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July 7, 2014

Dear Friends of the Accordion,

We certainly can recall virtually all the centralized talent brought to us by a single extended family. The Patterson/Turner families stem from the musical guidance of Bob and Betty Patterson. This family loaned us Rob, Cherie, and Jacqi Patterson, and granddaughter/niece Lyndy Turner (daughter of Rob's sister Kimberly and her husband Robert). Lyndy played Ciribiribin and Scotland, the Brave. Her perfect presentation was represented by constant finger contact with the keyboard, good note articulation and phrasing, and precise note values. All of these qualities resulted in a great stage performance. We certainly hope Lyndy graces us with a return engagement. Perhaps she can convince Mom (Kimberly) to play a duet with Lyndy, as well as some solo pieces. Or the whole Patterson family can return with Bob and Betty playing their accordions, to boot!!! Everyone take time right now to envision "Accordions on Parade", or as they frequently say in the mid-west "squeeze 'em in, button down the hatches, and minimize the bellowing". This is a very common expression in the tornado shelters. Evidently, accordions are played while residents remain in those shelters.

In addition, we heard the soft and sonorous sounds of Pat Whall. She pulled me aside prior to her solos and said she felt out-numbered by the Patterson group encounter. Nonetheless, she breathed in, puffed up, switched on her Concerto, breathed out, and wowed the audience with her orchestral arrangements of several familiar standard tunes. Pat has quickly caught on to the multi-tasking of quick "foot and finger" movements stemming from on-the-spot mind mining needed to play the Concerto. Afterward, she cornered me and said, "With such quick hands and feet I am certainly ready for my open-mic break-dancing extravaganza she picked up from entertaining the folks at the Northwest Community Center. I say, "You go, girl". Make sure you're always between your Concerto and the floor when you perform.

In closing, I would like to remind everyone our July 7th meeting is an open-mic night. Please have one or two pieces ready to play for the audience, and all the exuberance and charisma you can muster for a fun filled evening. We look forward to seeing you Monday, July 7th, at Kowloon Café. Until then, remember Mario Pedone's adage: practice, practice, and practice.

Keep Squeezin'

Dave Marasco