



# What's Shakin'



January 2012

Newsletter of the Delaware Accordion Club  
[www.DelawareAccordionClub.com](http://www.DelawareAccordionClub.com)

*Meetings held in the banquet room at*  
**896 Diner**  
**I-95 exit 1b, Route 896 north**  
**Newark DE 19713**  
Any questions, call Joe 302-388-0471

2012 schedule

**January 15**

**February 19**

**March 18**

**April 15**

**May 20**

June – Father's Day – no meeting

**July 15**

**August 19**

**September 16**

**October 21**

**November 18**

**December 16**

Listen to our sponsor WVUD 91.3 FM

DAC member Brian Lee

hosts Scratchy Grooves on Sunday 7 – 8 pm

This issue dedicated to the memory of Francois Hricak

**October 15**

Joe Oberly played his accordion in Kennett Square PA  
Pet Valu had a flea market with proceeds going to Castaway Cats

**October 16**

We had a good session today with nine players. Francois Hricak opened the meeting and gave us: Ce soir j'ai envie de t'aimer, C'est interdit, Hello Dolly and Come Back to Sorrento. Gerald Masucci followed and played: La Cumparsita, Somewhere My Love, Tango of Roses, Carnival of Venice and an Italian medley.

Richard Trasferini played: I'm in the Mood for Love, Beer Barrel Polka, Whispering, Yesterday, and Julida Polka. John Maiorano played his Excelsior and offered: The Way We Were, Memory, Ruby, What Kind of Fool Am I, Misty and My Way. John also won the 50/50 raffle.

Bob Shoemaker played his red Roland and performed: In Heaven There is No Beer, Happy Wanderer, Horn Walzer, I Love Paris, Under Paris Skies, If You Knew Susie, Volare, Poor Butterfly, Peg o' My Heart, and a medley from The Sound of Music.

Jeff Anderson played his Siwa & Figli and gave us: Domino, Mammata, Obsession, Besame Mucho and Come Back to Sorrento. Gary Woodling played his Excelsior and offered: Amapola, Talk of the Town, Marie, and an Italian medley.

Susan Shertok played: Tzena, Tzena, Never on Sunday, and sang Those Were the Days in her Edith Bunker voice. Joe Oberly ended our meeting and played Spanish Eyes, Please Release Me, and God Bless America. See you next month!

**November 6**

**Accordion Day in Westmont NJ**

Lars Johannesen and Joe Oberly attended this mini accordion festival.

Phyllis Edmatsu and Gary Woodling performed solo selections.

The day-long festival was filled with accordion performances, networking, items for sale, and overall excitement for our beloved instrument.

Approximately 200 accordion players were in the group photograph.

**November 21**

Mary Jane from the Mancus Foundation invited Richard DiBlassio and Joe Oberly to perform on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday. They arrived in time to enjoy a good meal with the guests.

Richard and Joe were surprised to see Tony Cristofich show up too.

He also sang along a few times as Richard played an Italian medley.

**HOT OFF THE PRESS !!**

Ed Tafelski, New Castle DE, Accordion Repairs and Teacher, 302-655-3529

**Please contact Ed – as he has plans to sell all his accordions.**

**News from Warminster PA**

Len Hatzenbeller says to watch the you tube video  
Flight of the Bumble-bee with Nick Ariondo

## November 20

Thirty-five folks came today to celebrate accordion music. Phil Bonsiero opened our session and played: Come Back to Sorrento, Are You Lonesome Tonight, New York New York, Those Were the Days and Stairway to Heaven. Em McKeever, a guest guitar player, joined him on Bad Moon Rising.

Howard Scott played an Iorio accorgan. It sounded like an accordion and organ. He performed: Meditation, Lady is a Tramp, Satin Doll and Santa Claus is Coming to Town.

Gerald Masucci played his Sonola and gave us: La Cumparsita, Somewhere My Love, and an Italian medley. Susan Shertok followed and teamed up with Em McKeever. They played Rocky Top, Take Me Home Country Roads, Hello Dolly, and Happy Wanderer. Susan's friend, Bill Spinn, joined our group and he played harmonica.

Frank Brad performed Begin the Beguine, Body and Soul, Tico Tico and Embraceable You. His arrangements are delightful and he is a crowd-pleaser. Cody McSherry played his Titano and gave us: Jingle Bells, Hark the Herald Angels Sing, Come All Ye Faithful, Joy to the World, and Silent Night. He switched to his button accordion and marched around the room. What a fine performer!

Bob Shoemaker played a French medley in memory of Francois Hricak, who will be greatly missed. He played La Vie En Rose and Under Paris Skies. He also gave us O Sole Mio, Tarantella, Dream, and a Duke Ellington medley featuring Take the A train and Satin Doll.

Phyllis Edamatsu played her Titano and gave us: Harlem Noctourne and the William Tell Overture. Congratulations to Phil Bonsiero who won the 50/50 raffle. See you next month!

## December 16

Several DAC members went to Adria Cafe (Patrick's place) on Main Street

Phil Bonsiero played for 2 hours; John Maiorano and Joe Oberly were there.

Sue Shertok played a Chanukah song and sang Those were the days in her Edith Bunker voice

Lars Johannsen played Norwegian songs on Joe's accordion

Patrick was happy to see the old gang

## December 18

The monthly meeting of the Delaware Accordion Club at the 896 Diner, Newark was represented by twenty-two people in attendance.

The 896 Diner is under the new ownership of Mario Castelli. Mario, previously of New York now living in Middletown, has a degree in culinary art. He has worked at other restaurants in the area. He took over this restaurant on Oct. 3, 2011. He is in the process of renovating the building. He has applied for a liquor license which he hopes to acquire in a few months. His plans are to change the menu, make everything from scratch and become family oriented. He is happy to have our group at the diner. When you see him, shake his hand and wish him good luck in his new venture.

Five players entertained the group. Of course Christmas carols were on everyone's mind for this time of the year. The first player Bob Shoemaker played a large selection of Christmas melodies including the Hawaiian Merry Christmas "Mele Kalimaka" ending with I'll Be Home for Christmas.

Phil Bonsiero played his beautiful Petosa accordion adding a selection of Christmas carols different from what Bob played and ended with beautiful arrangements.

Joe Ragan played his Christmas selections including the bellow shake to some of his songs. Among his selections were Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer and ending with a song called Motor City.

Jeff Anderson played a wonderful selection of Norwegian songs Brudefaerden I Hardanger and Star Vals, ending with Little Susie Snowflake, Mr. Sandman and the famous Santa Baby song.

Brian Lee of WVUD radio announced that he will be doing his Christmas show December 24 from 7:00 pm to 1:30 am and December 31 at the same time. On New Year's Eve he will play Guy Lombardo at midnight; he will also play some rock n' roll and some blue grass.

Our last player was our club President Joe Oberly who so graciously brought Christmas cupcakes for the group, we thank you Joe. Joe played a good selection of Christmas carols including Alvin's Chipmunk Song, Blue Christmas and Auld Lang Syne. We had some time left so back by popular demand was Bob Shoemaker, closing out our afternoon with some beautiful Italian selections.

A group of 3 women in the restaurant having a meal just couldn't help themselves by bouncing in their seats to the time of the carols while our players entertained. One of them said her small grandson plays the accordion. We invited them back again to join us and gave each one a club pen.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, may the New Year be a good one for all.

Minutes taken by Thelma Maiorano as Susan and her Klezmer band had a wedding to play for (which Susan says went well).

Joe Oberly reported that after John and Thelma "left the building" - Joe Ragan played Dominic the Italian Donkey and some other polkas.

### December 22

Bob Shoemaker and Susan Shertok entertained the residents at Churchman's Village. Susan opened the program with some Chanukah songs. Bob followed with Christmas carols then we had a sing-along. This event took place in the atrium where a lovely tree was decorated in the center. Everyone enjoyed punch and cookies afterwards.

#### Here's a request from Jack Chrustowski for 2 songs

Dominick the Donkey

and

You're Breaking My Heart

Ria Lavallo replied that the 2<sup>nd</sup> song may also be listed as Matinata

John Maiorano suggested the following websites

[www.MusicNotes.com](http://www.MusicNotes.com)

[ConcertinaMusic.com](http://ConcertinaMusic.com)

Million dollar sheet music collection, click on T. David Franklin

Accordion Joe Oberly, President of the Delaware Accordion Club  
Founder of the Catherine Brady Oberly traveling accordion museum.  
Will "play show and tell" at schools, churches, retirement homes, etc.  
Have you found an old instrument you want to sell or give away that could be added to the  
traveling museum (any condition) then call 302-388-0471  
As part of this lifelong passion, Joe will bring an antique accordion,  
one per month to each DAC meeting.

### Member Bio – Jeff Anderson

Biography of a late blooming accordionist

I grew up in Chicago, and like many of you, I grew up with the Lawrence Welk show. Even though I was a “Child of the 60’s” I never got tired of watching Myron Floren play his solos, and I must admit that I thought that the show was less than perfect if he did not get a chance to place at least one piece by himself.

Through all of this though, I never did play the accordion, I had piano lessons for a few years when I was very young, and in junior high and high school played trumpet. In all this time, I had accordion in the back of my mind. Approaching it, I started with harmonica in college, which is after all a metal reed based instrument. In college, I also acquired a diatonic concertina, but found that it was really just a big harmonica – at least the way I was playing it. After moving to Delaware for my first (and only, and current) full time job, I decided that I did not want to get to retirement wishing that I could play a musical instrument. In search of the perfect instrument, I started playing guitar, and even played in a bluegrass band. I soon realized that there were a lot of good (and much better than me) guitar players out there. It was about this time my parents stepped in. My mother had seen a newspaper advertisement for an accordion: \$50 with a load of music books. So for a birthday, they gave me a accordion (a Scandalli - 17 in keyboard / 128 base).

I had taught myself basic guitar from books (and a little help from my friends), and thought to do so with the accordion. Among the many books I received with the accordion was *Zordan’s Beginning Accordion Method*. With this, I started to attack the accordion. I thought that I was doing pretty good until one day my wife said, “Take lessons or I take an ice pick to it.” Having learned that she at times lived up to her threats, I (now age 38) looked for an accordion teacher. In my search for a teacher I came across a card at Concord Music (in North Wilmington) advertising Daniel Desiderio, accordionist. I called up Dan and he said he could take me on. Not knowing anything about him, I asked him to say something about himself (fellow accordionists now get a kick of this). Dan was able to convince me he was qualified to teach me, and thus started a 12-year stint of lessons with “The Maestro.” I soon learned what a great musician, great teacher, and great person that Dan Desiderio is. That was twenty years ago now – I really think I did not start to play the accordion until I started taking lessons from Dan. Now I play in the Accordion Pops Orchestra (we meet in East Brunswick, NJ), play for my own enjoyment, and appreciate the chance to play from time to time at the Delaware Accordion Club. My current instruments are a 128 base Sano (Sanovox prototype), a 48 base Carlo Robelli, and a 128 base Siwa and Figli Super Quattro M. And...I like ALL kinds of music!

#### DAC dues are due.

Mail checks for \$5 (made payable) to Susan Shertok  
22 East Green Valley Circle, Newark, DE 19711

**Show over – Latch the bellows**

DAC Directory

Acme Accordion School, 322 Haddon Avenue Westmont, NJ 08108, phone 856-854-6628

Frank Brad, performer, call 609-408-3906 or 302-529-9333

Joe, U.S. Sales Representative of accordions made in Castelfidardo, Italy, 215-514-3787

Cintioli's Music Center, 5359 Oxford Avenue, Philadelphia PA 19124, 215-533-2050

Concord Music Company, Inc., 2805 Concord Pike, Wilmington DE 19803, 302-658-6875  
Palmer-Hughes books are available; if the issue that you need is not in stock, it can be ordered.

Richard V. DiBlassio, DMA, Accordion - Piano - Vocals, call 215-357-1632

Modern Accordion School II, John Lolli, 226 Cedar Avenue, Richland NJ 08350, 856-691-9273

Pat Racioppa sells straps; he will bring them to our meetings, call 717-939-3096

Scotty, accordion lessons, 1090 Notley Court, Pasadena MD 21122-1819, 410-255-7889

Well-Tempered Music, David Cottrell, 293 Lewisville Road, Elkton MD 21921, 410-392-2279

Member Gary Woodling has a blog - check it out- [www.garywoodling.com](http://www.garywoodling.com)

Upcoming Accordion Events

March - American Accordion Musicological Society, King of Prussia

March - Mid-Atlantic Music Teachers Guild, East Brunswick NJ

May - National Button Accordion Festival, Bessemer PA

June 17 - AccordiCats concert - details TBA

Editor

**Delaware Accordion Club**

**10 Walnut Avenue**

**Wilmington DE 19805-1144**