



What's Shakin'



July 2011

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

Any questions, call Joe 302-388-0471

2011 - Open MIC Sessions 2-5pm

August 21 – Joe's Mobile Accordion Museum

September 18 – Show n'Tell n'Play

October 16

November 20

December 18

Listen to our sponsor WVUD 91.3 FM

DAC member Brian Lee

hosts Scratchy Grooves on Sunday 7 – 8 pm

98.1 WOGL Breakfast Club with Bill Zimpfer

approx 7:30am on Thursday morning

**You may think you know music, but do you know your polka?
Could you figure out what is coming out of Bill Z's accordion?**

Polka Radio - www.247Polkaheaven.com

This issue dedicated to the memory of
Charlie Mariani

Open Mic - MARCH 20

The Delaware Accordion Club set an outstanding record today with over 50 people in attendance and 20 players. Joe Bucci opened our session and played Marie, Marina, and I Have But One Heart. Phil Bonsiero followed with It's A Sin To Tell A Lie, Be My Baby, The Gypsy, and Danny Boy/Loch Lomond. John Maiorano was next with an Anthony Newley medley: Who Can I Turn To and What Kind of Fool Am I? Jeanne and Charlie Mariani gave us a singalong: I Don't Know Why, I'm In the Mood for Love and The Band Played On.

Gerald Masucci played Somewhere My Love, Carnival of Venice and El Choclo. We all enjoyed a quartet which featured 2 accordions (Lester Rittle and Carole Wolek) and 2 banjos (Len Wolek and Herb Crow). They played the Tic Toc Polka, Just Because and I'll Take You Home Again, Kathleen. Joe Fertitta and Scott Howard from the Maryland Accordion Club teamed up and gave us the Blue Skirt Waltz, A Gay Ranchero, Shangra-la and Continental Capers. Gary Woodling followed with Goody Goody, Pennies from Heaven, Talk of the Town, Good Time Polka and Arrivederci Roma. Bob Shoemaker played his red Roland and treated us to Indifference, Stompin' at the Savoy, and Irish tunes: MacNamara's Band and the Irish Washerwoman. His rendition of Poor Butterfly featured full, rich chords. Richard DiBlassio played Almost Like Being in Love, For Me and My Gal, and The Nearness of You. He also sang the club's theme song to Just Because; his finale, You Send Me, was well done.

Ruthann Christophersen and Marie LaValle played a duet - Musitino - on their Titano accordions. Susan Shertok played More, Jamaica Farewell/Yellow Bird and sang Those Were the Days in her Edith Bunker voice. Joe Oberly closed the meeting with the Too Fat Polka and God Bless America. Congratulations to Sam Scaffo for winning the 50/50 raffle. Latch the bellows and see ya next month.

DAC Members on the Air with Brian Lee Hart - March 27

On Sunday night, I had the pleasure of featuring DAC Members Len & Carol Wolek from Frankford DE on my Radio Show at WVUD 91.3 FM.

We did this interview by telephone and I had their CD in the studio. I featured three songs and we talked about their music in between the numbers.

Phone interviews are listener pleasers and work out real well. A couple years ago I had Dick Contino as a guest. In the summer I plan to feature DAC member Richard DiBlassio.

Len Hatzenbeller, Warminster PA, submitted this news from the *Inquirer*

Jacob Neupauer, 93, a musician and educator from NE Philadelphia died on April 14.

Neupauer was a pioneer in the development of the accordion and a master teacher.

The article mentioned many accomplishments including certification from the Pietro Deiro Accordion School (a place which Len remembers attending in the early 60s as well).

Open Mic - Sunday, April 17

Today our attendance was low - but our enthusiasm was high. Twenty accordion fans showed up, and our 4 players had ample time to entertain us.

Joe Alexander opened our session and played Bob Shoemaker's Roland accordion. He offered I Left My Heart in San Francisco, Let Me Call You Sweetheart, Chapel in the Moonlight, When You're Smiling and My Wild Irish Rose.

Gary Robinson followed and also took a turn on the Roland. He played Talk of the Town, All Shook up, El Relicario, Ain't She Sweet, Anniversary Waltz, Freilach, If I Were a Rich Man, Bing Bang Polka, Le Petit Waltz and Hey Good Lookin'.

Brian Lee announced that his radio station, WVUD, is getting more power (7000 watts) by June. Congratulations to Maria LaValle who won the 50/50 raffle.

Bob Shoemaker gave us Bella Via (which is the song Dick Contino often uses to start his show). He also performed an Eddie Dossin medley which included Chopin's Nocturne in E flat, Manhattan, Sunny Side of the Street and You're My Everything. Bob played Under Paris Skies, Retour des Hirondolles, Gay Ranchero, I'll Never Smile Again and many more. The Marianis did a beautiful slow dance. He also did a cha-cha-cha Tea for Two and Patricia. Bob finished with the Red Rose Cafe with the help of the entire audience singing it. Bob is really a crowd pleaser.

Joe Oberly kept things alive with his version of Your Cheating Heart, Achy Breaky Heart, Never on Sunday, Take Me Out to the Ball Game, Spanish Eyes, Barbara Polka and a few others. See you next month.

Submitted by Susan Shertok & the Maioranos

Open Mic - Sunday, May 15

Today we had a small but mighty group of 35 accordion fans at our meeting. Nine players entertained us. Susan Shertok opened our session and played: Take Me Home Country Roads, Jamaica Farewell/Yellow Bird, Midnight in Moscow, and Hey Good Lookin'. Phil Bonsiero joined in and they played More, Happy Wanderer, Hello Dolly and Miami Beach Rhumba. Phil continued as a soloist and played Misty, Charade, and You Are My Sunshine.

Ed Tafelski followed with Cherry Pink and Apple Blossom White, Blue Tango, Jolly Cabellero and Pennsylvania Polka. In spite of having a bandaged finger, Ed played superbly.

Cody McSherry, a new young player from PA visited us today and played Tic Toc Polka, La Sorella, Bandltanz and Es War im Bohmerwald. It is wonderful to see youngsters learning to play the accordion and this young man has a promising musical future. We hope to see him again in the upcoming months.

John Maiorano played his Excelsior and gave us Girl from Ipanema, Spanish Eyes, More and Begin the Beguine. Bob Shoemaker played For Once in My Life, Besame Mucho, Red Rose Cafe, Tie A Yellow Ribbon, and a Sinatra medley: Come Fly With Me, Chicago and My Kind of Town. He played a catchy Slovenian polka called Prijateljem Harmonike. The Maioranos danced to Sway.

Gary Robinson played Tzena, Tzena, Freilach, Talk of the Town, All Shook Up, and If I Were a Rich Man. Phyllis Edamatsu played her Titano and offered: Menuet, South of the Border, Somewhere Over the Rainbow and Harlem Nocturne. Joe Oberly played Your Cheatin' Heart, Barbara Polka, Beer Barrel Polka and God Bless America.

Congratulations to Nancy Frampton who won the 50/50 raffle. Happy Father's Day to all in June. The spirit of Charlie Mariani was in the room listening with us. He will always be loved and missed.

News from Richard DiBlassio, Holland PA

I have recently hooked up with an agent who has been impressed with my playing and stage presence. I have been teaching at retirement communities; sessions include The Great American Song Book; A Brief History of Jazz; The Life of Stephen Collins Foster; and more. I am teaching a music course this summer at the Bucks County Community College on the Foundations of Music Theory. I have also recently been elected board member to the Arts and Cultural Council of Bucks County. Finally, just did a performance at St. Mary's in Northeast Philadelphia as part of their July 4 celebration.

June 18 - Accordion Report by Gary Woodling

Reprinted with permission. Visit Gary's website for more accordion news.

The AccordiCats hosted "The Liberace of the Accordion" Tony Lovello. I was very fortunate to begin the afternoon by providing music as attendees filed into the choir room. I was also fortunate to have my Dad in the audience for this "day before Father's Day" concert! The crowd marveled as Tony took the spotlight and showed his exceptional musicianship, technique, and sense of humor! With perfection, he performed such classics as In The Still of the Night, Bewitched, Bothered, and Bewildered, and Through the Eyes of Love. During intermission the audience had the opportunity to meet Tony, purchase CDs and T-shirts, and get an autograph or picture taken. Intermission music was provided by Carmen Vitanza, a great jazz accordionist. For the second part of the show Tony filtered some accordion technique lessons into his entertaining, which was appealing to both accordionists and non-players in the audience. Tony Lovello left the audience amazed with an unforgettable experience!

Accordion Bio - Brian Lee Hart

Brian became a DAC member because of Joe Oberly's friendship. He met Joe at a car show over 10 years ago and they became close friends. Joe invited Brian to a meeting several years ago; he loved it and has been attending Open Mic ever since.

DAC member and commercial radio host started at WAMS in 1957, he currently lives in Newark. Brian, age 71, retired from public service, was active with our police, veterans groups, Elks, and was a Past Master of Jackson Masonic Lodge. Brian is also an avid U S coin collector. Over the years, he has been on the air at WJBR, WCTR, and several other stations. He joined WVUD in 1983 as a Sunday evening host of Scratchy Grooves / In a Mist. This is music from the 20s to about 1965 [the era of the 78 RPM] featuring the big bands, pop, soundtracks, jazz/folk, hit parade and interviews with the music makers "the stars who performed this music." Brian has amassed a music library of over 30 thousand CDs, specializing in the music of this bygone era. A couple of years ago Brian had Dick Contino as a guest and did an hour show and the listeners loved it. Brian has also featured DAC member Richard DiBlassio twice, with plans to have him back sometime in the late summer.

WVUD 91.3 FM is a commercial free radio station located on the campus of the University of Delaware, broadcasting in HD stereo now at 6800 watts of power. Give it a listen 7-11pm Sundays

Kudos

To Gary Woodling, a Champion OH native

He was highlighted in the *Tribune Chronicle* with an accordion he found on eBay
This accordion had previously been repaired by Gary's grandfather at his Warren Music Center.

Additional kudos for publication in *The Polka Times!*

Special thanks for designing the front page of this newsletter!

News from Joe Oberly, Club President

In April, Richard DiBlassio and I performed at the Mancus Foundation, 30th & Market Streets. In May, I performed in front of my largest audience yet of 150 at the Howard Weston Senior Center near Wilmington Manor. I played a little bit of country and a little bit of rock n' roll. My daughter Tangie has this performance recorded on a DVD. DAC members can contact me to borrow this copy. Next month in August, I plan to bring several accordions from the Catherine Brady Accordion Museum to put on display at the 896 Diner. Then in September, let's have a Show n'Tell n'Play. If you have any unique instrument like the hurdy-gurdy or psaltery, please feel free to attend this special Open Mic event. Finally, I spoke to Sue and Junior Howell from Sha Craft. They are able to silk-screen t-shirts and do custom embroidery; they have the DAC logo. They can be reached at 302-995-6385.

For Sale or Wanted

Looking for a particular piece of music or instrument repair? Do you have an instrument to sell or give away?
Contact the editor at 302-993-0374 or by mail to 10 Walnut Avenue, Wilmington DE 19805-1144

Accordion Joe Oberly, President of the Delaware Accordion Club
Founder of the Catherine Brady Oberly travelling 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 travelling museum (any condition) then call 302-388-0471 or email AccordionJoe@hotmail.com

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

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

Richard V. DiBlassio, DMA, Accordion - Piano - Vocals
Music for any occasion, including children and adult parties, banquets, holiday gatherings, dinners & more, call 215-357-1632 or email soandso2@verizon.net

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

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

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

Gary Woodling - accordion blog, www.garywoodling.com

Show over – Latch the bellows

Upcoming Accordion Events

**July 27 to 28 - The Great American Squeeze Off accordion festival
Concorde Inn, Clinton Township (Detroit area)**

2-day mini-convention stars Dick Contino, Corky Bennett and Cory Pesaturo. Also featured are Detroit artists Walt Lipiec, John Shollack, Chet Wisnoski and "Made in Italy," a fabulous Italian trio!

August 12 to 13 – Accordions Now! The 4th Annual Music Festival, Nashua NH

September 15 to 18 – Polka Motion by the Ocean, Rehobeth DE

September 18 - Accordion Revolution, Colonial Williamsburg, VA
Including a hands on workshop and accordion champions concert
Any questions, call Jim Rice 757-253-9124 or email at jimricevt@gmail.com

October 7 to 9 – International Accordion Festival, San Antonio

October 31 to November 3 - Las Vegas Accordion Convention

Editor
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Carmen Vitanza says, “Hug a musician, they never get to dance.”