

SILICON VALLEY ACCORDION SOCIETY

September/October 2022

UPCOMING EVENTS

SVAS

SUNDAY, NOV 6, 2022:
RENO AND PETER DI
BONO WITH BOB
RIZETTO ON BASS AND
OLOF SCHIAPPACASI
PERCUSSIONIST

SVAS

SUNDAY, DEC 4, 2022:
IL DUETTO MUSICA,
WITH PAUL
AEBERSOLD AND
SOPRANO CHRISTINA
CAPSUTO-SHULMAN

HELLO ACCORDION FRIENDS:

It was great to see some of our members at the Cotati Accordion Festival this past August. It was such a fun time with beautiful weather, great food, camaraderie, and best of all, music, music, music. Thank you, **Vic** and **Barbara Corsiglia** for volunteering in the Jam Tent. You all looked like you were having a great time playing together. Thank you **Tseli Wu, Pamela Tom, Pam Lister, Rosemary Busher, Stephen Marshall, Steve Mobia, Lou Jacklich, Robert and Elaine Cooperstein, Ken Schwartz** and **Jane Tan**, for your hard work in volunteering at Cotati. It was a pleasure visiting with you, **Richard Schiller and Rosemary Armanino** in the beautiful park setting with accordions singing in the background.

Cotati, coupled with some exciting performances we have had here at SVAS with Richard Noel and vocalist Janice Hubbard from Bakersfield, and Steve Albini and John Douglas on Saxophone, well folks, does it get any better than this? I think not!

Wishing you all a Happy Oktoberfest month and a Happy Halloween. Stay well and stay safe. Colette Ogata

*Your mind is like a garden, your thoughts are the
seeds, you can grow gardens, or you can grow
weeds*



“**Weird: The Al Yankovic Story**” is a 1-hr and 48 min movie (biography/musical/comedy) based on the life of Al Yankovic. Al Yankovic is a gifted musician who is known for making parodies of tunes. *Weird* will be exclusively streamed on-line via the [ROKU.COM](https://www.roku.com) Channel (free TV, live news, sports, movies, and more) starting on November 4, 2022.

Weird premiered September 8, 2022 at the Toronto International Film Festival and was the TIFF’s People’s Choice winner in the “Midnight Madness Award” category. The current “Rotten Tomatoes/Tomatometer®” score with 27 comments is a positive 93% rating! Good news for the accordion perhaps? This movie may be of particular interest to SVAS members because the piano accordion is prominently featured in the film. The movie stars Daniel Radcliffe as “Weird Al” Yankovic. In my opinion the best quote in the movie is “Anyone got an accordion?”.

See the trailers at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cCNkdJ2CIJk>

and

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gli-HYliQgI>

Downloading the app on your Ipad or Android device or logging in on your computer is needed in order to view *Weird* at your convenience. Two short video sneak previews (trailers) can be viewed at: https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/weird_the_al_yankovic_story.



For the month of October 2022, we had the pleasure of hosting Steve Albini, from Santa Rosa, and John Douglas, a saxophonist, flutist, and clarinetist here at SVAS as our featured performers. We all enjoyed a great day with such wonderful music.

We began our SVAS meeting with our upcoming Accordion Star, Tseli Wu. She plays smoothly with such grace, and her song selections were excellent. Tseli started with Tanzende Finger, by Von Heiz Gerlach, and then she played Le Retour des Hirondelles or Return of the Swallows - by Beniamino Pagano and Robert Trognée. Tseli was asked to bring her accordion 30 minutes before the club started, so believe me, she had NO time to practice, yet she was absolutely flawless! Thank you Tseli.

I always love when Paul Cain plays for us, he was another who was asked at the very last minute. Paul played on a 60 bass Weltmeister that was brought in by Don Savant. Paul plays such unusual pieces, all of which are very pleasing to the ear. He played Henry Mancini Inspector Clouseau Theme, Wildflowers by Tom Petty and his rendition of a combination of Somewhere out there and Somewhere over the Rainbow. His interesting selections are always so fun to hear. Thank you, Paul.

Next up, Bob Stanfield was kind enough to play for us...on the fly! We got our Oktoberfest treat with three of his songs, Du du Leigst mir im Herzen, Polka Fra Krodsherad and Edelweiss. Bob also played a beautiful rendition of America the Beautiful. Thank you, Bob, for playing for us.

As for our featured players, Steve Albini and John Douglas gave us quite the show. Steve has beautiful arrangements, nice chording, and perfect song selections and is blessed with fabulous vocal cords to boot. Steve, together with John was wonderful. John played Saxophone, flute, Clarinet and Soprano Sax – all of which compliment Steve's music in every way. John was a beautiful "Decoration." Some of the songs were Guarda che Luna, East of the sun, Besame mucho (bossanova) - Enrique Granados, Bewitched - Richard Rodgers, Sway - Pableo Beltran Ruiz, Goldfinger (from Russia with love - James Bond, Taking a chance on Love Brasil - Ary Barroso, The Good life - Jack Reardon, Marulzella - Renato Carosone, Al Di La - Carlo Donida. My personal favorites were bewitched, and yes, it was mesmerizing, Besame Mucho and I just loved Sway! Some of the folks on Zoom commented in the chat. "The soprano sax is a great combo," "Great arrangement on, taking a chance on love." "I like Steve's arrangement of Sway, one of his trademark tunes." "OHHH, I love this version - one of the best versions of Sway I have heard." "I am so glad I zoomed in. He is fabulous... Great voice too!"

Steve and John, you were nothing short of superb. Thank you for playing for us and we hope to see you again soon.



Stephen M. Trucco
January 2, 1939 - August 28, 2022



Dear Familia Trucco -

We are sending you our heartfelt condolences. Steve, you are such a beautiful, kind soul. It was so very nice to know you, though it was way too short. We will miss you terribly.

Steve & his son, Mike gave great entertainment to our Club many times over the years. May his soul Rest in Peace. Love, SVAS



My Dad was an icon; larger than life to me, and so many other friends and family members. He never met a stranger, rarely had an unkind word to say about anyone (although, there were a few), and was truly one of the kindest people any of us reading this has ever met or will ever meet. His love of life was unmatched. He was never one to stay home or miss a good time. Even up until the last couple of weeks, when Judy would ask him if they could just stay home, he would say, "Babe, someday we'll have to stay home."

We are absolutely heartbroken that he is gone. His love knew no bounds, and while it's devastating to think that we will never be able to laugh with him again, or enjoy a "highball" together, or receive one of his famous hugs with a big fat kiss, we are left with his legacy that will live on forever. Steve's profound effect on the people he loved, was acquainted with, or just met on the street for a few minutes, lives on in us, and the people who were closest to him. And while we will always have the memories of our Steve, our Dad, our Nonno, and while we will always think of him fondly and often, we don't have to like that he's gone...and we don't. We love you Nonno – always and forever.

Mike Trucco

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/stockton-ca/stephen-trucco-10906694>

Sending prayers and love to the Trucco family. Steve played great accordion and always shared his love with friends. I can never forget hearing Steve and Mike playing for the Las Vegas Accordion Convention, and then hosting a party in his penthouse and inviting the best of the best accordionists, Dick Contino, Art Van Damme, and Carl Fortina. Dick, Art, Carl and others always looked forward to the Trucco party. Steve will be missed by the accordion world and the love he brought to friends and loved ones. I will miss you, Steve.

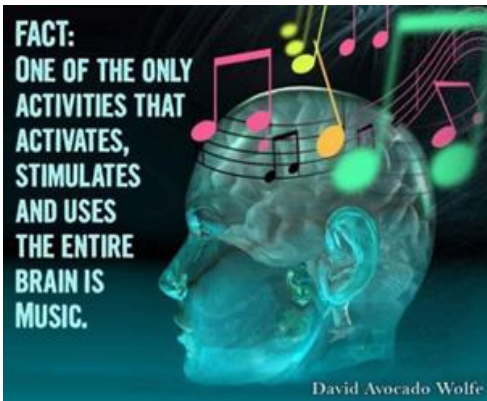
Ron Borelli

Cotati Accordion Festival 2022 Report By Pamela Tom

The accordion sprang to life during the 31st annual Cotati Accordion Festival with over 50 performances packed into the weekend, which was launched on Friday, August 19, the eve of the Cotatifest at the Student Scholarship Fundraiser which brought in \$500 this year in support of student scholarships. SVAC members, **Lou Jacklich**, **Colette Ogata**, and **Pamela Tom** were invited to perform at the fundraiser.

This year launched the Dick and Judy Contino Accordion Scholarship of \$1,000 which was awarded to an accomplished high school junior accordionist. The total scholarships distributed among the six young talented accordionists under the age of 18 amounted to \$2900.

There were also non-competing youth performing as “Future Accordion Stars” on Sunday’s program and I loved the spunk some had and the courage of the students facing a large crowd. They all did well and are on their way to becoming tomorrow’s accordionists, entertainers, and instructors. One seven-year-old was on a roll and offered to play more tunes. One performer gave the option of a fast or slow tune. Two children even played and accompanied themselves singing. Speaking/engaging the audience as well as singing show the confidence and love of the accordion that the young performers have. There were very heartwarming performances. It was announced on Sunday that all accordion youth up to age 18 have an open invitation to perform on stage during the “Future Accordion Stars” session.



Accordion pros who pleased the crowd were scattered in La Plaza Park and nearby sites. The *Main Stage* performers starred Matt Tolentino, Sourdough Slim & Robert Armstrong, Sergei Teleshev & Maria Telesheva a.k.a. “Duo Two Accordions,” Nuevos Aventurosos, Ginny Mac, Alex Meixner, Cory Pesaturo (with guest violinist/singer Leah Zeger), The Mad Maggies, Nathan & Jessie, Junk Parlor, Lucky ‘ol Bones, Motordude Zydeco, Renée de la Prade & Leslie Jackson, Future Accordion Stars, Matthias Matzke, Sam Reider & Jorge Glem, and Free Reeds with Rob Curto and Corey Purcell.

The *Polka/Zydeco Tent* was hosted mornings by Sheri Mignano Crawford & Jim Lehmen and afternoons by the Steve Balich Brand. And into the early evening were Les Amis Zydeco, and Iko Ya Ya. The Zydeco Dance Party was at Spanky’s Bar with Mark St. Mary, and California Blue Runners.

Ray’s Deli & Tavern accordionists included Laurie & Elan, Amber Lee Baker, Art Peterson & Laurie Miller, Renée de la Prade & Leslie Jackson, Zla Vila, 5 Cent Coffee, Gun Street Girls, Nathan & Jessie, Duckmandu, and Junk Parlor

cont. on page 5



Lou Jacklich - Cotati



**Pamela Tom
Cotati Student Fund Raiser**



**Lou Jacklich and Colette Ogata
Cotati Student Fund Raiser**



**Paul Betken
Cotati Student Fund Raiser**

Cotati Accordion Festival 2022 Report By Pamela Tom



*Lou Di Maggio Cotati
Student Fundraiser*



Dick and Judy Contino Accordion Scholarship Presentation



Casey Ogata, Pamela Tom, Pam Lister



Casey Ogata, Tseli Wu



Vic and Barbara Corsiglia Cotati Jam Tent

Kudos to Alex Meixner (SFAC guest artist May 2021) was named the CAF 2022 Honorary Director. Alex has many credits to his name as a musician, band leader, teacher, producer and collaborator in a major motions picture, a Grammy nominee, and recently inducted into the International Polka Association Hall of Fame.

The popular Jam Tent offers a space for attendees to bring their instruments and jam with a leader. Music is provided for players to follow along. Numerous volunteers led popular genres (eclectic, French, Italian and bluegrass) with the makeshift band throughout the day.

In front of the Jam Tent was the Accordion Autopsy table led nearly 10 years by George Bachich (“Piano Accordion Owner’s Manual and Buyer’s Guide” author and repairman) who displayed a dissected accordion where he expertly answered questions on accordion anatomy, repair, and care.

The weather was favorably warm and brought out large enthusiastic audiences on both days. The event lured longtime attendees and many newcomers with questions about accordions. A variety of food, accordions, gig bags, accessories, music books and miscellaneous attire and bric-a-brac vendors graced the perimeter of the park. There was new and used music available and plenty of used accordions waiting for new owners to take them home.

The Cotati Accordion Festival is a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization which donates all monies earned to local youth groups. To date the CAF has donated over \$546,000 to local youth organizations. The CAF is generally held on the third weekend of August. Visit the CAF website in 2023 for details at: <https://cotatifest.com/>.

Reno DiBono's Petosa Accordion Adventure

I just returned from a long drive to Petosa accordions in Seattle. I bought a Petosa AM 1200 3/5 reeds accordion built in 1963, it weighs 26 lbs.

It is really nice, has an excellent tone, excellent compression and a very fast keyboard.

Visiting Joe Petosa in his gorgeous new accordion store was a trip into the past. He has an array of accordions comparable to a shoe store display wall. They are shiningly set on surrounding walls in the Petosa accordion store.

Joe Petosa has a repair shop and several employees. I sampled 10 to 12 accordions starting with the top level Bugari DM Balkan tuned accordion (\$13,000) to a new Leggera (23 lbs) (\$12,000.) I sampled the top Petosa, AM 1100. He had two for sale at \$9000.

I like 3/5 reeds, 26 lbs, and chose the AM 1200 which was less than 9000\$

The trend among young players is to buy small and lightweight accordions 34/96 or 37/96 bass. Joe is selling them like hotcakes.

Petosa accordions opened in 1922, Seattle Wash. Now, 2022, the family business is 100 years old. Joe's son, Joey represents the 4th generation Petosa family.

It was a glorious feeling to step into the past and experience a visit to an Accordion store, they are rare and unique.

Reno



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Newsletter Reporters: Marcia Coullahan and Georgia Sutherland
Volunteers welcome

Bill Likens <https://folkaccordion.webs.com/>

Open to the public:

Elks Lodge, Santa Cruz Oct 15, 2022

Signona's Market, Redwood City. 2-4pm. Oct 22, 2022

Would you like to visit the 'Home of the Accordion' in Castelfidardo, Italy? May 16th-20th, 2023

Since 2012 **Peter Le Geyt** has arranged several visits to Italy from the UK offering accordionists the opportunity to experience Castelfidardo, the 'Home of the Accordion'. Some people have enjoyed the experience enough to attend a few times. **If you have not visited Castelfidardo before then here is the perfect opportunity.**

Please email Peter Le Geyt for more information: plg@plgmarketing.com

2023 Rose City Accordion Club's 24th Accordion Camp

Registration June 4-9, 2023, Collins Retreat Center Eagle Creek, Oregon Website: collins.gocamping.org Conductors: Gabe Hall-Rodrigues and Gail Campanella Workshop Instructors: Toby Hanson and Dee Langley Enrollment is limited! Please reserve early.



SVAS

PRESENTING
Richard Noel, In Person

Silicon Valley Accordion Society
Sunday, September 11, 2022
1:30 pm PDT

Christ Episcopal Church
1040 Border Road
Los Altos, CA 94024

For Folks who prefer ZOOM
3:00 pm PDT, Please RSVP:

Colette.Ogata@gmail.com
For a ZOOM link

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and 1x.



Richard Noel and Janice Hubbard

September's meeting was a small gathering, but very enjoyable. The first part of our meeting was more like an informal coffee hour. No one played front and center, we just gathered around Rudy Pivk, Bill Tapogna, and Bob Stanfield who shared two accordions. Rudy played a variety of his homeland repertoire which is always a pleasure to hear. Then Bob and Rudy played, 'Iupali Iupala.' After a switch of accordions Bob and Bill played "Beer Barrel Polka," "I Believe," and "Home on the Range." After relaxing to well played music, we had the drawing and a quick break.

Richard Noel has played for us for years. He is truly an accomplished musician. If he did exactly what he has done in the past, we as an audience would be pleased. Richard has proved that he is capable of learning new things. He has purchased a beautiful Digital Bugari EVO that can make the sound of almost any instrument. Unlike older models the registers are color coded which Richard says allows quick changes at a glance. Can you imagine what program skills are needed to get the most out of this instrument? It seems to require little extra equipment.

Ten months ago, Richard made another change. He is now playing with a very talented young lady, Janice Hubbard. Janice has a crystal-clear voice and is a songwriter, guitarist, and percussionist. Her latest instrument is a Cajon Tab. It is a new design. The player wears a 12x16 inch or so wooden box on a strap. It is capable of making several different drum sounds—like having your own percussion band at your fingertips!

Bonhomme Richard, and Janice Duo have a large and varied repertoire. They played "Brasil," "Cry Me a River," "Clarinet Polka," "Summertime," "Edelweiss," "Phantom," "Good Mornin America," where we sang the chorus, "Under Paris Skies," "Mambo Italian," which was written for Rosemary Clooney, "Me and My Dog," with one little bark at the end, and "Finculi Fincula." Janice sang this in French and a few other songs in French. Richard truly proved that he has mastered the accordion by playing "Czardas." He played "Czardas" at top speed, yet every note was as clear as could be. "Czardas" is now this reporter's favorite.

Marcia Coullahan

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Our Next SVASociety meeting will be Sunday, November 6, 2022, with Reno and Peter Di Bono

SILICON VALLEY ACCORDION SOCIETY

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