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August 30, 2012

Dear Friends of the Accordion

On July 30th the Wasatch Accordion Club experienced its first “Las Vegas” connection. Steve Albini and Tatiana, compatriots of Paul Pasquali, made a trip from “Sin City” to the “Middle of Nowhere” (just ask the mayor of London, England!) to entertain our membership. Steve played some solo accordion pieces and sang many Italian folk and popular tunes. Tatiana played several solo pieces and played back up to Steve. Steve hails from the San Francisco area, while Tatiana resides and performs in Las Vegas. Originally, however, Tatiana was born and raised in Russia, and studied under Friedrich Lips. Our membership is always served well when we are able to observe not only our homegrown talent, but also the talent from points beyond our state borders.

Speaking of talent beyond our borders, two weeks after Steve and Tatiana played, our good friend Mario Pedone, from Sugar Land, Texas, presented a two-hour concert at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Mario is well known for his speed, flawless techniques, and incredible mental library of well over a thousand songs. His repertoire consists of music from the classical realm, American songbook, accordion standards, foreign standard and folk songs, etc., etc., etc. (as Yule Brynner once said in “The King and I”). Numerous people commented on how well they appreciated Mario’s playing of many familiar pieces, or “pieces I can relate to”. Mario interacted with the audience, responded to some requests, smiled with the attendees, and behaved as though he were “one of us”, as one person stated.

Because of the Labor Day weekend, there will be no September 3rd club meeting. Instead, we will meet September 10th at Kowloon Café. At that meeting, we look forward to hearing Jacqi Patterson play her repertoire from the Kimberly Old Time Accordion Convention in which she and a colleague competed against other like-minded accordionists. Every time Jacqi plays for us, the torch she carries to light the way for all future accordionists burns brighter and brighter. Play on, Jacqi!!!

As a reminder, the club will meet: When: Monday, September 10, 2012
 Where: Kowloon Café
 Time: 6:30 for dinner

Since we function as a family of sorts, remember you are always missed when you fail to show up at the dinner table.

“Keep Squeezin”

Dave Marasco

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