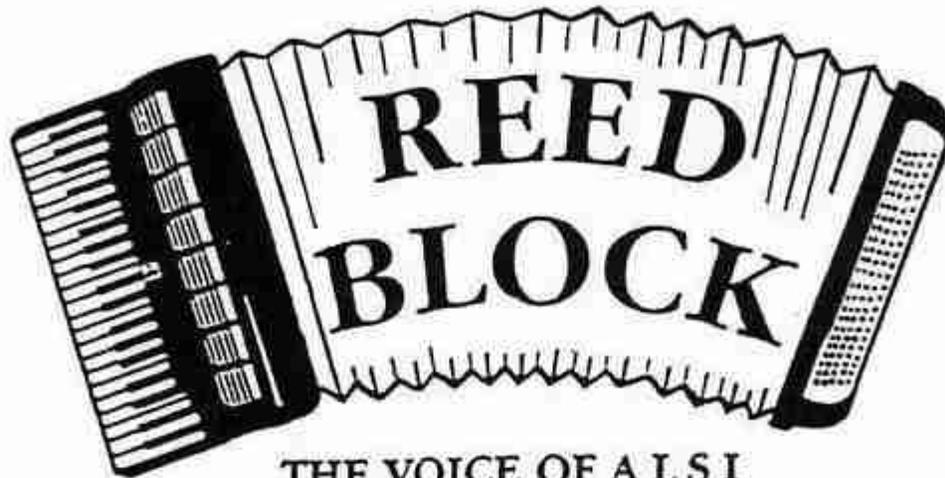


The



THE VOICE OF ALSI
ACCORDION LOVERS SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

“Celebrating 100 Years of the Piano Accordion in America”

Harold Estok, *Founder*
ALSI and The Reed Block

THE REED BLOCK
c/o Helen Estok Schoell
P.O. Box 151357
San Diego, CA 92175



August 2007



TONY LOVELLO

ALSI STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

ALSI is San Diego’s forum for appreciating and performing accordion music, including the MIDI electronic accordion

We welcome members who enjoy listening to or playing accordion music.

We have an accordion ensemble group, monthly meetings, local concerts featuring local and internationally famous performers, an annual picnic and a monthly newsletter.

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DISCLAIMER: Unless otherwise indicated, all articles were written by the Editor. Unless so stated, no article is to be construed as an endorsement. Articles not written by the Editor may contain comments that do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor. If you disagree with anything in the REED BLOCK, please let us know in writing.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO RECORDING ARTISTS: If you have an audio/video tape cassette you would like reviewed and written up in *The REED BLOCK*, please send us a professional copy and a short biography of the artist; include names, date and places. Please include the price of the item including shipping and handling. If you want the package returned after the review please include return postage with the package.

CUT-OFF DATE: All contributors to *The REED BLOCK* please note: all material is due two weeks before the next meeting, accordingly the due date for the September 2007 issue is **August 27, 2007**. This includes all items such as articles, upcoming events, playing around, accordion workshops and ensemble schedules. Please make sure your material is received, in writing or email no later than that date. Please submit your input to Helen Estok Schoell or Bob Page at webmaster@accordion-club-sandiego.org. Thank you for your cooperation.

MEETINGS: The club normally meets at 1:00—4:00 P.M. on the second Sunday of each month at the Mt Miguel Covenant Village, 325 Kempton Ave, Spring Valley, CA (**Next Meeting: Sunday, August 12, 2007**)

ALSI Website: www.accordion-club-sandiego.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



by **Kjell Holmes**

WITH GREAT BACKGROUND ACCORDION MUSIC, THE DOORS WILL OPEN BEFORE 1:30 PM FOR TONY LOVELLO'S 2:00 PM ACCORDION CONCERT.

Tony, (whose brother Sam ran the famous and exciting HEE -HAW program on T.V. for so many years), tells me that this might be his last trip to the West Coast. From all reports about his recent performance in Las Vegas, he is completely up to speed, and will perform a good concert as always. There will be all of Tony's CD'S for sale during the intermission.

I wish to thank Gordon Kohl and his band for the great performance they gave at our July Meeting. What a wonderful group, playing so well together.

We in ALSI wish to express our condolences to the Arizona Accordion Club and Al Monti's family for the loss of their great leader. Al will be sorely missed by the accordion world because of his dedication and contributions to our beloved instrument. (Please see SILENT REED article).

Yours Truly continues to be proud of ALSI and all the help that has come about in our committee meetings, all the publicity help that has come about for the upcoming Tony Lovello Concert, and all the people that worked so diligently on the June Picnic making it such an enjoyable event.

Our next big activities are, The Showcase with Al Jacobs in September, the OKTOBER FEST in the Park, Heritage Day and Mother Goose Parade. I hear the Event Committee leaders chatting about these events and I am appreciative of all that they do.

With all that said, I am anxious to see you all at the Tony Lovello Concert on August 12th. —

(Live Music Touches the Heart!)

CREDITS

by **Helen E. Schoell**

Thank you Merle Williams for coming early to do the set up for our ALSI meeting.

Jack Marotte and Sami Zein helped put up tables and chairs in the patio area.

Our wonderful hostesses, Lenita Barrett and Sally Scheinok, prepared the tables by putting on table cloths, napkins, paper plates, silverware, cups for water and coffee, and served the delicious variety of foods that members brought to share for our refreshment break.

God bless you all for your help and generosity. You are all great!!!



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HAPPINESS AT ALSI

by Sharon Marotte

The ALSI July meeting was another fun Sunday afternoon at Mt Miguel Covenant Village. **Bob Warner** was the café player, **Joe Di Giacinto** and **Jerry Odling** played at Crider #1 & Crider #2. **Vicki Eriqat** was the mystery player. She had planned to play her own music but played music furnished by Merle Williams. It was a day of sight reading – she did a great job. **Kjell Holmes** was the MC.

Gordon Nyhus was our first player of the day. It was good to see Gordon and Doris Mazanek once again. Gordon played Barbara Polka, Blue Skirt Waltz, Just Because and Loveliest Night of the Year. He played with a lot of gusto and spirit. What a guy!!

Elke and Burch Ertle were up next. They played three sweet French waltzes. The Student from Paris, Rue La Fontaine, L'ame Des Poetes (Song of the poets). Someone called Burch “the respectable husband on the bass!!” A great team-it is always a pleasure to hear them play together.

Sharon Marotte played a couple of smile songs, When You're Smiling and Smiles (Kjell smiled and sang along), Voice in My Heart which is a song written by Helene Criscio in memory of her beloved husband, Angelo. The words were read before the song was played. Tyrolean Echoes polka was also written by Helene Criscio.

Jo Gurskas played his pretty red accordion. He played a couple of his favorite songs. It was good to see Jo again. **Al Jacobs** followed by playing an Italian song, Mattinata, which he dedicated to Andy Minella who passed away recently. His next selections were a medley of songs from Fiddler on the Roof, and Day in the Life of a Fool.

Hi, I'm Joe!! Guess who.... **Joe Di Giacinto!!** Joe played several pieces before our break. Flight of the Angels, Clarinet Polka, Unforgettable, and Somewhere My Love. Lots of accordion music on a beautiful day.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Helen:

Thank you for the information on AIMS (Accordion International Music Society). We were able to contact Heinz Trilek and he welcomed us. He scheduled us into their program without ever hearing us perform.

The weather was perfect and we had a great time. We listened to beginner accordion players, medium players, and very advanced ones. We enjoyed them all, especially the AIMS ensemble. They presented themselves with humor, enthusiasm, and talent. The group was so willing to share music stands, chairs, mics, etc. We met some very nice friendly accordion players up there. A French Canadian man sang some songs in French and an 85 year old lady did a little impromptu “can can” dance as the ensemble played.

One man said to us, “I can't think of a better way to spend a day than listening to accordion music. You forget about all the world problems and just enjoy the music and people.” He summed it up very well.

The crowds just kept coming all day long. Thanks again! -Al and Claudia Wrona.



Al and Claudia Wrona performing at the AIMS program in Santa Barbara this July.



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GORDON KOHL SHOWCASE

by **Bob Warner**

The GORDON KOHL COMBO consisting of Bob Marstellar on sax, Charlie Romero on clarinet, Carl Warren on drums and Gordon himself on his Concerto digital electronic accordion performed an excellent program of ballads, polkas, tangos, Austrian melodies and Italian medleys and tarantellas. Much of the music was danceable as demonstrated by the tapping feet in the audience. Gordon's versatility and expansiveness in all genres' of music is tremendous. He is able, along with the combo, to slip effortlessly from something like "CHARADE" to "GRANADA" to "POLKA TRAIN TO LAS VEGAS" or to an Austrian "KUFSTEINER LIED." Gordon's viewpoint on the combo is to provide a full, blended sound where the accordion not only may solo but also provide full orchestra sounds, piano, guitar, horns, woodwinds, chimes or whatever. All the while he works this in with the other instruments in the combo. The sound balance among the combo instruments generally leaned toward filling a dance hall, which sometimes favored the woodwinds. However, the sax was smooth, the clarinet mellow, the drums dynamic and the accordion superb with creative background and soloing. Most of the pieces in the program were taken from the group's C-D, "MOONLIGHT DANCE PASSIONS." One that was not on this C-D was "GRANADA." I have heard this composition sung, played solo and played with full orchestra but I have never heard it played by this instrument grouping. To say it was outstanding is begging for the right word. For me, this was the showstopper. Gordon's remarkable keyboard skills made this a very exciting piece.

The combo began with "A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A FOOL" playing it in a slow, languid manner with melody alternating between accordion and sax. "CHARADE" followed in a fairly fast waltz time with some interesting backup variations by the accordion interspersed with melody from the reed section. "TARANTELLA CASTELFIDARDO", written by Gordon, took off in a speedy 6/8 time pushed by the accordion with triplet runs and phrasings in the characteristic tarentella structure. "POR UNA CABEZA", one of my favorite tangos as much for listening as dancing, began with a beautiful introduction by the accordion and

continuing with the traditional tango tempo but with a novel, swingy edge to the arrangement. "MOON RIVER", always familiar but never old, moved along with some pleasing voicings from the accordion while the reeds stayed on top with the melody. A very active "JAZZ ACCORDION JIVE " and "COSSACK DANCER", written by Gordon, got the audience stirred up considerably. To give the fingers a rest, the group played the beautiful "I WILL WAIT FOR YOU", again, with interesting, smooth accordion voicings but with some bounce in the bridge section.

Gordon's arrangement of "BLUE MOON" was harmonically rich with a fine piano voicing leading the introduction and first ending. By this time the audience was ready for a polka, "THE POLKA TRAIN TO LAS VEGAS", written by Gordon. It has become a very popular and pleasing piece. The group did it real justice today. The combo next warmed up to "ZYDECO ACCORDION BOOGIE" and "BEI MIR BIST DU SCON" in traditional boogie and swing arrangements. To additionally have something for everybody, this versatile combo continued with "MY HEART WILL GO ON" from the movie "TITANIC", "FLY ME TO THE MOON", "AN ITALIAN MEDLEY", "UNFORGETTABLE", "KUFSTEINER WALTZ", "TICK TOCK POLKA", and "LA VIEN ROSE". The final piece for an encore was "GRANADA" which provided an exciting ending to the showcase.

Gordon is an expert at improvisations and fill-ins and creative arranging. The amount of material he played here today was huge. The musical effects he draws out of the Concerto accordion are marvelous. His fellow musicians rounded out the showcase with their own professional performance. I hope I have managed in some way to give the reader a musical word picture of what we heard today. Better yet, buy the C-D. This is a unique group, structured not only for dancing but great listening. We hope to hear from them again —



GORDON KOHL COMBO

Left to right:

Carl Warren

Gordon Kohl

Bob Marstellar

Charlie Romero

San Diego Polka Dots Go to Las Vegas!

by Vicki Eriqat and Sharon Marotte

Our first challenge was loading five accordions, five stools, five luggage carriers, five stands, five satchels of music, and six women with six carry-on bags, six purses, and six suitcases, as well as water, snacks and CDs into my Chevy Suburban. Our husbands stood in wonder, proclaiming it would not all fit. I have to admit, even I realized the challenge as we rearranged and rearranged again. But, in the end, it all fit and we were off to a wonderful time in Las Vegas.

While there at the Convention, we took various seminar classes and checked out all the music paraphernalia and accordions. We found some kindred polka dot wearers and made them honorary Polka Dots for fun. We attended the luncheons and dinners and enjoyed the guest performers at each meal.

Our time was over far too quickly. We did manage to make one trip to the Las Vegas strip and the fabulous hotels. Our stay in Las Vegas ended and our return trip began with a beautiful buffet at the Wynn Hotel. We came for breakfast and stayed for lunch. A quick stop for gas and last minute gifts and we were on our way home. During the trip home, 114 degrees by Baker, we each took a turn and describing our most memorable experience and the highlights of the week. Sharon, our scribe, noted the following comments:

Kari Andrews – being critiqued at the workshop entitled, “Working the Ensemble Way” led by Mary Tokarski, a professional accordionist from Connecticut. It was worth every penny of the convention for this experience. She changed our way of playing, pointed out several things to improve on, especially bellowing and playing to the end of a phase.

Linda Hibbert – convention was user friendly for everyone, music players and music lovers, to enjoy many different kinds of music, types of accordions from folks around the world. It was a chance of a life time to hear all the top notch players from all over.

Farrie Ann Nichols – going to the workshops, to listen and work with great international “maestros” of the accordion.

Rena Watton – hearing Walter Ostanek, the

Polka King of Canada. Also being surrounded by all kinds of accordion music – everything from Classical, Opera, polkas, jazz and Irish Rock. It was lots of fun wearing polka dot clothing wherever we went; we got lots of comments and met folks who asked us about our polka dots. Another highlight was that on the last night in the Club Concerto; Peter Soave bought us a drink!

Sharon Marotte – I loved the late night playing and dancing Club Concerto. The Polka Dots were able to play Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. The talent that is on stage is incredible. The workshops offer a time to meet the greats. The food was very good this year, especially the desserts!

Vicki Eriqat – loved the Club Concerto and workshops. We met lots of old friends and made some new friends.

ALSI members that attended: Bob and Penny Page, Neil and Kathryn Morefield, Fred and Mariana Ferino, and of course, Gordon Kohl who conducted workshops and played the lunch time music on Thursday. —

Galla-Rini ACCORDION CAMP

by Sharon Marotte

The 18th Galla-Rini Accordion Camp was held at the Dominican University of California, July 22-27, 2007, north of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Rafael. Attending from the San Diego ALSI club were Vicki Eriqat, Sharon Marotte and Kjell Holmes.

We attended workshops, sectional practices and Ensemble practices. We also participated in the concert Thursday evening at Angelico Hall. Approximately 33 players were in the Ensemble. Vicki and I were playing parts in Accordion 1 and 3 so we were seated in the front row.

We especially enjoyed meeting old friends from previous camps and making new friends from this camp. Another article will appear in the next Reed Block with more news from this camp. —

UPCOMING EVENTS

ACCORDION WORKSHOP

August 20, 2007. The Gordon Kohl workshop will convene from 6:00-9:00 pm. at Stella's Kitchen, 365 3rd Ave., Chula Vista. The topics will include: Continued practice on William Tell Overture (4 parts). Work on the classic Beatle's tune "Let It Be", jazz original solo composed by Gordon Kohl for accordion "Chilly Billy" and country song "Anytime". Cost: \$22 and \$12 for non-student guest.

For further information, call Gordon Kohl at 619-427-4344.

COTATI ACCORDION FESTIVAL

August 25th & 26th 9:30 am to 8 pm in La Plaza Park, Cotati, Sonoma County (707)664-0444.

Performers include: Golden State Accordion Club, Tony Lovello, Sammy Thomas, Bruce Gordon and Tri-Tip Trio

AL JACOB'S SHOWCASE

September 9 at regular ALSI meeting. (Flyer will be available at this month's meeting)..

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



PLAYING AROUND

Members and non-members would like to know who's playing where and when. Please share your upcoming events as to date, time and location of public appearances. Please submit these, **in writing**, complying with the cut-off date, to Helen Estok Schoell at P.O. Box 151357 San Diego, CA 92175 or Bob Page at webmaster@accordion-club-sandiego.org.

JOE DI GIACINTO: Thursday & Saturday nights 6 – 9 pm, Bell' Agio Restaurant, Santo Rd and Clairemont Mesa Blvd in Tierrasanta, (858) 268-8984.

LOU FANUCCHI:

Tuesday nights 7:30-10:00 pm, at The Prado Restaurant (Balboa Park) with Patrick Berrogain and the "Hot Club of San Diego" Gypsy Jazz. (Featured on JAZZ 88). (Recently released autographed CD's are available).

August 1, 15 and 29 with Patrick Berrogain (The Duo is back!) from 7:00—9:00 pm at the "House on the Hill Restaurant" 12440 Poway Road in Poway (858)748-3484.

June 17-September 3 Wednesday thru Sunday at The San Diego Wild Animal Park with "BOLGA ZOH DOOMAH", featuring traditional and original African High Life Music (Shows at 5:45, 6:45 & 7:45).

August 10 at 5:30 - 7:30 and August 26 from 2 - 4 pm with Rachel Lopez Emmons (mini Mas Grande) at People's in Ocean Beach (Sunset Cliffs and Voltaire).

August 9, 6:30 - 10:30 with Patrick Berrogain's Hot Club Combo (Kristin Korb, bass & Jon Oren, drums) at Vibrato Grill 2930 Beverly Glen Circle, Bel Air CA. 90077, (310)4749400.

KJELL HOLMES: Lake Cuyamaca Restaurant, 5-8 pm, Fridays, August 3rd & Sept. 7th. (760)765-0700.

"SMILING JACK": Friday and Saturday nights from 6–9 pm at Luigi's Restaurant located at 4015 Avati Drive (off Morena Blvd.) in San Diego. Phone (858) 274–6221.

UPCOMING EVENTS (continued)



Accordionists and lovers of accordion music from all over the world will assemble in the Washington, DC area to participate in the 2007 Accordion Coupe Mondiale from August 13 through 18. The Coupe Mondiale is the most prestigious annual accordion competition of international scope. It is held in a different country every year under the auspices of the venerable

Confederation Internationale des Accordeonistes since the first such event took place in 1938 in Paris where it was won by a young accordionist named Freddy Balta.

In 2007, this ambitious musical event is scheduled to again take place in the United States after more than 25 years since it was last held here, in Kansas City, Missouri in 1981. The accordion festivities will begin with an opening concert Monday night, August 13, 2007, to welcome the foreign members of the Confederation, the competitor-participants and guests who will begin to arrive on that day. Thereafter, memorable concerts are scheduled for every night of the festival, to supplement the exciting daytime musical events. The festival will feature accordion bands and orchestras from several countries. World-renowned accordion educators will conduct workshops and master classes. The Confederation will oversee six significant competitions: Senior Coupe Mondiale, the Piano Accordion Competition, Senior Virtuoso Entertainment Category and the International Chamber Music Division, plus Junior Coupe Mondiale and Junior Virtuoso Entertainment Category.

In addition, the AAA American Accordionists Association and the ATG Accordionists and Teachers Guild, International, the two national Confederation-member organizations hosting the 2007 Coupe in the United States, will hold a wide array of competitions. These national competitions will provide competitive performance opportunities at all levels of proficiency and in all styles of

music. Plans include a spectacular massed band of accordionists to play in DC, hopefully at the nation's Capitol, as was done during the AAA's Millennium Festival in 2000. This will be followed by an interesting sightseeing tour for all the participants. Negotiations are under way to induce the Smithsonian Institute to include an exhibit of accordions under the auspices of Dr. Helmi Harrington, curator of a World of Accordions Museum in Superior, Wisconsin.

Each first-place winner will be featured in a concert performance at Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage in Washington on Saturday, August 18. In addition, the Kennedy Center will feature accordionists and accordion groups at its nightly concerts on the Millennium Stage during the whole week of the Coupe Mondiale activities. There will also be accordion performances in outdoor venues and concert locations in Alexandria. Highlights of the Coupe Mondiale are nightly concerts, the premiere performance of the World Accordion Orchestra under the direction of Joan Cochran Sommers, a massed band of accordionists conducted by an accordion-playing army colonel will perform in front of the US Capitol, a sightseeing tour of beautiful Washington, DC, the 60th Anniversary Coupe Mondiale Banquet Gala will take place Friday night, the US Army and the US Air Force Bands -- each featuring an accordionist -- will perform in concerts, a series of social receptions with entertainment, and late-evening performances in a lounge setting with open mic for participating accordionists.

The AAA and the ATG jointly hold the exclusive US membership in the Confederation Internationale des Accordeonistes. In 1975, the CIA became the first instrument specific (accordion) organization to be accepted into the International Music Council (IMC), the largest non-governmental division of UNESCO, which is chartered by the United Nations.

The Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites adjacent to the historic district of Alexandria, Virginia will serve as Coupe headquarters. Social events will include receptions, a gala Banquet on Saturday night, a Luncheon Concert, and a Closing Breakfast get together. Contact AAA @ (201)991-2233.

(excerpted from the July AAA Newsletter)



Best Wishes to those of you born in the Month of August:

- 8/5 Al Jacobs
- 8/9 Charles Pace
- 8/11 Shirley Wisley
- 8/12 David Richardson
- 8/16 Al Eriqat
- 8/17 Lora Holmes
- 8/17 Margarite Margerum
- 8/20 Lawrence Kaiser
- 8/25 Bob Stanford
- 8/26 Norman Scheinok
- 8/31 Herb Margerum
- 8/31 Bert Watton



May your lives always be happy and filled with precious time to remember.

For couples married in the Month of August:

- Al and Terri Cerutti, 8/9
- Bob and Eleanor Wojick, 8/16
- Ted and Millie Hansen, 8/21
- Kjell and Lora Holmes, 8/28

SILENT REED

Al Monti- (Former President of the Arizona Accordion Club).

Al was born on October 9, 1916 and died July 3, 2007. He was 90 years old. Born in Arma, Kansas, Al was pre-deceased by his beloved wife of 60 years, Jean Francis and son, Donald.

Al began teaching accordion at age 18. He served in the Armed Forces (Army) in WWII and was fortunate enough to be placed into a Special Services Unit playing with large bands and orchestras. When he returned from the war, Al continued to entertain and teach while attending Midwest Music College where he furthered his music studies.

In 1946, Al opened his first of many music stores, Monti's Music Center, in the Chicago suburbs. He became a well-known entertainer and teacher. He was the founder of the Illinois Accordion Association (later changed to the Illinois Music Association), and was also one of the founders of the Chicago Music Association.

Al and Jean moved to Arizona in 1988 and Al continued to entertain and teach his music. He founded the Arizona Accordion Club in 1996 and recently retired as President (serving for nine years) due to illness.

Al was an inspiration and encouragement to musicians of all ability levels. He left a legacy of hundred and hundreds of deep friendships and produced talented students who have gone on to become famous musicians. He was respected and loved and he and his music will be greatly missed.

In lieu of flowers, please send contributions to the Arizona Accordion Club, Jean Monti Scholarship Foundation, c/o 4416 North 102nd Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85037 or the Sojourn Hospice Care, 7975 North Hayden Road, Suite A205, Scottsdale, AZ 85258. —

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“Music has charms to soothe a savage breast, to soften rocks, or bend a knotted oak.”

-William Congreve (1670 -1729)

PIANO ACCORDION HISTORY



Charles Magnante was born in New York city on December 7, 1905. At an early age he showed an interest in the accordion and was taught by his father, a talented amateur accordionist and his only teacher. Charles developed unusual dexterity and style. He haunted the vaudeville houses to hear his hero Pietro Deiro. Charles watched Deiro's style, studied his technique and went home to improvise and develop his own individual method. By the time he was fourteen, he was started on a professional career. He rejected vaudeville, and determined to try new fields, which left nothing but pioneering in front of him. By the time he was twenty, young Magnante had turned down many high -priced vaudeville engagements to devote more time to the study of the accordion. He developed amazing technique and skill. When Frank Harling, the eminent composer wrote a jazz concerto featuring the accordion which included a cadenza very difficult to interpret, he gave Magnante an audition. Magnante got the job on the spot. It was the beginning of a brilliant career. Within a short time, Charles was a member of the Roxy Jazzmanians and in the Roxy Orchestra. The latter broke a long standing precedent by using an accordion for the first time in a symphony Orchestra. For Charles Magnante, it was another step up. As one of the one hundred and ten men under the world famous baton of Erno Rapee, he not only won recognition for his own virtuosity, but opened a completely new field for future accordionists. The next pioneer step was in the radio world, which was then making its own first pioneer steps. When radio station WEAf (now WNBC) began its New York broadcasts, Charles was invited to play. According to Charles, it was an experience he would never forget. His popularity grew and he was soon brought into the very popular Roxy Gang, a weekly radio feature, later joined the Major Bowes "Capitol Family Hour" and for

years appeared with his quartet on the "Lucky Strike Hit Parade." Later, he was one of the most popular radio artists on the NBC network. Instead of stressing his talent as a solo artist, Magnante consistently directed his work towards the recognition of the accordion as a respected member of the instrument family. In 1939, he achieved an ultimate ambition when he gave a concert at Carnegie Hall. He was the first accordionist to ever appear in that distinguished hall. He was accompanied by his quartet and won rave notices from the leading musical critics. Although Magnante was recognized as Radio's premier accordionist (in America), he was also ranked as one of the country's outstanding composers and arrangers for his instrument. He had very definite ideas about what study methods should and should not be used. In expressing them, he not only simplified previous complete study methods, but gave a professional flair to his arrangements that enabled elementary students to play with the sound and effect of professionals. When asked for his advice to young accordionists, Magnante offered these sound ideas: "Too many young accordionists put the stress completely on the classics when preparing for a professional career. All too often they discover they lack the versatility to make a living. Students should definitely have a fundamental background in the classics. It is a valuable aid to dexterity, but their course of training should also include serious thought and study of the art of sight-reading, for it is an important factor in group work for it is here that the accordionist will find his richest source of income." He claimed that a professional accordionist should be able to fill-in, have a knowledge of all types of popular rhythms and repertoire of popular and standard music. Charles Magnante knew the reality of his time, for through his efforts a bigger and more profitable world be open to accordionists. In recognition of his valuable contribution to his profession, he was elected President of the American Accordionists' Association three times, being also a founding member of that organization. Magnante's life is the story of a man who overcame seemingly insurmountable obstacles to achieve success in his chosen field and become a legend in his own lifetime. He passed away on Dec. 30, 1986 having given the world a legacy of accordion achievements unlikely to be equaled by anyone in the discernible future. —

**The ALSI Accordion Club
Proudly Presents:
Tony Lovello
The "Liberace of the Accordion"
In Concert
From Lexington, Kentucky
Sunday, August 12, 2007, at 2:00 p.m.**



**Admission: \$10
at the door**

(Please bring goodies to share. Tea and coffee will be provided).



**At
Bailey Center Hall
Mt. Miguel Covenant
Village**

**325 Kempton Ave.
Spring Valley,
California**

**His repertoire includes: American Standards, Patriotic Songs,
Italian and Latin Favorites, Accordion Classics,
Popular Tunes, and Inspirational Songs.**

From Buffalo, New York and formerly with "The Three Suns", Tony will razzle and dazzle you with his flashy arrangements that are crowd pleasers. Lovello's talents have led him to appear with Debbie Reynolds, Frank Sinatra, Dina Shore, Eddie Cantor, Pat Boone, Jimmy Durante, and Kate Smith. His latest appearance was with Roy Clark on the television show "Hee-Haw". On numerous occasions, Tony has performed his special arrangement of the National Anthem for the University of Kentucky basketball team at Rupp Arena in Lexington, Kentucky where he now resides. He has also performed the same at Yankee Stadium in New York. From start to finish, you will be delightfully entertained with his style of playing. Many accordionists agree, Tony provides a new dimension in accordion sound.

Don't miss this opportunity to see and hear this very talented and exciting showman & accordionist. You're in for a real treat. How fortunate we are to have this popular artist come and entertain us!
Let's all come and give him a warm ALSI welcome.

For more information please call (619)5844970 or (858)453-5486



TONY LOVELLO

After being in the hotel business for 31 years, this dynamic accordionist has returned to performing his magical arrangements better than ever before. From Buffalo, NY, Tony first took interest in the accordion at the early age of 5. Under the direction and guidance of his father, who also played the accordion, Tony quickly excelled and soon was playing a 48 bass accordion and was performing in and around the Buffalo, NY area.

After the family moved to Los Angeles, it didn't take long before Tony was discovered by Eddie Cantor and it was then Tony had his last name changed from Lovullo to Lovello. He then embarked on a very interesting and exciting career, touring with such greats as Eddie Cantor, George Jessel, Kate Smith, Jimmy Durante, Debbie Reynolds and Frank Sinatra to name a few. Tony made two tours to Korea and Alaska with Johnny Grant and also performed for two years on the TV show "Dixie Showboat" with Dick Lane and Scatman Crothers. After his tour of duty in the army, Tony came out to pick up where he left off. He toured and performed on the Arthur Godfrey TV Show and it was then that he was asked to become a member of "The Three Suns". An illness left him deaf in the left ear and Tony then had a brief stint with his own review and toured Las Vegas and Lake Tahoe. He decided to retire from active show business and went in the hotel business. There he married his secretary, Jo Ellen, and settled down in the city of Lexington, Ky.

It didn't take long for Tony to get back in the circle of music performing the exciting arrangement of "The National Anthem" at Rupp Arena, which inspired George Steinbrenner to invite Tony to perform the same in "Yankee Stadium". His brother Sam, producer of the TV show, "Hee Haw" then asked him to make several appearances with Roy Clark and the "Hee Haw" gang.

After creating a web page on the internet, Tony started to write his arrangements with video instructions for many accordionists all over the world. Joe Petosa, of Petosa Accordions had asked Tony to perform for the Northwest Accordion Society in Seattle, WA. After receiving several standing ovations, he then felt he should continue to perform. Encouraged by his family, Joe and Sam Lovullo, Tony came out of retirement from the hotel and returned to show business with a bang. In less than seven years he has recorded 11 CDs, performed over 140 concerts and has been coined "King and Master of the Bellows Shake" by Maestro Anthony Galla Rini and has received 5 Lifetime Achievement Awards. Often called "The Liberace of the Accordion", because of his exciting showmanship and humor, he puts out a fun-fest, well paced accordion spectacular with unforgettable stamina. He possesses a star quality of a Master Accordionist. During his concerts, he communicates and connects with the audience demonstrating his famous glissandos, rapid runs and trademark bellow shakes with accuracy and precision. He walks, talks and delivers with utmost authority and has complete command of his instrument. He will "razzle-dazzle" you with his outstanding arrangements and his interpretation of his signature song Malaguena that will electrify you.

Tony Lovello is certainly a crowd pleaser. You won't want to miss this master in concert and it will be an unforgettable experience, not to mention lots and lots of fun.—