



September Meeting
1990

editor: Dominic Palmisano

49ERS 13
SAINTS 12
we're BAAC 47

Hard to believe that we would be able to compete with Monday Night Football; especially, with the home team, the 49ers, on TV! The interest for our accordion club can only be described in one word, "Unbelievable." Lou Soper came up with the perfect name for the club. It's true, we are definitely BAAC....

The meeting opened with the discussion on forming By-Laws, Set-Up and Beverage Committees. Reno Pucci, Glenn Cohen, Joe Smiell and Ernie Lantz will be the authors of the By-Laws. This is a very important function in establishing the rules and procedures to insure the longevity of the club. Rusty Bartoli, Wenzel Rasmussen and Walter Traverso will be handling the duties of setting up our new meeting facilities, and Albert Enos and Wenzel Rasmussen will be taking care of the beverages [Thanks gentlemen for volunteering for these assignments]...

The evening music began with Mr. Reliable, Clyde Forsman, playing a very fine rendition of Dancing Tambourine and Those Darn Accordions! Polka. Barney Scott followed

with two old favorites, Aloha Oe and Red Wing. Then, Joe 'the cat' Catalano did his usual exquisite medley of heart tugs from the past of Nevertheless, Had To Be You, Whispering and Deep Purple...

More discussion followed on preparing for the transition to our new home. We went back and forth for a while trying to decide on how to pay the rent. After careful consideration, the club decided that everyone attending the meeting will contribute a dollar. Any funds remaining will be put into the general fund. Also, we decided to move slowly on implementing decisions on tee-shirts, raffles and other activities that also require careful consideration [very sound thinking in my opinion!]...

Back to the music...Dan Cooper, our singing accordion player, did it again! He played two songs, Teasing and Floppy that were terrific. Next, Curt Van Neck charmed us with Musette Hollandaise and Dark Town Strutters Ball.

Back to business...Anyone living in the Bay Area for any length of time knows that Bud Seghieri is one of the finest accordionist to come from this area, and also, the finest guy you ever want to meet. With great honor, our club decided to make Bud an Honorary Member [Bud, we all thank you for

being who you are, we love you]. Also, the membership decided that Lawrence Welk will be designated Good Will Ambassador for the club [Lawrence Welk has been a key player in making the accordion popular in the United States]...Finally, we discussed the Performance Committee headed by Lou Soper. If any member is interested in participating with Lou's project to bring the finest accordion performers to the Bay Area, please call him at 415-487-2883.

At the end...Joe Smiell closed the evening with two dazzling improvisations in D minor [how does he do it?]...

After the meeting...It even got better! Rusti Bartoli played a couple of tunes that were very impressive. Also, Steve Cannata and Kenny Judnick did a duet that should have been heard by all...

After that, a group of guys including George Poli and Ray Ciardella got together at their favorite coffee shop to shoot the breeze until 2:00 AM.

A special note of appreciation for Rae Lembi's contribution to the club as Secretary. What a great job she has done for our organization...

"We thank you"...

Also, Josephine Hornbrook, our Treasurer, just got back from a two month vacation in Europe..."Welcome Home"

MUSICAL REVIEW
BY
FRANK MONTORO

In the words of the late great Al Jolson, "You ain't seen nothin' yet." That's what came to mind as I listened to tune after tune played by the Air New Zealand Accordion Orchestra. Each number they played had some sort of musical surprise that left their audience wanting more. The group con-

sisted of 23 members, the average age 16. The range of selections went from light rock to the classics. The orchestra was arranged into several sections; but just when I thought I had figured them out, they switched parts. Their amplified Titano accordions, along with a keyboard player, drummer, electric bassist and four vocalists produced some of the finest sounds heard anywhere. Their technique was flawless and the special attention they gave to dynamics made every tune

a gem. Fay-Ellen Schaw, thier conductor, explained to the audience that the orchestra practiced twice a week and performed free of charge in support of local community projects. This tour was funded by two years of constant fund raising and assisted by sponsorship from Air New Zealand and the New Zealand Government (just think about how many other accordionists there must be in that country to field such a group as this!).

Those of us who were able to attend this great concert at the Golden Gate Park Concourse on August 26th, are grateful to Walter Traverso and the folks at Colombo Accordions for telling us about it. Let's keep each other informed about other such happenings.....

For Your Information

The Club has purchased The Golden Age of the Accordion written by charter member, **Ron Flynn**. Also, we have purchased (honorary member) Anthony Galla-Rini's Workshop & Concert Video package. Both selections will be available to our members on a sign up basis. Please contact **Don Rowlands** (415-792-1632) for the details....

Letters to the Editor

August 14, 1990

Dear BAAC,

Thank you for the information on BAAC. I would like very much to join the club and I'm enclosing a check for membership.

I would like to extend an invitation to the members to see my accordion museum, 31 accordions on display and 13 more in my shop. If you would like to visit me, just give me a call (415-228-5958 for directions.

Jim Spowart

August 10, 1990

Dear BAAC,

Like many organists, I started with the Piano Accordion. While I don't play it much any more, I still teach it and love it.

I would like to become a member to support your efforts to keep the Accordion alive and well....

Keep up the good work!

Norma Parsons

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A PROFILE OF
WALTER TRAVERSO

"Where's the band?" That's what the people want to know. It's just Walter Traverso and his Iorio, Series H. The instrument he plays, called an Accorgan, is a computerized organ/synthesizer capable of duplicating the sounds of a small combo or a big band.

Walter is one of the busiest accordionists around these parts. His specialty is playing the "standards" for people who are old enough to appreciate Gershwin, Porter, Berlin and Rodgers. It's not uncommon for Walter to play two gigs in one day. When he can't work a given date because he's already booked, he makes a special effort to keep his public happy by calling around until he finds another accordionist to fill the bill.

Walter and his wife, Laverne, who accompanies him occasionally, are generous with their time and talent. He often plays for nothing at convalescent hospitals. She serves as production manager and crochets or knits while Walter bangs out lively tunes. He answers requests and people go away happy after spending an afternoon or evening dancing to his music.

A retired barber, San Francisco born Walter Traverso is enjoying life at age 66. He is energetic and devoted to his instrument. For a guy who has only been playing accordion for ten years, he is something to behold. He is a natural musician and a great guy.

Fellow accordionists, get to know him..
by **Frank Montoro**

next meeting: OCT. 1

HOUSE OF PARTIES
22 HILLCREST DR.
DALY CITY
8 PM
(SEE MAP ENCLOSED)
[Free Municipal Parking 1/2 block west]

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