

Silicon Valley Accordion Society

January 2019

**The February meeting will be at our new home:
Christ Episcopal Church in Los Altos
(*Harry's Hofbrau in San Jose has closed permanently*)**



The Ron Borelli Trio

A favorite return artist Ron Borelli will be our featured performer in February. The Ron Borelli Trio will perform the tango music of Astor Piazzola and bossa nova standards of Anotônio Carlos Joblim. Last year Ron and his guitarist performed for the Opening Gala of the San Francisco Opera playing all tango music of Astor Piazzola. The trio includes: Ron Borelli on accordion, Carl Rosenblum on guitar and Tomoko Funaki on string bass.

Ron Borelli began his love for music through his parents. His father played tenor sax professionally; his mother played stride piano. Other family members played accordion, clarinet, mandolin, drums. Ron also attended engagements where his father's "Al Borelli Orchestra" performed. Ron's first solo engagement was at a New Year's Eve party in SF. At the age of 18, Ron formed his own Trio.

Tomoko Funaki was born in Japan into a musical family. Tomoko began as a classical musician studying violin with the Suzuki Method at the age of 4. By age 16, her musical interests broadened and she had picked up the flute, her father's instrument. Tomoko moved to the United States to attend college and lived in New York & San Francisco. Here she first discovered her passion for jazz. After moving to San Francisco in 2002, she began studying upright bass and quickly immersed herself into the San Francisco jazz scene, studying and performing with many Bay Area and national luminaries. She has also been involved in jazz education programs such as 'Stanford Jazz Workshop' and SFSU ICA 'The Generations Jazz Project' in recent years.

Carl Rosenblum attended Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts. He has toured with Herb Reed and the Platters and has signed and recorded at CBS Records in NYC. He has also toured with Bobby Vincent, a Boston TV celebrity. He has played at the Boston Playboy clubs, and at the Fairmont, Mark Hopkins and St. Francis hotels in San Francisco. Carl has also played in pit orchestras in Tri-Valley and Starstruck productions during the past ten years.

**There will be a Jam Band session in February, led by Bob Stanfield.
Because of time limitations, NO OPEN MIKE SESSION this month.**

Bill Tapogna - President's Message**HAPPY NEW YEAR! --- AND WE "DODGED THAT BULLET"!**

We were all really sad to find out that Harry's Hofbrau, San Jose, closed its doors permanently! As Gloria (my bride) says: "Nothing is forever!" We will surely miss the good food, and of course, for SVAS, our special concert venue.

Things were looking really bleak for a while. Attempting to locate a suitable venue is not an easy task! **AND ALONG CAME BOB!** STANFIELD, THAT IS. BOB MET WITH THE DIRECTORS OF HIS CHURCH-- *CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH* in Los Altos, and secured

the use of their Parish Hall for our meetings/concerts! **THANK YOU, BOB---WE ARE DEEPLY IN YOUR DEBT!!**

So, beginning with the February 3rd meeting, we will be in our new location. Elsewhere in the Newsletter there are maps, pictures and a description of how to get to the church hall. It is fairly easy to locate, albeit a bit further away for those of us residing in San Jose and further south. We hope that this will not be an insurmountable problem for you. Perhaps car-pooling will help. Also, if you would be willing to give someone a ride to the new location, and drop them off back home afterwards, please let me or any other Board member know. It might go a long way to easing any travel problems with the new location.

Lou Buonomo volunteered to take control of our sound system, and store it at his home. However, some of the items, notably the speakers, are large and heavy, and difficult to transport. We will not have storage facilities at the church. Therefore, we will be looking to purchase new equipment which will be easier to transport and (quite possibly) more efficient than our present, older-tech equipment.

Also, our meeting time has changed slightly. We will **NOT BE OPEN UNTIL 1:30 pm**, and must vacate the premises no later than 4:30 pm. We will still have the full allowance of time for our "Featured Performers". So we will have to curtail some time for other activities. As with all new situations, we will "Play This By Ear" (appropriate for a musical group!)

Pam Kawashima is scheduling the programs, and will continue as the contact person for those individuals who wish to perform. Many thanks to Pam---this can be a most challenging job!

And speaking of Pam--as you know, she is our Webmaster, and what a great job she does! If you haven't done so recently, check it out. It provides a wonderful overview of SVAS activities.

Our February meeting will begin at 1:30 with a performances by Ed Massolo, and Reno diBono. Then the Ron Borelli Trio. The Jam Band session will start at 3:30.

I would like to make a few observations about Jam Band Etiquette, based on observations of recent performances.

1. **PLEASE NOTE:** We set-up the chairs in a semi-circle (or full circle when we can, and this will be easier in our new facility). This allows all players to easily see, and (hopefully!) hear the other players, which is mandatory if all players are going to be "together"! Please don't rearrange the seating. **If more chairs are required, please add them to the circular formation.**
2. **Please listen to the other players.** This is sometimes difficult when we are concentrating on unfamiliar music, but absolutely necessary if we are to be "together".
3. **Please: no "diddling" between tunes.** Some folks try to "practice" an unfamiliar tune before the group begins to play. This can be extremely annoying to other players, and can result in "false starts." If you don't know the tune, wait until the group has played it through one time, and then join in.
4. **Please be "judicious" with "fills" and other embellishments!** When playing solo, these can make the tune more enjoyable. However, when several players in a group are doing different additions/modifications, it can be distracting to other players, and the resulting sound can be garbled and otherwise negatively influenced.

It's all common sense, so please help. Again, Happy New Year, and we look forward to seeing you on February 3!

Bill Tapogna, President Silicon Valley Accordion Society.

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
19503 56th Ave. West Ste. B
Lynnwood, WA 98036 206-632-2700




Since 1922

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

Bill Cosby
Joan Cochran Sommers
Rose Marie & Louis Coppola

GIULIETTI

The return of tradition in Fine Italian Accordions
www.giuliettiusa.com
206.632.2700

PIERMARIA Petite Pro-Line
Small in size BIG in Sound!


"They might be Petite, but they don't take a back seat - to the quality & sound of a BIG accordion. They're just smaller, lighter & beautiful!"




Small and LIGHT,
Clear and Bright,
Always Happy to...

Let us CUSTOM make a Petite for YOU! Exclusively distributed by Accordions International
1760 South 450 West - Salt Lake City, UT 84115 | 801-485-5840 | pau1@accordionfactory.com

The Golden Era of the Accordion!
COLOMBO



ACCORDIONFACTORY.COM

Proud Sponsor of the
Las Vegas International Accordion Convention

For your entire accordion needs!
Accordions International
1760 South 450 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84115

Manufacturing and distributing the finest accordions!
Factory Trained Repairs & Tuning
Phone 801-485-5840
Toll Free 1-800-935-0013
www.AccordionFactory.com



With the new timetable at our new location, there is slightly less time open to individual performers, and no flexibility for drop-ins hoping to play. You MUST request a time slot from Pam in advance. In February the schedule is completely full, so no open time for any additional individual performers.

More information on the new meeting room.:

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 3rd 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 3rd 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.



View from Border Road. The car is turning into the road up the hill to the parking lot for the church hall, ...



Pam and Bob on the hill up to the top parking lot.



Park, and walk into the building behind the tall redwood tree in this picture. Look for the signs to Parrish Hall, where our meeting will be held.

From Hwy 101, drive to San Antonio Road, go toward Los Altos (away from the Bay) After about 4 miles, San Antonio Road merges left onto Foothill Expressway. Turn right at the first signal onto El Monte Road. Turn left at the next signal, University Ave, drive 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.

The new location is very well suited for music performances. The acoustics seem particularly lively: a hard-wood floor, plaster walls and a reflecting ceiling go a long way to eliminate any need for amplifiers. We will see how well that sounds. Another music group that uses the same hall is an A Cappelle choir, drawn by the acoustics. Plus there is oodles of space and seating. The horseshoe layout for seating will be even better than at Harry's for good visual access to the performers.

In short, it will be well worth a visit on February 3rd to check out our new home (and listen to Ron Borelli's trio!) And, please, we want to hear your opinion and suggestions.

We may miss the convenience of a restaurant just a few steps away from the meeting hall, as we enjoyed at Harry's. Of course, we will have coffee, and the occasional goodies brought in by members at the meetings. However, there are many nearby possibilities. A short drive away on Main Street in Los Altos is Le Boulanger (slightly more formal, but not too different to Harry's.) Nearby, and open until 2pm, the Village Pantry is famous for Sunday breakfasts and good coffee. Two miles away along the Foothill Expressway, the Rancho Shopping center has Rancho Pizza (small but gets good reviews), and there are many other nearby eateries. If you have a suggestion, please let us know, and we'll make sure it is included in a future Newsletter.

Pam Kawashima's interview with Ed Massolo

Ed Massolo has been a member of our club since its inception and is also an active member of the San Francisco Accordion club. Ed was born in Oakland, CA in 1924 to Italian American immigrants and grew up in the east bay. He got his first 48 bass Hohner accordion at the age of 9 and has not stopped playing since. His father inspired him to play as he was a musician playing clarinet and other instruments. As a kid, Ed says he remembers his buddies getting together playing many different instruments in the neighborhood on weekends and week-nights and he was the sole accordionist. It was a fun time to learn accordion as it was very popular amongst Italian American families. He took lessons from John Molinari and continued to excel at his accordion.

After high school, Ed enlisted in the Army Air Corp as WWII was under-way. He trained as a flight engineer and completed 25 missions in the 94th bomb group in the European theater in B-17 heavy bombers. This was the only period where he stopped playing his accordion. He was quite busy fighting in the war. After returning home +3 years later, his father asked if he still remembered how to play and it didn't take long to pick the accordion back up. His love for the accordion never left him.

Ed continued to play and if he wasn't playing his accordion, he was dancing with his lovely bride Isabelle. They raised their two children and now his family has grown to 5 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. What a lucky guy Ed is.

Ed has met and gotten to know many famous accordionists including Dick Contino, Frank Marocco and Stas Venglevski. These have always been his favorite artists. Ed enjoys playing most kinds of music but especially loves playing standards and Italian songs. Even at his young age of 94, Ed plays several times a week, mornings being his favorite and best times to play. He continues to play for our club and we love seeing him. Whatever you are doing Ed, keep doing it!



Ed with great grandson Joshua playing together on Ed's accordions.



Pam Tom contributed the following announcement from Gordon Kohl for the second ever San Diego Accordion Camp. Last year, several SVAS members attended this camp, and there were enthusiastic reviews.

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.

The SDAC emphasizes building accordion musicianship skills, enjoyment and self confidence in playing an accordion solo. A goal of this camp is to enhance the music arrangements we learn and to make them enjoyable to play.

This year's camp will use "First 50 Songs You Should Play on the Accordion" arranged by Gary Meisner, for the textbook. We will review and play several popular tunes including "Libertango," "Cherokee (Indian Love Song),"

Continued on page 7.

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

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
Ernie Beran: Aptos,
(831) 238-4961
reeds@baymoon.com

Coming Events at SVAS:

February: 1:30—2:00 EdMassolo,
Reno diBono
2:10—3:15 Ron Borelli Trio
3:15—3:30 Break and raffle
3:30—4:30 Jam session led by
Bob Stanfield using his
jam books.

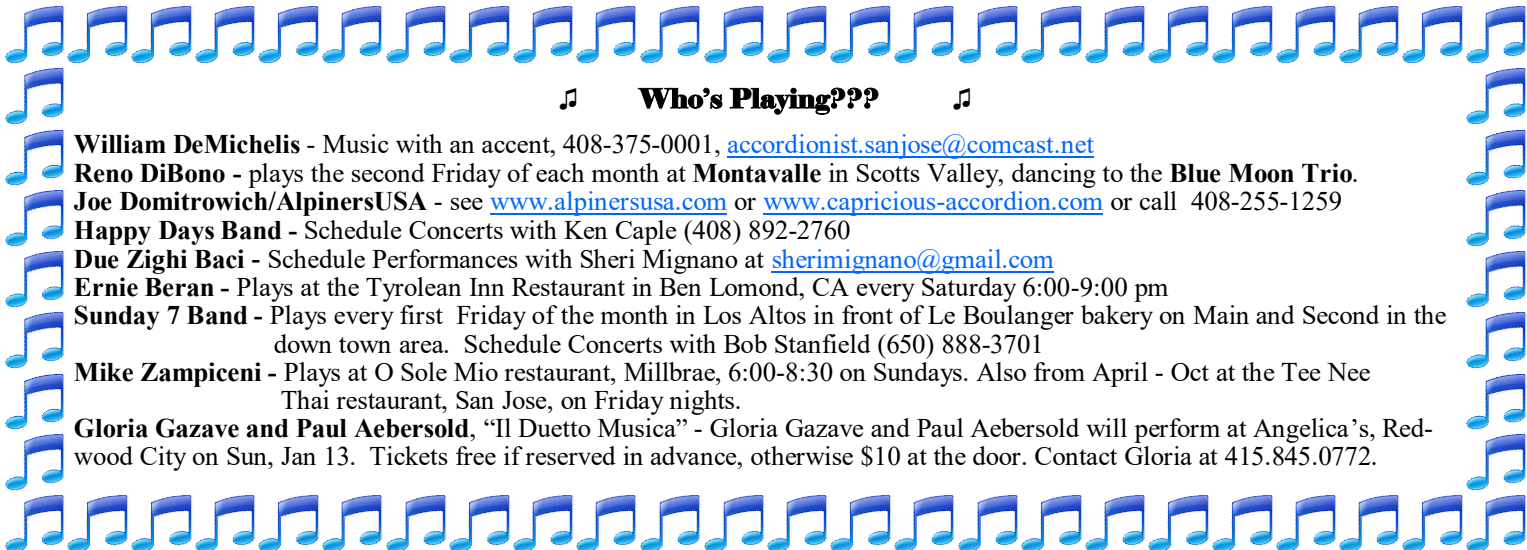
March: Reno diBono Trio

April: Aurora Mandolins, led by Jo Pelli-
grini

May: SVAS Spring Festival, with
SVAS players and bands

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

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 or www.capricious-accordion.com or call 408-255-1259

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

Due Zighi Baci - Schedule Performances with Sheri Mignano at sherimignano@gmail.com

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 Sun, Jan 13. Tickets free if reserved in advance, otherwise \$10 at the door. Contact Gloria at 415.845.0772.

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, 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.

Continued from page 5, Gordon Kohl accordion camp

“The Phoenix Love Theme (Senza Fine),” etc. and Gordon will explain the application of chord cadences and progression, building introductions, harmony, rhythm, bellow technique, expression and theory.

Gordon Kohl (SDAC camp director) is a professional accordionist and teacher. He has performed and presented invited workshops at numerous accordion conventions and camps across the U.S. He is on the Board of Directors of the Accordionists & Teachers Guild International. He continues to play solo and group engagements for conventions, clubs, dances, and special events.

For an enrollment form go to: <http://www.gordonkhlaccordions.com/> or contact Gordon Kohl. His mobile phone is (619) 395-0454 and his email address is GordonKohl@GordonKohlAccordions.com.

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 have ever wondered what a violin, 3 accordions and a tuba sound like, the answer is: virtually identical to a large church organ, at least when playing J S Bach’s Cantata and Fugue in D minor. It is genuinely amazing. The group were playing on the street somewhere in Germany. Here is the link. <https://www.facebook.com/lostandfoundtobe/videos/1705186329545272/>
- Someone turned in a lost accordion to the police in Warwick, Rhode Island. You would think that ... And the world champion player Cory Pesaturo offered to play it. But the police declined. <https://turnto10.com/news/local/lost-an-accordion-its-at-warwick-police-headquarters>
- A really interesting short article about Castelfidardo, Italy, entitled “This Italian Town is the Epicenter of Accordions,” and a good video showing how accordions are manufactured today. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UaAR9FEn0wo>
- 2019 Big Squeeze (Texas) State Accordion Contest. The name says it all. Texas Folklife organization has run this contest for 13 years now. It takes place in ten communities around Texas. For young players, there are four traditional music genres: conjunto, polka, cajun and zydeco. <https://kveo.com/news/local-news/2019-big-squeeze-state-accordion-contest/1703822598>
- One of India’s regional governors made the news recently. This lady is higher up their political totem pole than the Governor of California, for example. She was visiting Germany, and stopped on the street to play an accordion! The player worked the bellows, and the governor played the tune on the keyboard. Can’t help thinking that https://youtu.be/VN3mt_FzF_k
- On the lighter side, and a little late but think of it as a New Year’s greeting, a member spotted the following cartoon making the rounds on the web. It all goes to show that envy has no bounds.
- Also this: “Lady! If a man says he’ll do something, he’ll do it. There’s no need to keep reminding him every 6 months.”

BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR, AND ALL THE BEST IN 2019!



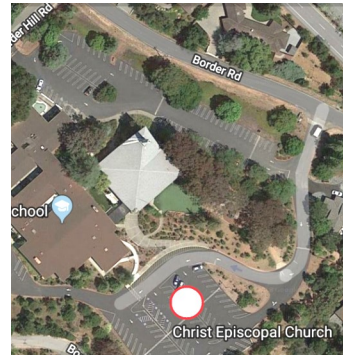
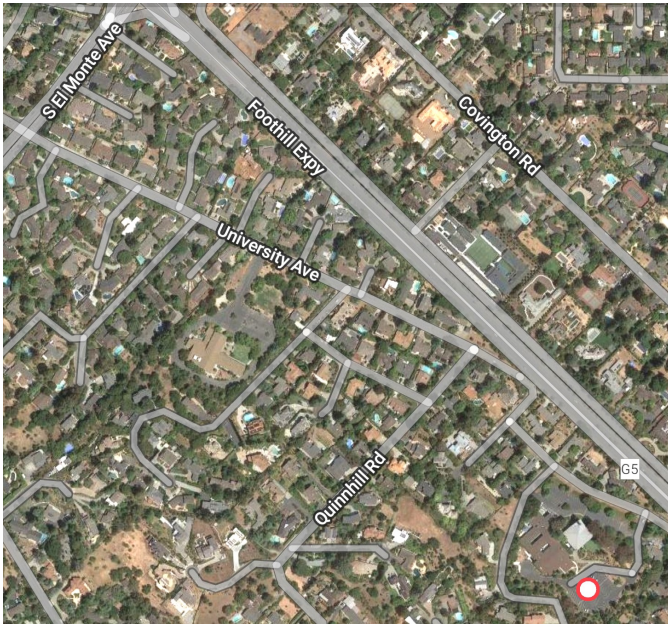
Did you miss a meeting performance? You can view some on YouTube. To view Pam’s Videos from past meetings: Go to youtube.com, type in “accordionpam” in the search field (next to the magnifying glass on top) for videos from the club.

NEWSLETTER OF THE

Silicon Valley Accordion Society

P.O. Box 1513
LOS ALTOS, CA
94023

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE 🎵



Views of local area around Christ Episcopal Church, Los Altos. The parking lot is the red and white blob at the lower right of each picture



The inside of the meeting hall.

More location and driving instructions further on in the Newsletter.

**Silicon Valley Accordion Society meets first Sunday of each month.
NOW AT CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1040 Border Road, Los Altos, CA 94024.
Doors open at 1:30. Door fee \$5 for members, \$ 10.00 for non members, 16 years and under are free.**

- **JOIN THE CLUB -**
- **Annual Memberships: Regular \$ 35.00, Gold \$ 125.00, Platinum \$ 200.00**