

# ALABAMA ACCORDIONISTS ASSOCIATION



## THE SCORE

VOLUME 13, NUMBER 4 • NOVEMBER 2011



**Cory Pesaturo in Concert Feb.4, 2012**  
**Also featuring AAA Orchestra and Alla Melnik Trio**



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**S** In his famous address to the Irish Accordion Club, Edmund Burke stated: "All that is necessary for your Accordion Club to fail is for your members to do nothing." Ouch! Did it hurt for our club president to step down after ten years? Yes, I've been a member who came faithfully to meetings to listen to others perform while failing to prepare a piece myself. So, in my first "Message from the Prez" I want to get the ball rolling by challenging each of you to come to each meeting with something to perform. As Jim said, he will write music for your level of your level of proficiency. After each club meeting, I leave inspired to go home and practice more consistently.

**O**ur 2012 artist in concert is Cory Pesaturo. Cory is a real up-and-comer in the accordion field. Winner of the prestigious Coupe Mondial in the digital accordion division, he is the first American to bring home a Mondiale trophy since Peter Soave won it 25 years ago. He has won a number of other competitions including the National Accordion Championship. A native of Cumberland, Rhode Island he is a graduate of the New England Conservatory (Boston) where he was uniquely the only accordionist ever to be admitted into the school.

**Time: 1:00 PM • Gen. \$15.00/Srs. \$10.00/Kids free**  
**Place: Bluff Park United Methodist Church (Birmingham)**

I am still learning about playing. Recently I learned the difference between playing the notes and playing the music. Although I understand what I just said. I have not yet learned how to play the music, and my pieces still sound like notes instead of like music. So, I must work on expressing, pressing the buttons, AND reading the dynamics.

At each meeting, we need a program that is so entertaining that our guests depart thanking us for the entertainment of the afternoon. The program Saturday was one of the best we have ever had. I love how the accordion is part of so many genres of music. When Alla and Naum played their duet, it was like one accordion was answering the other accordion. And, the orchestra is really coming into its own. The guest performers Jim brings in each year are exceptional. I tell people about hearing Friedrich Lips in such an intimate setting that I'm sitting on the third row and talking with him. Da! (That's the extent of my Russian.) Where can you hear a world class musician for \$15.00? The next guest performance is on Feb. 4; the next club meeting where a member can perform is in April 2012. Make a commitment to perform a piece!

*Craig Funderburg, President*

### OFFICERS

**Craig Funderburg**  
*President*

**Martha Miller**  
*Vice President*  
*Chaplin*  
*PR*

**Gene Omasta**  
*Secretary*

**Myra Fields**  
*Treasurer*

**Mary Wadowick**  
*Historian*

**Hugh Ahmann**  
*Photographer*

**Wolf Moritz**  
*Website*

**Don Bertagnolli**  
*Member-At-Large*

**Jim Bossert**  
*Parliamentarian*

**James Bombard**  
*PROJECTS*

**Jim Wadowick**  
*EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*  
*NEWSLETTER*

Nov 5, 2011 Minutes  
by Gene Omasta

## Barbara Beier: Member Profile

The morning began at 10:00 am with the club orchestra practicing Cole Porter Tribute, William Tell, and Accordion Blues, the latter two to be performed at our Feb. 4, 2012 concert.

At 11:00 am Gene Omasta conducted a workshop on Finale NotePad.

Jim Bossert began the business meeting at 11:30 am.

- Myra Fields reported a balance of \$6,012.02
- Craig Funderburg was elected new president of the club. Everyone wishes Craig great success. All other former officers were re-elected. Officers are listed on the front page of this Score.
- Craig presented his personally designed shirt. We hope that club members will opt to purchase one. Cost of shirt was set by the members at \$45.

The 28 members and guests were entertained at lunch by Jake Herzog who played German music in honor of Oktoberfest. The regular program featured the club orchestra, followed by solos and duets by members. Jim Wadowick led the sing-along of God Bless America, Happy Birthday for members' birthdays in the near past/future, followed by the club song. The next meeting will be a concert Feb. 4 featuring Cory Pesaturo, the club orchestra, and the Alla Melnik Trio.

I am Barbara F. Beier. I have been playing piano accordion for about 5 1/2 years. I got started on this path when a friend asked what she should do with her deceased friend's old piano accordion. I said, "Let me look at it." Then, I got a bit of help from a co-worker here and the internet, and started on the Palmer-Hughes Series. I became totally smitten and bought a second much better piano accordion from e-Bay and continued practicing. Last July I bought a chromatic accordion and have started studying it. Jim Wadowick has been very kind and has helped me understand how to play it. I have played piano accordion at two weddings. I also occasionally play when a group of accordionists in Western North Carolina meet.

I have been impressed by the variety of repertoire that works well on the accordion and enjoy playing pieces from the "classical" as well as popular pieces. I am working my way through the Palmer-Hughes books and also working on making my own arrangements using lead sheets.

When I was young, I took piano lessons for eight years. I have played piano and organ in church off and on over the years. I have a BA in mathematics (Fontbonne University), MA in chemistry (Cornell University), and a Ph. D. in psychology

(University of Tennessee, Knoxville).

I have worked as a chemist and computer programmer.



I currently work as a clinical psychologist at Broughton State Hospital. I currently live in Morganton, NC.

*Ed. Note: Barbara spent three days of INTENSE accordion study at my home in Troy. She "kept my nose to the grindstone," as the saying goes. It was great fun teaching someone to play the C-system chromatic. She plays a beautiful Zero Cotte musette tuned accordion. If she is not careful, I will steal it from her!*

## CORRECTION

In the last issue, John Lawrence's wife's name was incorrect. Her name is "JEAN" and she is from Helena, Arkansas. Please be sure to greet JEAN at the next meeting!



### Philip Gould performs With "Rio Luminoso"

Hey club members! Here is great news for any of you traveling to the Louisiana area. Member Philip Gould performs regularly with a great musical ensemble called Rio Luminoso, which means "Light River." Their musical styles include Romantic music from exotic places, French/Mex, and much more.

Members of the group include:

Philip Gould, accordion

Fawn Larson, who sings in French, Spanish, and English

Nathan Rabalais, guitar, who is a student of French Studies at Tulane University

Gary Newman, bass, who has played in many South Louisiana bands and whose dad is a regular on Grand Ol' Opry

Peter Bulliard, percussionist

For engagement info contact Philip at: [pgould@philipgould.com](mailto:pgould@philipgould.com)

Or call him at: 337-234-5076

Hopefully we will hear the group at one of our future meetings!

### Alla Melnik Mulvehill and Naum Koyfman perform with the Atlanta Balalaika Orchestra

Members Alla Melnik Mulvehill and Naum Koyfman recently performed with the Atlanta Balalaika Orchestra on their 30th anniversary concert. Both were featured artists on special numbers. Alla is in the process of forming a trio with Naum and one



Left to right: Naum Koyfman, balalaika orchestra conductor, David Cooper, and Alla Melnik Mulvehill

of the orchestra's dombra (Russian string instrument) players. We hope to include her new trio on our forthcoming Feb. 4, 2012 concert in Birmingham.

### Jim Wadowick Plays for Pilot Club International 90th Anniversary

In October the Pilot Club of Troy, a branch of Pilot Club International, celebrated its 90th year of existence. The Troy branch featured a dinner and program which highlighted each decade of their work with a song chosen from that decade and a description of what took place in the club during that decade. Jim Wadowick performed the 3

songs and ended with "Space Odyssey 2001." Although not a 21st Century piece of music (it was composed by Richard Strauss many years ago), the ladies wanted this piece anyway!



Pilot Club of Troy Members  
In Period Attire  
with Jim Wadowick  
Note: Jim has on the Craig Funderburg shirt!

## Recent Meeting Pics



Craig - The New prez



Jim and Craig



Gene and Dovie



Mickey



Naum and Alla



Craig and Alla



Iva and Doug



Martha and Mercedes



Troublemaker



Orchestra At "Cross Roads Cafe"



Myra



Noelle and Jim

## "An Offer You Can't Refuse"

Following up on our new president's comments on page one, I would like to repeat the offer I made at our recent meeting. With the availability of Finale NotePad at such a cheap price, our members are able to receive Finale files, open/download and play them at any speed, I will make available to our members any arrangements from my catalog free-of-charge. As members, you can select any piece and I will send it to you electronically. Also, if you have a specific piece of music you wish to play for which you need an arrangement, you may specify the title, your level of playing ability, and I will arrange it and send it to you. Our hope is to fully engage our members in practicing the accordion on a regular basis and increase the participation in our club programs (and especially our orchestra).

This is truly an "offer that you can't refuse," since sheet music accordion arrangements are seldom if ever found in music stores or on line. And, the sources that are available are not "tailor-made" just to fit your specific needs. So, let me hear from you, and let's get those accordions going!

My e-mail is:

wadowick@troycable.net

My phone is: H 334-566-1664

C 334-268-9727

I will e-mail my catalog at your request. Specify songs and technical level of material not in the catalog for me to arrange.

## A NEW LOOK FOR OUR ORCHESTRA AND MEMBERS!



Front and back view of Craig's shirt design for button accordion. I requested the logo to be on the back of my shirt because, if one had an accordion on, no one would see the design. Also, at the last meeting this is where the members agreed the logo should be. Craig needs to know which type of accordion you play.



THE LATEST  
PROPOSED DESIGN  
FOR THE BACK OF THE  
BLACK SHIRT

We are hoping that our members (especially orchestra members) will opt to purchase one of Craig's shirts. I have worn mine on two gigs, and it really made an impression on the audiences. I am going to order another one for myself. This is a Claiborn shirt, 55% cotton/45% polyester. The material is nicely washable, needs no ironing, and very comfortable to wear. I love the material. The club voted to pay Craig \$45.00 per shirt. The design above is the one Craig has designed and it will be ON THE BACK of shirt.

Craig will bring another shirt sample to the concert for members to see.

Phone: 205-317-8663. E-mail: [csfunder@gmail.com](mailto:csfunder@gmail.com)



**Whole Gang November 5, 2011**



**LeMieux**  
GALLERIES  
INCORPORATED

332 Julia Street New Orleans, LA

**Philip Gould**  
*Louisiana's Landscapes and Grass Roots*

December 3-31, 2011

Join us for a reception with the artist  
Saturday December 3, 6-8 p.m.

lemieuxgalleries.com  
504-522-5988



"Sugar Cane and Clouds", 30" x 40", archival print



"Nuns on Parade", 17 x 22", archival print