

What's Shakin'

July 2010

Newsletter of the Delaware Accordion Club
www.DelawareAccordionClub.com

Meetings held in the banquet room at

896 Diner

I-95 exit 1b, Route 896 north

Newark DE 19713

302-733-0442

Open MIC Sessions 2-5pm

August 15

September 19

October 17

November 21

December 19

Listen to our sponsor WVUD 91.3 FM

DAC member Brian Lee hosts Scratchy Grooves on Sunday 7 – 8 pm

Polka Radio

www.247Polkaheaven.com

Some good music on this web site

www.houstonac.org

Click on music downloads

Then choose an accordion player

Accordion Events

July 25 to August 8 - International Accordion Contest, Pescasseroli Abruzzo National Park

August 6 to 7 - Annual Music Festival, Manchester NH - 2010 event featuring Tony Lovello

September – Polka Motion by the Ocean, Rehobeth DE

September – Las Vegas Accordion Convention

October – International Accordion Festival, San Antonio

DAC inquires or in the event of wintry weather to reconfirm club meeting

call Joe Oberly 302-388-0471

or Sue Shertok 302-369-4018

Open Mic - MARCH 21

Thirty-five accordion fans came to celebrate wonderful music at the Bourbon Street Grill today. We all enjoyed hearing the guest band Alligator Zydeco perform to honor Mardi Gras. Some couples danced and kicked up their heels. The lead singer played a small accordion and then switched to an all-button accordion. Laissez les bon temps roulez (Let the good times roll)!

Pat Racioppa played Jambalaya, Twilight Time, Strangers in the Night, and Flight of the Angels. Bob Shoemaker was next with his red Roland and played The Red Rose Cafe and the Marino Waltz as recorded by Andre Rieu. Bob also performed the Tarentella and Mambo Italiano.

John Papili played the River Seine, El Relicario, El Choclo, and Femina. Phyllis Edamatsu played Monti's Czardas and the William Tell Overture. Gary Robinson ended with All Shook Up (Elvis has left the building). Susan Shertok won the 50/50. Lucky me! Y'all come back next month!

SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 2010

Thirty people gathered to enjoy wonderful accordion music. Jack Chrustowski opened our meeting and he performed Bella Notte, Irish Washerwoman, Arrivederci Roma, and Swanee on his Roland. Bill Kuklewicz played Kiss the Quaker's Wife, The Rabbi in Palestine, Melancholy Baby, and Sweet Gypsy Rose. Bill played lively songs with gusto; he is a good entertainer.

Tom Groeber played On the Turnpike, Marie, River Seine, Pennies from Heaven, South of the Border, Blue Moon, and The Clarinet Polka. Pat Racioppa played his Tonaveri: It Had To Be You, Where or When, My Love Forgive Me, and Spanish Eyes. Dale Wise, a visitor from Virginia, played his Sonola and had smooth arrangements of La Vie En Rose, Smoke Gets in Your Eyes, and La Cumparsita. Jeanne and Charlie Mariani danced to the music.

Gary Woodling, a new player, gave us Talk of the Town, Marie, Up a Lazy River, High Five Polka, Come Back to Sorrento, and Speranze Perdute. Joe Bucci played a small diatonic accordion in the key of D and gave us Cherry Pink and Apple Blossom White, also an Italian medley.

Susan Shertok (a.k.a. Edith Bunker) sang her signature song. She played Havah Nagilah medley, More, Sunrise/Sunset, and When You're Smiling.

Bob Shoemaker played his red Roland and offered Don't Take Your Love From Me, Red Rose Cafe, Come Fly With Me, Twilight Time, Poor Butterfly, and a tango. Tom Groeber performed a hand slap dance to one song. What fun!

Joe Oberly closed our session with the Barbara Polka, Sentimental Journey, Your Cheatin' Heart, Jambalaya and Release Me. Dale Wise won the 50/50 raffle. Y'all come back next month!

MAY 16

Today we returned to our former place now known as the 896 Diner. We were given a warm welcome by the management and attentive staff. The menu offers choices to please everyone and is priced well. Twenty-five music lovers came to celebrate and old friends returned.

John Maiorano opened the session with his Excelsior: Who Can I Turn To and The Saber Dance. Jeanne & Charlie Mariani sang some duets: Daisy and the Red Rose Cafe. Phil Bonsiero followed and he played Zippity Doo Dah, Edelweiss, Dark Eyes, Those Were the Days, Stairway to Heaven and Lady of Spain.

Joe Ragan played Mrs. Robinson, La Bamba, Tequila, and offered an armed forces medley including Anchors Aweigh, Coast Guard Song, The Caissons Go Rolling Along, and the Air Force song. Gary Woodling played Autumn Leaves, Birth of the Blues, Marie, Santa Lucia, I Was Wrong, and It Had To Be You.

Susan Shertok played the Happy Wanderer, More, Midnight in Moscow, Rocky Top, Sway, Bing Bang Polka, and Tzena Tzena. She sang Those Were The Days in her famous, or infamous, style. Joe Oberly ended our day with such country songs as: I Walk The Line, Your Cheatin' Heart, I Go To Pieces, Please Release Me, and God Bless America.

Brian Lee from WVUD radio made an announcement that his radio station will be expanding their broadcasting range. Congratulations to Dave Williston who won the 50/50 raffle. Hope to see everyone at the 896 Diner in July.

Member Bio - - John Lolli - -

I began taking accordion lessons at the Modern Accordion School in Vineland NJ at the age of six. The school was owned by Sam Trasferini. I studied there for twelve years. The first nine were under the tutelage of Lou Negri and the last three with Sam Trasferini. Lou directed my focus on chord structures, embellishments, improvisation and sight reading. The years with Sam fine tuned these aspects of playing. Please keep in mind, I was also required to learn and play all of the typical accordion classical music, scales and exercises.

I had my first band at the age of twelve and from that time forward played steadily with various groups/combos in the South Jersey area for the next thirty plus years. Today, they would be labeled "cover bands." When the accordion/organ became popular, I used both the Cordovox and the Hohner Electravox. I hauled around a Leslie 145 for many years.

I stopped playing in the early nineties due to work commitments and personal reasons. I even sold my accordion and ALL my music. Five years ago my cousin Rich Trasferini called me and asked if I was still playing. I told him I wasn't and had no intention of ever playing again. Well, I guess I spoke too soon because a couple months after his call, I got the bug to play again and went out and purchased a mint condition Cordovox, including the Cordovox Leslie, and started practicing. It took a while, however I got myself back into shape once again. Thank God for eBay as I also began buying back the music I had sold. Two or three years ago I also purchased a new Roland FR-7 Digital Accordion which I currently use. A little later I purchased a Ketron SD3 Arranger Module which provides full orchestration and background. As I was approaching retirement age, I decided that playing the accordion is what I wanted to do for the rest of my life so I opened an accordion school and started playing gigs again. I named the school "Modern Accordion School II" as a tribute to Sam Trasferini's original school where I studied for all those years. I love playing and hope to continue doing it for a very long time.

One day I was "surfing the net" looking for Accordion Clubs in the USA and I happened to come across the Delaware Accordion Club. I attended the next meeting. I felt very welcomed at that first meeting and joined the club at the next meeting. I have met many wonderful people through the club and am very thankful that I joined.

On location with John Maiorano at San Gennaro Italian Festival

I recently had the privilege of attending the San Gennaro Italian Festival in Las Vegas, Nevada. Our daughter and her family live there and we try to visit when we can. The event was held in the very large parking lot at the Silverton Casino not far from the strip. First let me tell you about the food, mamma mia, they had it all, I mean it, and so many food stands. The quality was good and the prices were reasonable, I think I might have eaten too much. Now the entertainment, they had one stage area, and group after group appeared, mostly Italian musicians and singers. At 8:00pm the main show started, the first act and the MC Tony Sacca is a local favorite at the casinos with his band. After 45 minutes he brought on stage 3 beautiful young ladies called the Las Vegas Swingers. They did an Andrews Sister type act; they were high energy and very enjoyable.

During the break an impressionist entertained us; he did Dean Martin, not only did he sound like Dean but he looked like him too. He did many other famous singers. Next was Lena Prima (daughter of Louie). There were stars from the Jersey Boys show and many other acts. On other nights they have other celebrities. It's nice to have the casino acts so close to give first rate entertainment to the local people and visitors.

What does all this have to do with the accordion club? What I haven't mentioned yet is that in between the above acts was our favorite accordion player DICK CONTINO with the band behind him. Dick still has it and looks great. He did some of the songs that made him famous including The Beer Barrel Polka and Lady of Spain. When he does the bellow shake you better get out of the way. I had the chance to talk to Dick and his lovely wife Tanya. He well remembers the time that our club entertained him. He asked me to thank everyone again for that wonderful evening. I told him that if he comes to the east coast to contact me and that we would have our club support him at the show.

When I was leaving the grounds at about 11:00pm people were still flowing in. This event is very popular out there; this was the 31st year that the festival was held.

Info on New Club

Ron Tyson is starting a new accordion group in the Kansas City area.

This group plans to meet one Sunday afternoon every month. It is open to all accordionists.

Details on this web site: www.NationalAccordion.org

For Sale or Wanted

Looking for a particular piece of music or instrument repair?

Found an old instrument you want to sell or give away?

Contact the editor at 302-993-0374 or mail to 10 Walnut Avenue, Wilmington DE 19805-1144

Matt Hedson is looking for the sheet music to 2 songs:

Summertime in Venice and Pretend You Don't See Her My Love

Joe Bucci is looking for sheet music to many MANY songs, please contact Joe at 215-514-3787... Shenandoah, Through the Eyes of Love (theme song from Ice Castles); Round and Round (possibly a Perry Como tune), The Green Berets, Roll Out the Barrel, Champagne Polka (possibly Myron Floren), Your Precious L (Jerry Butler), The Devil Down in Georgia (Charlie Daniels), any Tom Jones songs such as It's Not Unusual, County Fair (Bruce Springsteen), Diggy Diggy Li, Diggy Diggy Lo (possibly Perry Como), Bed of Roses, Zippity Do Da Zippity Day, One (by U2), In the Mood, Since You're Gone, Tango of the Roses, Jealousy, Tango of Jealousy, Mamma Mia, Che Vo Sapè, Te Vurria Vassar, Marinerello (I have but one heart), Mambo #5, Make the World Go Away, Those Were the Days My Friend, Espana Cani, and The River Seine.

For sale: Light Merlot, Key of C, 4 Bass Buttons C, F, & G, 14 Treble Buttons, New. Diatonic Accordion, Handcrafted in Castelfidardo, Italy with mini-cassotto (mini-chamber, produces a rare, beautiful, mellow sound; pull-up Mussette shift (very rare); gorgeous, nothing as nice found in the USA - - \$3,500 U.S. Dollars – call 215-514-3787 - And “If you find a better accordion, Joe says, buy it!”

JUNE 20 by Sue Shertok

Today we enjoyed a special concert at Gallucio's Restaurant & Pub in Wilmington. Approximately 25 people celebrated Father's Day with a delicious lunch of lasagna, meatballs, roast beef, rolls, and specially-designed accordion t-shirt cakes by Tony Cristofich's daughter Tina.

Gary Woodling opened the show with such standards as Talk of the Town, Marie, Besame Mucho, Just Because and It Had To Be You. His smooth arrangements are delightful to hear.

Bill Kuklewicz played next on a 24 bass accordion, and later switched to electric. He played Flight of the Angels, Tico Tico, Dark Eyes, Mexican Polka, Spanish Eyes and Volare, to name a few. He excels in performing ethnic music - Italian, Irish, Jewish, and is a charming raconteur.

Everyone had a wonderful time and these two performers are truly an asset to the Delaware Accordion Club.

July 9 to 11 - Gary Woodling at Slovenefest

Located on the grounds of the SNPJ Recreation Center in Enon Valley, PA, the festival hosted three outdoor areas for music and two indoor facilities. Accordions were not in short supply! The main tent and two indoor areas had bands performing from noon until midnight, the jam tent had people coming and going all throughout the weekend with their own piano, chromatic, or diatonic accordions with each other. Young and old came together in the all-day jam tent to play Slovenian favorites. With five areas for music, you were bound to find yourself wanting to be everywhere at once!

The big draw to Slovenefest are the polka bands that specialize in the Slovenian-rooted polka music, also known as "Cleveland-style" polka music. This type of polka music is generally centered on an accordion (or button box), drums, bass, and banjo. Most bands today also have a sax. Many of the popular polka songs played by these bands are actual traditional Slovenian songs adapted to a polka rhythm. Popular Slovenian-style polka bands of the past include Frankie Yankovic, Johnny Pecon, and Lou Trebar. At Slovenefest, we saw the tremendous fans dance, sing, and cheer along the bandstand with groups such as Don Wojtila, Bob Turcola, and Eddie Rodick.

It was a wonderful weekend of fun, making memories, and amazing music, so contagious you can't help to smile, tap your foot, and feel great!

July 9 to 11 - Tony Cristofich from Austin TX at Slovenefest

If you like to polka or listen to good polka bands with piano or button box accordionists, Slovenefest is the festival to go to. This three day festival in Enon Valley, Pennsylvania, a small town in the country in western Pennsylvania is a wonderful venue. There are two outdoor stages, both with a dance floor plus a large dance floor indoor and a small area at the bar. If you like to dance to polkas and waltzes, this is the place to be. There is also a jam tent where anyone can play their instrument. There were numerous bands playing from Pennsylvania and Ohio. We saw great performances by the Eddie Rodick Orchestra, Don Wojtila Orchestra, Bob Kravos Band, Dick Tady Orchestra, The Polka Quads, Frank Stanger Orchestra, Fred Ziwich and the ISM, Magic Buttons, Frank Moravcik Band, Mikey Dee Band, Bob Turcola Orchestra and Jack Tady and the JTB. There are so many groups and not enough time to see them all, so you need to pick and choose what you want to see. There was also one group from Slovenia that played Oberkrainer music from Slavko Avsenik, Ansambel Osminka and another from Canada, Ansambel Dvojcki.

There was a nice Polka Mass in the Alpine Room on Sunday morning. There was a lot of good food and cold beer. I especially liked the kielbasa with sauerkraut, roasted lamb sandwich, and potica (a Slovenian nut roll). I highly recommend attending this next year as it will be the 30th celebration. Zivio!

Show over – Latch the bellows

ACME ACCORDION SCHOOL, 322 Haddon Avenue Westmont, NJ 08108 – phone 856-854-6628

Accordion Gallery, Landing NJ, 973-770-6877
Matt Hedson says this is a good place for repairs.

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

CINTIOLI'S MUSIC CENTER, 5359 Oxford Avenue, Philadelphia PA 19124
215-533-2050 or 215-533-2053, www.cintiolimusic.com

Concord Music Company, Inc., 2805 Concord Pike, Wilmington DE 19803, 302-658-6875

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

Ed TAFELSKI from New Castle DE, 302-655-3529, Accordion Repairs, Teacher & Entertainer

WELL-TEMPERED MUSIC, David Cottrell, 293 Lewisville Road, Elkton MD 21921, 410-392-2279

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