

Newsletter of the

# *Silicon Valley Accordion Society*

May 2024

SVAS Next Meeting: Sunday June 2, 2024  
Christ Episcopal Church  
1040 Border Road, Los Altos  
Program begins at 1:30PM  
Doors open 1:00PM

## Featuring **BONHOMIE**

Richard Noel accordionist and Janice Hubbard percussionist/singer



Bonhomie is a unique musical duo currently performing in Ventura and Kern Counties, with a weekly Sunday afternoon gig at The Greek restaurant in Ventura Harbor. Their diverse musical backgrounds offer audiences a unique treat as they creatively weave instrumental and vocal ideas throughout their songs,



whether standards, swing, rock, country, Latin, or music from around the world. They entertain audiences with an eclectic mix of genres.

Richard Noel adds a spirited inventiveness to every musical performance. He strolls among the crowd, takes requests, and demonstrates why the digital accordion is one of the world's most versatile instruments. Accordionists across the world are enjoying a rebirth of the instrument, influenced greatly by Richard's artistry and programming skills. Prior to his second career as a musician, Richard was a Professor of Psychology at Cal State University, Bakersfield, where he also served as Men's Tennis Coach during his early tenure.

Janice Hubbard--Songwriter, singer, percussionist. As a member of the award-winning musical trio Parachute Express their catalog of original material remains the musical foundation of the Gymboree program. Janice also taught music and was an artist in residence in the Ventura County Schools, where she composed 70 songs to enhance the learning of educational concepts. Classrooms became musical learning studios through the magic of Janice's songs. Now all ages continue to enjoy Janice's musical wizardry as a member of Bonhomie.

## Hello Accordion Friends -

Cinco de Mayo will never be the same at SVAS with the jamminest jam band this side of the border tearing up some tunes! Good job guys. We also had volunteers we haven't seen for quite a while... case in point, It was so good to see and hear you, Ms. Luyuan Zhao, a former student of Lou Jacklich. You sounded great and looked beautiful on your princess chair. A big thank you to Mei Lu, Bill Likens, Bob Stanfield, Dick Schiller and Reno as well for playing for us. And if that wasn't enough, we had the pleasure of hearing the one and only... Ed Massolo play for us. Thank you, Ed, for such a lovely collection of music. I heard from more than one person how you bring back such good memories of the accordion clubs from years past... back when there were 100+members in the audience every month. My hat's off to you, sir, as your choice of song and chord selections are most excellent!

Speaking of Ed Massolo, guess who will be celebrating his 100th birthday? Please come to the club next month to help us celebrate this remarkable occasion. The club will be providing sandwiches, potato salad, chips, fruit, salad and, of course, cake, so be sure to bring your appetite. A double bonus is we have a featured performer... more on that on page 1.

Thank you, Colette Ogata President

SVAS Board of Directors/Officers

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Newsletter Reporters: Marcia Coullahan and Georgia Sutherland **Volunteers welcome**

## Reminder

The following meetings will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday:

July 14, 2024

September 8, 2024

October 13, 2024

## Raffle Winners



## June Meeting is Celebration Time

At the June meeting the club will be providing sandwiches, potato salad, chips, fruit, salad and, of course, cake, so be sure to bring your appetite to celebrate our own Ed Massolo's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday.



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 weeknights 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 underway. He trained as a flight engineer and completed 25 missions in the 94<sup>th</sup> 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. Ed plays several times a week, mornings being his favorite and best times to play. Ed has made many friends in the accordion clubs and enjoys going. He continues to play for our club and we love seeing him. Whatever you are doing Ed, keep doing it!



Dick Schiller started our afternoon performance by congratulating the club for its fine newsletter. It takes several to accomplish this. Thanks to all. Dick played his beautiful Scandalli with its deep rich sound. We enjoyed "Vaya Con Dios," "Let Me Call You Sweetheart," and "It Might As Well Be Spring."

Luyuan Zhao, from Seaside, playing "Waltzing Cuckoo," made an error, repeated it, playing it perfectly, with the jitters behind her. "That's the way, Luyuan!" We were also treated to "Cielito Lindo," "Emperor Waltz," and "Over the Waves."



Bill Likens played his gorgeous Fismen. He played and sang "99 Red Balloons, an anti-war song. Bill is very smooth on register changes. Next, he played a very fast polka, "On the Strip," believe it or not, it is about a ski slope. In this tune he really gives his bellows a workout.

Mei Lu has been working very hard on timing and it really came thru when she played, "La Donne e mobile," and the "Billboard March." We enjoyed the strong beat in both.



Bob Stanfield entertained us by playing a different version of "Mexican Hat Dance." It had lots of variations coming back to the "Mexican Hat Dance" that we are familiar with. Very enjoyable. He also played "Solder's Joy," an Irish tune. Bob's final song was, "Sunrise Sunset," from "Fiddler on the Roof."

Reno DiBono played a beautiful song, "From Napoli." It is always a treat to hear a song that starts in the minor, then switches to the major. To this reporter it is a lot like a novel that starts with troubles that eventually get worked out. Next, Reno played a song by Puccini, pointing out that it is about the same as a song sung by Dean Martin. Reno demonstrated how pleasing the 1,3,4 chord progression sounds by playing the single chords.



Ed Massola had no trouble coming up with some beautiful songs for our entertainment. He played a tune very familiar to us, "El Rio Drive Polka." A friend gave this song to him. It is hand written. We also enjoyed "Penthouse Serenade," "Anima El Cuore, Mala Femmima," "Le gamin de Paris," "Luci and Ombre," "La Vi En Rose," and "Spanish Eyes." Ed's easy style of playing makes for a perfect afternoon.



## SVAS Jam Band



Cinco de Mayo, a national holiday of Mexico has been celebrated since Mexico defeated the French in 1862. S.V.A.S. Jam Band celebrated Cinco de Mayo by playing many songs with a Latin beat." "Spanish Eyes," "Mexican Hat Dance," "Cielito Lindo," "Solamente Una Vez," "La Spagnola," "El Rio Drive Polka," with Ed doing the intro., "El Rancho Grande," and "Chiapanecas" with the audience adding the hand claps. "Lady of Spain" was played and enjoyed by all as every note was a full chord. It sounded great. Those participating were Colette Ogata, Shirley Lee, Tseli Wu, Joseph Martin, Dick Schiller, Ed Massolo, Don Savant, Bill Likens, Bob Stanfield, and Marcia Farnady. It was a fun time for all and thanks to Colette who provided all the music.

Marcia Coullahan, Reporter



It is with such deep sadness that our beloved, Lou Jacklich, passed away Monday, May 6. Lou's lifetime of love and dedication to the accordion is such that he so fittingly passed on World accordion day. Lou's years with the accordion spanned from playing the accordion in Vaudeville as a little boy to using Skype and Zoom as a forum to reach out to students across the United States during Covid. Lou had 21 active and very dedicated students up until 3 weeks ago when his illness got the better of him. We will all miss you dearly, Lou. May you rest in peace and have lots and lots of accordions around you always.

Louis Norman Jacklich  
August 1928 - May 2024

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### Upcoming events

Leavenworth International Accordion  
Celebration

June 20-23, 2024

Leavenworth, Washington

<https://www.accordioncelebration.org>

Accordionist and Teachers Guild Festival  
July 23-27, 2024

Kansas City Missouri

<https://www.atgaccordions.com/2024-festival>

Cotati Accordion Festival

August 16-18, 2024

Cotati California

<https://cotatifest.com>

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PO Box 1513  
Los Altos, CA 94023

To: