

ACCORDION TALK

Milwaukie Public Safety Bldg. | 3200 SE Harrison St. |Milwaukie, OR

Announcements

- February 17 -
1:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Music Circle
12:15p.m.-1:15 p.m.
- Music provided.
- The club meets the third Saturday of each month unless noted. *NO Meeting - June, 2018

Special Features

***** 2018*****

Feb 17 -John Martin

Mar 17 - Steve Gordon

Refreshments

- THANK YOU –Jeanette for providing the delicious treats.
- Feb. - Delette H.
- Mar. - Bev S.

Turning the Notes into Music

Somewhere between the notes on the page and the ears of your audience, music happens. And, between the printed notes and those listening ears is *you*, the accordionist. You are the one who makes the music happen.

So, how do you take the notes and make music that connects with and delights your audience? What skills, knowledge, and abilities do you need?

This will be the topic of a short, hands-on workshop at our February Rose City Accordion Club meeting. The program will focus on reading the score, interpreting clues and markers for dynamics and expression, and creating the musical performance. The program will be presented by **John Martin**, an experienced workshop presenter at the National Accordion Association Convention. John will present some important concepts and provide opportunities for you to apply the ideas in the workshop. Bring your accordion and we will all have fun and learn a few new techniques.



Mt Angel Wurstfest - 10th Annual - Feb. 9 & 10

If you like German sausages, beer and good accordion music please attend the Mt Angel Wurstfest
Come out and support our club members and their bands
Doug Stickler and Marlene Meissner
Check out this website for the schedule:

mtangelwurstfest.org

Stirrings of the Heart



"You probably have already guessed that becoming the musician you want to be will require a thirst for learning, much practice time and lots of patience."

George Rozwick

Accordion Events - 2018

International Accordion Festival - Vienna
Feb 24 - Mar 25

RCAC Accordion Camp
June 10-15 - Sublimity, OR

Leavenworth International
June 21-24

AAA 2018 Festival -
July 11-15 - Alexandria, VA

Cotati Accordion Festival
August 18-19 - Cotati, CA

Las Vegas International Accordion Convention
October 15-18 - Las Vegas, NV

President's Corner

Hello my fellow accordionists and friends:
Remember your **2018 membership fees** are due by the end of January. **2018** will be an exciting year for RCAC members. Upcoming events include featured performers, education and music challenges.

RCAC was formed in 1996 and the first accordion camp in 1998. Thank you for your participation and support. I appreciate all of your efforts to make the meetings run smoothly from setup to serving snacks.

Please consider donating to our adult scholarship or out of town performers fund. The donations will help to offset the costs to offer a camp workshop and promote goodwill to our fellow accordionists.

Please email or contact me at our monthly meetings to share your ideals on club fun. This is your club.

Thank you
Bev Spurgeon, RCAC President
bev0925@comcast.net

Announcements -

Sadness fills our hearts for the loss of a wonderful, professional and dedicated accordionist on January 20, 2018. **George Rozwick** passed away, he would have been 99 on April 2. There will be no funeral services per George's request. RCAC will honor George at the February meeting. Please come and share George stories.

Celebrations -

Bev Spurgeon and **Delette Huffman** entertained the guests at the Sons of Norway annual Lutefisk dinner in Kelso, WA.



January Meeting Notes

The January meeting opened at 12:15 p.m. with a music circle. The group with Fran Maddox conducting played a number of familiar tunes. Marlene Meissner shared some accordion band sheet music. Great challenge for us to play together. The circle is becoming a popular segment of the meeting.

The member meeting then started with announcements from Bev Spurgeon, President. It was announced that there are still a few June accordion camp openings, George Rozwick was in hospice, and a survey would be distributed for the members to offer their suggestions. Reminder to all to please renew their memberships. There were several first time attendees in the audience. Thank you Carol Martin for joining the club. Jill Patton shared accordion sheet music and demonstrated her Titano accordion free bass.

Everyone that performed was enthused and eager to share their choices of songs. Jeanette Bauman provided the snacks. Cookies were wonderful. Wayne Nelson was the featured performer. With a great selection of music for all to enjoy, Wayne wowed the audience. Thank you so much for those that continue to show your support of the accordion and fellow musicians each month.

Song List

Lynn Haldeman and Mark Greathouse – Miramar and Tinker Polka

Wayne Tiusanen – Kerenski (Finnish Dance), Hey There & Crazy

Marlene Meissner – O Mio Babbino Caro & New York, New York

Mark Greathouse – Serenade From Student Prince & Art's Boogie Woogie

Robert Myers – When We All Get To Heaven & In The Garden

John Martin – Stars Fell on Alabama/Ain't She Sweet & Shangri-La

John Mohny – Allegheny Moon & Where Is Your Heart

Fran Maddox – Magic Accordion Waltz & Viva Las

Featured Performer — Wayne Nelson—

Soprani Smiles Polka

Til There Was You

Alice Blue Gown

Indian Summer

A Good Man is Hard to Find

Chrysanthemum Waltz

Domino

Japanese Sandman

The Dancer Polka





Girl with an Accordion, 1941-- Yasuo Kuniyoshi (1889-1953)

This young lady's picture is located on the second floor main hallway in the Portland Art Museum, Portland, OR. Over the years, I have visited the art museum to view special exhibits, I find myself standing in front of this painting before leaving the building. The last couple of times I have photograph it. I was not for sure why it had such a draw upon my mind and heart. *My interpretation:* it speaks of a reflective and somber mood during World War II (1939-1945). Music was needed to survive.

The painter, Yasuo Kuniyoshi born in Japan immigrated, alone at 16 yrs. old, to the USA, was a preeminent 20th century modernist. He integrated into American life and the art world, but immigration law of 1924 prevented him from becoming a citizen because he was an Asian, his American wife lost her citizenship too after they married. In spite, he was very patriotic and drew propaganda posters for the Department of Defense during war time. He was honored with the first retrospective exhibition of work by a living artist at the Whitney Museum, NYC in 1948. Yasuo died of cancer in 1953.

When you visit the Portland Art Museum, please view the Girl with an Accordion and email me your interpretation.

Memorize - WHY?

To read the music, your eyes have a lot to do, i.e. decipher music - plus telling you all the things necessary to complete the song. Now you need to put your feelings into the music, handle the intricate accordion parts, the basses and bellows, and the keyboard. Remembering to do the dynamics and fingering.

By **memorizing** you omit much of the above and begin to concentrate on *feelings* and muscle control takes over - the pressure of studying is gone! Once you have memorized the song and are at ease, enjoy yourself and start improvising the score.

Now, try playing in a very dark room and you will be amazed at the results.

Free at last!

George Rozwick, Professional Musician and Author (1919-2018)

The Four Stages of Memorization

Stage 1: Perception

Stage 2: Ingraining

Stage 3: Maintenance

Stage 4: Recall

But whatever memorization strategies we opt for, we should energize our work with playfulness because when our practice is infused with spontaneity, our performances resound with that same expressive spirit.

The Musician's Way - Gerald Klickstein, Author

Some would say that there are multiple benefits to memorization, many small, a few large. I would agree. In my opinion, however, the greatest benefit to the performer can be summed up as increased artistic control and freedom.

Memorization may indeed require extra time or effort, and it's not appropriate for every performance situation. However, in my experience, memorization results in a greater musical and artistic freedom for the performer, enabling a greater attention to the "in the moment" aspect of music making.

In short, is it worth it or not?

In Chopin's time, it was considered disrespectful to play without the score. At that time, if you played from memory, you were improvising. Chopin was angry when he heard that one of his pupils was intending to play him a Nocturne from memory.

Rose City Accordion Club
2127 SE Silver Springs
Milwaukie, OR 97222



Challenge for **February** meeting
Play a song that has either word or both in the title:
LOVE SWEETHEART



RCAC Contacts / Business Information - <http://www.rosecityaccordionclub.org/>

Current Officers

Board Members

President - Bev Spurgeon

Vice President - Bobbie Ferrero

Secretary - Marlene Meissner

Treasurer - Fran Maddox

Camp Director

Website - Steve Knapke

Debbie Tiusanen

Mark Greathouse

Bob Trojak

Wayne Nelson

Bob Wachter

Wayne Tiusanen -

Newsletter - Bev Spurgeon - bev0925@comcast.net

Rose City Accordion Club is open to all accordion players, from beginners to professionals, their friends and families, and the public. Meetings are held monthly on the third Saturday from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Milwaukie Public Safety Bldg., SE 32nd and SE Harrison, Milwaukie, OR unless noted otherwise.

Ad Policy: Any current member can place a business card or four-line ad in the newsletter free of charge for three months. After 3 months, the fee is \$5 for two additional months. 2x3.5 ad \$5, 1/4 page ad \$10, 1/2 page ad \$20 and full page ad \$35.

Annual Dues are \$25 - Please send check to the RCAC Treasurer Fran Maddox: Rose City Accordion Club, 3429 SE 162nd Ave. Portland, OR 97236-1912