



What's Shakin'



December 2012

Newsletter of the Delaware Accordion Club
www.DelawareAccordionClub.com

Meetings held in the dining room at
River Club Apartments
7807 Governor Printz Boulevard
Claymont DE 19703
From I-495, take exit for US 13 toward Claymont
Any questions, call Joe 302-388-0471

2013 schedule

January 20

February 17

Let us know if River Club should be our new meeting space for the rest of the year

March 17

April 21

May 19

No meeting on Father's Day

July 21

August 18

September 15

October 20

November 17

December 15

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

Could you figure out what is coming out of Bill Z's accordion?

This issue dedicated to the memory of Anthony Cristofich

August 19

Today was a lovely day for the Delaware Accordion Club meeting. The weather cooled down and we had a crowd of 40 players and accordion fans. The name of the restaurant has been changed to Wize Guyz. They now have their liquor license and offer sports gambling. Susan was unable to attend today's meeting as she was judging for the American Idol Show and asked me if I would fill in for her. Our 50/50 had a total of \$46. We had 9 players today who all did a wonderful job. Jack Chrustowski started things off with You Do Something to Me, Cheek to Cheek, Carnival of Venice, Five Foot Two, Over the Rainbow, and a few others.

Next was a new player named Jeanne Velonis. Jeanne is a lovely young lady, who comes to us from Westchester NY. Her parents live in Newark. She found us by accident on the Internet. She has been taking lessons for 3 years but played the accordion before she started lessons. Everyone was cordial to her and gave her encouragement. We hope that she returns soon. She played Tamburino (by Pergolis) using a fancy bass rhythm, Bury Me Not on The Lone Prairie, and later returned for an encore presentation of Miner's Polka and Waltz #2 (by Shostakovich).

Next Phil Bonsiero did his usual fine job and entertained us with Oh What a Beautiful Morning, When Irish Eyes Are Smiling, San Francisco, Sleep Walk, Can I Have This Dance, Before the Next Tear Drop Falls, and The End of the World made popular by Skeeter Davis. I heard that there were dancers on the floor, but I was too busy to look up. Our friend Gary Woodling was here today, glad to see him back. He played Sunday Memories, I Was Wrong, Cleveland-Style Polka Medley, Oh Marie and many more. Next Joe Ragan played his usual style using the bellow shake quite often. Joe played German Folk Songs and Polkas, Black Gypsy Chardaz, and Swedish Rhapsody. Today was a day of returning friends: Stan & Joanna Darrow. Joanna played Harmonious Blacksmith (by G. F. Handel), Scherzo (by J. Gart), and Cornet Voluntary (by William Woland). Joanna has a very smooth and soft sound.

Young Cody McSherry played his piano accordion and also a different button box accordion that gave his songs a new sound. Cody also sang for us and got compliments from the audience. Cody played In the Mood, Tuxedo Junction, Chattanooga Choo-Choo, Eidelweiss, Come to the Sea, La Spagnola, The Beer Barrel Polka, Wild Clover, Trumpet and Echo, and Snow Waltz. Bob Shoemaker was next and wowed us with Afternoon in Paris, Stomping at the Savoy, Someone to Watch Over Me, Since I Don't Have you (made popular by Jimmy Beaumont and The Skyliners), Cabaret, Mame, Hello Dolly, and finished off his set with Red Rose Cafe accompanied by the entire audience. Gary Robinson had just started to play The Anniversary Waltz when I got a call from Susan who needed me to help her do some judging. So if Gary played more I'm sorry I missed it.

Submitted by John Maiorano

Monday, September 3

News from Carole & Len Wolek

Len and I participated in the annual Bethany Beach Jazz Funeral held on Labor Day.

September 16

Today our group included 22 accordion fans with 6 players. Jack Chrustowski opened our session with the following standards: Somebody Loves Me, Someone To Watch Over Me, I Got Rhythm, Swanee, Five Foot Two, Take Me Out to the Ballgame, I'll Take Manhattan, and I'll Be Seeing You.

Phil Bonsiero followed with Calcutta, Sunny Side of the Street, Moon River, Ramblin' Rose, and Brown-eyed girl. Phil won the 50/50 raffle - congratulations!

Ruthann Christophersen played songs with a cowboy theme. She gave us: Anytime, Are You Lonesome Tonight?, Happy Trails, Home on the Range, Red River Valley, Tennessee Waltz, and Rose of San Antone. Susan Shertok offered Sway, One of Those Songs, More, Happy Wanderer, Hey Good Lookin', Hava Nagila, and her Edith Bunker song Those Were the Days.

Bob Shoemaker played: Achtung Los, Misty, September in the Rain, Red Rose Cafe, Horn Waltz, In Heaven There is no Beer, E-I-O song, and a medley from the Sound of Music including Edelweiss and Do re mi. Joe Oberly ended our meeting with the following: Sentimental Journey, Marie, Tarantella, Blue Skirt Waltz, Spanish Eyes, Battle Hymn of the Republic and God Bless America. See everyone next month!

October - no meeting was held

November 18

Today marked our first session at the River Club building - home of Joe Oberly, our president. Twenty-one people attended, including 6 residents. Joe brought cake for all, and Susan distributed our famous DAC pens. It is wonderful to have a piano in the room, since several of our members can play.

John Maiorano opened our meeting with: What's New, Ruby, I Should Care, I Had a Dream, Summer Wind, Let Me Try Again, The Way We Were, Begin the Beguine, Blue Moon, I Want to be Around, Who Can I Turn To, and What Kind of Fool Am I?

Susan Shertok played Turkey in the Straw for Thanksgiving, Sway, Miami Beach Rumba, Bing Bang Polka, Hey Good Lookin', Happy Wanderer, This Little Light of Mine, and Bye Bye Love. By popular demand, she sang the Edith Bunker song twice on the piano.

Cody McSherry played the piano, accordion, button box, and danced, too. This young lad is very talented. He gave us: Ah Marie, Godfather theme, Jukebox Boogie, Happy Wanderer, Polka Lichtensteiner, In the Bohemian Forest, Pilot's Waltz, and the Snow Waltz.

Ruth Christophersen played the following: Waltz Continental, Please Release Me, When You're Smiling, Goodnight Irene, My Wild Irish Rose, Crazy, and I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry.

Joe Oberly closed our meeting with: Bottle of Wine, God Bless America, Amazing Grace, Battle Hymn of the Republic, Pennsylvania Polka, In Heaven There is No Beer, Only You, Bridge Over Troubled Water, Achy Breaky Heart, Your Cheatin' Heart, Spanish Eyes and Tears on My Pillow.

Aline Hampton, who lives in the building, won the 50/50 raffle. We are looking forward to the holidays next month.

Monday, November 19

Richard DiBlassio & Joe Oberly performed at The Mancus Foundation, Wilmington

Monday, December 3

Richard DiBlassio performed at Shipley Manor, Wilmington

Please remember to pay annual dues at the next meeting

DAC dues will remain at \$5 - Dues are due now!

The \$5.00 helps us to pay for flyers, copying, postage, supplies, etc. A financial report is available upon request.

You can pay cash or mail a check to

Susan Shertok at 22 East Green Valley Circle, Newark DE 19711

If you no longer want a paper copy, please remember that newsletters are now posted on our website. You are still more than welcome to attend DAC open mic sessions as a participant or observer.

Member Bio – Sam Scaffo

I was born in 1940 in the small farming community of Swedesboro NJ. My parents were both from Italy. My mother loved music and was always singing old Italian songs. She wanted me to play the accordion, but we had no access to musical instruments or music lessons.

When I was 10 my mother had a friend who was taking a trip to Italy purchase an accordion there for me. She and a group of her friends in Swedesboro hired a music teacher from Philadelphia to come once a week to give several children lessons on the accordion or the guitar. This continued for about six months until the man could no longer come and so my lessons stopped. However, I realized that I could now pick out notes of a song and play that song by ear. So if I heard a song that I liked I would practice myself until I could play the song.

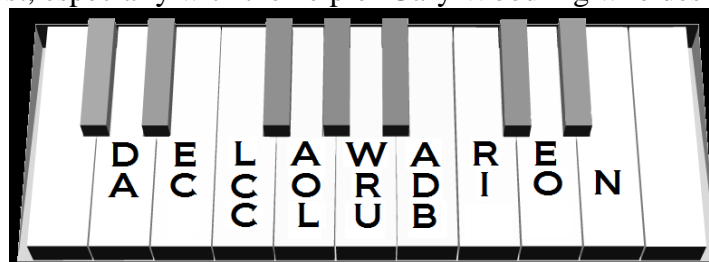
After graduating from high school, I enlisted in the United States Air Force. When I was discharged I became interested in playing again. Someone told me about an accordion teacher in Vineland NJ named Sam Trasferini. (He was also the uncle of Rich Trasferini). I began to take lessons from him and studied with Mr. Trasferini for about two years. I really began to read music for the first time. All the music that he gave me was hand written in a notebook.

In 1964 I married my wife Bonnie and we began raising our family of four sons. I don't think I picked up the accordion more than a handful of times in the next 30 or even 40 years. The only times that I did play was when my mother begged me to play some Italian songs for her. However, in 2008 I met a strolling accordionist in an Italian restaurant. He had a beautiful accordion and I asked him where he had purchased it. He told me about Acme Accordion in Westmont NJ.

I took my old accordion to Acme Accordion to be repaired and met Stan Darrow. Mr. Darrow encouraged me to resume my music lessons and so I did. For about 2 years I took lessons from Stan and Joanna Darrow (mostly Joanna) and have improved tremendously in my knowledge of reading music and basic chords. I now practice about one or two hours a day and can play almost any piece of music that I set my mind to play.

I have met many new friends through the Acme Accordion and Delaware Accordion Club. I met my now good friend Rich Trasferini 40 years after taking lessons from his uncle. I have also become good friends with John Lolli and travel with Rich and John to the Delaware Accordion Club whenever I can. I am greatly impressed with the wonderful talent and dedication of the people who come and appreciate all those who organize these events.

Thank you Delaware Accordion Club for keeping the accordion alive
(We do our best, especially with the help of Gary Woodling who designed this logo)



Show over – Latch the bellows

DAC Directory

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

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 DiBlassio, DMA, Accordion - Piano - Vocals, call 215-357-1632

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

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

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

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

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