a pillar of the Silicon Valley Accordion Society from a couple of years ago, or so! Free coffee to the lucky winner.



Did you miss a meeting performance? You can view some 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.

NEWSLETTER OF THE

# Silicon Valley Accordion Society

P.O. Box 1513  
LOS ALTOS, CA  
94023

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE 🎵



**Silicon Valley Accordion Society meets first Sunday of each month, at  
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1040 Border Road, Los Altos, CA 94024.  
Doors open at 1:30. \$5 for members, \$ 10 for non members, 16 years and under free.**

- **JOIN THE CLUB**
- **Annual Memberships: Regular \$ 35, Gold \$ 125, Platinum \$ 200**