

September, 2022



Sunday, September 18, 2022

♪ ♪ SFAC ACCORDIONS LIVE! ♪ ♪
THE DIBONO BROTHERS

THE SFAC "JAM BAND" WILL GATHER
BEFORE THE PERFORMANCE

ALL ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE

CHETCUTI COMMUNITY ROOM - MILLBRAE, CA

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

\$10 MEMBERS / \$15 NON-MEMBERS

YOUTH FREE WITH PARENT

Reno and Peter Di Bono ... "The DiBono Brothers"

The brothers were educated at Epiphany Catholic School and Sacred Heart High school in San Francisco.

By the 1950's, Dad, Tony DiBono, had enrolled himself and two sons with Dino Benetti Accordion School. They all played the Guilietti accordion and performed in the Summer Accordion picnics at Wildwood Park, Saratoga CA.

After graduation from SH, Reno went to Santa Clara University on a baseball scholarship while Peter opened his own accordion studio and performed with many of the top orchestras in the Bay Area.



Reno became a high school Teacher/Baseball coach from 1964 to 1973. At 33 years old, Reno gave up coaching sports and concentrated on the Guilietti 115. Eventually, Reno would form a quartet with two high school teachers and one student and perform for dinner dance at Elks lodges, Country clubs, Italian festivals, Dance clubs and especially for ICF dinner dances.

Peter, playing his Guilietti Super accordion, would form a trio with violinist Harriet Newhart and Bassist Steve Hanson to perform brilliantly for events across the State of California, including the inauguration of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Cotati Accordion Festival 2022 Report

By Pamela Tom

The accordion sprang to life during the 31st annual Cotati Accordion Festival with over 50 performances packed into the weekend, launching Friday, August 19 with a Student Scholarship Fundraiser at the Church of the Oaks in Cotati. Three SFAC members, **Lou Jacklich and Colette Ogata** (duet) and **Pamela Tom** (soloist), performed along with other accordion solo artists Lou Di Maggio and Paul Betken. The Fundraiser brought in \$500 this year in support of student scholarships.



My favorite event is always the Student Scholarship contest on Saturday morning. Each student played four pieces. Participants included Victoria Dai, SFAC member Colin Kennedy, David Matella, Joey Matella, Nicholas Plasichuk, and Evan Yuan. The SFAC contributed \$500 to a special scholarship, awarded to Nicholas for his fine performance. This year launched the Dick and Judy Contino Accordion Scholarship of \$1,000, which was awarded to Evan, an accomplished high school junior accordionist. The scholarships awarded to the six young talented accordionists totaled \$2900.

There were also non-competing youth performing as “Future Accordion Stars” on Sunday’s program.

I loved the spunk some had and their courage facing a large crowd. They all did well and are on their way to becoming tomorrow’s accordionists, entertainers and instructors. Congratulations to the students and their instructors: Mark Carlson, Marjorie Konrad, Big Lou, Professor Shouzhi Wu, Jing Yuan, and SFAC member Michael Zampiceni.



Accordion pros who pleased the crowd were scattered in La Plaza Park and nearby sites. The *Main Stage* performers starred Matt Tolentino, Sourdough Slim & Robert Armstrong, Sergei Teleshev & Maria Telesheva (“Duo Two Accordions”), Nuevos Aventurosos, Ginny Mac, Alex Meixner, Cory Pesaturo (with guest violinist/singer Leah Zeger), The Mad Maggies, Nathan & Jessie, Junk Parlor, Lucky ‘ol Bones, Motordude Zydeco, Renée de la Prade & Leslie Jackson, Future Accordion Stars, Matthias Matzke, Sam Reider & Jorge Glem, and Free Reeds with Rob Curto and Corey Purcell.

The *Polka/Zydeco Tent* was hosted mornings by Sheri Mignano Crawford & Jim Lehmen and afternoons by the Steve Balich Band. And into the early evening were Les Amis Zydeco, and Iko Ya Ya. The Zydeco Dance Party was at Spanky’s Bar with Mark St. Mary, and California Blue Runners.

Kudos to Alex Meixner (SFAC guest artist May 2021) who was named the CAF 2022 Honorary Director. Alex has many credits to his name as Grammy nominee, band leader, teacher, producer and collaborator in a major motions picture. He was recently inducted into the International Polka Association Hall of Fame.

The Jam Tent offers a popular space for attendees to bring their instruments and jam with a leader. In front of the Jam

Continued — Cotati Accordion Festival 2022 Report

Tent was the Accordion Autopsy table, which has been led nearly 10 years by George Bachich (“Piano Accordion Owner’s Manual and Buyer’s Guide” author and repairman) who displayed a dissected accordion where he expertly answered questions on accordion anatomy, repair and care.



The weather was favorably warm and brought out large enthusiastic audiences on both days. The event lured longtime attendees and many newcomers with questions about accordions. A variety of food, accordions, gig bags, accessories, music books and miscellaneous attire and bric-a-brac vendors graced the perimeter of the park. There was new and used music available and plenty of used accordions waiting for new owners to take them home. **Joe Petosa, Jr.** had a booth and his new book, “An American Accordion Story,” available. The Pengrove Elementary Outdoor Program held a raffle of numerous baskets with local goods and a coveted handmade quilt sewn with historical Cotati Accordion Festival T-Shirts. SFAC member **Elaine Cooperstein** had the winning ticket!

The SFAC was the only accordion club booth present. Thank yous are in order to the SFAC volunteers who pitched in and contributed to the booth’s success: Rosemary Busher, Robert and Elaine Cooperstein, Maestro Lou Jacklich, Colette and Casey Ogata, Thomas Seiter, Christopher Shane Kempton, Tseli Wu, Stephen Marshall, Steve Mobia, Monica Ambalal, Pamela Tom and Ken Schwartz. Volunteers served as friendly club ambassadors responding to accordion inquiries, potential members or accordion students. Special recognitions go out to the Coopersteins, who coordinated the initial efforts, including reserving and setting up the SFAC booth; transporting sheet music and books, figurines and miscellaneous items for sale; and dismantling the booth after the festival. Special recognition is also due to **Rosemary Busher**, who gave so generously to staff the booth, interact with visitors, assist our member volunteers, catalog sales, close the booth and pack up unsold items.

Our booth sold used sheet music and books, SFAC t-shirts, jewelry, and unique accordion-themed figurines mostly from the Gerald Uelemen donation (see SFAC August 2022 newsletter). People were delighted to see them; they were a huge hit and greatly benefitted the Club!



The Cotati Accordion Festival is a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization which donates all monies earned to local youth groups. To date the CAF has donated over \$546,000 to local youth organizations. The CAF is generally held on the third weekend of August. Visit the CAF website in 2023 for details at: <https://cotatifest.com/>.



SFAC at Cotati '22





SFAC at Cotati '22



CLOWNING AROUND AT THE CAF!

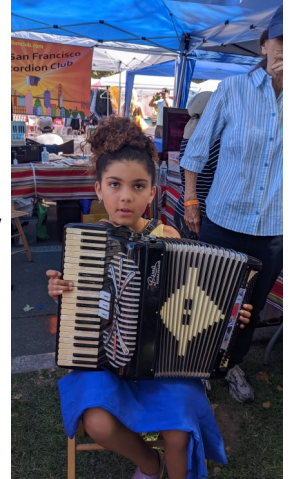
Submitted by Rosemary Busher

Many SFAC members (*you know who you are!*) stepped up in a big way to volunteer at our vendor space at the Cotati Accordion Festival this year. You might say there was a lot of clowning around throughout the weekend - we featured so many clown figurines that a rabbit was nearly pulled from a hat! It was a jolly good time and great to see everyone in-person again, thanks ever so much for the continued support.



[left] SFAC member and prominent California environmentalist/conservationist **Dr. Martin Griffin** turned 102 years old and has had a lifetime of activism in North Bay preservation work. Pictured with Jocelyn, his assistant, and SFAC's Rosemary Busher, it was an honor to meet you in person, Marty!

[right] Zola tries an accordion for the first time ever, kudos to her for being so open to the experience! She wasn't too sure about it, saying to her mom "It's heavy!"



"Duo TWO ACCORDIONS" Blazes West Coast with Far Reaching Impact

New CD • Oregon 2022 World Athletic Championships • Cotati Accordion Festival • And More!

Submitted by Pamela Tom, Accordionist

This year "Duo TWO ACCORDIONS" (world-class father and daughter champions, **Maria & Sergei Teleshev**) have been in hot demand along the West Coast from California to Washington while reaching across to US and international audiences. The talented duo act is known for outstanding solo and duo performances.

In July, "Duo TWO ACCORDIONS" were contracted performers at the Oregon 2022 World Athletic Championships (WAC) featuring the world's best athletes from over 200 nations. This was the first time that the WAC (inaugurated in 1983) was hosted in the US. "Duo TWO ACCORDIONS" gave open-air concerts of international classical and contemporary music totaling 5-1/4 hrs. They were issued a special uniform and had access to all the areas and events. As artists, they performed in concert attire. Sergei noted that "We met many international athletes and made new fans among the general public at our performances."



Sergei & Maria Teleshev at the WAC, July 2022

Many of the selections performed at the WAC included highlights from their newly released recording, **In Any Style** which includes 14 classical and contemporary favorites including: *Firedance, Indifference, Schindler's List Theme, Tango La Cumparsita, Karleks Waltz, Lullaby of Birdland, Thunderstruck, Libertango, Tico Tico*, etc.

Watch their CD promo video at: <https://youtu.be/gq3GANov8H4>. To order this exciting new CD or digitally download the album, email your interest to: accostarfest@gmail.com. Proceeds support the Accordion Star International Competition/Festival (organized by Maria and Sergei Teleshev), an annual event that joins together professional players and accordion lovers worldwide.



"Duo TWO ACCORDIONS" new CD, "In Any Style..."

It's been a banner accordion year for the Teleshevs. In addition to conducting the 2nd annual Accordion Star International Competition/Festival in May, they were guest artists at the March Zoom meeting of the San Francisco Accordion Club, and played to a filled auditorium at the June Leavenworth International Accordion Celebration in Washington. Both venues included audiences spanning both the West and East Coast, and beyond for the LVIAC.

*The accordion needs more ambassadors like Maria and Sergei Teleshev!
Keep up the great work!*

Friends of the SFAC at Festa Coloniale Italiana, 2022

Robert Cooperstein

The only thing better than seeing Steve Albini play over the weekend is seeing Steve Albini play **twice** in one weekend! Elaine and I made it out to San Rafael Joes (um, in San Rafael) Friday night, August 26. My highlight of the evening occurred when I commented that a romantic period piece Steve had played sounded like it was from the time of *Al Di La* – whereupon the next song Steve commenced to play was . . . *Al Di La!* We hope he will back at Joe's soon, it is a great restaurant in addition to being a great Albini venue.

The next day, August 27, Steve's band re-united to serve as headliners at [Festa Coloniale Italiana](#) in San Francisco's North Beach neighborhood, in front of the Italian Athletic Club across the street from Washington Park. His group is **IL SOLE**, featuring Steve Albini, Tatiana Semichastnaya, John P. Douglas and Jimbo Lehmann. They played a great variety of Italian classics, including, of course, *Al Di La*. Steve is a fixture in the expanded Bay Area accordion scene. Approximately 10 years ago he performed for us at our former Oyster Point location.



IL SOLE, Festa Coloniale Italiana, August 2022.



Steve and Tatiana performing for the SFAC June 2012 at Oyster Point



The opening band at the Festa Coloniale Italiana was one of our favorites for vintage Italian music of the 1950s and 1960s, **Bella Ciao**. Although we did not manage to see them, I got a chance to talk to the band's founder, Tom Torriglia, who currently resides in Italy. He is an original member of **Those Darn Accordions**, founded in 1989, several of whose members have been SFAC members at times. Out of the blue, Tom presented me with a pre-release copy of his forthcoming CD, **Limoncello Time!**



Tom performing for the SFAC, July 2017, Chetcuti Community Center [photo by Steve Mobia]

Visit www.tomtorriglia.com

The Rose City Accordion Camp Will Return in 2023!

Dates: Sunday, June 4 (mid-afternoon, time TBD) - Friday, June 9 (10:00 am)

Location: Collins Retreat Center - 32867 SE Hwy. 211- Eagle Creek, Oregon 97022

Accommodations:

The Collins Center lodging has double occupancy rooms. There are a limited number of single rooms available. All rooms have their own bathroom.

For those who prefer to camp, Barton RV Park is approximately six miles away.

Orchestra, Conductors and Instructors:

An exciting new orchestra format will be used this year! There will be two conductors, Gabe Hall-Rodrigues and Gail Campanella. Gabe will be conducting three musical scores in which all campers will participate. He will also conduct two smaller orchestras of 10-12 participants. Each group will perform two scores. Gail will conduct one 10-12 person orchestra. They will perform two scores.

Instructors will be Toby Hanson and Dee Langley for workshops.

We are eagerly looking forward to our 2023 camp! Please contact RCAC staff for registration information.

Delette Huffman, Camp Director (huffy0421@gmail.com)

Fran Maddox, RCAC President (fransster@comcast.net)

Susan Schwab, Treasurer (sueschwab00@gmail.com)

COVID Information: COVID restrictions may apply depending on the current circumstances. By participating in or attending 2023 RCAC Camp events you voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID 19.

The SFAC thanks Arleen for her generous donation!

SAN FRANCISCO ACCORDION CLUB July 30, 2022

This accordion was a gift, given to me by my parents, Albina Garibaldi Parma (born in Colma, CA.) and Orasio (Russ) Parma, (born in Italy) when I was 8 or 10 years old (1947-1949).

It was made at the then famous Guerrini Accordion Co. in San Francisco's North Beach.

My teacher was Mr. Veneri in the Mission District. Therefore, his name is on the Accordion. I still remember the smell of glue, etc. as we climbed the stairs to the shop.

I played it about to 1952 and also played it at my graduation from the 8th. grade.

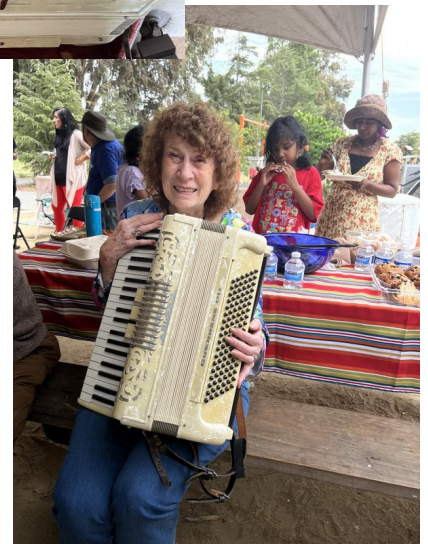
I stopped playing it when I went to High School, as I was the only accordion player there.

The accordion was kept in it's case in a cool dry place all this time.

I'm donating it today (at 83) with the hope that someone else can enjoy it.

The sheet music (some hand written) were all of my lessons

Sincerely,
Arleen Parma Johnson





A Message from SFAC President

Ken Schwartz

Hi everyone, welcome back! The Club had a busy summer season, first with our July Picnic and, most recently, by sponsoring a booth at the Cotati Accordion Festival. Both were highly successful, thanks to the efforts of our club members.

We were the only accordion club represented at this year's Cotati Festival and were well represented by the many members who participated at our booth, as noted in Pamela Tom's report on pages 2-3. Thank you, all who contributed to making this such a success! Members of the general public who visited our booth were very appreciative.

The SFAC was also pleased to sponsor the 1st San Francisco Accordion Club Scholarship in the amount of \$500 for the Student Scholarship Competition at Cotati, awarded to Nicholas Plasichuk for his fine performance. Nicholas is well-deserving of this award; you may recall, he has performed for the SFAC on several occasions, first as a young student in March 2016, and more recently in November 2021 and April 2022. Congratulations, Nicholas, well done!

Once again, welcome back and many thanks, everyone!

🎶 Thank You, Donors! 🎶

Sincere Thanks to those who generously donate to support the SFAC. We thank these members who have made extra donations during our current membership year (Through September 2022).

Lorna Anderson; Scott T. Anderson; Dave Braun; Rosemary Busher; Raymond Celentano; George Chavez; Elaine & Robert Cooperstein; Edward Crnich; Xavier & Candace de la Prade; Christine Esteban; Terrie Frankel; Ed Gorzynski, Jr.; Carlyn & Janet Jensen; Arlene Johnson; J. Robert Kennedy; Christina Knapp; Linda Lonay; Franco, Susan & Lorenzo Lucchesi; Michael A. Marotta, Jr.; Nora Mazzara, James Monfredini; Anna Nicora; Laura Jean Niland; Julie Norman; Gisele B. Oakes; Colette Ogata; Robert D. & Dil Pisani; Diana Purucker; Michael Sanossian; Don & Mary Savant; Kenneth Schwartz; Bill & Gloria Tapogna; Pamela Tom; Jane & Frank Tripi; Frank Venturelli; Barbara Winter; Barbie Wong; Mike Zampiceni; Marlen Zhagel

If you have donated and your name doesn't appear here, please contact elainedc@sbcglobal.net. We greatly appreciate the support and want to be sure you are recognized.

Event Reviews:

Volunteers are *very much* needed to assist with the monthly event summaries. This is a great opportunity to express your creative writing skills while assisting your club! Please volunteer to write up a meeting review for an upcoming newsletter.

Contact: Kenneth.E.Schwartz@gmail.com

SFAC Scholarships

Your club has scholarship funds available to support accordion students studying with teachers who are SFAC members in good standing. Preference is given to students who demonstrate dedication to pursuing the study of the accordion. Contact **Mike Zampiceni** for a scholarship application.

eclecticguy@comcast.net
408-569-2579



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Accordions for Rent

Do you know someone interested in renting an accordion? The SFAC has instruments available for members to rent. See our [June 2020 newsletter](#) for descriptions and rental terms.

SFAC Board of Directors

Ken Schwartz, President
Kenneth.E.Schwartz@gmail.com

Rosemary Busher, Vice-President
(510)220-2931, rosemary@busher.org

Paul Cain paulrussellcain@gmail.com

Robert Cooperstein (510)207-6009, drcoop@sbcglobal.net

Elaine Cooperstein (510)921-9323, elainedc@sbcglobal.net

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Dominic Palmisano (Honorary) accord47@gmail.com

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Newsletter: *Content, Layout, Edit, Print shop pick-up, Labeling, Mailing*
Elaine & Robert Cooperstein, Pamela Tom, Rosemary Busher

Scholarship:
Mike Zampiceni (408)569-2579, eclecticguy@comcast.net

New Accordion Book!

This beautiful book is an informative and well-illustrated historical account of how the accordion earned a special place in the American musical culture.

A must-have for every accordion fan!



order online at petosa.com
 or call 206.632.2700
 \$35 + shipping Available Now

SUPPORT THE BUSINESSES THAT SUPPORT THE SFAC!

Accordion Repair Shop San Jose

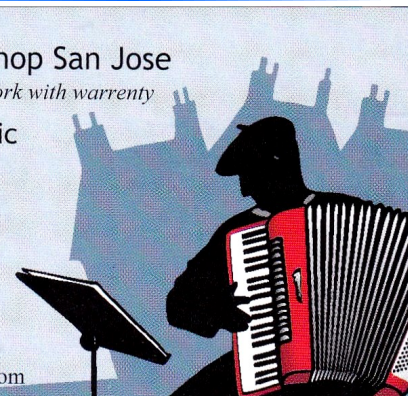
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Group photo courtesy of Linda Watson, Ed Massolo's daughter
 SFAC Picnic
 July 31, 2022



SFAC Newsletter Ad Policy

Members may place 1/8-page (business-card size) free of charge for one month each year.

Additional ads are \$10/issue or \$100/year.

Monthly ad prices **for members**:

1/8 page: \$10; 1/4-page: \$25; 1/2-page: \$50; Full-page: \$100.

Non-member rates are double.

Contact info@sfaaccordionclub.com

The San Francisco Accordion Club is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization whose purpose is to enhance, promote and stimulate an appreciation for the accordion within the membership and throughout the general public.

*Donations are tax-deductible and gratefully accepted by using the **Donate** button at www.sfaccordionclub.com or by mailing your contribution to the SFAC Treasurer, Elaine Cooperstein, 539 Elsie Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577*

Friends of SFAC— Accordion Groups/Clubs

Many clubs are on hiatus or meeting virtually (online) only. Check each club's website and/or club contacts for meeting schedules

Accordion Club of the Redwoods¹ (Santa Rosa)
Meetings 3rd Wednesdays—Cibo Rustico Pizzeria
(707) 318-0474, dcdacapo@gmail.com

Accordion Lovers Society International (ALSI)³
2nd Sundays—Mt. Miguel Covenant Village
Spring Valley, CA
gkohl5890@gmail.com (619) 427-4344

Accordionaires of Los Angeles
Online 4th Sundays³ - Meetings 3rd Tuesdays¹
Victorio's Ristorante, North Hollywood, CA
dnorferi@aol.com or "Accordionaires" on Facebook

Northern California Accordion Society (NCAS)¹
2nd Saturdays—Roseville, CA
Lutheran Church of the Resurrection
cvalashan@aol.com (610) 209-4496

San Antonio Accordion Society²
2nd Tuesdays online - Meetings on last Tuesdays
Chester's Hamburgers, San Antonio, TX
LauraJNiland@outlook.com

Silicon Valley Accordion Society (SVAS)²
1st Sundays, online (in person schedule TBD)
Christ Episcopal Church, Los Altos, CA (pending)
www.svasociety.org

¹ In person meeting only

² mixed: in-person and ZOOM meeting

³ ZOOM only meeting

Membership Update

by Robert Cooperstein

A letter inviting SFAC members to renew for the 2023 membership year was sent on August 30. You may visit <https://www.sfaccordionclub.com/membership.html> and renew online via PayPal or credit card, or pay your dues by check in the return envelope provided.



Many thanks to those who have already renewed!

ACCORDION INSTRUCTION

- ◆ **Gail Campanella*** GailCampanella@gmail.com
- ◆ **Reno DiBono** 30-minute group lessons* - Sundays 11am, request link from OurHike@AOL.com
- ◆ **Lou Jacklich*** 510-317-9510
- ◆ **Marian Kelly** 650-954-3711
- ◆ **Joe Simoni*** jsimoni2000@gmail.com, 650-867-1122
- ◆ **Pamela Tom*** accordionpam@gmail.com
- ◆ **Joel Weber*** www.joelstbayaccordionslessons.weebly.com/
- ◆ **Mike Zampiceni*** www.mikezamp.com

* = remote lessons (ZOOM, Facetime, Skype) available

ACCORDION HAPPENINGS

LIVE IN-PERSON & ONLINE VIRTUAL EVENTS

Gordon Kohl Workshops (Virtual) gkohl5890@gmail.com
3rd Sundays each month - Topics vary monthly

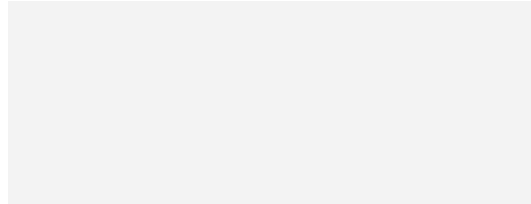
Not Just Oompah - Virtual- contact laurainiland@outlook.com
September 11-13 - Matt Tolentino (*Music of the Golden Age, early jazz, early swing & ragtime*)

The Northeast Squeeze-In
September 16-18 — Litchfield, Connecticut
Contact: lynnh1947@gmail.com Web Site: squeeze-in.org

Oregon Alpenfest
September 29 - October 2 — Joseph, Oregon
Contact: alpenmeister@mail2oregon.com

Rose City Accordion Club Camp
June 4 - 9, 2023 Eagle Creek, OR
Contact: maddoxfran43@gmail.com

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE



Upcoming Events: The DiBono Brothers (September 18), SFAC Accordion Circle (October 16)

SFAC SUNDAY PROGRAM

SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

PETER & RENO DIBONO

LIVE IN-PERSON + ONLINE (ZOOM) ACCESS

\$10 MEMBERS / \$15 NON-MEMBERS

YOUTH FREE WITH PARENT

- ◆ DOORS OPEN 2:00 PM
- ◆ JAM SESSION 2:15 PM
- ◆ DIBONO BROTHERS 3:30 PM

ZOOM STREAMING WILL BEGIN AT 3:30 PM



Chetcuti Community Room

450 Poplar Avenue, Millbrae

Plenty of *free parking in Library lot*

Accessible location

Close to public transit (<1 mile from BART)

See email announcements for details, or
contact info@sfaccordionclub.com

fb.com/sanfranciscoaccordionclub

