



WASATCH ACCORDION CLUB
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What a night we all had at our August 3rd Club Meeting. It was FUN---LIVELY---Highly entertaining and downright inspiring!

WOW! What a night! (It was one of those nights not to be missed.) IF you did miss it, then for sure put EUROPA on your must-see/must-be-there agenda for Monday, August 31st.

To quote Marjorie Flack, author of the beloved children's book "PING":

Once upon a time there was a beautiful young duck named Ping.

He lived with his mother and his father and two sisters and three brothers and eleven aunts and seven uncles and forty-two cousins.

Their home was a boat with the two wise eyes on the Yangtze river."

...Which brings us back to Monday, August 3rd:

Once upon a time there were two people named Bob Patterson and Betty Berentzen. They met while competing with their accordions. Soon they began dating. Eventually they married and had 10 children. All of those children played the accordion...some more than others.

Their oldest son was Rob Patterson. He met Cherie Hilton at competitions where they were both competing.

Cherie was determined to work really hard so she could get as good as Rob, because... "*He was really REALLY good!*" Mission accomplished. Eventually they began dating.

Cherie says: "*Our relationship improved greatly after we decided to start playing duets--- instead of competing against each other!*"

Eventually they married and had 2 daughters. But the story doesn't end there.

Once upon a time Rob lived with his mother and his father and six sisters, and three brothers but not his 1 aunt and 2 uncles and 12 cousins and 19 nieces and 12 nephews. Monday night about 30 of them showed up at our very own Club meeting.

The youngest performer was Bentley, a very sweet 6-year-old niece, from South Dakota.

[Gina Brannelli---who tells us that you must dress as if you CARE when you are performing--- would have loved how Bentley was dressed for the occasion: from pink shoes to a pretty ribbon in her fancily-braided hair, with all the cute clothes of a well-dressed child in between. Bentley played her pieces as smoothly and zippy as could be. [She's only been playing for a few months.]

Two more youths followed suit: Braxton (a nephew) played *Marianne* and *Skip to My Lou* as if he were a pro with stage presence...and he's only 9! LynDea (another niece) came out way on top playing *La Cucaracha*. Based on what we heard from these talented, hard-working youngsters, the next generation of accordion players is in good hands.

There were too many wonderful numbers to try and recap them all. I would have been very content to stay and listen for another hour or two. There was the 4-piece orchestra conducted by Rob's father, Bob Patterson. Then Rob's mother Betty and sister Kim played the *Clarinet Polka* with a few variations of their own, which made it a better-than-ever piece!

Somewhere in the middle of this delightful evening, Cherie's sister, Wendy, who is about to go professional on us, sang *I Was Left Right Out of Your Heart*, followed by *You Needed Me*. She gave a stellar performance with Rob accompanying her on his accordion. ☺

Cherie got the evening off to a lively start by playing *Pennsylvania Polka* and *Rhinestone Cowboy*. Towards the end of the evening she played a very nice arrangement of *the Theme from Charade*.

Rob finished up this already-over-the-top night playing his Concerto: *How Great Thou Art, Que Sera Sera*, plus a Swedish Waltz entitled *Sea Eagle Waltz* which was followed by a very pretty rendition of 'Return to Me'.

Thank you Pattersons, for a most enjoyable evening!!

I may have featured the Pattersons in this letter, but rest assured; I know that each of YOU have your own story to tell, and I want to hear it!!! PLEASE do text me or call me or jot down your story and hand it to me, so that YOU can be featured in an upcoming letter. Jenny Robinson - cell: 801-664-5171 email: slcjenny@earthlink.net