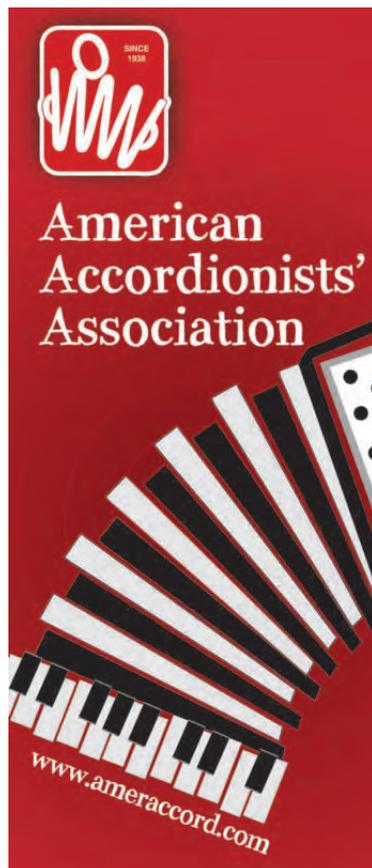




AMERICAN ACCORDIONISTS' ASSOCIATION Newsletter

A bi-monthly publication of the American Accordionists' Association

September-October 2018



IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

Call Joe Ciccone for last minute reservations for
September 9, 2018
Famee Furlane of NA
2010 127th Street
College Point, NY
Cocktail Hour-12 noon
Don Gerundo & Spencer Bruno
Dinner & Dancing 1:00-3:00 pm
Mario Tacca with Mary Mancini
Nathan Chapeton,
AAA Coupe Mondiale
Representative

Concert at 3:00 pm featuring
Guest Artist
PETAR MARIC

Sponsored by the
American Accordionists' Association

From the Editor:

Welcome to the September/October edition of the 2018 AAA Newsletter.

As we reflect on the outstanding success of the 80th Anniversary Festival in Alexandria, VA, the summer draws to a close bringing it a sense of great pride and accomplishment. The array of talent featured during our gala Anniversary festival showcased the accordion at its finest, in a variety of genres and settings. A wonderful review with pictures and videos can be found online at www.ameraccord.com and serves as a lasting souvenir of the spectacular gathering.

As always, I would like to offer my sincere thanks to the AAA Past-President, Linda Reed and Board of Director, Rita Davidson for their kind assistance with the AAA Newsletter. We invite you to submit your news items for publication so that your fellow members can see the incredible array of accordion activities happening throughout the country. Items for the 2018 November/December Newsletter can be sent to me at goaccordion@yahoo.com or to the official AAA e-mail address at: ameraccord1938@gmail.com. Please include 'AAA Newsletter' in the subject box, so that we don't miss any items that come in. Text should be sent within the e-mail or as a Word attachment. Pictures should be sent as a high quality .jpg file, and the larger the file size the better. We can always reduce/crop the picture if necessary, however we are unable to increase the quality from smaller pictures.

We look forward to hearing from you soon!

Sincerely, Kevin
Kevin Friedrich, Editor



From the President:

A big "Thank You" to everyone who helped make our 80th Anniversary Festival a smashing success!

- ... to everyone who attended
- ... to all the members of the AAA Board of Directors who pitched in to help out
- ... to all the workshop presenters
- ... to all the guest artists
- ... to all the performers
- ... to all the competitors
- ... to the Festival Orchestra conductors
- ... to the Bob Vitale Youth Involvement Program conductor and directors
- ... to our illustrious "After Hours Club" performers

You are all special and without YOU this could never happen!

A special Thank You to Harley Jones and his team for making the celebration "one to remember" for attendees, AND observers from around the world. If you haven't already checked it out, go to the AAA website (www.ameraccord.com) and click on the "Daily Reports" for fantastic video coverage of the event. Many performances are highlighted, along with all the events, including workshops, exhibits, and just plain "fun"!

Congratulations to Louis F. Coppola for being the recipient of the AAA's Lifetime Achievement Award at Festival . . . an evening everyone will remember for a long time! Especially Lou - who took the stage once again to perform with the current United States Air Force Strolling Strings without missing a beat.

Next on our calendar of great events featuring the accordion is the Carrozza Memorial Fundraising Event on September 9, 2018 at the Famee Furlane of NA Club, 2010 127th Street, College Point, NY. Cocktail Hour at noon (Don Gerundo entertains), Dinner and Dancing from 1-3 p.m. with the music of Mario Tacca and Mary Mancini . . . and then . . .

Our featured Guest Artist will be Petar Maric - winner of 8 separate world titles, and the first contestant in the 65 years of CIA Coupe Mondiale history to win all 4 solo categories - Junior Coupe, Senior Coupe, Senior Variety and the Digital Coupe. Make your reservations today - You don't want to miss this! *See you on September 9th!*



International Summit at A World of Accordions

A World of Accordions Museum located in Superior, Wisconsin hosted an International Summit to showcase the Museum holdings during a recent event organized by curator Helmi Harrington, Ph. D.

The International conference included three Executive members of the Confédération Internationale des Accordionistes (CIA) Kevin Friedrich - Ambassador (USA), Harley Jones - Public Relations Manger (New Zealand) and Dr. Herbert Scheibenreif - Vice President (Austria) as well as Heather Masefield - Executive Officer of the New Zealand Accordion Association.

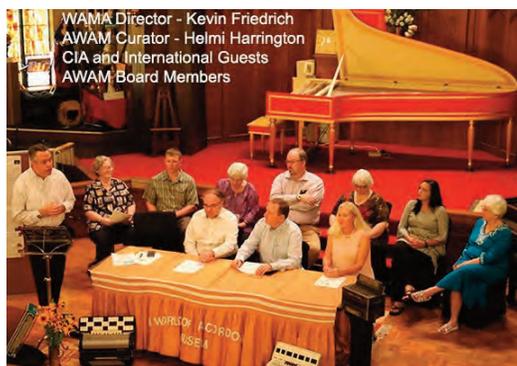


Harley Jones, Mayor Jim Paine, Heather Masefield, Tylor Elm, Helmi Harrington, Kevin Friedrich and Herbert Scheibenreif

The Summit was supported by the new Superior, WI, Mayor Jim Paine as well as 6th District Councilor Tylor Elm, the Director of Marketing and Social Media Nikky Farmakes as well as other guests from the Visitors and Convention Bureau and local Universities, the Museum Board of Directors and guests.

After an official welcome and remarks by CIA World Accordion Museum Alliance Director Kevin Friedrich, speakers included Dr. Herbert Scheibenreif, Harley Jones, Heather Masefield, Helmi Harrington, Ph. D., Mayor Jim Paine and Museum Repair Technician student David Beer. The guests were given a guided tour of the Museum holdings before concluding with a meet and greet reception.

Museum Curator Helmi Harrington presented an overview of Museum activities and holdings including the 1300 instruments on display, more than one million pieces of sheet music, refer-



WAMA Director - Kevin Friedrich
AWAM Curator - Helmi Harrington
CIA and International Guests
AWAM Board Members



Superior, WI
Mayor - Jim Paine

ence books and recordings, featured Concert Series guest artists such as renowned classical Russian accordionists Friedrich Lips and Viatcheslav Semionov to popular Grammy Award winning Joey Miskulin, the exciting World Accordion Day and Willard Palmer festivals, the Musical Estates of dignitaries such as Willard Palmer, Ernest Deffner, Pietro Diero, Charles Magnante and others entrusted to the Museum, the new online resources such as sales and Educational items, the new Fundraising Campaign 'Superior Vision' and the unique Repair Technician school.

A World of Accordions Museum is a member of the newly established World Accordion Museum Alliance under the auspices of the CIA which aims to coordinate the efforts of Accordion Museums and collectors around the world to ensure that the historical culture of the accordion is protected for all to enjoy.

For more information about the Museum, please visit www.worldofaccordions.org. ■

Early Music of Ernst Krenek featured in London Show

London based Ian Watson was the featured accordionist in the Aurora Orchestra during the popular show 'Barry Humphries' Weimar Cabaret' which just concluded a month long engagement at the Barbican Center in London. Ian opened the show with Cabaret diva Meow Meow as the orchestra assembled on stage while renowned actor Barry Humphries served as the Emcee of the show which was a tribute to the jazz-infused music of the Weimar Republic.

Best known as Dame Edna Everage, Barry Humphries inserts his witty anecdotes and irreverent asides providing interludes to a treasure trove of songs and instrumentals. Fellow Australian Meow Meow, sings Kurt Weill standards alongside rarities from Friedrich Hollaender, Ernst Krenek and Erwin Schulhoff, all accompanied by London's trailblazing Aurora Orchestra. As the evening progresses it repeatedly highlights how the composers had to leave their homes and reinvent themselves when their work was denounced as degenerate by the Nazis regime.

During the course of his research, Humphries went on to meet and make

friends with many of the composers. Kurt Weill later used the accordion in his works such as Mahagonny, The Threepenny Opera, Happy End, Marie Galante, and Lost in the Stars, while Ernst Krenek went on to compose works for accordion including Acco-music for accordion, Op. 225 and Toccata (1964) by Ernst Krenek, a commissioned work by the American Accordionists' Association.



cont'd. on next page

Hanzhi Wang at Carnegie Hall's, Zankel Hall

In 2014, a young girl traveled from Suzhou, China to Copenhagen, Denmark to study with accordion's most renowned pedagogue and is now the first accordionist in the Young Concert Artists' history! Music from Bach to today sounds as if it were written for her. The great Russian composer, Sofia Gubaidulina writes, "I heard Hanzhi Wang play my piece, *De Profundis*. The impact of her playing was enormous, even dazzling. Her technical perfection, the phenomenal quality of feeling evoked through the tone and timbre of her instrument, her understanding of the piece, all were incredible. But still, one part of her performance stood apart: her display of the highest level of inner concentration so memorable as to affect both the soul and spirit."



The concert will take place on Monday, October 22, 2018 in the Zankel Hall at Carnegie Hall. The Zora String Quartet will also perform. Selections include Bach *Partita No. 2 in C minor*, Gubadulina - *De Profundis*, Mozart, *Andante*, K 616, Piazzolla, *Three Tango Selections*, Three pieces by Martin Lohose and Moszkowski *Etincelles*. ■

Ernst Krenek, cont'd. from page 2

Ian Watson is a concert artist and composer based in London and maintains a busy schedule working with orchestras, chamber ensembles and the Theatre in addition to directing the London Accordion Orchestra. An advocate for new music in addition to his own compositions, he is also active in commissioning new works by other renowned composers. For more information please visit: <http://www.londonao.co.uk/> ■



ATG 78th Anniversary Festival in Lisle, IL

The 78th annual Accordionists & Teachers Guild, International (ATG) Festival was held from July 25 - 28 in Lisle (Chicago), Illinois. Featuring competitions, concerts, workshops, a Gala Banquet, Exhibits and social functions, the well attended event showcased a diverse array of musical genres and events.



Featured guest artists included Matthias Matzke (Germany), Leonie Kratz (Germany), Cory Pesaturo, Mike Alongi, Stas Venglevski who performed solo and in duo with Joan Cochran Sommers, Donna Dee and Dennis Ray and Petar Maric (Serbia). In addition to the performances, workshops were presented by Joan Cochran Sommers, Cory Pesaturo, Mattias Matzke, Mike Alongi, Helmi Harrington, Murl Allen Sanders, Nick Ballarini and Gordon Kohl.

The ATG Festival featured several groups formed specifically for the festival including the Mixed Ensemble directed by Murl Allen Sanders, The Original Music Ensemble directed by Joan C. Sommers, The President's Quintet and the ATG Festival Orchestra under the direction of Joan Cochran Sommers which received a standing ovation for their performance of works by Smith, Halvorsen, Bernstein, Foster & Sager and Ellington.

The 79th Annual ATG Festival will be held in Denver, CO from July 23-27, 2019 and the ATG 80th Anniversary celebration to be held in Los Angeles in August, 2020.

For more information about the ATG and upcoming events, please visit their website at: www.atgaccordions.com. ■

New Orleans Accordion Festival, Louisiana

The first New Orleans Accordion Festival will take place from November 2nd to 4th, celebrating the accordion as a serious instrument played within many genres of music around the world. The main guests include Gil Goldstein and drummer Johnny Vidacovich (Jazz), Cory Ledet (Zydeco), Bruce Dagrèpont (Cajun), and The New Orleans Klezmer All Stars.

The New Orleans Accordion Festival is seeking local accordion-centric artists and bands. Paid slots are 40 minutes long and will be at the Dutch Alley National Park Service Performance Space and the adjacent French Market Pavilion on Saturday, November 3rd between 11:00 AM and 6:00 PM.

The organizing committee consists of Michael Ward-Bergeman, Greg Speck, David Symons, and Stephanie Reed. For further information email: info@nola-accordion-festival.com ■



THE SEMINARS - 2018

AAA's Master Class & Concert Series

The Seminars this year were an exciting event. Again - new ideas - new concepts - new points of view.

Some of the highlights were: a fascinating new work by Dr. Robert Young Mc Mahan for accordion, clarinet and piano with the unassuming title of Three Tweets.

A St. Anthony's Canon celebrated the life of the late Stanley Darrow performed with care and affection by the accordion quartet, Bachtopus (Mayumi Mayaoka, Denise Koncelik, Jeanne Velonis and Peter Flint).

Will Holshouser gave an enlightened presentation of The Accordion and Counterpoint exploring the linear dimension of the accordion.

The Main Squeeze orchestra was a hit combining: Greensleeves with Dr. Denise Koncelik's arrangement of Por Una Cabeza with excerpts from Dr. Schimmel's Symphony #7.

Doug Makofka gave us a new Fugue dimension.

Denise Koncelik's songs based on Margaret Atwood poems were sublime along with Military Bitter Suite, a collaboration with Dr. S, a testament to our troubled times along with her new work performed by her and Jeanne Velonis.

Jeanne performed Dr. Schimmel's Water Still, a tribute to John Cages's Water Walk.

Erica Marie Mancini, who is now on this year's cover of Accordion Babes, gave a presentation of the Accordion and Fashion, restoring the glamour of the accordion.

Paul Stein moderated a discussion on the New York Accordionist and what it takes to work in New York and find that niche. He performed on the Claviola, a rare wind instrument no longer made and Ben Ickies took us through The Polish funeral which still ended with Beer Barrel Polka.

There was a discourse on teaching called Dual Teaching and the Orange Soda Syndrome and Dalcroze specialist Mimi Hsu, put all of us though the paces of accordion and movement.

We had the honor of presenting three musical legends: the Downtown icon - composer and improviser, Elliott Sharp, who gave us a blues teaching from roots to today and New York City Diva, Lauren Flanigan and I decided to take a break from our extensive and exclusive work on Kurt Weill and present Rodgers and Hart through the eyes of the accordion with some classics and a



Bachtopus with Dr. Bill Schimmel, Doug Makofka, Jean Velonis, Mayumi Miyaoaka, Denise Koncelik, Peter Flint (photo by Robert Duncan)

virtual work by yours truly.

The great klezmer violinist Alicia Svigals joined Dr. Schimmel in a concert version of Hava Nagila and an improvised Klezmer Classic.

John Foti presented his poetic renderings with his original music.

Bob Goldberg had everyone placed around the Tenri Space in an environmental work.

David First performed on the Vietnamese guitar. David Stoler gave us a wonderful new work for accordion and digital enhancement. (see and hear the video).

Melissa Elledge once again wowed us with her hip hop renderings including a Moondog cover.

Dave Soldier's Lewitt Etudes were robustly played by Dan Cooper on 7 string bass, Denise Koncelik on piano, Dr. Schimmel on melodica and Robert Young McMahan on accordion.

Dr. McMahan played Prelude and Sarabande by George Kleinsinger, an AAA commissioned work and a work by Daniel Galow.

Indi rock star Corn Mo joined Dr. Schimmel in Brel's Ne me quite pas and his work, Dude.

Mary Spencer Knapp, now a Broadway star, played piano in Toot Suite along with Dr. Schimmel and then switched to accordion. Her evolution has been staggering.

Godfrey Nelson and Lorraine Nelson Wolf gave us an Accordion Suite to an Urban beat.

Brian Dewan closed the event with Tom Leher's The Old Dope Peddler and This is my Box by Gian Carlo Menotti from Amahl and the Night Visitors. Dr. Schimmel and harpist Kathryn Andrews premiered a new work by Dr. Schimmel titled Buried Treasure inspired by a segment of the musical Carousel where they both are performing in.

Dr. Hugo Goldenzweig, pianist, joined Dr. Schimmel in a performance of Scenes from Childhood/Scenes from Adulthood combining Schumann with Schimmel. The Yorkvillians: Dan Cooper, Michio Suzuki, Max Maples, Dr. Schimmel performed Atonal Funk written by each of its members. Ken Laufer was terrific on piano in a duo with Dr. S and Lee Mc Clure gave us a work for toy piano, accordion and flute.

Some of the comments of the participants

Micheline Malosh: *You, the gangster of Love*

Bob Goldberg: *Always an honor to be part of it*

Paul Stein: *Great job, as always, Bill*

Will Holshouser: *Thank you Bill, for your inspiration and education*



Main Squeeze Orchestra, Charita Patamikakorn, Katrina Yaukey, Sarah Starpoli, Rachel Swaner, Elaine Yau, Denise Koncelik, Jennie Muoio, Melissa Elledge, Mary Spencer-Knapp (photos by Jeanne Velonis)

cont'd. on next page



Erica Marie Mancini: *Celebrating the Accordion today at Dr. Bill Schimmel's Accordion Seminars at the Tenri Cultural Institute. Come and enjoy a truly magical night of accordionists and new music, Yesterday I gave a presentation about the accordion as a costume, and I mentioned how one time I actually transformed myself into an accordion through a costume. I think presentation through costuming is important for musicians because its an added layer of expression and can be an outlet for creativity. Tonight I'll be performing a new piece, a duo*

with Bill under the working title of "Andadog/Confirmed Parker/Dali/Bunuel/ ■

The Seminars 2019
Our 25th Anniversary That Means What?

July 26, 27 and 28, 2019
Tenri Cultural Arts Center

28th Cotati Accordion Festival

The 28th annual Cotati Accordion Festival took place from August 18-19 at La Plaza Park in Cotati, California.

The guest line-up providing non-stop accordion entertainment this year included: Netta Skog (Finland), Gabe Hall-Rodriguez, Stas Venglevski, Debra Peters, Zydeco Flames, Sourdough Slim, Culann's Hounds with Renée de la Prade, Those Darn Accordions (TDA), Cory Pesaturo, The Mad Maggies, Accordion Apocalypse Stage, Hernandez Hideaway, Michael Zampiceni, Matthias Matzke (Germany), The Great Morgani, Two Gypsy Kisses, Future Accordion Stars, Golden State Accordion Band, Steve Balich Jr. Polka Band, Jim Gilman, MotorDude Zydeco, Mark St. Mary, T-Luke and the Tight Suits, Simone Baron, Oddjob Ensemble, The Traveling Spectacular, Three Hobo Gobelins, Karla Mi Lugo, Bellow Shakes, Kalei Yamanoha Passersby, Nathan & Jesse, JD Limelight, Creosote with Jamie Maschler, The Wild Catahoulas, Tom Torriglia Band, and Duckmandu.

The Press have likened the Cotati Accordion Festival as the accordion version of the famous Woodstock Festival. Offering a variety of events, the annual festival features virtuoso level concerts, polka bands, zydeco dance parties, jam sessions, indie bands and over 70 vendors, all culminating in a Grand Finale.

The Cotati Accordion Festival is a non-profit organization, established in 1991 to promote the love of the accordion and to support local youth service organizations. To date they have contributed just under \$500,000 to the youth of the community.

For information on the 2019 event and more, please visit www.cotatifest.com or call 888-559-2576, or e-mail: redgore23@aol.com. ■



The Washington Metropolitan Accordion Society

presents a concert featuring accordionist

Will Holshouser





Sunday, September 16, 2018 at 4 PM

Sleepy Hollow United Methodist Church

3435 Sleepy Hollow Road

Falls Church, Virginia 22044

Donation for non-members \$8 - WMAS members free

Refreshments will be served

Will Holshouser plays accordion and composes for a wide variety of musical contexts. He leads his own groups and has played with artists including Regina Carter, David Krakauer, Suzanne Vega, Eric Vloeimans, Andy Statman, NYC Ballet, NYC Opera, Brooklyn Philharmonic, and many others. Will has recorded three CDs of his music with his own trio, as well as albums with Musette Explosion and Han Bennink & Michael Moore. He has appeared at Monterey Jazz Festival, Vienna Akkordeon Festival, American Accordionists' Association Festival, and on NPR's *Fresh Air*. Will grew up in Cambridge, MA and now lives in Brooklyn, NY with his wife and daughter. Learn more about will at his website <http://www.willholshouser.com/>.

♪♪♪♪♪

For additional information and directions go to <http://www.washingtonaccordions.org/>
 e-mail joanrauman@verizon.net or call 301-806-5998



Accordions Under the Stars

Acme Accordion School and Liberty Bellows present Accordion Under the Stars on September 15th at 6:00 p.m. – Lawn Party, Concert, Wine & Cheese Tasting. Guest artists include Michaela Dietl and Will Holshouser.

6:00 pm - Westmont Accordion Club and Philly Square
6:30 pm – Michaela Dietl workshop and concert
7:15 pm – Book signing – Musette Book, “L’Amore”
7:30 pm – Will Holshouser solo concert
8:30 pm – After-Party Night Swim in pool or hot tub, and roast marshmallows.

Free admission, RSVP only required. A \$10 donation is suggested to pay musicians, or Wrist Band purchase. \$25 VIP tickets for French Wine & Cheese Tasting.

Event will be held at 21 Oriole Way, Moorestown, NJ 08057. In case of rain, event location will change to Acme Accordion School, 322 Haddon Avenue, Westmont, NJ 08108.

See also article on page 10 ■

Brooklyn Accordion Club

Happy end of the summer!

Brooklyn Accordion Club meeting will resume in September! Mark your calendar!

- Sunday, September 30, 2-4pm - Workshop with Robert Duncan
- Sunday, October 21, 2-4pm - Patty Furlong "Traditional Irish Music on Button Accordion"
- Sunday, November 4 - "Accordion Day Festival"
Field trip to ACME Accordion Club in Westmont, NJ
- Sunday, December 2, 2-4pm - Annual Holiday/End of the Year Squeeze-Off!

All the meetings take place (except the field trip) in the Great Room at South Oxford Space at 138 South Oxford Street in Brooklyn. Each meeting starts with a casual open mic. Everyone including beginners is welcome to perform a piece or two. Please RSVP your spots.

See you on September 30th!
Brooklyn Accordion Club is sponsored, in part, by the Greater New York Arts Development Fund of the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, administered by Brooklyn Arts Council (BAC). ■



Guy Klucevsek - Fall Performances

• Oct. 10-13, Brooklyn, NY: performing at the Brooklyn Academy of Music as part of the Peter Zummo Ensemble, with Trisha Brown Dance Company. The piece is called “Working Title” (1985), score by Peter Zummo, for trombone, accordion, bass, percussion.

• Dec. 2, Albuquerque, NM: “Chatter Sunday,” a series of Sunday morning concerts sponsored by the Chatter organization. This program will feature the music of Guy Klucevsek in solos and duos for accordion and piano, including “Bar Talk,” “Don’t Let the Boogie-Man Get You,” “Ballad of Faithie” (commissioned by the American Accordionists Association), and “The Day the Snow Fell Upwards.” A description from the Chatter site reads:

Chatter weaves together traditional and contemporary classical music in often surprising programs that include a reading by our poet/speaker of the morning and a two-minute celebration of silence. 10:30am Sunday mornings 50 weeks a year: welcoming, invigorating, eccentric. Performances take place at Las Puertas at 1512 1st Street NW in Albuquerque. Arrive before 10am and enjoy the complimentary espresso bar and homemade goodies. Our one-hour program of ensemble music begins promptly at 10:30 am.

The New England Accordion Connection
& Museum Company
is pleased to announce a one-day workshop featuring
Cory Pesaturo



Saturday, September 22, 2018 • 1:00-3:00 p.m.
The New England Accordion Connection
& Museum Company
17 Margaret Lane • Canaan, Connecticut. 06018

\$20.00 per Adult. • \$10 per Student
Complimentary beverages and snacks will be served.
Join us in making another memory.

We are happy to announce the release of our new book
“Accordion Stories from the Heart”

A collection of accordions from around the world and their stories, inspired by the extraordinary people who played them. which is now available for sale.

By Angelo Paul Ramunni

See our inventory of over 200 new and used accordions for sale. Tour our accordion museum of over 300 accordions and memorabilia. See our collection of over 10,000 pieces of sheet music for sale.

Contact: Paul Ramunni to register and reserve a seat.
Phone: (860) 833-1374 OR E-mail ramunni@comcast.net
www.newenglandaccordionmuseum.com
Space is Limited so we are accepting reservations only.....
Reservations required by September 15, 2018

For directions, see next page.

Visit our website at
www.ameraccord.com
e-mail:
ameraccord1938@gmail.com

World Accordion Orchestra X

Orchestra X will perform three works from three diverse American composers, under the direction of Joan Cochran Sommers.

The first piece *Serenata* is a classic gem from renowned American composer Leroy Anderson. The second work is by accordionist and composer Amy Jo Sawyer. Amy Jo and WAO conductor Joan C. Sommers were among the first accordionists to represent the USA at the Coupe Mondiale. Amy Jo has written numerous works for accordion orchestra and her lovely work *Recuerdos* will feature this year. The program will culminate in the magnificent *West Side Story* as the CIA joins the global centennial celebration in honor of Leonard Bernstein's 100th anniversary.

Conductor Joan C. Sommers, founder of the CIA World Accordion Orchestra was awarded the title of Professor Emerita upon her retirement from the University of Missouri – Kansas City Conservatory of Music (USA), where she established and taught the accordion degree program for forty years. She has arranged innumerable works for the accordion orchestra over many years, often for the UMKC Accordion Orchestra, a large symphonic accordion orchestra, which, under her direction, competed in and won more First Prizes in Virtuoso Accordion Orchestra Competitions than any other similar American group. This is a record still unbroken today.

In both 1955 and 1956 she earned the right to represent the USA in the Coupe Mondiale and, although she didn't win, it was those experiences which opened her eyes to the tremendous opportunities available to accordionists; perhaps it also fixed her life-long interest in worldwide accordion activities. Most recently, she celebrated the 50th Anniversary of her UMKC Accordion Orchestra when they presented their 50th Gala Concert at the University.

As the arranger, Joan has had many years of experience as a teacher, a conductor, and an arranger for accordion orchestras at all levels. Many of these arrangements were used by her own orchestras in competitions held throughout the USA and on the many tours made by her groups overseas as well.

Joan C. Sommers has held positions in several music organizations, including the Accordionists & Teachers Guild International (ATG) and the Confédération Internationale des Accordéonistes (CIA – IMC-UNESCO). Today, Professor Sommers enjoys performing with fellow accordionists in duo, with other instrumentalists and with the UMKC Chamber Accordion Ensemble. In

addition to her performing, she continues to adjudicate, coach soloists, prepare accordion orchestra arrangements, and conduct accordion orchestras regularly. After her retirement as CIA Vice President, she was unanimously awarded the status of CIA Honorary Member.

The first World Accordion Orchestra was held in 2007 at the Coupe Mondiale festival jointly hosted by the AAA and the ATG in Alexandria, VA. This year, among the north American accordionists participating in WAO X under the direction of Joan C. Sommers, are Mary Tokarski (AAA President), Nathan Chapeton (AAA Junior Coupe Mondiale representative), Kevin Friedrich (AAA Board Member and CIA Ambassador), Beverly Fess (Canadian CIA Representative). ■

N.E. Accordion Connection & Museum, cont'd. from p.6

DIRECTIONS:

From Points south - Waterbury/Southington:

Travel 30 miles on route 8 north all the way up to its end in Winsted, Conn. where it intersects route 44. Take a right onto route 44 west and go through the town of Winsted. Stay on route 44 west heading toward Norfolk and Canaan. Travel 10 miles to Norfolk from Winsted while remaining on route 44. Continue on route 44 and look for the East Canaan Package store on the left. In 1 mile take the next right onto Trescott Hill Road and look for museum sign at intersection of route 44 and Trescott. **Take second left onto Margaret Lane – driveway entrance is 2nd drive on left.

From Points southwest - Danbury

Take route 7 north all the way to Canaan, Ct. At intersection with route 44, (see Catholic Church and firehouse) turn right onto route 44 East. Pass by Stop and Shop and take second left onto Trescott Hill road. Follow directions above from **Trescott Hill Road above.

From Points North - Take route 7 south from Massachusetts to Canaan, Ct.

Follow directions above for points southwest.

From Points East - Take route 44 and follow directions for points south above.

From Points West - Take route 44 and follow directions for points southwest

Cory Pesaturo Performing in Las Vegas

After an exciting performance at Cotati, Cody Pesaturo will perform at the New England Accordion Connection & Museum presenting a workshop as well (see details on page 6) and will also be featured at the Oktoberfest FUN in Las Vegas from October 15, 2018. Cory will be joined by Grayson Masefield, the Europa Band, Stas Venglevski, Mary Tokarski, Kim & Dan Christian, Gordon Kohl, Linda Warren, Gina Brannelli, Pete Barbutti, and many more! In addition, The International Accordion Orchestra, will be conducted once again by Professor Joan C. Sommers.

Cory recently participated at TED Talk (this time at Fenway Park in Boston), and performed at Google bringing in 2 accordionists from Europe, as well as the Accordionists & Teachers Guild International's recent event in Lisle, Illinois.

Cory is also playing at the Columbus Italian Festival and the giant Milwaukee Italian Festival and recently performed at a high end Concours Gala with Jay Leno and other Motorsports celebrities. ■



AAA's 2019 Guest Artist, Michael Bridge, keeps busy performance schedule!

Michael Bridge will be our featured artist at the 2019 AAA Festival in Valley Forge, PA from July 17-21. Michael will perform in concert at the Festival and also present workshops and conduct with one-on-one or group master class sessions.

Here is a glimpse at Michael's current schedule throughout the remainder of 2018:

October 2, 2018 - São Paulo, BRAZIL

Solo & with OSESP String Quartet
Teatro São Petro - 8pm

October 5, 2018 - São Paulo, BRAZIL
with São Paulo Youth Orchestra
Teatro Décio de Almeida Prado - 8pm

October 9, 2018 - Brasília, BRAZIL
with NATIONAL ORCHESTRA OF BRAZIL
Teatro Cine Brasília - 8pm

October 11-13, 2018 - Vancouver, BC
CMS/NACWPI International Conference
Lecture Recital: "Transcribing Music with Artistic Integrity for a 21st Century Audience" With Professor Kornel Wolak, clarinet (from Queen's University)

November 2, 2018 - Toronto, ON
Continuum Contemporary Ensemble
Trinity St. Paul's Centre, 7:30pm
Tickets: www.continuummusic.org

November 6-8, 2018 - Bloomington, IN
Indiana University
Triple concerto for accordion, clarinet and bassoon.

November 16, 2018 - Oliver, BC
South Okanagan Concert Society
Double-Double Duo
Frank Venables Theatre, 7:30pm
Tickets: www.venablestheatre.ca/coming-soon

November 21, 2018 - Pender Island, B.C.
Double-Double Duo
Pender Island Concert Association

November 24, 2018 - Barrie, ON
Double-Double Duo
Hiway Pentecostal Church, 7:30pm
Tickets: www.barrieconcerts.org/2018/bc1.html

November 26, 2018 - Toronto, ON
Duo with Joseph Johnson, Toronto Symphony Orchestra
Principal Cello.
Shaftesbury Salon Concert Series, 7:30pm
Tickets: www.shaftesburymusic.org/2017-2018-season/



CIA 71st Coupe Mondiale in Kaunas

The American Accordionists' Association and the Accordionists and Teachers Guild will be participating in the upcoming CIA Coupe Mondiale Festival in Kaunas, Lithuania, where they jointly represent the United States as members of the International Jury, Delegates and competitors in the International competitions.

Competitors from around the world and delegates of member nations will gather for the 71st Confédération Internationale des Accordéonistes (CIA) Coupe Mondiale festival from September 24-30, 2019.

This year competitions will be held in seven categories including:

- 71st Coupe Mondiale
- Masters Coupe Mondiale
- Junior Coupe Mondiale
- International Competition for Virtuoso Entertainment Music
- Junior International Competition for Virtuoso Entertainment Music
- Chamber Music - Classical
- Chamber Music - World Music

The Coupe Mondiale in Lithuania will be an outstanding musical event. The City of Kaunas along with the Lithuanian National Accordionist's Union are preparing a very exciting schedule of competitions and musical events for participants, delegates and guests, including Competitions, Concerts and the World Accordion Orchestra X under the direction of Joan C. Sommers.

Nathan Chapeton, pictured at right, will represent the USA-AAA in the Junior Coupe Mondiale category. He will perform one of the required selections for this competition at the Carrozza Fundraising Dinner on September 9th which also features Petar Maric, Don Gerundo & Spencer Bruno, Mario Tacca and Mary Mancini with Phil Battiston on percussion.

Daily coverage of the CIA events including videos of competitions and concerts will be available during the Coupe Mondiale at www.coupemondiale.org. ■



Guy Klucevsek Performs at McCain's Memorial

You possibly all know this, if you happened to watch John McCain's memorial service, and as it is already up on Accordions.com:

Renée Fleming sang at John McCain's memorial service Sept. 1, 2018, with accordionist Guy Klucevsek and the Diderot String Quartet. <http://www.accordions.com/news.aspx?d=31-Aug-2018&lang=en&s=14701>

Here is the link to a video of the entire service, uploaded to YouTube by the New York Times. The performance in question begins at about 3:06:30 https://youtu.be/O2kzx8gxt_w

Contributed by Jeanne Velonis



Accordions Around the World in Bryant Park, New York City

The Bryant Park Corporation is once again hosting the annual summer performing arts series and Bryant Park Picnics in the heart of New York City. At each Picnic, Bryant Park provides over 200 blankets to borrow and Hester Street Fair curates local food vendors. Beer and wine are available for purchase, and the grass is dotted with jugglers and interactive super-sized games.

Attendees are invited to grab a blanket, get comfortable, and enjoy the variety of shows! All Picnics events are free and open to the public. No tickets, no lines. Come as you are and leave when you please. Hester Street Fair selects acclaimed local food vendors and lawn games include corn hole, juggling, giant Jenga, hula hoops, and more.

As part of the summer series, Accordions Around the World - will offer weekly musical accordion journeys representing cultures from all over the globe each week. The accordion series, curated by Ariana Hellerman will culminate in the grand Accordion Festival showcasing five bands, each featuring an accordion, playing music from a range of different cultures.

Accordions Around the World is a five-week series that brings dozens of accordionists, as well as bandoneón, bayan, concertina, and harmonium-players of different musical genres, to perform at Bryant Park. Audiences have a chance to experience a broad spectrum of accordion and accordion related instrument styles.

Wednesday, August 15, 5:30 - 7:30 PM - Bryant Park Lawn; Phil Passantino (Cajun and Zydeco), Maestro Tito Castro (Bandoneón: Argentine Tango), Foncho Castellar (Colombian Cumbia and Vallenato), Gregory Grene (Irish Rock), Eduardo de Carvalho (Brazilian Forró), Christina Crowder (Klezmer & Moldavian Folk), Jenny Luna (Balkan and Turkish), Susan Hwang (Blues and Soul), Jody Kruskal (Concertina: Old Americana), Dmitry Sokolovsky (Retro, Samba, Musette and Jazz), Nathan Koci (American and English Folk Tunes), and Barry Adler (German and Austrian)

Wednesday, August 22, 5:30 - 7:30 PM - Bryant Park Lawn. John Sherman (Cajun, Appalachian and Blues), Tinta Roja (Argentine Bandoneón and Guitar), El Toro de la Sierra (Mexican Norteño), Dan Gurney (Traditional Irish), Felipe Hostins (Northeast Brazilian), Ben Rosenblum (Jazz and Klezmer), The Bumper Crop Boys (Blues and Country), Yuri Lemeshev (World, Classical and Jazz), Sam Reider (American Roots), Erica Mancini (Jazz, Blues and Country), Mario Tacca (French Musette and Waltz), and more.

Wednesday, August 29, 5:30 - 7:30 PM - Bryant Park Lawn. Kenny Margolis (Zydeco and Blues), David Hodges (Bandoneón: Argentine Tango), Harold Rodriguez (Colombian Vallenato), Annmarie Acosta (Williams Traditional Irish), Rob Curto (Brazilian Bluegrass), Ed Goldberg & the Odessa Klezmer Band (Eastern European Klezmer), Peter Stan and Peter Stan (Balkan), George Saenz (Music from Texas-Mexico Border), Smörgåsbandet (Scandinavian), Earl Ball

(Polka, French and Tango), Mindra Sahadeo (Harmonium: South Asian), and Rachelle Garniez (Genre-fluid story-songs)

Wednesday, September 5, 5:30 - 7:30 PM - Bryant Park Lawn. Laren Droll (Cajun and Zydeco), Laura Vilche (Bandoneón: Argentine Tango), Nain,

Acordeonista de los M-1 (Mexican Norteño), Cordeone (Portuguese Fado), Ilya Shneyveys (Traditional and Original Klezmer), Eva Salina and Peter Stan (Vintage Balkan Romalads), Melissa Elledge (Pop and Rock), Albert Behar (French Musette and Gypsy Jazz), Alan Morrow (Waltzes, Tango and Blues), and Papa Bavarian (German Oktoberfest), more artists TBD

Wednesday, September 12, 5:30 - 7:30 PM - Bryant Park Lawn. Julie Winterbottom (Cajun Music from Louisiana), Javier Sánchez (Bandoneón: Argentine Tango), Sadys Rodrigo Espitia (Colombian Cumbia and Vallenato), Patty Furlong (Traditional Irish), Vitor Gonçalves (Brazilian Choro and Forró), Shoko Nagai (Japanese and Jewish), Papa Joe De Clemente (Italian and American Standards), Will Hol-

shouser (Jazz and Folk), Ismail Butera (Ancient Mediterranean), Ryan O'Donnell and Friends (Ukrainian), Maestro (Electronic Balkan), and Guillermo Vaisman (Coastal Argentine Chamamé)

Accordion Festival - September 14, 5:00 - 10:00 PM; Bryant Park Stage. Shashmaqam (Bukharan Jewish music and Central Asian dance), Rimel (Norteño from Northern Mexico), Canzoniere Grecanico Salentino (Pizzica tarantata from Puglia, Italy), Shilpa Ray (Indie rock with the harmonium), and many more TBA.

There are still concerts scheduled thru mid-September so schedule a visit - enjoy a wonderful evening of accordion music in the city that never sleeps. ■



Mary Mancini & Mario Tacca



Papa Joe De Clemente



Mario Tacca



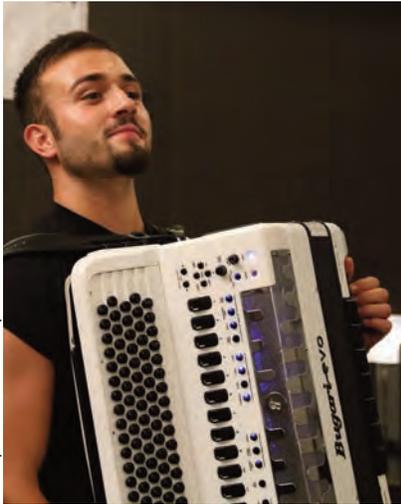
Will Holshouser

Special edition of the AAA Newsletter "Celebrating the AAA's 80th Anniversary" coming soon. If you have memories and photos to share of our 80th Anniversary Celebration in Alexandria, VA, photos as well as recommendations for future activities at our Festival, please forward to ameraccord1938@gmail.com on or before September 30, 2018.

Acme Accordion School Summer Activities

On September 11, 2018, the Acme Accordion School will present a Dinner Concert at 6:30 PM at the Cafe Aldo Lamberti in Cherry Hill, NJ, featuring Serbian accordionist Petar Maric.

Petar Maric, a native of Belgrade studied in Paris with famed instructor Frederic Deschamps as well as Professor Franck Angelis, one of the most famous and influential composers and professors in the accordion world. Maric is currently completing his education in Slovakia (Bratislava) under eminent professor Tibor Racz. Maric has won multiple international accordion competitions with both acoustic and digital accordion instruments.



Cafe Aldo Lamberti is located at 2011 Marlton Pike (Route 70), Cherry Hill, NJ 08002. Dinner will be promptly served at 6:30 PM with the Concert beginning at 7:30 PM. For tickets - www.boutiquelaronet.etsy.com or Acme Accordion School.

On September 15 at 6:00 PM, the Acme Accordion School in conjunction with Liberty Bellows will host a Lawn Party, Concert, Wine & Cheese Tasting featuring guest artists Michaela Dietl and Will Holshouser.

- 6:00 Westmont Accordion Club and Philly Squeeze bounce house and refreshments for the kids
- 6:30 - Michaela Dietl - workshop and concert
- 7:15 - Book Signing - Musette book "L'Amour"
- 7:30 - Will Holshouser - solo concert
- 8:30 - After-party Night Swim in pool or hot tub, and roast marshmallows!

Admission is free by RSVP with a suggested \$10.00 donation, or \$25.00 VIP tickets for French Wine & Cheese Tasting. The event will be held at 21 Oriole Way, Moorestown, NJ 8057. In case of rain, event location will change to Acme Accordion School, 322 Haddon Avenue, Westmont, NJ 08108. ■

Accordion and Mandolin Concerto Premiere

On Tuesday, November 6, 2018 at 7:00 PM in the Mary Gannon Concert Hall at DePaul University in Chicago, Ksenija Sidorova (accordion) and Avi Avital (mandolin) will present the premiere Concerto for Mandolin and Accordion by Benjamin Wallfisch.

Dodging war and chasing riches, top European composers like Hungary's Miklós Rózsa, Italy's Nino Rota, and Germany's Franz Waxman immigrated to America and helped to fuel Hollywood's golden age. Their concert music shows off the evocative tone painting and craftsmanship that made their film scores so indispensable to Hitchcock, Fellini, and Coppola, among others.

Soloists Ksenija Sidorova (accordion) and Avi Avital (mandolin) each bring modern glitz and glamor to their old-world instruments, whether playing a reconfigured Bach concerto or debuting the brand-new work written for them by Golden Globe, GRAMMY and Emmy nominated British composer Benjamin Wallfisch. This Orpheus commission is the latest addition to American Notes, a project that explores the landscape of new music from diverse perspectives.

Stanley Darrow inducted into ATG Hall of Fame

The Accordionists & Teachers Guild, International, a member of the Confédération Internationale des Accordionistes (CIA - International Music Council (IMC) an NGO Official Partner of UNESCO) recently inducted the late Stanley Darrow into their Hall of Fame.



The induction read as follows: The ATG takes great pride in selecting Stanley A. Darrow as a member of the ATG International Accordion Hall of Fame. In recognition of his long association with the ATG as an active member. As a performer at its annual workshops and festivals, Stanley brought a perennial interest in, and awareness of, the importance of original music for the accordion. Stanley served on the ATG Board of Directors and as Historian for many years. He was awarded the President's Award for his service to the ATG in 2008

Awarded on July 27, 2018 by the ATG Board of Directors, Presented at the 78th ATG Annual Accordion Festival, Lisle, IL

For more information on the ATG Hall of Fame please go to: <https://www.atgaccordions.com>. ■



Ksenija Sidorova (accordion)

Avi Avital (mandolin)

Orpheus Chamber Orchestra with Avi Avital (mandolin) and Ksenija Sidorova (accordion) will present the following program:

- Franz Waxman: Sinfonietta for Strings and Timpani (1955)
- Nino Rota: Canzona (1935)
- J. S. Bach: Concerto for Violin & Oboe, BWV 1060 (arranged for Mandolin & Accordion by Paul Chihara)
- Benjamin Wallfisch: Concerto for Mandolin and Accordion (Orpheus Commission)
- Miklós Rózsa: Hungarian Serenade, Op. 25 (1945) ■

Mario Tacca and Mary Mancini Upcoming Performances thru December 2018

- **Mario: Saturday Sept 15- Magnanini Winery 7-11
- **Mario & Mary: Sunday Sept. 16-Magnanini Winery 1-5
- **Mario- Saturday Sept 22- Magnanini Winery - 1-5
- **Mario & Mary Sunday Sept 23 - outdoor Italian celebration - Holy Innocents Church, Pleasantville NY 1-3
- **Mario- Sunday October 7- Magnanini Winery 1-5
- **Mario & Mary- Monday October 8 - Italian Heritage Concert - Central Connecticut State University- Torp Theatre- 6:30-8:30
- **Mario: Sunday October 14- Magnanini Winery 1-5
- **Mary & Mario- Saturday, October 20- concert - 7:00 pm - Lake of the Woods Church- Locust Grove, VA
- **Mary, Mario & Friends- Friday October 26 - 7-11- "An Evening in Rome" Assumption Church (Father Wilson Hall First St., Peekskill, NY
- **Mario- Sunday Nov. 4 - 1-5 - Casa Milanese , Highland NY
- **Mario & Mary: Tuesday November 6 - "From Italy With Love" Brownstone- Patterson NJ- 12-4:00 pm- Reserve with Ace in the Hole Production.
- **Mario- Saturday November 17/ 7-11 pm - Magnanini
- **Mario- Thanksgiving Day- Magnanini Winery -1-5 pm
- **Mario- Sat. November 25- Magnanini Winery 7-11 pm
- **Mario, Mary & Friends - BeanRunner Cafe- Peekskill NY - Friday November 30 - 8-10 pm -
- **Mario - Saturday December 1 - Magnanini Winery- 7-11 pm

**Mary, Mario & Friends, Victor Lioni String Quartet, Assumption Youth Spirit Singers- Annual Christmas Concert- 7:00 pm - Assumption Church- Peekskill, NY

Pictured below are Mario and Mary at the Bean Runner Cafe on August 31st in Peekskill, NY. Left to right: David Winograd on Bass, Ricci Saracino on Drums, Mary Mancini, Mike Caruso on Guitar and Mario Tacca. ■



Squeezing in Queens

IPublic-school 203Q, in Bayside, Queens may be one of the only elementary schools in the five boroughs of New York City that has a student accordion band. It is made up of ten 4 th and 5 th graders and is conducted by the school's music teacher, Mrs. Linda Holcomb. The school started their accordion band fifteen years ago. They meet once a week, at the beginning of the school day to practice various songs that they will perform throughout the year.

"We enjoy performing for concerts and events in our school, and we love taking our show on the road, into our community," says Holcomb. During December, the group braved the frigid weather and played holiday songs outdoors for the Bayside Hills community holiday lighting celebration.

They also entertained at the Clearview Senior Center located in

that same area. Holcomb adds,

"Performing for nursing homes and Senior Centers brings such joy to the people there. They love to see the children play their accordions. Our students always come home from those trips so excited, having experienced how their music can really be a blessing to others."

For the past two years, the group has been fortunate to have the guidance of community member and professional accordionist, "Papa Joe" De Clemente. Papa Joe volunteers his time to join the students for rehearsals and he inspires them to be better accordionists. Among the many things he does for them, he also fixes their accordions! (Sometimes nine and ten year olds don't exactly treat their accordion like it deserves to be treated!) ■



Kidz Korner

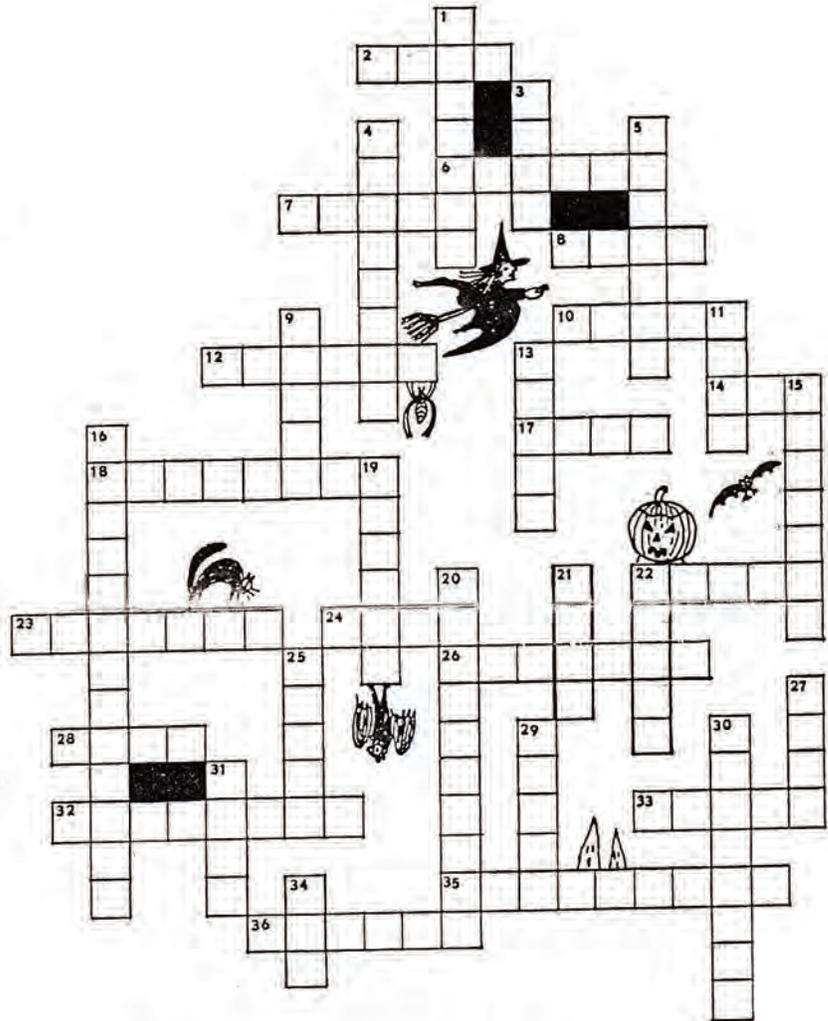
For young and old alike. See how many you know!

ACROSS

2. *f* forte) = ____.
6.  = ____ Clef.
7.  = ____ Note.
8. Allegro = ____.
10. "Stars and Stripes Forever" is a ____.
12. The cello belongs to the ____ family.
14.  ____ C.
17. *p* (piano) = ____.
18. A writer of music.
22.  = ____ Time.
23. High female voice.
24. The staff spaces spell ____.
26. Forerunner of jazz.
28.  ____ C.
32. 
33.  = Triple ____.
35. A group playing instruments.
36. All singing the same tune.

DOWN

1.  = ____ Note.
3. There is a Half ____ between E and F.
4. The clarinet belongs to the ____ family.
5. The distance between two bar lines.
9. The tuba is a member of the ____ family.
11. Fermata.
13. 
15. Look out for flying ____ on Halloween.
16. Provides the "background" to a melody.
19. 
20. Drums are members of the ____ family.
21. Low female voice.
22. There are ghosts in ____ lit places.
25. High male voice.
27. 
29. Keynote.
30. The difference in pitch between two notes.
31. Means "tail" in music.
34. Fine = The ____.



A big welcome to our new student members (see page 13)! You are important to us. Please send your comments and suggestions as well as any photos to our editor, Kevin Friedrich at goaccordion@yahoo.com

Welcome New AAA Members

Professional Members

Mark L. Greathouse

Associate Members

Linda R. Haney
Robert B. Conn
Alice E. Maurer
Linda McBurney
Jeffrey Grotte
Michael Silvia
Richard Metro
Edison Y. Chang

Student Members

Zoia Levit
Shilong Cui
Nathan Chapeton
Alexander Lammers
Max Hoffmann
Gabriel Abreu
Caroline Lammers
Nicholas Busso
Cody McSherry
Eileen H. Apruzzese
Victoria Drob

Save the Dates

**July 17-21, 2019 at the
Valey Forge
Casino Resort
King of Prussia, PA**

Single - Double \$119.00

**Deadline for reservations
at the discounted rate is
June 11, 2018**

Thank you!

The following have sent donations since the July-August issue of the Newsletter. We appreciate your support!

\$500-\$999

*Full Grace Physical Therapy, P.C. Carrozza Scholarship
Oakland Acupuncture, P.C. Carrozza Scholarship
Liberty Park Chiropractic, P.C. Carrozza Scholarship
Westchester Chiropractic
Healthcare, PC Carrozza Scholarship
Innovation Anesthesia &
Pain Services, P.C. Carrozza Scholarship*

\$101-\$249

Joan & Dan Grauman 80th Anniversary Festival

Up to \$100

*Christina Busso Youth Promotion
Jim Feaster Youth Promotion
Manfred Foge Youth Promobion
Peter Peluso Composers Commissioning
Richard A. Soderquist General
Lynn Ewing Composers Commissioning
Joe Ciccone Composers Commissioning
Peter Peluso Composers Commissioning
Suzanne Shayt Composers Commissioning
S. Keenan Composers Commissioning
Nancy Davignon Composers Commissioning
Mary Tokarski Composers Commissioning
Don Gerundo Composers Commissioning
Dr. William Morse General
Goad Realator Carrozza Scholarship
Carmelo Carrozza Carrozza Scholarship
Aneesha Williams Carrozza Scholarship
Linda Infante Carrozza Scholarship
Narra Chiropractic Carrozza Scholarship
JM Pizza King Carrozza Scholarship
Dominick & Grace Bueti Carrozza Scholarship
Isidoro & Grace Neri Carrozza Scholarship
Federico Fortunato Carrozza Scholarship
Carmelo Tripodi Carrozza Scholarship
Carmelo Cambareri Carrozza Scholarship
Sal & Cathy Albanese Carrozza Scholarship
Franck N. Carrozza Carrozza Scholarship
Vadim Tantsyura Carrozza Scholarship*

Thank you all for your generous support!

Coast to Coast

*...a sampling of accordion events across the USA!
Contact the individual organizations for updates.*



WMAS

Not everyone goes on vacation in August! We had a pretty good turnout at the August 12 meeting, which was opened by our greeter, Robert Ford. We always expect a lot from Robert, and his wonderful mini-concert put everyone in a good frame of mind for the somewhat mind-intensive workshop that was to follow.

In "Really Listening to Music - Improve Your Musical Ear," Peter DiGiovanni explained how we can learn music as a language by listening for the basic elements that make up the songs we hear: scales, intervals, and chords. He provided numerous examples of how these elements are combined in familiar melodies, spending extra time on "Do-Re-Mi," which is a wonderful music lesson in itself! In addition, Peter provided many suggestions for improving our musical listening skills. Feel free to contact Peter at peter@musicisforever.com with any questions or constructive feedback.

We're very excited to be welcoming Will Holshouser as our guest artist on September 16 at 4 pm. Will is an amazing accordionist who also composes for a wide variety of musical contexts. You may have heard him on NPR's Fresh Air. He leads his own groups and has played with artists including Regina Carter, David Krakauer, Andy Statman, Suzanne Vega, Eric Vloeimans, the New York City Ballet, the New York City Opera, and the Brooklyn Philharmonic. He has recorded three CDs of his music with his own trio, as well as albums with Musette Explosion and Han Bennink & Michael Moore. In addition, Will has appeared at the Monterey Jazz Festival, Vienna Akkordeon Festival, and American Accordionists' Association Festival. Originally from Cambridge, Massachusetts, he now lives in Brooklyn, New York with his wife and daughter. You can learn more at <http://www.willholshouser.com>. A flyer for the concert can be found on page 5. Please forward it to your family and friends, or print it out and post it. Thanks! We look forward to seeing you on September 16.

SAN ANTONIO, TX

The San Antonio, TX Accordion Association meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month at Chesters Hamburgers Private Party Room located at NE Loop 410 between Nacogdoches & Broadway. Remember, the weather is ALWAYS great at Chesters! September 25th meeting will celebrate Pre-Oktoberfest Music as well as the Nominating Committee Selection. October 30th will feature Oktoberfest Music & Music of the Night! So wear your costumes if you dare.

CASTELFIDARDO TRIP

Once again, Peter LeGeyt is hosting travel to Castelfidardo - May 2019. Join other accordionists from around the UK & USA for a visit to 'The Home of the Accordion' Castelfidardo in Italy between 14-18 May, 2019. Over the past few years a number of USA accordionists have participated and enjoyed this event. The trip will include a number of visits to accordion factories, the accordion museum, and to restaurants in the evening with entertainment. Cost for the entire trip without flights starts around US\$650. Can also travel to London and travel with UK group.

If you would like to receive full details, please contact: Peter Le Geyt (member of Guildford Accordion Club UK) email: plg@plgmarketing.com (+44 (0) 20 8977 6680

LISLE (CHICAGO), IL

The Accordionists and Teachers Guild, International (ATG) held their annual event in Lisle, a suburb of Chicago, Illinois and were treated to a surprise guest. Leonie Kratz is Matthias Matzke's girlfriend. They were both a big hit at the ATG - Matthias is a phenomenal player (both acoustic and digital) and Leonie is a wonderful singer. Visit the ATG website for a link for Leonie's performance of "The Prayer" accompanied by the ATG Festival Orchestra under the baton of Joan C. Sommers as well as other recordings. The ATG 2019 Festival will be held July 23 to 27, 2019 in Denver, Colorado at the Double Tree by Hilton in Greenwood Village, CO.

PETALUMA, CA

On Monday August 20, 2018, accordionist Cory Pesaturo entertained in concert at the Herman Sonns Hall, in Petaluma, CA, in a concert organized by The Accordion Club of the Redwoods.

Cory Pesaturo, from Rhode Island, began playing at the age of nine, and became successful in competitions, winning the 2011 Primus Ikaalinen World Championship in Finland and was the first ever American contestant. He has also won the CIA Coupe Mondiale World Digital Accordion Championship in Auckland, New Zealand, and is to date the only person to win international competitions on Acoustic Accordion, Digital Accordion, and Jazz. For further information email: ajmustaro@gmail.com

PEEKSKILL, NY

World Renowned Accordionist Mario Tacca and Virtuoso International Vocal Artist ary Mancini performed their popular Cabaret Show in Peekskill, NY at the Bean Runner Cafe on August 31. The renowned duo performed with Mike Caruso (Guitar/Mandolin), David Winograd (Bass) and Ricci Saracino (Drums).

The concert will be held again on Friday November 30, 2018 at 8:00 PM. The Beanrunner Cafe is located at 201 S. Division Street, Peekskill, NY. Please call (914) 737-1701 for reservations.

CAPE MAY, NJ

On August 17, the Westmont Philharmonia Accordion Orchestra performed a free concert in Cape May, NJ at the Gazebo in Rotary Park. Attendees enjoyed a relaxing evening listening to selections such as Phantom of the Opera, West Side Story, Latina, Italian In Algiers, Slavonic Dance No. 2, Hungarian Dance No. 5 and No. 6, Kalif of Bagdad, Santander and Stars Over Iberia.

EAST NORTHPORT, NY

La Villini Restaurant of East Northport, NY hosted the Long Island Accordion Alliance (LIAA) - on Wednesday, September 5, 2018 where they featured accordionist Fabio Lucarelli. The Long Island Accordion Alliance is enjoying its eighth year of celebrating the accordion on Long Island. For more information,

please visit www.facebook.com/LongIslandAccordionAlliance

AUDUBON, PA

The Accordion Pops presents a Sunday afternoon full of music and hope. The ALS Hope Foundation concert will be the Accordion Pops Orchestra's ninth concert at beautiful Shannondell, a retirement home near historic Valley Forge! A portion of the proceeds benefit ALS Hope Foundation. The Concert of Hope- Accordion Pops will take place on Sunday, September 23, 2018 from 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM at Shannondell at Valley Forge, 10000 Shannondell Drive, Audubon, PA, 19403. For more information, please visit <http://www.accordionpops.com>.

TINTON FALLS, NJ

The Accordion Pops Orchestra will perform on Sunday, October 28, 2018 at 2:00 PM at the Seabrook Village, 3000 Essex Road in Tinton Falls, NJ 07753. The concert marks the sixth concert at Seabrook Village, a premier retirement home in Northern New Jersey! For more information, please visit <http://www.accordionpops.com>.

BEGENFIELD, NJ

On Sunday, November 18, 2018 at 3:00 PM, the Accordion Pops Orchestra will perform at the Conlon Hall Auditorium, 19 North William Street in Bergenfield, NJ, 07621. This will be the fifth such concert presented by the orchestra for the benefit of Saint John the Evangelist Church in Bergenfield, NJ. The orchestra will present a variety of pieces including several Christmas favorites. The concert is open to the public for a \$10 donation, which is used by St. John's for charitable purposes. For more information, please visit <http://www.accordionpops.com>.

CONNECTICUT (CAA)

Sunday, September 30, 2018
1:00pm

The Waverly Tavern
286 Maple Ave., Cheshire, CT 06410
OPEN GROUP JAM!!

CAA Orchestra Conductor Peter Peluso will lead us in a group play along. Music provided. Open to EVERYONE! Bring your instrument, a music stand and join the fun!

Call Marilyn if you'd like to receive the music ahead of time.

Followed by:

"ACCORDION PLUS" OPEN MIC
Any creative combination of accordion plus other instruments, vocalists, dancers!

NOTE: Call to be put on the program. 7-10 minutes per act.

\$5.00 cover CAA members.
\$10.00 all others, under 16 years of age FREE.

RSVP by September 28 to

Marilyn at 203-272-1202

Meet Michael Bridge (Guest Artist – 2019 AAA Festival)

Michael Bridge

Accordion & Digital Accordion

Please note: all biographies must be printed in full and without alterations.

Full Bio

Updated: May 2018

Lauded as “a wizard of the accordion,” Michael Bridge is internationally-renowned for his warm stage personality, stereotype-smashing versatility, and blazing virtuosity. Named one of CBC’s “30 Hot Classical Musicians Under 30”, he made his solo orchestral debut with the Boston Pops at 17 and gives over 100 concerts per year in Europe and the Americas. Encompassing the diversity of his live performances, his debut album, “Overture”, launched in 2018 and was named CBC Album of the Week.

More than a classical musician, Michael simply describes his repertoire as ‘concert music’ – encompassing baroque, classical, and contemporary works, along with a vast array of his own concert arrangements of folk and jazz music. Armed with both acoustic and digital accordions, all sounds emanating from the stage (up to the sound of a full orchestra) are played 100% live. Prolific in working with composers, Michael has given over 40 world premieres.

Equally adept performing with orchestras, playing an energetic outdoor festival, or giving a TED Talk, Michael is a recipient of the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta’s Emerging Artist Medal, and winner of the University of Toronto Concerto Competition, the Canadian Digital Accordion Championships and the Calgary Stampede Talent Search.

On tour, Michael performs solo or with orchestra, and with his two ensembles – Bridge+Wolak and Ladom Ensemble. He has toured in Poland, France, Italy, the U.K., Ecuador, the USA and in every Canadian province.

Michael is pursuing doctoral studies in accordion performance at the University of Toronto, studying with Joseph Macerollo. He gives frequent guest lectures at universities and festivals on topics including The Music Business for Student, Performance and Speaking Skills, and Composing for Accordion. He has adjudicated accordion competitions in Canada and the USA.

Michael’s first accordion was purchased at a garage sale for \$5 when he was five. Two decades later, he is active in many facets of the concert music scene, boldly redefining the perception of his traditional instrument. www.MichaelBridgeMusic.com



AAA Festival 2019

July 17-21, 2019 • Valley Forge Casino Resort • King of Prussia, PA



American Accordionists' Association
c/o Mary J. Tokarski
15 Maplewood Lane
Northford, CT 06472