

June 2008

Vol. XIII No. XII



The Arizona Accordion Club



An Arizona Tradition since 1996

Presents the

Musette Gazette

www.azaccordionclub.com

Featured Guests Appearing at the July 21 Meeting

Gordon Kohl

THE ARIZONA ACCORDION CLUB GUEST ARTIST

More on Page 5

Coming Up for the August 18th Meeting
August MEMBERS NIGHT
(Members play Music for a Steamy Night)
More on Page 5

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Meeting Place

Third Monday of the Month
St. Stephen's Hall
8141 North 16th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85020
(602) 997-4563

President's Message

LETTER FROM THE PREZ

Members Night at the June meeting turned out great, didn't it? Let me count the ways. Everybody who wanted to play did so. We had a theme – music to sing and dance to. We brought in three sidemen – a drummer, bass player, and guitarist – two of whom had darn good singing voices. The audience did sing, and some actually danced. The sound system worked superbly. We had contests – a couple of raffles and a Name That Tune game. There were lots of kind and positive comments, and my favorite was the person who said the meeting was just like a musical family gathering. "For the first time in a long time, I wasn't bored even for a minute," said another.

Okay, then, we can look forward to another **Member Night in August** whose theme is "Sexy Music for a Steamy August Night." Without pausing to think for very long, that means Latin, French, Italian, Cajun, Zydeco – just for starters. Get your dancin' shoes on for that, folks! Bring friends and family. At that meeting, the ensemble will have returned directly from the competition at **Knotts Berry Farm in California**, so the members will have trophies to show off and a few very well rehearsed tunes for you.

Call me if you have ideas for all future Member Nights, okay?
Let's just get better and better and better!!

Don't forget to visit our friends out at the **Sun City Club** the first Thursday of every month from 1-4pm. That's a place to hear and be heard.

On another subject, the Board is considering creating a summer music education program for either 2009 or 2010. **Ginny Mac** – you remember her! – has experience working with kids and is eager to help us create a program that will delight and inspire young people. If anyone reading this letter wants to help, please give me a call. I'm thinking BIG on this one – big like having the kids perform at the Orpheum or similar venue.

Some very exciting regional events coming up: **Frank Marocco** appears in San Diego on Sunday August 10. The fabulous **Cotati Accordion Festival** takes place August 23-24. Then the annual **Las Vegas International Accordion** Convention offers four full days of the best accordionists in the world September 29-October 2. Look for those and others in our Upcoming Events on page 9.

As somebody used to say, "You ain't seen notin' yet." If you want to help – and I KNOW lots of you want to help – please give me or any other board member a call.

Best,

Jack Dermody

Review of the June 16th Meeting By Pete and Raye Donatella

Next Meeting is July 21st

The Theme: Arizona Accordion Club Members Strut Their Stuff !

Sign in at Front desk, with **Cindy**, if you want to perform.

The Menu for July Sirloin burger on a bun, dressed "your way" & chips & beans

Member Night

And what a night it was! It had everything---lovely ladies, handsome gentlemen, singing, dancing, good food, a rhythm section, and above all that, the sweet sound of accordion music! Who could ask for anything more?

The evening began with an ensemble rehearsal conducted by our president, Jack Dermody that included the following players; Lester Rosner, Jay Stevens, Jesop Baginac (our newest band member), and Pete Donatella. They are preparing for the upcoming Accordion Federation of North America (AFNA) competition in August.

Lester quickly changed gears at the end of the rehearsal and performed for everyone that came early to eat and get out of the heat. He played for close to an hour accompanied by his wife, Zofia, on tambourine. Lester glided through many accordion classics which included "Twelfth Street Rag", tangos, waltzes and polkas. The audience clapped for each and every one of them. Pre-meeting music is a difficult gig, but these two made it look easy. This filled me with nostalgia, remembering my grandmother as she played the tambourine for my father and uncles on accordion, all part of The Donatella Brothers and Carmen Vaudeville show.

After Lester, Jack made the announcements including the schedule for the year ahead and the festivals and convention items. Jack then kicked off the Member Night with a contest. He called for volunteers and got two; Jay Stevens and Chuck Voinovich. Jack played the first two notes of a song and the contestants had to guess the title. After several rounds of adding notes to help the guessing, Chuck finally prevailed. Chuck would later be in a run off with the winner of a second round. (Hey Jack - maybe you'd better tweak the rules of this contest a little - asking someone to guess a song after hearing two notes in an accordion club where they play a huge variety of music would be like asking someone to guess where the first raindrops would fall in a monsoon storm!)

Jack now shifted his emphasis to a sing-a-long format. He had two of his former associates, Lynn Timmons and Connie Arnold come up to lead the songs and they did a great job on, "I Love Paris", "My Blue Heaven", and "Hey, Good Looking". What a group!

Chuck Voinovich came to the stage and continued the sing-a-long format with, "If I Had You", "If You Knew Suzie", and "I'm Looking Over a Four Leaf Clover", while the two song leaders continued their vocals. Chuck sounded really cool!

I must mention at this point that the entire program was enhanced by a complete rhythm section; Grant Blake on Electric Bass, Jim Winning on drums, and Carl Nyberg on guitar. What a great lift it is to have these fine gentlemen backing the music!!

Just to change the pace again we heard from the ENSEMBLE. They are beginning to sound like a bonafide group and they played two selections,

"Super Market Polka" and "Accordion Jump". The ensemble is almost ready for their trip to the AFNA competition in California this August. There's still time for more players to join the ensemble – call Jack if you're interested - it's fun and great practice.

Ted Lee now had us all singing as he played "Let Me Call You Sweetheart", "East Side, West Side", and "Good Night Irene" Great sounding MIDI!

Next on the bill was Felicia Benghue reading a Father's Day poem that she wrote. Then she sang a very loving "Oh Sole Mio" dedicated to her father. Very moving! She was accompanied by Pete Donatella. Pete then stayed on stage and played three sing-a-long songs with the help of the female song leaders. First was "Oh What A Beautiful Morning" followed by "By the Light of the Silvery Moon" and "Fools Rush In". Lynn really did a wonderful vocal on this last one. She's a pro.

Jack now did the second round of the contest which was started earlier and his two volunteers were Joan Monti and Gina Stevens (one of our newest members). Joan prevailed in the encounter and will have a showdown with Chuck V. later in the meeting. Stay tuned

Before the break Jesop Baginac played his competition piece, "Barbara Polka". He did a very good job with it and will be more than ready by August.

The raffle had a very special prize; The brand new DVD of the many people, members and guests, that have graced our meetings over the past. This DVD is available for \$10.00, and it is MUST-HAVE item.

During the break we were entertained with some really neat sounds played by Ted Lee - thanks Ted - we all enjoyed you.

After the break it was time for Dr. Howard Van Orden to take the stage with some singing help from his wife Chris. They did a rousing rendition of "The Happy Wanderer Polka", "By Myself Polka", and finished with the audience standing for "America the Beautiful" and "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" This is the first time I've heard the "By Myself Polka", and I really liked it.

Frank Schweller and Dennis Humlicek played three duet pieces on their button boxes. Frank's box has a helicon bass. Wow!! They played "Springtime Polka", "Snow Waltz", and "Johnny's Knocking". They sure know how to push those buttons!

Jean Walls borrowed an accordion and played and sang. She played "Tic Tock Polka", and "Tango of the Roses". The bass strap was too tight and the sholder straps were too loose, but she did a good job, and her singing was lovely!

As we were approaching the end of the evening Joan Monti gave us some nice renditions of "Whispering", "Just Because", and "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" Carl did some great vocals as he continued to strum away.

Last up was our own Paul Betken. He did a great job with "On the Sunny Side of the Street", followed by an even smoother rendition of "It Had to Be You". Pete joined Paul for a slice of Americana with a medley of "Camptown Races", "Oh Susanna", and "I've Been Working on the Railroad". They finished up with a rousing "Pennies from Heaven".

As an absolute program ender Howard came back and borrowed Pete's accordion and closed with "The Beer Barrel Polka". What a night!!!

And wasn't it great that the back-up musicians hung in there for all these players?? Thank you everyone who came and enjoyed the evening—let's have more of these.

P.S. Chuck won the showdown! The prize was our new DVD!

All in all we had a great evening.

See you at the next **Arizona Accordion Club Meeting !**

Arizona Accordion Club's Featured Guests in July is

Gordon Kohl

Gordon Kohl's accordion passions began around age 7. As a teenager, he was already teaching, and by age 20 he had established his own accordion, piano and organ school.

Gordon's playing credentials include work with Shirley Jones, Andy Griffith, and the KPBS Radio Ethnic Hour. He has appeared with Myron Floren in Las Vegas, and at Jack Murphy Stadium in San Diego for a July Fourth baseball game. He plays every weekend around San Diego and at Oktoberfests in the mountains. He has developed a special expertise on the digital accordion, and he conducts acoustic and electronic workshops.

Gordon really enjoys is teaching. He has available a variety of original accordion publications written by Gordon himself.

As Gordon states, "Teaching requires the teacher to learn along with the students, exploring ideas of what the accordion left hand can do to add harmony and rhythm to today's musical dance styles such as Salsa, Java, Latin Tango and Beguine. These same students want to learn Zydeco, Klezmer, Tex Mex, Cajun and Musette, challenging both them and the teacher."



Very HOT Performers

Coming in 2008 and 2009 to

The Arizona Accordion Club

- July** GORDON KOHL
 - August** MEMBERS NIGHT
(Members play Music for a Steamy Night)
 - September** LOU FANUCCHI
 - October** ALL-GIRL OKTOBERFEST GALA
 - November** MURL SANDERS
 - December** JOE KENO
- 2009
- January** VLADIMIR MOLLOV
 - February** LINDA HOCHÉVAR
 - March** MARIO PEDONE

October ALL-GIRL OKTOBERFEST GALA



Sylvia Marie Barber is **October's** featured artist. She is one of the most versatile accordion artists you will ever hear – fast-fingered, incredible bass work, fun tricks within songs, great audience connection, and talented in many music categories. Her workshops and lessons will likely exceed your expectations. Individual lessons and up to two workshops will keep Sylvia here for a week. She can show you tips and tricks, add-ons, and bass work that will delight you. Guaranteed! Sign-up sheets will be available at the August and September meetings. You don't want to miss **Sylvia**.


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Find Updates and features on upcoming meetings and highlights of our great guest performers. The **Club Performers** link offers Photos and bios of some of our regular players. Arizona Accordion Club members are encouraged to send their info to Jeff Carpenter at jpcarp@gmail.com Check the **slide show** for photos from recent Arizona Accordion Club meetings.

Arizona Accordion Club Ensemble News

Rehearsals for Oktoberfest begin Thursday, August 21. We expect a dozen or so players at this time. If you remember last year, we played in numerous venues and had a lot of fun, especially at the opening ceremonies of the Way Out West Oktoberfest. We'll be on TV...and everywhere else!!

During our Oktoberfest shows, we feature soloists a lot so, if you're the least bit interested in "squeezin' your stuff" for big audiences, start getting your repertoire together right now...and practice!!! You'll be backed up by a drummer and tuba player whenever possible.

Meanwhile, the AAC Ensemble practicing hard for AFNA at Knotts Berry Farm in California August 15-17.

We are competing with the required selection Super Market Polka and an open selection Old Comrades, a very high-spirited Oktoberfest march.

Individuals have got solos to compete with, including Marocco's Ballad for Anne. Solos include Barbara Polka, Yankee Doodle Rag, Wild Irish Rose, and more.

We'll be competing against at least two clubs in California: the Accordion Lovers Society of San Diego and the Accordionaires of the Los Angeles area. To save money, we expect to travel in a van or two. Please consider supporting our efforts, come to our rehearsals on Thursdays from 4-6 pm, and seriously think about joining us in California.

The ensemble meets every Thursday from 4-6pm at the Holiday Spa Mobile Home Resort at 10401 N Cave Creek in Phoenix. Call **Jack Dermody** if you want to visit or join. (602) 237-5627.

Musical Directors:

Jack Dermody and
Pete Donatella

Booking Coordinator:

Jay Stevens

DVD's of Club Meetings are available.

Ask any Board member (board members are listed on page 2.)

"All **Arizona Accordion Club** Meetings and sponsored events are copyrighted by the Board of the **Arizona Accordion Club** and are for the private use of our audience. Any other use of these programs or of any pictures, descriptions or accounts of the Arizona Accordion Club meetings, events and it's performers, without a written approval of consent by the **Arizona Accordion Club** Board, is Prohibited"

Honorary Members

**Art Van Damme * Dick Contino * Dr. John Van Such * Art Metzler * Lenny Simmons
Frank Yankovic * John Cesinger * Joe Kino * Helen Criscio * Flaco Jimenez
Tony Lovello * Frank Marocco * Anthony Galla-Rini * Myron Floren * Al Monti**

Come Hear Us Play

Tony Putrino

Father's Day, June 15, from 5 - 9 PM
I promise to seduce you with romantic Italian accordion melodies at
La Fontanella Restaurant 4231 E Indian School Rd, Phoenix, Arizona 8501
602-955-1213 for reservations

John Smoltz Band :
Just two-John and Lou
BEST POLKA PARTY YET

White Eagle Deli Restaurant
16846 W. Bell Road, #109
Surprise, Arizona 85374
June 21st, 28th 5:00 to 9:00
www.whiteeagledeli.com

Elmer Faser and Duane Tendick

Haus Murphy's
5739 West Glendale Avenue
Glendale Arizona 85301
623 939-2480
Every Friday and Saturday 6:00 to 8:00

Augie Figurelli :

La Stalla Cucina Rustica Restaurant
68 W. Buffalo Street, Chandler
(One Block West of Arizona Avenue)
(One Block South of Chandler Blvd.)
Thursdays and Sundays
Check www.augieperforms.com
For weekly updates

Bill Regina :

The Black Forest Mill Restaurant
4900 E. Indian School Road, Phoenix
Every Saturday May to December, 6:00 to 9:00

John Smoltz :

The Black Forest Mill Restaurant
4900 E. Indian School Road, Phoenix
Every Friday May to December, 6:00 to 9:00

The Hurricajuns :

Shot of Java,
7003 N. 58th Ave. Glendale (623) 847-2423.
2nd Saturday of every month

Outside Arizona

Chuck Bacino

Maggiano's Little Italy Restaurant
3200 Las Vegas Blvd. NV
Thursday-Sunday 6:00-10:00 PM

Paul Kay

South Range Eagles No. 1122
is at 8 Baltic Avenue South Range, MI 49963
June 24, 6 to 9
July 4th all afternoon
July 13th 6 to 9

All these events and more are listed online at the
Arizona Accordion Club's My Space Page :

http://www.myspace.com/azaccordionclub

Accordion Instructors:

Tony Putrino 480 483-3943
Dr. Van Orden 623 203 7909
Joanne Drum 480 994-46981
Pete Donatella 623 877-1846
Jack Dermody 602-237-5627

Upcoming Events

(more on page 10)

JULY:

Tuesday night, July 8, 7pm at the Tempe Public Library Jeff Carpenter will guide us to learn about our Website and to make plans for the future. If you have a laptop, BRING IT! The Public Library has wireless access. Let's welcome ourselves to the 21st Century and have fun with this!!!

Saturday the 19 at 6:00 p.m. **St Stephen's Catering Fundraiser** for New Silverware. Let's *Support our accordion club's* venue **PROVIDER!** The church staff is COOKING UP A STORM. They promise good food, fun, and laughter with dinner, a talent show, and a silent auction. \$15 for adults; \$8 for kids. Contact Teresa at 602-821-2939 for info.

Sunday the 27 at 12:00 PM To August 1 at 12:00 PM. **Galla-Rini Accordion Camp** At the Dominican University 50 Acacia Ave. San Rafael, California. Attendees play all kinds of music in the ensemble -- classical, semi-classical, American musicals and more. It's about learning to play musically, and learning to play in an ensemble, which is an entirely different experience from playing alone. For applications and information, **Tor Arild** at (650) 851-7831 or P.O. Box 620063, Woodside, CA 94062

AUGUST:

23-24, Sat-Sun, **The Eighteenth Annual Cotati Accordion Festival**, Events include group playing/jamming, Hugh Morrison, Alex Meixner, Limpopo, The Great Morgani, the Georges Lamman Ensemble, Joe Domitrowich, Dick Contino, Polka Freakout, Brian Jack and the Zydeco Gamblers, the Steve Balich band in the polka tent, and a Zydeco tent. www.cotatifest.com or 707-669-0444.

15-17 (Friday to Sunday) **The Arizona Accordion Club** Competing *at the 53rd Annual AFNA Festival*. Held at **Knott's Berry Farm Hotel**, Buena Park, California. **If you love your club, DO NOT MISS This WONDERFUL TRIP!!! ESCAPE THE HEAT! Play in the Ensemble, or as a Solo, Duet, or Trio!** Call **JACK DERMODY 602-237-5627** or AzAccordionClub@cox.net

13 to 15 **The American Accordionists' Association** 70th Competition and Festival, Arlington, VA (Washington DC). Featuring 3 international competitions: AAA International Piano Accordion Competition, The Annual Vivian Vivio Stolaruk International Entertainment Competition for Accordionists, and the Maddalena Belfiore Entertainment Competition for Female Accordionists. Information at www.ameraccord.com Contact 718-356-8323. or AAA1938@aol.com.

Sunday the 10th at 2pm. **Frank Marocco** in concert and workshop in the San Diego area. For info, contact Kjell Holmes at 858-453-5486 or Gordon Kohl at 619-427-4344.

SEPTEMBER

On the 20th, The 2nd Roland International V- Accordion Festival in LA California. Contact **Ron Lankford**, Festival Coordinator 323 890-3700 ronlankford@rolandus.com

Mon-Thurs, September 29-October 2. **The Las Vegas International Accordion Convention** at the Gold Coast Hotel, Get info at www.accordioninfo.com/convention or 1-800-472-1695 or paul@accordioninfo.com Registration includes 7 meals. Stars include Dick Contino, Art Van Damme, Peter Soave. Unforgettable entertainment, inspiring workshops, and special events.

OCTOBER

On 4th and 5th (weekend) Tempe's **WAY OUT WEST OKTOBERFEST** **Featuring the Arizona Accordion Club at the Opening Ceremonies !**

17-19, Friday to Sunday **3-Day Polka Extravaganza** at the **Pulaski Club**, 4331 E McDowell, Phoenix. Info: David Bronczkiewica (602) 741-8214 nickelcity_dave@yahoo.com

Newsletter Inputs

Please submit accordion related items you read about, see, or experience, etc. that could be of interest to the club care of **Jack** at AzAccordionClub@cox.net . Or **Dionne** at dionne.hauke@gmail.com

Upcoming Events (see page 9)

OCTOBER


Saturday the 11th 3-6 p.m., **Margaret Hance Park**, Phoenix, AZ The **3rd Annual Old World Phoenix Oktoberfest** featuring the **Arizona Accordion Club Ensemble**. Sponsored by the **Arizona Center for Germanic cultures, Inc.** Check out their website at www.PhoenixOktoberfest.com.

11-14 Oktoberfest in Mt. Angel, Oregon, Die Schlaw Berger a VERY HOT GERMAN BAND that plays all over the country, Their very mission is "Keeping the Traditionalists on their Feet and the New Generation Interested." They perform everything from Alpine power to rock and roll. We can LEARN from them ! Call 503-845-9440 for tickets. See their website at www.dsb.com

February 8, 2009.

Jack Dermody performing with **Arizona** friends at **Accordion Lovers Society International** in San Diego, CA, as part of monthly meeting 1-4 p.m. Check out San Diego's website at <http://www.accordion-club-sandiego.org/>

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Classified ads for Musical Instruments are free of charge to Arizona Accordion Club Members. Phone numbers and email address for contact are suggested.

Arizona Accordion Club Seeking...

Speaker-Monitor for our members and guest artists.

If you have one to sell, contact Pete Donatella at (623) 877-1846. Or e-mail pdonatella@cox.net Thanks !

Musical Items For Sale:

Heart condition forces sale of a very excellent condition **Crucianelli** mfg. by **Pan Accordion** 4/5 reeds, deep chamber, 10 treble shifts master palm switch, new bass strap and new white shoulder straps, complete with Sano amp. \$2250.00, will also consider offers and partial trades of other accordions.

Joseph Havelka accordionmaster@cox.net 1 800 777-7221. 918 N. 148th Ave., Omaha, NE 68154

Free DVD of The Arizona Accordion Club Band at their 2007 Performances, (Oktoberfest, AZ State Fair and St. Luke's Accordion Fest) Call 480 840 6574 before the meeting so **Mr. Baginac** can bring one for you.

Drummer available. **Joe Westpahl** 480 474-1041

Accordion Repairs in **Coolidge Arizona**. Rebuilds and tunings. **Timothy Gomez** 1 520 510 9317.

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Cordovox, recently tuned \$350.00 and a **GC** Accordion \$250.00. Ed Mikulich 623 362 1525

Vintage Petosa; like new, special designs, \$5,500.00. John Bunganich 1-(760) 782-9059

Petosa AM1100 Midi Accordion, Musette Tuned, 4-5 reeds, played very little, \$10,000.00.

Bad back forced me to go Reedless.Call John Kremansky 608-837-7587

email : johnlois2@charter.net Note: Petosa is no longer producing Midi Accordions

Excelsior New York Model 5 accordion. Very good condition. Frank Cic 480 895-8161

Digital Concerto 2 accordion, MIDI controller, Full size black with pearl keyboard. Like new.

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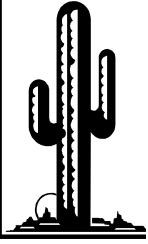
Looking for a **Petosa**. An **S-2000 model P-800** which had 4/4 sets of reeds or a model **AM1100** an **S-2000** Midi. Have one for sale? Contact **Norbert Ludewig**. 908-889-8476, 973-792-4661. 2 Ridge Way, Fanwood, NJ 07023

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Business card Size	\$5.00	\$8.00
Quarter page	\$10.00	\$16.00
Half page	\$20.00	\$32.00
Full page	\$40.00	\$64.00



Arizona Accordion Club
 4416 North 102nd Drive
 Phoenix, AZ 85037

Include this form with \$25.00 for one year membership fee payable to **Arizona Accordion Club**.
 Send To Arizona Accordion Club C/O Pete Donatella,
 4416 N. 102nd Dr, Phoenix, AZ 85037

Arizona Accordion Club Membership Form
Please Print or Type All Information



Date _____ (Please Circle Answers)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Work Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____

Email: _____

Updates of Accordion Events emailed to you ? Yes No
 Are you a Student Teacher Professional Amateur
 Non Musician Accordion Enthusiast ?
 New Member Gift Membership Renewal Address Change

<http://www.azaccordionclub.com>

Meetings are Third Monday of the month.

St Stephen Church Hall
 8141 N 16th Street
 Phoenix AZ 85020
 Food served 5:30 to 8:00
 Pre Meeting Music at 5:45
 Meeting starts at 6:30
 (Hall's) 602 997 4563

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