

ACCORDIONAIRES

Sharps 'N' Flats
Monthly Newsletter Since 1996

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THE ACCORDIONAIRES ORCHESTRA PRESENTS **A "POPS" CONCERT**



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**OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE
TUESDAY, November 17, 7 PM**
**VICTORIO'S RISTORANTE, 10901 VICTORY BLVD.,
N. HOLLYWOOD, CA. 91606**
(818) 762-9000 or (818) 762-9951

•YOUR 2009 ACCORDIONAIRES OFFICERS•

Bill Centonze, President (661) 252-8940 Nick Pavia, Vice President (805) 499-1719
Karen Lee, Secretary (562) 597-7491 Roland Anderson, Tres (661) 255-6100
Janet Hane, Orch. Dir. (818) 889-1565 Ron Schwarz, Editor (ronkfb@yahoo.com)



ON THE CALENDAR

Upcoming events that are certain to be interesting....

NOVEMBER 17, 2009--The Accordionaires Orchestra has been working hard preparing for the **November POPS CONCERT which will take place at Victorio's on our regular meeting night, November 17. The program includes some favorites along with a number of difficult and very interesting pieces Janet and the orchestra members have been practicing for the last few months. You're going to be tappn' your toes the whole time! Be sure to be here early because you know the room fills to capacity for the orchestra's appearance.**



December 15, 2009--It's the Accordionaires Holiday Party. Make your plans to include a festive evening with your friends at the Accordionaires. The Farmers' Almanac shows Los Angeles should be snow free that day which means no traffic problems getting to Victorio's.

January 19, 2010--Compliments of the Borsini Accordion Company we will have two talented Borsini artists at our Accordionaire's meeting to show you all the abilities of Borsini accordions. See more about their appearance in this month's newsletter.

February 21-28, 2010—POLKA PARTY AT SEA with the Eddie Rodick Orchestra, Steve Meisner, the Karousels with Bob Doszk. Information, www.kollander.com

March 23, 2010--First off, notice that March 23 is the **FOURTH TUESDAY, not the third Tuesday. Yes, our meeting will shift to the **FOURTH TUESDAY, MARCH 23**, in order to compliment a special visit from Tony Lovello. Tony will provide us with one of his outstanding performances—bring the towels, you know there will be some sweating going on as Tony shakes the bellows!**

• ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **Bill Centonze** announced the Club Picnic will be postponed until next spring. There was insufficient interest for a fall picnic.

• ACCORDIONAIRES MONTHLY MEETING

October 20, 2009

Our pre-meeting music was courtesy of Smiln' Jack and Paul Tripodi. It was a great opening for the evening.



Norm Panto was our first performer, and he was more than ready with:
Scapricciatiello
More
Wave
If I Were a Rich Man
Hava Nagalia



Following Norm Paul Tripodi (right) had his accordion primed to to play these four great tunes:

Marie
Laura
Sentimental Journey
Granada



Next to the stage was Peter Robuffo who had these favorite songs in mind:
What Now My Love?
Czardes
Clarinet Polka
Misty/The Sweetest Sounds

A regular whom we are glad to have on-board, Mike Belitz (right) came up next to play:
Spanish Eyes
Pleasant Dreams Polka
Moon River
Stardust



For a nice change of pace the Sardo Brothers performed these songs:
For the Good Times
Besame Mucho
Butcher Boy
It Had to Be You
Something Stupid
Fools Fall In Love



Father Milatello (right) was ready with his shiny red accordion--he was next on the play list with:
Flight of Angels
Loretta
Dance of the Comedians



Harmonica in hand Charlie Kalamanchy was in action with these tunes (and a little help from Norm and Peter)
Around the World In 80 Days
September in Prague
Mary Ann
Sentimental Journey

As you can see from the songs played by our performers everyone was allowed extra time this evening since we were missing a number of members who were at the International Accordion Festival in Las Vegas. Norm Panto and Peter Robuffo had a special treat for us when they played this great set as a duo.

Satin Doll

Girl From Ipanema

Traveglia e Sonno

Beer Barrel Polka

Nearness of You

Domino

Under Paris

C'est si Bon

Moon River

And with Smiley and Paul

Hoop De Doo

Pennsylvania Polka

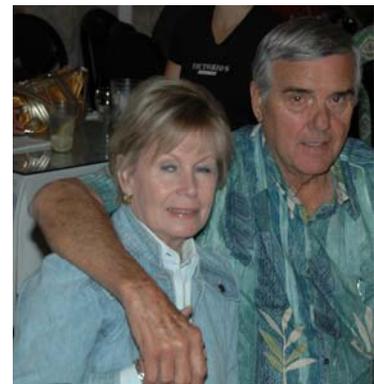
Arrivadierci Roma

Blue Tango

I Get Ideas



What a bang-up ending for the meeting! But, next month will be smashing with the Accordionaires Orchestra POP CONCERT. Don't miss it! See you on November 17.





***BORSINI* Comes to the Accordionaires** **January 19, 2010**

Our January meeting will be a great one—you have to be here! The Borsini folks are coming for a visit and will bring a wide variety of their accordions to show us how they're made and how they're played. Last January, 2009, Borsini opened a US branch in Orange County, CA bringing factory sales, service, and professional tuning to the USA. Jeffrey Iacono of Borsini USA has been trained directly by the master himself, Vincenzo Borsini, to the highest level of service and tuning. Vincenzo worked for and was trained by his uncle Egisto Pancotti who was the founder of Excelsior accordions.

Since 1922 Borsini has been building top quality accordions for three generations in Castelfidardo, Italy. Six of the family members work in the factory every day and most of the staff has been with Borsini for their working life. Borsini builds 55 different models of Piano, Chromatic, and Free Bass accordions. During their visit to the Accordionaires the Borsini folks will walk us through the accordion construction process they use. Today finding a quality accordion goes much deeper than a name since many accordions now are merely labeled rather than built. The Borsini folks will share how to identify a high quality accordion. Also we'll be treated a "test drive" of various models available for club members to try.



Jeff will be accompanied by Carlo Borsini (master tuner and musician), and Vincenzo Abbracciante. Vincenzo, born in Ostuni, Italy, in 1983 is the artistic son of a family of accordionists (grandfather, uncle and father). From an early age, he studied the accordion with his father, and won numerous national competitions. He studied, attended and participated in clinics with Franco D'Andrea, Bruno Tommaso, Gianni Lenoci, Stefano Battaglia, Mirko Signorile, Richard Galliano, Joelle Leandre, Steve Potts, Roberto Gatto and Dado Moroni. In October 2000 he won the entertainment category at the 25th International Championship in Castelfidardo, Italy. In 2003 he won the 53th Trophée Mondial.

Vincenzo is the official demonstrator for Borsini, and has performed many concerts in Italy, England, Germany, Austria, Denmark and Canada. Since 2003 he also has been a member of a group "The Bumps" (with Davide Penta on double bass and Antonio Di Lorenzo drums). The group has recorded 3 albums, the last issued by Universal music. A new album based on Italian sound tracks of films from the 60's and 70's with songs written by Morricone, Trovajoli, Piccioni, Umilinani and others is now being produced. Vincenzo is well known in Italian music having played with: Lucio Dalla, Marc Ribot, Flavio Boltro, Gaetano Partipilo, Carlo Actis Dato, Vito Di Modugno, Giuseppe Delre, Vincenzo Deluci, Roberto Ottaviano, Guido Di Leone, Paola Arnesano, Pippo Ark D'Ambrosio, Nando Di Modugno, Enzo Cavalli, Walter Grassman, Hannes Strasser, Alexander Meik.



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So get ready for the Best of Italy right here at the Accordionaires. You won't want to miss this one!

SUNNYSIDE TRIO

Cruising to Alaska



This August Pat and I took our third cruise to Alaska, this time enjoying the voyage on the Coral Princess, Princess Cruise Lines. For anyone considering an Alaskan cruise Princess was a real winner. This cruise embarked from Vancouver, Canada and stopped at the usual ports of Ketchikan, Juneau and Skagway. If you decide to take this route be sure to give yourself a couple days in Vancouver which is a charming and beautiful city. In addition Princess had two glacier

runs, College Fjord and Glacier Bay, both of which were gorgeous. Our previous cruises did not include these locations that were the highlight of this trip. Particularly the scenery leading to and within College Fjord exceeded any expectations one could have for dramatic views of Alaska.



On our previous cruises we have enjoyed the entertainment, but this time wandering on the promenade deck on day one I thought I heard an accordion. I followed the sound and



it was clear there was an accordion on board. In the beautiful center hall of the ship was a group, the Sunnyside Trio (accordion, flute and guitar), playing a wide variety of music. Each of the musicians was splendid, and as a group they gave the music an additional flair that caught the attention of the hundreds of folks checking the shipboard sights and amenities. The trio started to gather a crowd (people looking down from all four levels), and after a few songs, rewarded with hearty applause, they decided to play the Beer Barrel Polka. We accordion players have a tendency to put down this song, but you would have thought the National Anthem was being played as the entire audience began clapping and singing the verses. The trio seized the moment and played numerous choruses with their audience becoming more enthusiastic with each round.



During the cruise I made a point to talk with Kosta Strelchenko who worked very hard to communicate in English. I was impressed by his determination; he apologized for not knowing English well and I told him he was miles ahead of me since I know zero Russian. Kosta has a website, strelchenko.kiev.ua, and although it does not translate from Russian, you will see a list of MP3 cuts which will open with Windows and play. Kosta said his mother is an accordion teacher and she began his lessons when he was four years old. Being talented he continued lessons throughout school and attended higher education conservatory classes. If I understood correctly he holds the equivalent of a Masters Degree in Accordion. He played an amplified Jupiter (Russian) chromatic accordion which has excellent tone quality. Kosta is an accomplished soloist and an extremely versatile

accompanist working with the trio. The group played every type of music—standards, ethnic, jazz, and light classical. We had occasion to enjoy their presentation four times, and each one was presented with different pieces all played with enthusiasm and expertise.

We'll be taking a Princess cruise next year, and I hope to find another wonderful accordion surprise like the Sunnyside Trio.

