



Newsletter

A bi-monthly publication of the American Accordionists' Association

MARCH 2013

Here's What's Happening at AAA in 2013

MARCH 16, 2013

2:00 pm
Coupe Mondiale
qualifying categories.
Hanover Marriott
Whippany, NJ

MARCH 17, 2013

2:00 pm
Open Meeting
Hanover Marriott
1401 Route 10 East
Whippany, NJ

APRIL 21, 2013

Carmen Carrozza Scholarship
Fund – Dinner & Dancing
Villa Barone Hilltop Manor
Mahopac, NY
Silent Auction!

JULY 26-28, 2013

Master Class and Concert
Series - The Seminars
The Accordion is 3D
Tenri Cultural Institute
43A W13th Street, NYC
Moderator/Curator
William Schimmel

AUGUST 14-18, 2013

AAA 75th Anniversary
The New Yorker Hotel
8th Ave. at 34th Street
New York, NY



From the Editor

Welcome to the March 2013 edition of the AAA Newsletter.

My thanks to all of you who have been able to assist by providing information about the many accordion events scheduled to take place over the coming months. We are truly blessed to have such a great variety of accordion activities to choose from, and congratulations to you all for the work you do in promoting our instrument. Once again my sincere thanks to the AAA President Linda Reed and Board of Director member, Rita Davidson for their kind assistance with the AAA Newsletter.

Items for the May 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 .doc (not docx) 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. The deadline for the May Newsletter will be the 15th of April 2013.

I look forward to seeing you all at one of the many upcoming events.



Sincerely, Kevin

Kevin Friedrich – AAA Newsletter Editor

AAA Welcomes Two New Members to Their Board of Directors

Two accordionists were recently welcomed as new members of the AAA Board of Directors. Please welcome Don Gerundo and Emilio Magnotta.

DON GERUNDO

Don Gerundo is an active accordionist and pianist performing in the New York metropolitan area. He is a versatile keyboardist who plays various styles ranging from popular American Standards from the American Songbook, Jazz and Rock 'n' Roll. He works with



the Bensen-Scott Big Band, an 18 piece Jazz band, has worked with a Rockabilly small group as well as society combos and Top 40 groups. He has performed and accompanied Lenny Welch (hit record "Since I Fell For You"), Joe Piscopo and has performed at Swing 46 in New York City, White Plains Theatre for the Arts, Coney Island Park and other large venues.

Don started playing the accordion at age 10. During his later teens he studied with Tony Mecca (a native of Waterbury, CT.) Tony introduced him to popular and Jazz music and worked with him on harmony, theory, voicings and improvisation. During this time he started to perform club dates with some of the local leaders in the New York metropolitan area, as well as working at resorts in the New York Catskill area. This "on-the-job" training helped hone

his Jazz skills, as well as build his repertoire. He continued to perform during his college years, while attending Ithaca College where he joined the national music fraternity Phi Mu Alpha as the first accordionist to be offered an invitation in that chapter. For the last several years, Don has focused on the Free Bass Accordion and exploring its use in the Pop and Jazz Idioms by utilizing its flexibility in chord voicings, bass lines and general accompaniment.

Don is also an experienced user of Finale (music notation software) and has used it since 1992, almost from its inception. He uses it to create arrangements, generate materials for students, create transcriptions, as well as composition. Many colleagues use Don as a resource to seek guidance using Finale, as well as troubleshooting technical issues.

EMILIO MAGNOTTA

Emilio Magnotta lives and breathes accordions. Ask anyone he knows and they will tell you, "Emilio lives for accordions."

Emilio began accordion lessons at the age of 5 after becoming enamored with accordions as a toddler. His mother recognized his talents and sought out



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Gerundo and Magnotta appointed to AAA Board cont'd. from page 1

the best instructors. Emilio has been privileged to study with accordion maestro Cliff Scholl, as well as coaching from Carmen Carrozza and Mario Tacca. An admirer of the greats, Emilio has framed photographs of the classic accordion players and memorabilia he treasures in his shop

Emilio performs professionally in the NY-metro region and is sought-after for events, such as performing at the Intrepid Sea & Air Museum in NY, Bryant Park, United Nations, as well as weddings and major events.

Emilio recently opened his office in Stamford, CT at 1011 Hope Street, Suite 2E called, what else but, "EmilioAccordions". He handles repairs and new and used instruments and accessories. ■

World Accordion Day – May 6th

The Confederation Internationale des Accordeonistes Winter Congress voted to approve the continuation of World Accordion Day. Based on the experiences of last year, some enhancements will be made, and there will be the introduction of a policy in the event that there are technical difficulties. For example, if a country is scheduled at 10 pm, and the Internet is off, or the connection is lost at the home country or such, then rather than push everyone back an hour throwing the entire schedule off, it will be rescheduled during another part of the broadcast or allotted breaks, as a couple of built in buffer zones will be used to help accommodate any delays/problems. Several members of the CIA Executive Board including President, Raymond Bodell and Ambassador, Kevin Friedrich are planning to assist Frederic Deschamps and Grayson Masefield in the live broadcast. The proposed budget for this event was approved. ■

A Rare Glimpse Behind the Scenes of "Evita" with Eddie Monteiro (by Kevin Friedrich)

Renowned East Coast accordionist and AAA Board of Directors member, Eddie Monteiro, recently concluded his year-long engagement as accordionist and keyboardist in the popular Broadway production "Evita" starring mega pop star Ricky Martin as Che, and Argentinean Elena Roger as Eva.

Fellow Board of Director, Rita Davidson, and I were lucky enough to sit next to Eddie in the orchestra pit for one of Eddie's last performances as "Evita" came to a close, to see how the show came together from the musician's point of view.

After a tour of the set, including a cameo photo opportunity on the balcony from where the blockbuster "Don't Cry for Me Argentina" is sung, and meeting the Musical Director of the show, Kristen Blodgett, Rita and I took our places in the pit next to Eddie who proceeded to deliver perfection over the next two hours, as he executed a rather demanding accordion part, coupled with his doubling on synthesizer.

With limited visibility of the musical director, no visibility whatsoever of the actual production happening on stage, and the percussionist being in another room all together, each Music Stand had a closed circuit video monitor focused on the conductor. With limited access to



Accordionists to Appear at East Brunswick Cultural Arts Center

On May 4, 2013, Dan Desiderio, accordion virtuoso, teacher, and conductor will present three of his virtuoso students in what promises to be an exciting concert at the East Brunswick Cultural Arts Center, 721 Cranbury Rd., East Brunswick, NJ 08816.

Karl Fetzer, Justin Patterson and Albert Manginelli will perform a program of great accordion repertoire. When Karl was a student at Lehigh University, he performed as an accordion soloist with the Lehigh University Wind Ensemble and the Moravian College Wind Ensemble. Justin has been studying with Maestro Desiderio for fifteen years and has been a soloist with the Accordion Pops Orchestra at the Kimmel Center. Albert, the youngest of the group, was the winner of the 2012 American Accordionists' Association Accordion Virtuoso Competition and the Mid-Atlantic Music Teachers' Guild Accordion Virtuoso Competition in 2011 and 2012.

On the May 4th concert, Karl, Justin, and Albert will perform as soloists and with the Accordion Pops Orchestra under the baton of Al Terzo. Justin's father, Bob Patterson, will also join his son in a duet. Bob, a long-time student of Maestro Desiderio, is well-known for his contributions on the Midi-accordion in the Accordion Pops Orchestra. The concert will begin at 1:30 p.m. For further information, please contact Rosemarie Cavanaugh at phone: 732-257-8198. ■



the sound of the other musicians, the overall balance was in the hands of the sound engineer, who had his job down to a science.

As the thunderous applause from the audience welcomed Ricky Martin to one of his opening numbers, virtually a duet between Ricky on stage and Eddie underneath, Eddie was in his element. Without batting an eyelid, Eddie was performing under the demands of a high profile gig, accompanying one of the biggest pop stars in the world today, surrounded by nothing but respect from his fellow musicians. Having heard the show from out in the audience a few days earlier, the accordion echoed magnificently throughout the theatre, at the hands of the master musician.

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Behind the Scenes of 'Evita'

During our pre-show tour, Eddie had explained the procedure of technical glitches as it pertained to the musicians, and in particular to the electronic instruments. Amazingly, in a rare situation in the early part of the show, such a predicament arose. As Eddie transitioned to the synthesizer, there was no sound from his monitor, so while his performance was still being heard, he could hear nothing at all, rather a disconcerting situation. Without ruffling so much as a feather, while one hand was playing his part, another was signaling the situation to the technical assistant, who arrived immediately as expected, and without missing a note, Eddie continued playing while explaining the problem, and within a short time, all was back in order, and before Rita and I knew it, Eddie had already strapped his accordion back on, and was on to his next number.

Having seen several shows that showcase the accordion, most are under the hands of a keyboardist with no previous accordion experience, who doubles on the accordion. It has been frustrating to see the under-utilized potential of our instrument in these high profile moments. "Evita" was a different and welcome change! It was easily recognizable from the Conductor, Kristen Blodgette and Assistant Conductor, William Waldrop, as well as the other highly sought after musicians, that to have an expert accordionist and musician such as Eddie, was so greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to Eddie for his work in doing what could only be expected from any professional musician... delivering! Rita and I were so lucky to have this rare glimpse into the behind the scenes work of the all-important musical side of the professional pit orchestra, where perfection and dependability is standard fare! Eddie, we salute you! ■



Orchestra Pit for "Evita"

The Accordion is 3D, No Glasses Required

The American Accordionists' Association (AAA) Master Class and Concert Series celebrates its 19th season on July 26, 27 and 28 at the Tenri Cultural Institute, 43A West 13th Street, in New York City.

Master classes are at 3:00 p.m. and concerts at 7:00 p.m.. The title of the Seminars is "The Accordion is 3D-No Glasses Required." The moderator/curator, Dr. William Schimmel, projects that it will be "the best one yet," offering intriguing workshops, stellar performances and, most of all, a collegial attitude in its presentation.

Participants come from the local New York area, across the United States, as well as China, Japan, Argentina, Croatia and Norway. Guest artists during the weekend include Dr. Schimmel, Dr. Robert Young McMahan, Erica Mancini, Peter Flint, John Foti, Dr. Hugo Goldenzweig, Micki Goodman, presenting a new video work, Doug Makofka, Ken Laufer, Paul Stein, Ingrid Kvale, Martina Li, Mayumi Mayaota, Corn Mo, Mary Tokarski, Will Holshouser, Bob Goldberg and The Famous Accordion Orchestra, David Stoler, Art Bailey, Brian Dewan, Melissa Elledge plus more.

Please visit www.ameraccord.com for more information or see the flyer enclosed with this newsletter. ■



Dr. William Schimmel

Accordion Pops Orchestra 2013 Concert Season

The 40 member Accordion Pops Orchestra under the direction of Al Terzo will be very busy in 2013. On March 10th, the group performed a benefit concert for the Senior Association of Tinton Falls, NJ and on March 16th the Orchestra will provide dinner music for a Testimonial Dinner for former World Champion, Beverly Roberts Curnow at the Marriott Hotel in Whippany, NJ.

April 28th will be a Young Peoples Concert at the Cultural Arts Center of East Brunswick, NJ and June 23rd is the Orchestra's annual Spring Concert which will be held at the Imperial Concert Hall in South River, NJ. In the Fall, on October 20th, the group will perform for the Andreyev Musical Society at Kean University in Union, NJ.

To conclude the 2013 Concert Season, the Accordion Pops will perform a Christmas Concert on December 8th at the Imperial Concert Hall in South River, NJ. For information concerning performances or membership, please e-mail accordionpops@hotmail.com or visit www.accordionpops.com. ■



Accordion Pops Orchestra

11th Annual Carmen Carrozza Scholarship Fund Event on April 21st, 2013

The American Accordionists' Association proudly presents the 11th Annual Afternoon of Music, Food and Fun on Sunday, April 21, 2013 from 12 Noon until 5:00 p.m. at the Villa Barone Hilltop Manor, 466 US 6, Mahopac, NY to benefit The Carmen Carrozza Scholarship Fund for the advancement of promising young accordionists.

Chairman of the program, Dr. Joseph Ciccone, announces the following performers on the program: Mario Tacca and Mary Mancini, Frank Toscano, Manny Corallo, Mary Tokarski, Frank Carozza, Ray Oreggia & Dominic Karcic, Berverly Roberts Curnow, Emilio Magnotta, the Connecticut Accordion Orchestra, Linda Soley Reed, Conductor, Anita and Bob Siarkowski will entertain during the cocktail hour.

A silent auction will be held at this event and a preview will be available online to begin the bidding. There are some unique and wonderful items already donated.

Please respond by April 1, 2013 to be part of this amazing accordion afternoon. Visit www.ameraccord.com for more information and registration form, or contact **Dr. Joseph Ciccone, 914-238-0041** or e-mail: drjccicone@aol.com ■

Roland Digital Accordion Orchestra

On January 20, 2013, the first rehearsal of the newly formed USA Roland V Accordion Orchestra was held in the performance hall of Falcetti Music in Springfield, MA.

At that time, no one really knew what to expect including the orchestra's conductor, Sam Falcetti who was excited to see his dream become a reality. From the first selection, "Stars & Stripes Forever" with the blending of flutes, clarinets, trumpets, saxes and baritone horns, it was truly the sound of a marching band. Even the wonderful piccolo counter-melody on the last section, (usually performed with the piccolo reed sound of the accordion), had the true piccolo sound.

Next, the orchestra rehearsed the "Godfather Medley" and employed the beautiful French musette accordion sound blending with clarinets, counter-melodies with mandolin and accompanied by strings and vibes.

Everyone was excited about doing a Duke Ellington big band arrangement by John Franceschina. This arrangement is divided into sax, trumpet, and trombone sections, backed by a great



Carmen Carrozza at 2012 Scholarship Dinner

rhythm section and vocalists. Last but not least, the Orchestra rehearsed "Quartet in D" by Haydn. Everyone was amazed by the violin, viola, and cello sections sounding just like a string orchestra.

The Roland V Accordion Orchestra is comprised of students, accordion hobbyists, and a few semi-pro players from Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island. This first rehearsal taught everyone how versatile the Roland V Accordion is by simulating the bowing of the violin, the changing of the embouchure on woodwind and brass instruments using the velocity of the bellows, the touch sensitivity of the mallet percussion keyboard and the plucked string instruments.

The Orchestra will have their premier performance in the Festival Band category at the New England Music Festival's 51st event at the Newton Marriott in Newton, Massachusetts on Sunday, April 7, 2013.

For further information: Peggyf1944@gmail.com ■



Roland Digital Accordion Orchestra

Accordionist Receives Optimistic Review

Accordionist John Custie recently received a positive summary of his performance in the following review reprinted with permission by writer Sara Piali.

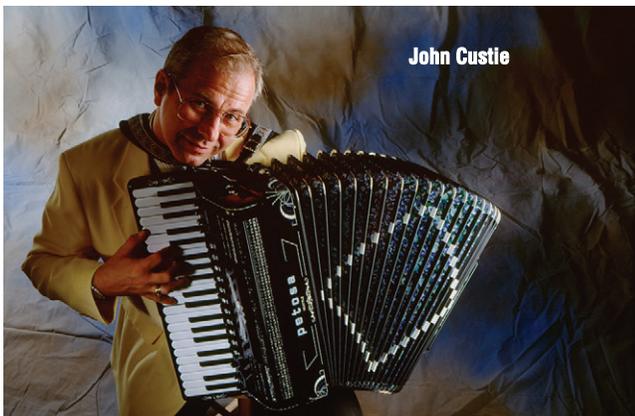
The program was previewed as follows: *The Accordion Then and Now: What comes to mind when somebody says accordion? Octoberfest? Lawrence Welk? The Polka?* The accordion was at its height of popularity following World War II and into the 50s and early 60s, but became marginalized in the era of rock and roll by the electric guitar. Today, the accordion is enjoying a resurgence among musicians and accordion enthusiasts. Join professional musician and teacher John Custie who will play both traditional and digital accordion music and explore the history and vast capabilities of the versatile accordion.

"The Accordion Then and Now," On February 3rd, 2013, John Custie gave Northport Library a musical tour through the history of the accordion. Author: Sara Piali

"The accordion is an instrument that keeps moving forward. Rather than a static instrument, John Custie proved in his performance on February 3rd, 2013 that the proverbial "squeeze box" has been part of the evolution of music ever since it arrived in America. And it continues to resonate with the creative scene today. John wove a narrative in between each song and each era, from "She'll Be Comin' Round the Mountain" to "Satin Doll."

"It was interesting to hear about the internal adjustments to the instrument made at each stage, and how they contributed to the modern sound we now enjoy. However, it was when the dialogue became anecdotal that the performances took on a life of their own. As John described the discovery his 1960s band mates made – that his accordion could fill their need for a bass better than any other instrument, you could almost hear the audience tune their antennae for the next song. By the time we'd reached the 1970s with "YMCA," the listeners had full faith. It wouldn't be a John Custie performance without something unexpected. The hip-hop performance of "Our Day Will Come" was authentic and flowed!

"John's accordion accomplished something culturally transcendent that night. It moved the accordion from relic to reactionary, from antiquated to front and center in the creative process again. With an experience like this, the next generation will be incorporating the accordion into their music scene for decades to come." ■



Grammy Award Winning Band Features Accordionist

Mumford & Sons' second studio CD "Babel," released in September 2012, won the coveted Grammy Award for Album of the Year at the recent Grammy Awards. "Babel" debuted at number one in both the UK and the USA, becoming the fastest selling album of 2012 in the UK, and the second-biggest selling debut album in 2012 in the USA.

Mumford & Sons are an English folk-rock band, whose member includes Ben Lovett - vocals, accordion and keyboards. ■

AAA Open Meeting Events in Whippany, NJ

The AAA Open Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 17, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. at the Hanover Marriott, 1401 Route 10 East, Whippany, New Jersey. This important and informative event takes place immediately following the AAMS Awards Ceremony. All are welcome. Free admission. Refreshments will be served.

At this time, AAA Historian Joan Grauman, will present a lively demonstration of "Nine Decades of the Accordion in the Media." Joan will present little-known facts about the early founders of the AAA, their important contributions and unique input into the development of the piano accordion as we know it today.

On March 9, 1938, twelve distinguished accordionists and colleagues convened to determine whether or not an association for accordionists should be formed. The meeting was presided over by Sam Roland and included Charles Magnante, Abe Goldman, Joe Biviano, Pietro Deiro, Pietro Frosini, Gene Von Hallberg, Anthony Galla-Rini, Charles Nunzio, Sydney B. Dawson, Sam Roland and Byron Streep (absent from meeting was John Gart). Upon a motion made and seconded, the above-named, including John Gart, formed the charter membership and decided that the name of this association was to be The American Accordionists' Association.

So much accordion history has been made since that meeting in 1938! Competitions were organized. Carnegie Hall Concerts featured top accordionists of the day. Composers were commissioned to expand the accordionists' library. Colleges and universities opened their doors to accordionists as music majors.

Many of you might remember competitions at Peter Stuyvesant High School and Charles Evans Hughes High School both in New York City. Or how about those concerts at Carnegie Hall with capacity crowds? Or looking at some of the early commissioned works and being excited over trying them for the first time? Or having the thrill of being accepted into a college music program and auditioning on your accordion?

We invite you to share your memories of AAA events through the years to be included in the AAA's 75th Anniversary publication: **"Reflections: 75 Years of Accordion History."**

Please e-mail copy as a word document or within an e-mail, as well as .jpg photos to ameraccord1938@gmail.com or via mail to: M. Kendrick, 120 Valley View Road, Stratford, CT 06614. If you wish to have photographs returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Photographs will be scanned and returned promptly. Material must be sent by June 1st to be included in the 75th Anniversary publication.

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AAA Open Meeting, cont'd from pg. 5

Updated information regarding the 75th AAA Festival to be held at the New Yorker Hotel, August 14-18th in New York City will be available at the Open Meeting. For additional information e-mail: www.ameraccord1938@gmail.com ■

Display from the "Nine Decades of the Accordion in the Media" presentation by Joan Grauman, AAA Archivist at the Open Meeting on March 17th.



LIAA off to a Flying Start in 2013!

The Long Island Accordion Alliance's (LIAA) very first meeting of the New Year took place on January 2, 2013 at La Villini Restaurant in East Northport, NY. If the success of this event is any indication of things to come, then it looks like 2013 will be a very successful one for the accordion on Long Island!

The event was sold out several days prior and not only was the main dining area filled to capacity, but for the first time, the two adjacent dining areas were also occupied by the many "overflow patrons." A first for the LIAA.

In attendance with the many accordion music lovers and aficionados were many prominent names from our accordion community. These included Mario Tacca, Mary Mancini, Don Gerundo, Victor Prieto, John Perno and Joe DeClemente. The evening's interest and excitement was due to the fact that the "Amazing Accordion Kings" were on the docket to perform.

The "Amazing Accordion Kings" - Frank Toscano, Manny Corallo and the legendary Angelo DiPippo - did not disappoint. Since combining their talents several years ago; these three master virtuoso accordionists have elevated ensemble accordion playing to a new level. Through their very fine musicianship, virtuoso technique, flawless execution, very stylish playing and unique



three part arrangements, they have created a signature "Amazing Accordion Kings Sound." Some of their selections included "Hungarian Dance No. 5," "Twilight Time," "St. Louis Blues," and "Tico Tico."

The LIAA February gathering featured Croatian accordionist Paul (Paolo) Belanich. Paul Belanich began his accordion studies at age 5. Born on St. Peter's Island (Ilovik), the northern part of the Croatian Adriatic Sea, where the accordion is the center of entertainment, he started playing his father's diatonic button accordion as his father did and both of his uncles.

Newly appointed AAA Board of Director Emilio Magnotta was the LIAA featured guest artist on March 5, 2013 while internationally acclaimed accordionist and vocalist Mario Tacca and Mary Mancini will be the featured artists on April 3rd.

The LIAA meets at La Villini Restaurant, 288 Larkfield Road, East Northport, NY. Reservations are recommended and can be made by calling 631-261-6344. ■



New England Music Festival-April 5, 6, 7, 2013

The Accordion Teachers Association of Massachusetts will be sponsoring their 51st Music Festival at the Boston Newton Marriott in Newton, Ma. April 5-7, 2013.

In 2012 the ATAM celebrated their 50th anniversary with the Air Force Strolling Strings performing for over 500 people at Saturday nights' milestone banquet which was attended by over 35 past champions, past members and current contestants and their families. After such a memorable event last year, it will be a tough act to follow.

Chairman, Peggy Falcetti, from Springfield, MA, states that this year's event will be as large as last year with over 700 contestants. Roger Latulippe, co-chairman with Peggy for over 30 years has retired his position as co-chairman as of 2013 and will be surely missed. He will however continue as an active member and continue to assist at the Festival.

Two new and exciting workshops will be presented by Jay Latulippe and Sam Falcetti. The workshops entitled "How to Memorize a Song In 5 Minutes" and "Choosing a Career in Music" will take place on Saturday. There is no charge to attend these workshops.

The ATAM will also be awarding a \$500.00 Music Scholarship to a contestant planning on majoring in music in college this September and over \$4000.00 in cash awards to all 1st place winners in high

level categories.

President, Johanna Lewis, is happy to announce the premier performance by the "New England Roland V Accordion Orchestra" on Sunday afternoon. This orchestra is the first of its kind in the United States. Conducting this new sound by an accordion orchestra will be Sam Falcetti from Springfield, Mass.

Visit our Website www.atammusicfestival.com, to obtain more information about the 2013 Festival. ■

Overview-CIA 129th General Assembly-Vienna

The Confédération Internationale des Accordéonistes (CIA) recently met for their 129th General Assembly in Vienna, Austria. Delegates attended from United Kingdom, Germany, Russia, France, Finland, Serbia, Italy, Bosnia, Sweden, USA, as well as a large contingent from the Winter Congress and 2014 Coupe Mondiale host, Austria.

Plans are in full swing for the 2013 Coupe Mondiale in Victoria, BC to be held immediately at the conclusion of the AAA 75th Anniversary Festival in New York, with several AAA and CIA officials scheduled to attend both events.

The Coupe Mondiale festival is pleased to be offering almost \$50,000 in cash and prizes. The host, the BC Accordion Society, will

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CIA General Assembly in Vienna, cont'd from p. 6

be awarding prizes down to 5th place, and free accommodation hosting is available to all contestants who wish to take advantage of it.

In addition, the hosts have arranged with Air Canada for a 15% discount on all travel to the Coupe if desired. On March 18th, full details on accommodation, travel discounts, all inclusive ticket package plans and other promotional offers will be published.

In response to the ongoing discussion, it was decided that in addition to our regular coverage of the Coupe Mondiale event, including static images and text and a video archive and online coverage, that the Coupe Mondiale would be "Live Streamed" this year. Fred Deschamps and his technical assistant, Mike Rossi, will work to arrange all the necessary details and the budget was approved to make this all happen. Everyone in attendance at the Congress was very keen to make this happen, including the host organizer.

All details relevant to the upcoming Coupe Mondiale will be continually updated at: www.coupemondiale.org

A quick overview of future activities showed plans well into the future for the CIA with Winter Congress and Coupe Mondiale festivals booked thru 2021 and even the hosts of last year's Coupe Mondiale, the IAC (Italian Accordion Culture) are expressing their interest to host the Coupe Mondiale in Castelfidardo when a slot becomes available.



Raymond Bodell (CIA President) and Werner Weibert Austria – (President of the Winter Congress Host and 2014 Coupe Mondiale Organizer the Harmonika Verband Österreichs (HVÖ))

Future CIA Meetings:

- 2014 Winter Congress: February 28-March 1 in Eastern Sarajevo, BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA
Host: Muzicka Akademija Istocno Sarajevo
67th Coupe Mondiale: October 27-November 2 in Salzburg, AUSTRIA Host: Harmonikaverband Österreichs (HVÖ)
- 2015 Winter Congress - Paris, FRANCE
Host: European Music Academy (EMA) former name: L'Association des Professeurs (APH)
68th Coupe Mondiale - Turku, FINLAND 2015 (probably last week in September)
Host: Suomen Harmonikkaliitto (SHL)
- 2016 Winter Congress - Calabria, ITALY Host: Italian Accordion Culture (IAC)
69th Coupe Mondiale - Rostov, RUSSIA
Host: Interregional Association of Bayanists and Accordionists (MABA)
- 2017 Winter Congress - Neuenbürg, GERMANY Host: Deutscher Harmonika-Verband e.V. (DHV)
70th Coupe Mondiale – FRANCE Host: European Music Academy (EMA) former name: L'Association des Professeurs (APH)
- 2018 Winter Congress - Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, RUSSIA Host: Russian Alliance of Harmonica and Accordion Performers
71st Coupe Mondiale - Bratislava, SLOVAKIA

Host: Methodical Centre of Accordion "Marta Szokeová" (MCA)

- 2019 Winter Congress - OPEN
72nd Coupe Mondiale - Brazil – pending Host: Associação dos Acordeonistas do Brasil (AAB)
- 2020 Winter Congress - OPEN
73rd Coupe Mondiale - Kaunas, LITHUANIA Host: Kaunas Accordion Society (KAS)
- 2021 Winter Congress - OPEN
74th Coupe Mondiale - Bruschal, GERMANY Host: Deutscher Harmonika-Verband e.V. (DHV)

Other upcoming CIA events:

European Music Council (EMC): Will take place in Glasgow (Scotland) in April. President Raymond Bodell and General Secretary Kimmo Mattila will attend as representatives of CIA.

International Music Council (IMC): Will take place in Brisbane (Australia) in November. To maintain CIA membership, the CIA has to attend a minimum of every second General Assembly, and this is our must attend year. CIA Ambassador, Kevin Friedrich, and Public Relations Manager, Harley Jones, will attend representing the CIA.

CIA Merit Awards and Honored Friend of the Accordion Awards: This year two nominations were received, both for the CIA Merit Award and from the British Columbia Accordion Society. Both were approved as follows: Joseph Petric (Canada) and Miljan Bjeletic (Serbia)

CIA Membership Affairs:

Two members of the CIA resigned including Croatia's Premiere Voting Member and one of Spain's two Voting Members. France has renamed their association to remove the name "Hohner", and Russia took advantage of the ability to have 3 Voting Members, and a new group joined the CIA. A new group in Croatia was welcomed as a Voting Member, which was rather timely considering that the Premiere Member resigned. Details are as follows:

Resigned Premiere Voting Member:

Croatia - Croatian Accordion Teachers Association
President: Vjera Odak-Jembrih

Resigned Voting Member:

Spain - Unión de Acordeonistas de España (UNAC)
President: Jesus Penaranda

Upgraded from Voting Member to Premiere Member

Italy - Italian Accordion Culture (IAC)
President: Federica Celesti

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Pictured above are: Alexander Poeluev, Viacheslav Semionov, Frederic Deschamps and Frederick Lipps. Alexander Poeluev will be a guest artist at the AAA's 75th Anniversary Celebration in NYC in August

Joined as Voting Member:

Croatia - Okud-Istra Pula
 President: Mr. Danor Grgorovic
 National Collaborator and CIA Contact: Dalibor Boljun

Joined as Voting Member:

Russia - International Music Center "Harmony"
 President: Yuri Shishkin
 Contact for CIA: Alexander Poeluev

Renamed:

France - European Music Academy (EMA) former name: L'Association des Professeurs (APH); President: Daniel Jurquet
 CIA Contact: Frederic Deschamps

Music Committee:

The Music Committee members in attendance were discussing some rather large changes to the Chamber Music section, and those will be discussed at the upcoming Congress in Canada. For the mo-

ment, just a couple of small clarifications/adjustments of the current rules were discussed, and have since been updated online at www.coupemondiale.org.

General Information:

The Austrian hosts were tremendous in their organization and hospitality and combined a variety of activities to complement the full agenda of meetings. The renowned Viennese Chamber Accordion Ensemble performed a spectacular concert, complementing various social engagements and receptions where the various accordion dignitaries in attendance including the likes of Friedrich Lips, Viatcheslav Semionov and former CIA General Secretary Walter Maurer were happy to renew friendships with fellow accordionists from around the world. It is also encouraging to see former CIA Champions such as Aleksandr Selivanov, Yulia Amerikova, Frederic Deschamps, Alexander Poeluev and Grayson Masefield (absent) and others actively participating in the affairs of the CIA. ■

Coast to Coast

...a sampling of accordion events across the USA!

ARIZONA

Mesa

The Arizona Golf Resort in Mesa, Arizona, held its 7th annual concert of the Mesa Accordion Event (formerly Frank Marocco Accordion Event) Orchestra. This year's event brought together over 50 accordionists from around the US, Canada and Italy, ranging in age from early teens to the late eighties. The annual concert has become a favorite among residents from all over the Phoenix area and draws an audience of over 400. This year's orchestral selections included arrangements by Frank Marocco, Joan Cochran Sommers, Stas Venglevski and others. The concert was dedicated to the memory of Frank Marocco, the founder of the event. For information about next year's event honoring Joan C. Sommers, please contact event directors, Dan & Joan Grauman at: mesa.accordion@verizon.net

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Victoria

The 2013 Victoria (British Columbia) Accordion Festival will be held in Victoria, BC on August 16th and 17th, 2013 prior to the start of the 66th Coupe Mondiale. For further information:
 E-mail: contact@bcaccordion.ca

CALIFORNIA

Pasadena

Popular Los Angeles-based accordionist and composer, Nick Ar-

riondo, performed a solo concert recital on Saturday, February 23rd at the Boston Court Performing Arts Center, Pasadena, CA. Nick Ariondo, a Grammy Award Winner with the Los Angeles Opera Orchestra, has worked with music icons from Paul McCartney to Placido Domingo. He can be heard in the 20th Century Fox film "Life of Pi" (Best Original Score, Golden Globe Award), which was nominated for 11 Academy Awards. For further information, e-mail: accomusic@nickariondo.com

CONNECTICUT

Wolcott

Come join the Connecticut Accordion Association's St. Patrick's Day Celebration on Sunday, March 24th at Farmingbury Hills (East Street Eatery), 141 East Street, Wilcott, CT 06716 for an afternoon of Gaelic favorites. Ben Gagliardi (concertina) and Ken Sweeney (harmonica, banjo and guitar) will be the guest artists. Festivities start at 4:00 pm, free to CAA members, all others \$10. Call Marilyn O'Neil for reservations: 203-272-1202 or visit www.CTAccordion.com

GEORGIA

Augusta

The Mangelly Big Kids All Accordion Band will perform in honor of the May 6th Celebration of World Accordion Day on Sunday May 5 in Augusta, GA. Mrs. LaRue Mangelly says, "Our accordions are just as mobile and versatile as those Masters Tournament golf balls!" Mrs.

Mangelly directs the band's rehearsals on Sundays from 3:00 to 5:30 p.m. Anyone interested in joining the group, or who might like further information, please call 1-706-798-1831.

ILLINOIS

Chicago

The AAA's fellow CIA member, the Accordionists and Teachers Guild, International (ATG) will hold their annual competition and festival from July 17 – 21, 2013 at the Hyatt Lisle (Chicago). 2013 will feature two special competitions for soloists featuring music by American Composers and Tango works, as well as competitions for accordions with other instruments. For more information, please visit www.accordionists.com/atg.

NEVADA

Las Vegas

The Las Vegas International Accordion Convention titled "Carnival of Venice in Las Vegas" will take place at the Gold Coast Hotel in Las Vegas from October 28-31, 2013. Please visit www.accordionstars.com for information on guest artists and activities.

OREGON

Portland

John Bonica has released the 2nd Chapter of his book "Play Your Accordion Without Pain." A new e-book, the chapters are available in



.pdf format, delivered to your e-mail address. The chapter is entitled: "Learning to Read Your Body's Signals." This exciting e-book is being published chapter by chapter, to total at least 24 chapters. As a special introductory offer, you can purchase the entire book for US \$22.00 (or Euro equivalent) with each chapter being sent by email as it is released. John writes: "This book is exclusively for accordionists, written by an accordionist, about accordion-related problems and injuries, based on 50 years of professional clinical experience."

TEXAS

Dallas

The National Accordion Association (NAA) hosted its annual Accordion Convention and Trade show on March 7, 8, and 9, 2013, at the Westin Park Central Hotel in Dallas, Texas. Representatives from manufacturers, distributors, dealers, and service centers will participate in this popular festival. Over 200 accordion enthusiasts are expected to visit the trade show area in 2013. For more information on future activities, please visit www.nationalaccordion.org/

Let's hear from more of the state organizations – May Newsletter copy due April 15th! Send to gaccordion@yahoo.com