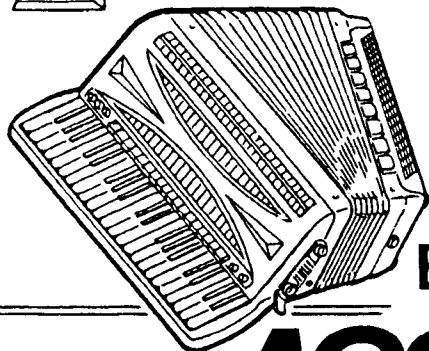


Newsletter of the

SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA U.S.A.



BAY AREA

ACCORDION CLUB

November, 1998

President's Message

by Marian Kelly

Dear Members and Friends,

Hope you didn't miss our November meeting at our new trial location, the Moose Lodge. What a wonderful crowd we had! It was an unusual meeting in that we had only two performers, both bands, playing for both dancing and listening. The dance floor was crowded; members and guests enjoyed the mini-sandwiches that we had paid a caterer to prepare; coffee and both soft and harder drinks were readily available. All in all, folks seemed to really be enjoying our party.

However, attendance was so good that many folks, especially those sitting in the back, couldn't either hear or see very well. And the number of bodies raised the room temperature by several degrees, until we had to open the back door, thereby chilling out folks sitting back there. Some people hadn't realized that the meeting was to be, essentially, a dance party, and weren't delighted with that format.

And so, with mixed reviews, we must decide whether Moose is, on balance, a better location for our club than Donworth. And we must decide in early December. We solicit your opinion.

Keep in mind, please, that the usual meeting format will be chairs at the tables and on most of the dance floor, and folks will sit and listen rather than dancing. That will help the crowding problem considerably, even if we DO manage to draw numbers approaching the 160 who attended in November. That number is greater than the average attendance in the last year, so be assured that a Moose meeting will seldom feel nearly as crowded as this one did. And Moose management will work with us on the heating problem. They do have air conditioning, but it was not turned on on that November evening, understandably so.

So, please plan to come to our second and last Test Evening at Moose, and let us know what you think. It's our Christmas Party, and will therefore be very festive! Either speak to one of the Board members or call our voice-mail at (415) 974-9210 to give us your thoughts.

Since your next newsletter may not arrive until after all the Christmas festivities have become history, let me take this opportunity to wish each of you and your families a joyous, peaceful holiday season, filled with lots of love and squeezin'.

Mark Your Calendars

Dec. 6. Accordion sound seminar at Boaz accordions. Eric Barr answers your accordion miking and amp questions. 2:00-4:00pm \$15 fee.

Dec. 7 (Monday). BAAC General Membership Meeting at the Moose Lodge in Colma at 7535 Mission St. Holiday celebration. *Bring your accordion to join in the 2nd annual giant Holiday Ensemble.* Artists for the night include Bob Berta, Alex Yaskin, Frank Lima, Richard Yaus, BAAC Fun Band and BAAC Ensemble and guest appearance by Santa Claus...bring your kids and grandkids. Before meeting and intermission music by Herb Meier. 7:00-9:30pm.

Dec. 8 Tuesday. (and every second Tuesday). Meeting of the Golden State Accordion-Aires. 7:00pm. Pietro's No.2. 679 Merchant St. Vacaville. Ca.

Dec. 9. (Wednesday). 7:30pm. BAAC Board Meeting. Contact Marian Kelly for location. Guests welcome.

Dec. 9. (Monday) (And every second Monday). Accordion Circle of the East Bay Ensemble practice. Beginning and intermediate players. 7:30pm, in West Berkeley at 816 Bancroft. Cost: \$10 per practice. Led by Henri Ducharme, 510-526-3255 or Jean O'Malley, 510-843-9958.

Dec. 10 (Thursday). (And every 2nd Thursday) Meeting of the Accordion Circle of the East Bay. 7:30pm. 1540 Scenic, Berkeley. For info call 510-843-9958.

Cont. page 2

Calendar cont. from page 1

Deep Listening Workshop. Oakland at Mills College, Music Ensemble Room 1:30 to 4:30pm Call 510-222-3445 for more information and club discounted tickets. \$40 if reserved by October 26..

Dec. 13 (Sunday). BAAC San Jose meeting. Germania Rest. 261 N. 2nd. St. 3:00pm to ? Bring your accordion!

Dec. 20 Monday. (and every third Monday). Meeting of the Accordion Club of the Redwoods. 7:00pm. Volpi's in Petaluma.

Jan. 4 Monday. General membership meeting location to be announced. Teacher and student night. Contact Bob Berta at 650-756-8309 to schedule your students.

Jan. 10 (Sunday). BAAC San Jose meeting. Germania Rest. 261 N. 2nd. St. 3:00pm to ? Bring your accordion!

BAAC Ensemble practice first and third Wednesday of each month at Moose Lodge in Colma at 7535 Mission St. from 7:00pm-9:00pm. Contact Frank Montoro (650)574-4757 for additional information.

BAAC Fun Band practice fourth Wednesday of each month at Moose Lodge in Colma at 7535 Mission St. from 7:00pm-9:00pm. Contact Tom Cordoni @ 415-333-5625 for more information.

Beginners Support Groups/Bands
East Bay 510-843-9958
San Francisco 415-673-8835
South Bay 408-258-1258

Please send Calendar Information to your Editor, using the address on the last page.

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In Memory Of

Joseph Lazerini passed away at his home in Atherton on October 26th at the age of 81. Joe was born in San Francisco and was a graduate of S.F. State University. He taught accordion for many years in San Francisco. He retired over 20 years ago, after teaching music at the Hayward Elementary School District for 33 years on virtually every instrument. Joe is listed in the "Golden Age of the Accordion" book as one of the finest San Francisco accordion teachers.

Also BAAC member Paul De Roover passed away on Oct. 17th. He was a devoted accordion enthusiast although he did not play accordion.

November General Meeting

by Bob Berta

The October meeting gave us a chance to try something really new and different. We moved from the Donsworth Hall to the Moose Lodge in Colma to try out a potential new meeting spot. We will have another meeting at the same spot next month and will poll the members in attendance as to your preferences after that meeting.

Entertaining prior to the meeting and during the intermission was the duo of Ed Massolo and Frank Panacci. The duo never ceases to amaze members with their excellent playing and dazzling techniques.

We used the new location to premier a new event (perhaps annual?); the dance night. With two top bands for our listening and dancing pleasure it looks like this will be an annual event judging from the crowded dance floor (160 plus attendance) and comments from the participants.

Of course when the bands are of the caliber of Steve Balich's Band and Domenic Saso's Band you can count on top dancing music designed to keep you on your toes.

It was a delight to see the members whooping it up on the dance floor and since this was a more informal event, there was plenty of opportunity for socializing.

The free finger food was welcome as were the available "libations" to keep everyone in a party mood.

Next month is our third annual Holiday meeting and GIANT ACCORDION ENSEMBLE JAM. Practice the music included in this newsletter and bring your accordion to join in.



Domenic Saso Band Provided Mellow Tones



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Ed and Frank-The "Dynamic Duo"

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The BAAC Founders

The Five Founders

The October meeting gave us a chance to get the five founding members of BAAC together for a picture. Who would believe that just a few short years ago the entire BAAC club consisted of these 5 guys! Pictured (back row left and than clockwise) are Jim Holliday, Lou Soper, Walter Traverso, Dominic Palmisano and Rusty Bartoli. The club grew to its present size in excess of 350 members plus spawned clubs or branches in Petaluma, Vacaville, Oakland and San Jose. Thanks guys!

Contact Phone #s for Officers :

Pres. Marian Kelly (650)854-1896
Vice Pres. vacant
Treasurer Josephine Hornbrook (650)591-3009
Record. Sect. Val Kieser (510)531-4836

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A CHROMATIC ACCORDION

Update on Pietro Diero's Accordion Restoration

by Bob Berta

A recent visit to Vince Cirelli's shop gave me an opportunity to see how the restoration of Pietro Diero's accordion was progressing (see last month's newsletter for the history of this accordion). The accordion is now completely disassembled and Vince is using all the skills in his bag of tricks to rebuild the accordion back to its former glory. Like all of us the accordion structure shows lots of wear and tear from its age. But Vince is probably the only person left in the United States with the skills to undertake such a major historic restoration and not turn a major museum piece into worthless trash.

The completion date is planned for sometime in April of 1999. Vince has permission from the Diero family to bring it to a BAAC club meeting and perform on it. That should be an event to remember! After that first performance it will be sent to New York for display and than on tour to the major accordion clubs in the US.



Valarie Morris Composition to be Featured

Member Valarie Morris composed a symphony called *Symphony of Light and Shadows* which was selected for performance by the Marin Symphony at the Bay Area Composers' symposium. We are sure Val would love to have fellow BAAC members share her moment in the spotlight when the piece is performed on February 13, 1999 at the Marin Veterans Memorial Auditorium located at Civic Center Drive & Avenue of the Flags in San Raphael. Cost is \$15 general admission and \$5 students.



For Sale

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Now Appearing at Fairmont Hotel Crown Room

Fellow BAAC member and professional accordionist Peter DiBono informs us that he will be appearing at the prestigious Fairmont Hotel on Thanksgiving, Christmas eve and Christmas day for your dining and listening pleasure. He will be appearing at both the Fairmont Room and the Crown Room so call ahead to make sure your visit coincides with his appearance in one of the rooms.. And as always be SURE to complement the management for selecting such a fine accordionist for your dining delight.



To the Members of the Bay Area Accordion Club

I would like to gratefully acknowledge and thank everyone for your kind expression of sympathy during this most difficult time for me.

Vince Cirelli

Financial Report

For the period October 1, 1997 through September 30, 1998.

INCOME

Admission to meetings	\$2,840
Advertising (newsletter)	688
Membership Fees	10,005 (in cludes fees from the previous year)
Raffle Proceeds	277
Interest Income	258
Misc.	120
Cotati Booth (net profit)	950
Award Dinner (net loss)	(86)
Total Income	\$15,052

EXPENSES

Guest Performers' Fees	\$665
Insurance	775
Meeting Expense	171
Membership Committee	402
Newsletter	4,439
Officers' Expenses	105
Promotion	59
Rent: Donworth	1,560
Group rehearsal space	560
Scholarship Fund	548
Telephone	255
Banking Charges	36
Total Expense	\$9,575

The net gain for the year of \$5,000 partially reflects the delayed banking of membership fees, but your Club nevertheless is in a very healthy financial state. The Board is currently considering whether and how we should use some of that money. We have traditionally tried to make expenses equal to income; perhaps the time has come to rethink that philosophy! Your thoughts? Call (415) 974-9210.

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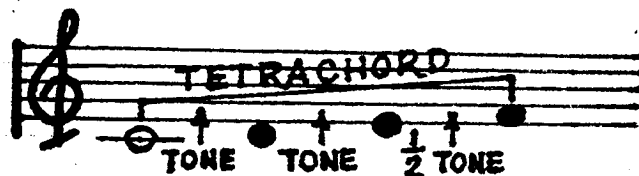
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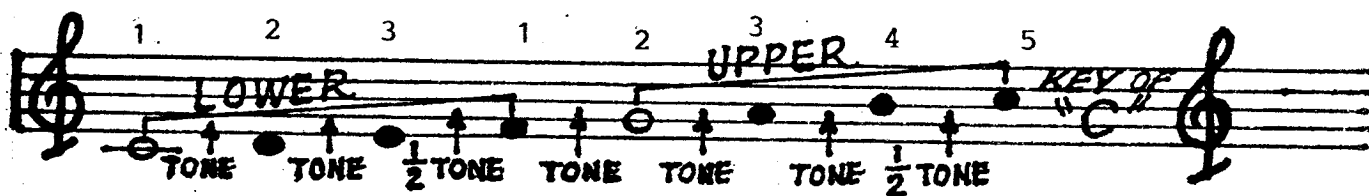
<schmatte@well.com> <http://www.well.com/~schmatte>

by Jim Holliday

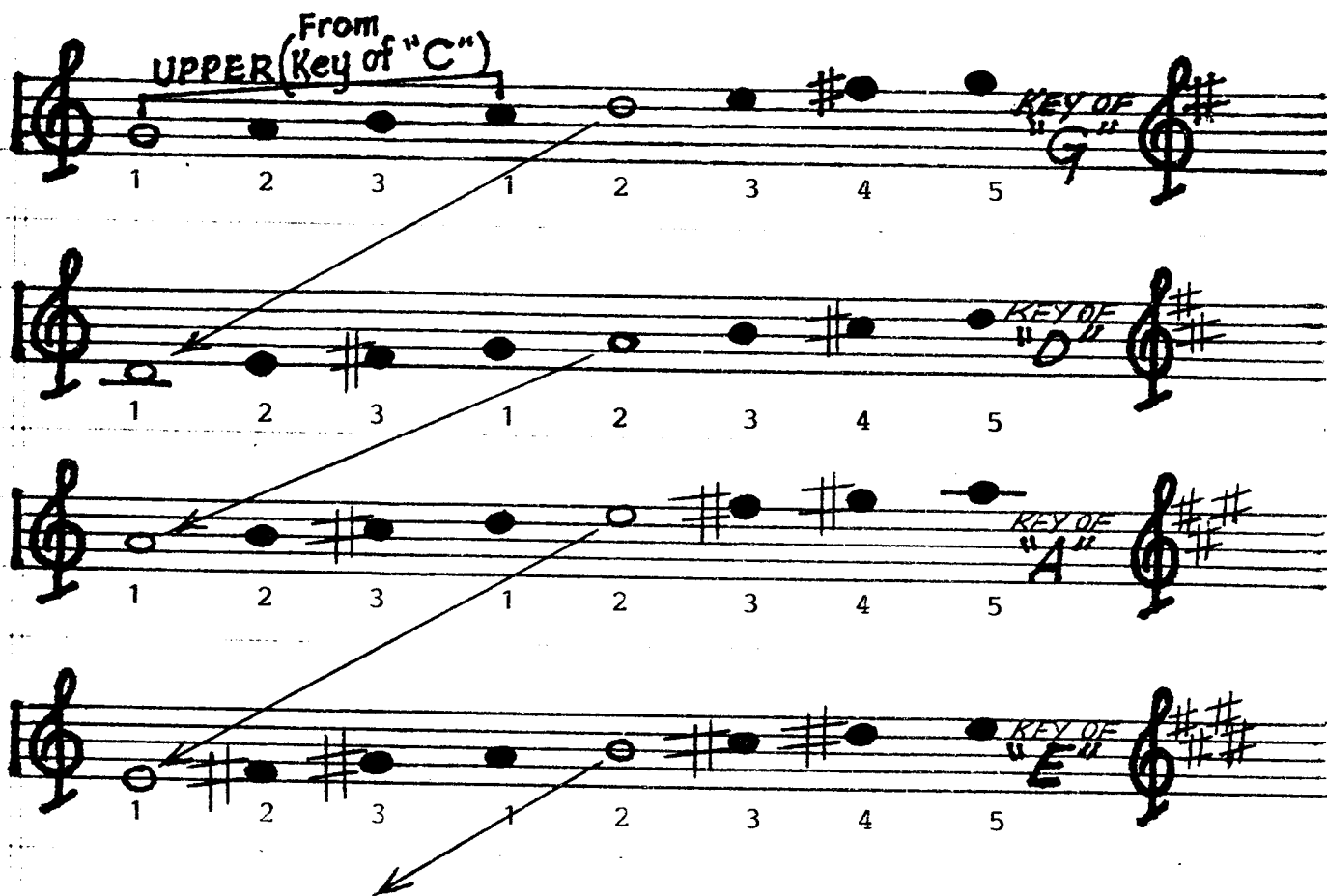
A tetrachord is a unit consisting of 4 notes which are separated by a whole tone, whole tone, half tone.



When two tetrachords are connected by a whole tone, a major scale is formed



A tetrachord belongs to two different scales. It can be the lower in one scale, or the upper in another. The first and last notes of a tetrachord indicate the two keys it belongs to. By using the upper tetrachord from one scale as the lower tetrachord in a new scale, all of the key signatures containing sharps can be formed.



Two musical staves showing scales in the key of B major and F# major. The B major scale starts on B4 and ends on B5. The F# major scale starts on F#4 and ends on F#5. Both scales are written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5 below the notes.

Starting with the "C" scale, by using the lower tetrachord as the upper tetrachord in a new scale, all of the key signatures containing flats can be formed.

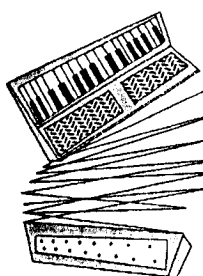
From LOWER (Key of "C")

Six musical staves showing scales in the keys of F major, Bb major, Eb major, Ab major, Db major, and Gb major. Each scale is derived from the lower tetrachord of the C major scale. The scales are written in treble clef with their respective key signatures. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 below the notes. An arrow labeled "From LOWER (Key of 'C')" points to the first scale.

Use the thumb to start scales beginning on a white key.
 Use finger 2 to start scales beginning on a black key.

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If you would like to play at a meeting contact Bob Berta at 510-450-5766