

What's Shakin'

December 2010

Newsletter of the Delaware Accordion Club

www.DelawareAccordionClub.com

Meetings held in the banquet room at

896 Diner

I-95 exit 1b, Route 896 north

Newark DE 19713

302-733-0442

Open MIC Sessions 2-5pm

January 16

February 20

March 20

April 17

May 15

June 19 – No meeting – Father's Day

July 17

August 21

September 18

October 17

November 21

December 19

Listen to our sponsor WVUD 91.3 FM

DAC member Brian Lee hosts Scratchy Grooves on Sunday 7 – 8 pm

98.1 WOGL Breakfast Club with Bill Zimpfer

approx 7:30am on Thursday morning

You may think you know music, but do you know your polka?

Could you figure out what is coming out of Bill Z's accordion?

In the event of wintry weather to reconfirm club meeting, or other DAC inquiries

call Joe Oberly 302-388-0471

or Sue Shertok 302-369-4018

September 19

Joe Bucci opened our session today playing a decorated Peppino blue accordion. He played Al-di-la, La Paloma, and the Anniversary Waltz. Phil Bonsiero followed and he played these songs on his Petosa: Stars Fell on Alabama, Spanish Eyes, and Twilight Time.

Susan Shertok played Tzena Tzena, Sway, Ose Shalom, Rocky Top, More and Never On Sunday. Rory played his button accordion: German Waltz and French Cafe excerpts. Jack Chrustowski played Mame, It's a Most Unusual Day, and Under Paris Skies.

We collected \$41.00 in raffle money and Phil Bonsiero won a CD and \$20.50; half goes to the club treasury. Lars Johannesen won a book.

RuthAnn Christophersen played By Heck - a duet with Maria LaValle. Howard Scott played Continental Capers, Sentimental Journey and Talk of the Town. Bob Shoemaker played his red Roland and did a polka medley: La-di-da and E-I-E-I-O. He also played an Italian medley of O Sole Mio, Arriverderci Roma, Come Back to Sorrento, and the Tarantella. Jeannie and Charlie Mariani danced. The Purzyckis danced to Dream.

Phyllis Edamatsu played Accordion Boogie, Menuet, Willam Tell Overture and Concerto in E on her Titano. Charlie Mariani, our vibrant, intrepid showman, played a singalong which included: You Are My Sunshine, Roll Out the Barrel, and Just Because. Joe Oberly ended the day with God Bless America.

October 17

Our meeting today included 20 accordion enthusiasts. Joe Bucci played his Notturmi button accordion and gave us: Cherry Pink & Apple Blossom White, Marina, Una Bambola Suona, Lo Spazzacamino and Pie Montesina. Phil Bonsiero followed with More, Satin Doll, Fly Me to the Moon & When You're Smilin'.

Carole & Len Wolek, our dynamic duo of accordion & banjo, played some Oktoberfest music. They offered Auf Der Auto Bahn, Black Gypsy and Blue Tango, Bei Meir Bistu Shein and the Chicken dance. Susan Shertok teamed up with Carole for the first time and played some Jewish music which included: Frailach #1, Russian Sher, and a Hava Nagilah medley. They also played Ukranian Dance #4 and Polka Mazurka.

Pat Racioppa played next on his Tonaveri: Tic Tac Polka, Just Help Yourself, When I Was Young, Spanish Eyes, and Orange Blossom Special. Charlie Mariani sang and played Happy Trails to You. Watch out for this cowboy!

Gary Woodling played Just Because and Dreamer's Polka. He also played Home and Talk of the Town. Jack Chrustowski played Happy Days Are Here Again, Mame, Alexander's Ragtime Band, and Take Me Out to the Ballgame.

Bob Shoemaker played his red Roland: Espana Cani, and a Gershwin medley that included: Rhapsody in Blue, Our Love is Here to Stay, Not For Me, Embraceable You, and Lady Be Good. He played Amazing Grace with a bagpipe sound at the request of our

waitress. He also played Your Cheatin' Heart, Jambalaya, Tennessee Waltz, Slow Poke, Crazy, and Tumbleweeds.

Joe Oberly closed the day with Goodnight Irene, Sentimental Journey, Blue Skirt Waltz, and Only You. Joe Alexander won the 50/50 raffle, Lars Johannesen won an accordion cap, and Bob Shoemaker won a music plaque. A good time was had by all.

November 21

We had a wonderful meeting today. Joe Bucci played his Italian diatonic button accordion and gave us: E Vola, Vola, Vola, Tu Scendi Dalle Stelle and Calabisella.

The Westmont Accordion Club in New Jersey visited us and a small group performed under the direction of Stan Darrow. Most members played a Titano accordion. They played: Lady of Spain, Second Waltz, Smokes Gets in Your Eyes, Fruhling in Toskana and Pacabel's Canon. Many thanks to everyone who performed!

Phil Bonsiero played Autumn Leaves, Sunny Side of the Street, More, and Small fugue in A minor on his Siwa & Figli. Newcomers Wayne Huntsinger (on accordion) and John Izzo (on banjo) played and sang the following lively songs: Just Because, La Cumbachero. Hoop De Doo, You Are My Sunshine and Alabama Bound. Tom Groeber played his Steirische Harmonika (Zupan from Slovenia): Bergvagabunden, Gretl Boarischer and Mary Ann Medley. Rory Tedrick played his button accordion: Auld Lang Syne, The Wild Colonial Boy, and Will You Go Lassie Go.

Bob Shoemaker played his Roland and gave us Dream, Moonlight Serenade, Red Rose Cafe, Tennessee Waltz, and Your Cheatin' Heart. Charlie and Jeannie Mariani danced to Slowpoke. Henri Mikol from the Westmont Club played his Hohner Chromatic accordion. He played La Vie en Rose and Under Paris Skies. Susan Shertok (a.k.a. Edith Bunker) sang Those Were the Days and played a Hava Nagilah medley. She also played Turkey in the Straw for the upcoming holiday.

Charlie Mariani played and sang Just Because, Small World and Let Me Call You Sweetheart. Gary Robinson ended the day with All Shook Up, Espana, Stuck On You, and Bird Dog. Next month will feature holiday music!

The Friends of Newark are now hosting Mocha, Music and More

Please contact 302-368-7158 or email davidr41@hotmail.com

Currently held on the 3rd Friday of each month

The event is sponsored by the Friends of Newark in partnership with the Newark Heritage Alliance.

If you have original material that you would like to present at an upcoming event, please contact Lori Benscoter at 302-834-3385 or email Benscoter2@aol.com

Polka Radio - www.247Polkaheaven.com

[New Members](#)

**Sue Bebon, Wilmington DE
Dennis Morris, Bear DE
Howard Scott "Scotty" from the Maryland Accordion Club**

Member report – Summer in Italy by Joe Bucci

My family spent most of our summer in Francaville al Mare, Abruzzo, Italy. It is located just south of Pescara on the east coast of Italy, on the Adriatic Sea. The water is clear and beautiful; we relaxed on the beach. My hometown is a small farming village nestled up in the mountains about 30 minutes away. The people make a living by raising grapes, olives, cherries, figs, and other fruits and vegetables. They also make and sell wine and olive oil. My father emigrated to the US in 1954 when I was 3 months old; my mom and I could not come due to the strict immigration laws. Then in 1956 when I was 2 ? years old, my mom and I came over to join my BABA! We still speak our dialect, Abruzzese, and follow our traditions.

In July, I made three trips to Castelfidardo. I met with the owners and presidents of many accordion manufacturers. I also attended two diatonic button accordion concerts; one was in Poggiafiorito and the other in Ripa Teatino. They were beautiful and I learned different playing techniques. Before any competition, the choirs of both the very small towns sang and danced in their traditional clothes. Several piano and diatonic button accordions provided the music. Then for the competition, the 12-year olds took the prizes, their fingers are extremely fast and flexible. Some contestants were in their 70s and 80s; both young and old were playing without reading music sheets. These contests were held at night in the piazza. The mid-summer's night air was very cool in the low mountainsides. There was a non-competitive segment at the Ripa Teatino event during which I played my white diatonic in the key of D. The townspeople were appreciative of my efforts and amazed I had traveled from Philadelphia to their village. All of us were awarded a bottle of wine and given a medal and ribbon. The experience was very nice and really brought me back to my roots.

At the DAC October meeting, I brought four music books given to me by Maestro Vincenzo Coccione, the son of Tomaso Coccione who was a great accordion player. He became famous in the US after WWI. He died in his 30s from polio. The festa in Poggiafiorito was held in his memory in his hometown.

KUDOS

**Jack Chrustowski acknowledges the Roland Corporation
for their fine work replacing the cable to repair his Roland accordion.**

The repair was done *gratis*.

Jack is pleased that they care about their customers and products.

**Please remember that yearly DAC dues are due – on November 1.
The \$5 helps us to pay for newsletters, communications, copying, postage, supplies, etc.**

You can pay cash or mail a check to

Susan Shertok, 22 East Green Valley Circle, Newark DE 19711

**There is no DAC bank account; any checks made payable to DAC will be returned;
they cannot be deposited.**

Member Bio – Gary Woodling

I was born in a small, rural town named Champion about 50 miles south of Cleveland, OH, home to what is known as “Cleveland Style” polka music. I began accordion lessons at age 6. My grandfather Abe Vennitti, an accordionist, teacher, and expert repairman, taught me how to play the accordion. He and my grandmother brought me a shiny red 12 bass Pollina accordion in November of 1982 and I’ve been in love ever since.

Throughout high school and college I would play occasionally at family functions and get-togethers, but my dreams of performing on the accordion and making it my career were always in the back of my mind. In 2001, I formed a small group with my late grandfather’s friends to entertain at a nursing home. We called ourselves “Yesterday & Today.” One of the older men in the group joked “We’re yesterday, Gary’s today!” I moved away from home to relocate for my job again in late 2001. “Life got in the way” and the accordion sat for the most part, but never left as my main passion in life.

I moved to Wilmington, DE in October 2007. A new position at work and traveling fully consumed my time. I would occasionally search for other accordionists online, but could never find any information. To me, the accordion was only associated with polka bands in Cleveland and Pittsburgh, so why would I find anyone in Philadelphia or Wilmington that played? Then one day, I looked harder. I was determined to strap-on the accordion again and make it a bigger part of my life; what it has always meant to be. Suddenly I found information about the Delaware Accordion Club. Nervously I packed the accordion in the car and drove to a meeting one Sunday afternoon in April 2010. It changed my life. I met and became surrounded by people that celebrated the instrument too. The DAC has not only given me an opportunity to make wonderful friends and hear some tremendous musicians, but it has given me confidence to pursue my dream of the accordion. Since that first club meeting, I have continued to become involved in the accordion world, performing, meeting people, and sharing knowledge and interest for the instrument.

I currently reside in North Wales, PA. The accordion I play was my grandfather’s refurbished 1931 Italo-American “polka box.” I enjoy all styles of music, but I enjoy playing standards, Italian folk songs (many of which I don’t even know the name!), and polkas/waltzes. On 1/1/11, I will be launching an online blog where I will be sharing my accordion experiences and information at www.garywoodling.com. Accordion dreams really can come true! ...and thanks to the DAC for helping to get them going!

For Sale or Wanted

Looking for a particular piece of music or instrument repair?

Found an old instrument you want to sell or give away?

Contact the editor at 302-993-0374 or mail to 10 Walnut Avenue, Wilmington DE 19805-1144

Acme Accordion School, 322 Haddon Avenue Westmont, NJ 08108 – phone 856-854-6628

Accordion Gallery, Landing NJ, 973-770-6877
Matt Hedson says this is a good place for repairs.

Frank Brad, performer, call 609-408-3906 or 302-529-9333

Joe 215-514-3787

U.S. Sales Representative of accordions made in Castelfidardo, Italy

Also Centaur sound systems

Master-Sennheiser microphones & Midi systems

CFor Sale - CENTAUR PRO AMPLIFIER \$750

HD 15" SPEAKER+Hrn+Twt-125watts

3channels, very mellow accordion sound - also many other features!
I am looking to buy Sonola models AA or SS -or- Sano stereo 50 or 60

Brent Hancock, Keyboardist, 302-731-4149 or 302-299-5260

Cintioli's Music Senter, 5359 Oxford Avenue, Philadelphia PA 19124
215-533-2050 or 215-533-2053, www.cintiolimusic.com

Concord Music Company, Inc., 2805 Concord Pike, Wilmington DE 19803, 302-658-6875

Modern Accordion School II

John Lolli, 226 Cedar Avenue, Richland NJ 08350, 856-691-9273

Pat Racioppa sells straps; he will bring them to our meetings, call 717-939-3096

Howard Scott "Scotty"

<http://web.me.com/Scottymusic>

Accordion lessons available in Maryland

He is the band director for the Maryland Accordion Club.

1090 Notley Court, Pasadena MD. 21122-1819, (410) 255-7889

Email Scottymusic@me.com

Ed Tafelski from New Castle DE, 302-655-3529, Accordion Repairs, Teacher & Entertainer

Well-Tempered Music, David Cottrell, 293 Lewisville Road, Elkton MD 21921, 410-392-2279

Show over – Latch the bellows

Accordion Events

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**January 2 at 1:30pm
AccordiCats concert with Mario Pedone
Gallucio's Restaurant, 1709 Lovering Avenue, Wilmington**

**January 13 at 2pm
Dr. Richard DiBlassio
Accordion performance at the Downs Cultural Center
Ingleside Retirement Apartments
1005 North Franklin Street, Wilmington**

**Button Box Club forming at Acme Accordion School, Westmont NJ
First 2 meetings are complimentary
Any questions, call 856-854-6628**

save the date * April 2-3
AAMS Accordion Workshops, Marriott Hotel, Whippany NJ
www.aamsaccordionfestival.com**

Editor
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10 Walnut Avenue
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Carmen Vitanza says, "Hug a musician, they never get to dance."