

**NEWSLETTER OF THE**

# **Silicon Valley Accordion Society**

**January 2017**

**SVAS Next Meeting :  
Sunday February 5, 2017 at Harry's Hofbrau**



## **Mario Pedone**

Mario will be entertaining us again on February 5. We are fortunate to have Mario fly up from Sugarland, Texas to play for us.

Mario is a world renowned accordionist and has travelled far and wide to entertain our world. He is president and founder of the Houston Texas Accordion Club and is a popular teacher in his home area in addition to having his own recording studio.

Mario was born in Valenzano, Italy. His family later moved to Valencia, Venezuela in 1959. When his brother took accordion lessons, Mario always hoped one day that he also could play this wonderful instrument. The rest is history.

Attn: all accordionists; bring your accordion and play in this months Jam Band with Vic & Barbara. They will supply the books. The Jam Band starts at 1:00 pm.

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



**Ken Caple**  
President



**Bill Tapogna**  
Master of Ceremonies



**Marcia Coullahan**  
SVAS Reporter

**Happy New Year** to everyone.

I hope we have our New Year Resolutions all in order and that they are working for us. It is hard to keep up with the years and all we hope to accomplish especially playing in the snow.

I started the new year by getting sick and being miserable for the first two weeks. With this being behind me now, I am looking forward to only health and happiness in 2017.

I am sorry to have missed the meeting and all that took place. It sounds like I missed a good meeting.

I wish to thank Pam for the photos we have for this meeting.  
- Ken

We had a first for the New Year! Reno DiBono played his Excelsior and Hermann Schmalzried played his Strasser Harmonika. The two instruments blended beautifully. Both the Harmonika and the Excelsior are capable of making fabulous music, but only if played by accomplished musicians. Hermann and Reno fit the bill. They played a variety of music and we loved every minute of their hour performance.

Reno started playing accordion at the age of ten. He became interested in the accordion at an early age as his father played the instrument. Both he and his brother were given lessons. Reno practices two hours a day. He uses a metronome and says if you do this you will get the timing in your brain. It sure works for him.

Hermann started playing his Harmonikas which is like playing 2 harmonicas using bellows at the age of 66. He majored in music and played the trumpet at San Jose State and Stanford. After hearing Joe Schmiel play his "button box," he became interested and took lessons from him. All his music has been hand written by Joe Schmiel. Hermann also practices two hours a day. Practice, practice, practice, and then practice more.

Playing together was not planned but, was a wonderful treat for the audience.



***Mardi Gras Celebration***  
 with—**Due Zighi Baci: Sheri Mignano & Michael Van Why**  
 At: 1:00 pm– 2:00 pm on Sunday March 5

COME EARLY TO ENJOY OUR FEATURED PERFORMERS  
 THIS MONTH OF MARCH, 2017

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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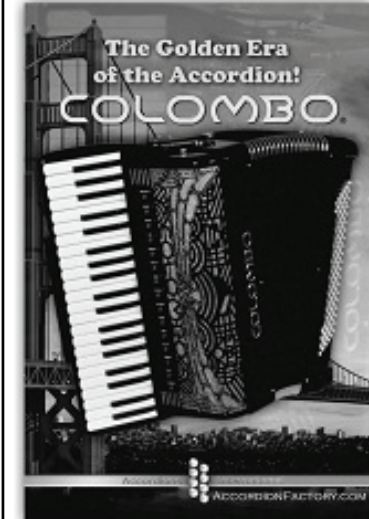


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Ed Massolo was scheduled to play also, but is fighting a cold/flu and was unable to attend our meeting. Get well soon, Ed.

Bill Likens from the Norwegian group played a few Irish and German tunes for us on his Fisman accordion. It has a wood veneer finish and a pleasant sound. His accordion has 4 small speakers on the bass side. It has a set of lower bass reeds and is made for Alpine music. Bill started when he was 13 years old. He plays in a German band and two Irish bands, practices with groups three times a week, and is an accomplished musician.

Nordahl Grieg Leikarring og Spelemannslag put on a stunning performance. Spelemannslag, the musician part was made up of our own Bob Stanfield and Bill Likens on accordions, and Birgit Calhoun on the recorder. Erik Gjovaag played one tune on a unique violin, which had 5 extra strings built inside, while the remainder of the group danced to his music. They played standing for over an hour and a half. Bob started learning the music in June, when he joined the group. He MUST practice 2 hours a day like Reno and Hermann.

The Leikarring are the Norwegian folk dancers. There were 10 couples. Everyone was very light on the feet. It was obvious that they enjoyed dancing and showing us their heritage. They handle the small space very well.

Meg Laycock, their dance leader, told us about their beautiful costumes which are regulated by the government of Norway. The various costumes depict the different regions of Norway. The mining area had copper buttons; there were areas that had lots of lace, and some that had unique hats, buckle shoes, and jewelry. One couple had the Scottish influence. The Norwegians ran the Scots off but kept their red blade. There was one couple from Sweden in their native dress. Three hundred years ago they too were Norwegians.

At the end of the performance a couple of folk dances were taught to SVAS participants. It made for a mighty full dance floor. What a fun afternoon we all had!



Bill Likens and Rich Peirson dressed in Norwegian attire.



Welcome New Member: Joyce Wang



Sunday Seven 8 members in all, missing Gloria Topogna {Get well soon, Gloria} played one lively tune after another. Some of the songs were “Rio Drive Polka” “Never on Sunday,” “Oregon Waltz,” “Maggie Blues,” “Iupali, Iupala,” and many more. This excellent performance was put on by four accordionists, Bob Stanfield, Vic Corsiglia, Scott Williamson, and Bill Topogna, one percussionist, Scott Stanfield, one sax and clarinet player, Lyle Gillison, one electric bass guitar played by Barbara Corsiglia, and one standard guitar played by Scott Barta. Vic sang some and the audience sang some. We all sang “God Bless America” with heart.

Raffle winners were Barbara Corsiglia, Norma Parsons, George Ford, Sue Cristillo, Bernie Coullahan, and Rich Kurkowski from the Norwegian dance group. We found out that Rich and Vic Corsiglia used to work together at NASA/AMES.

### SPECIAL THANKS

SVAS has several members who make an effort to make our Club run smoothly and efficiently. We wish to thank our SVAS Officers, Board of Directors and volunteers who help with the meeting operations such as the room set up and equipment set up, greeting table volunteers, photographers, newsletter reporters, newsletter publication and special event volunteers, raffle ticket sales, and raffle prize purchases.

There are also financial contributors that prefer to remain un-named. All of these people are working hard to be able to bring our membership the finest professional entertainment accordion music that is available to us. In addition many thanks go to the many members that bring their accordion playing talents to our meetings to entertain us all.

### Alex Grambow

Many of you remember young Alex Grambow (Norma’s Student) playing for us at the Club. He has grown up.

Alex Grambow is currently a middle and high school music teacher in the Twin Rivers Unified School District in Sacramento. After his musical upbringing in San Jose which included playing the piano, trumpet, trombone, French horn, and you guessed it, the accordion, he went on to the University of the Pacific to study music. He graduated, magna cum laude, with a Bachelors of Music degree with a concentration in vocal music education. After graduation, Alex received his job offer from Twin Rivers and is now in his third year of teaching. He teaches four sections of choir, and two sections of band.

Alex is still involved with the music community in Sacramento. He is a member, and has soloed, with the Sacramento Choral Society and Orchestra singing in the baritone section. He is also involved with musical theater. His last role was Curly in Rodgers and Hammerstein’s Oklahoma! Alex also stays busy during the Oktoberfest season playing his accordion for different groups and restaurants. **Come to hear him play for us at Harrys on Feb 5, 2017**

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

Mike Zampiceni: Sunnyvale and  
Hayward (408) 569-2579  
Mikezamp.com

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

**Coming Events at SVAS:**  
**Sunday February 5, 2017**

Meeting : Doors open at 1:00 pm  
**1:00-2:00pm** Vic & Barbara Jam Band

**2:00—3:00 pm** Alex Grambow, Ron Harris, Ed Massolo

**3:00—3:30 pm** Break & Drawing

**Master of Ceremonies Remarks**

**3:30—4:30 Feature** Mario Pedone

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**March 5: Due Zhigi Baci @ 1:00 pm**

**April 2: Richard and Larry Denier, Dave Dally group @ 3:00 pm**

**May 7: Spring Festival**

**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/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 sfmignano@yahoo.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 the corner of main street and Second street in the down town area. Schedule Concerts with Bob Stanfield (650) 888-3701

**Mike Zampiceni**—Plays at Tee Nee Thai Restaurant on Friday nights 6:30-8:30 and some Saturdays.

**ACCORDION CLUB MEETING SCHEDULES IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**Accordion Club of the Redwoods (ACR)** meets on the third Monday of every other month beginning in February 2017. 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.

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.

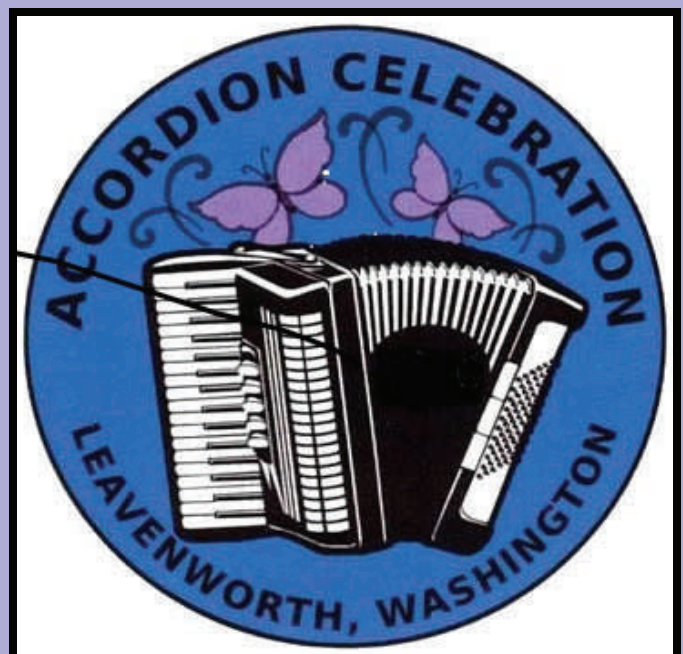


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NEWSLETTER OF THE

**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 1:00 pm, Meeting begins at 2:00 p.m. door fee \$5, under 16 no charge.**