

# VERDI CLUB

Newsletter | July 2023



## Upcoming Events

### Verdi Club Events

**Friday, July 7**

[Summer of Swing Dinner Dance](#)  
[w/ Silver Bell Jazz Band](#)

**Friday, August 11**

[Summer of Swing Dinner Dance](#)  
[w/ Nick Rossi Swing Six](#)

### Public Events

**Friday, July 28**

[James Austin Johnson \(SNL\)](#)

Tuesdays

[Woodchopper's Ball](#)

Most Wednesdays

[Stud Country Line Dancing](#)

Thursdays

[Milonga Malevaje - Tango](#)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Benvenuti a tutti!*

Last month, our Board wisely voted to turn over the task of publishing this Newsletter to Kim Jean Taylor, who is the Verdi Club contractor responsible for maintaining our website [www.VerdiClub.net](http://www.VerdiClub.net), and all of our social media participation. Long gone are the days when we printed up and mailed our Newsletter – it shows up in your email every month now. In the future, we will post our Newsletter on social media, thus increasing the reach of the Verdi Club, and those of you who advertise in our Newsletter.

Which brings me to a point I made this time last year:

Our Board and our Officers have not changed substantially over the past five years, and although I cannot congratulate our Board and our officers enough for all of their accomplishments, it's time for us to hear some new voices, yours perhaps, on our Board, or serving as an Officer of the Verdi Club.

Our current efforts to bring Verdi's event advertising and publicity into the 21st century inform us that we have a continuing need for fresh ideas on increasing membership and for community outreach. Ours is a special light in the heart of San Francisco – we need your help to make that light a beacon.

Thus, we will have elections this Fall. Next month I will list a description of the various service opportunities here at the Verdi Club, and we will set a date for the elections. Please consider adding your voice to the leadership of the Verdi Club.

Independence Day

I am vacationing with my lovely wife Melissa Mooney in Connecticut, the "Constitution State". Connecticut got that moniker from the historical contention that the Connecticut Fundamental Orders of 1639, was the first written constitution in the world: a social compact framed for immediate use, with executive and legislative officers, and with specific rules of governance. Oddly enough then, the "Constitution State" actually bears no reference to the Constitution of the United States.

Get your tickets for the July Dinner Dance, and for all of the Verdi Club's public events, at <https://www.verdiclub.net/event-space/> and just click on the event you want to attend.

Cordali Saluti, Samuel Bellicini



## Verdi Club Directory

### **President**

Samuel Bellicini 415-298-7284

### **Vice President**

Mark Schutz 415-641-8759

### **Financial Sec.**

Ed Sutton 415-305-8707

### **Treasurer**

Dennis Davison 415-584-1075

### **Secretary**

Jean Perata 415-584-1075

### **Sergeant at Arms**

Steve Mullarkey 650-255-3023

### **Chairman of the Board**

Delores Homisak 650-996-9060

### **Board of Directors**

Bonnie McGregor 415-528-9630

Melissa Mooney 415-505-0036

Steve Mullarkey 650-255-3023

Jane Russell

Wisdom 415-420-6598

Annette Schutz 415-652-2130

### **Alternate Board Member**

Ron McGoldrick 415-720-5150

### **Membership Chair**

Delores Homisak 650-996-9060

### **Sunshine Chair**

Annette Schutz 415-652-2130

### **Manager**

Jason Mulvaney 510-543-5030

### **Verdi Club**

415-861-9199

## DINNER DANCE CALENDAR

### Upcoming Dinner Dances

Date	Band	Style	Menu
July 7, 2023	Silver Bell Jazz Band	Swing	Baby Back Ribs or Chipotle Veggie Sausages w/ Five Cheese Macaroni Gratin and Creme Fraiche Biscuits
August 11, 2023	Nick Rossi Swing 6	Swing	Bacon Wrapped Pork Loin or 'Plant Based' Vegetarian Meatballs
September 9, 2023	Halsey & The Hi-Hats	20's Jazz	Grilled Flank Steak with Aji Sauce or Cheese Tortellini with Fennel and Mushrooms

## MEMBER NEWS

Please welcome new Associate Member Yen Bechmeier to the Verdi Club! We continue to add new members almost every month. Thanks to each of you for sharing the Verdi Club with family, friends and colleagues. Referrals are our biggest source of new members. If you have any membership questions, please contact [delores@verdiclub.net](mailto:delores@verdiclub.net).

## VERDI CLUB PRIVATE EVENTS

Host your next special event at Verdi Club with exclusive Member discount! No event is too small for us to make it truly memorable. Whether it's a happy hour gathering, anniversary party, fundraiser, company event, or any other special occasion, our doors are open to you.

We can help you through every step of the process, from booking entertainment and outside vendors to crafting specialized dinner and bar menus.

For booking inquiries, please contact [jason@verdiclub.net](mailto:jason@verdiclub.net)





### Birthdays

Ed Bordenave  
Jeff Borghello  
Corrado DeMartini  
Mark DePaula  
Baptiste Genestin  
Jack Kellner  
Bonnie McGregor  
Richard Pignone  
Katheleen Soper  
Thomas Soper  
Chris Vercelli

### Anniversaries

Genedy and Masha Farber  
Baptiste Genestin & Julie Higounet  
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Kitch  
Deborah Micallef-Smith & Charles Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Pignone  
Michelle Chang & Gert Christen

### Dinner Dance Set Up Team

Dennis Davison  
Ron McGoldrick  
Bonnie McGregor  
Annette Schutz  
Mark Schutz  
Jane Russell Wisdom  
Bill Russell  
Steve Mullarkey  
Diane Mullarkey

*If you would like to help out at the Club, on the day of the dinner dance we meet at 8am and are usually finished by 10am.*

#### To join the crew contact:

Dennis Davison at:

[dgrizz24@yahoo.com](mailto:dgrizz24@yahoo.com)

415-584-1075

## SUMMER OF SWING

We're enjoying the Summer of Swing at the Verdi Club! The Summer of Swing Dinner Dances are being held on Fridays in July and August and feature some of the best swing bands in the Bay Area.

### Silver Bell Jazz Band - Friday, July 7, 2023



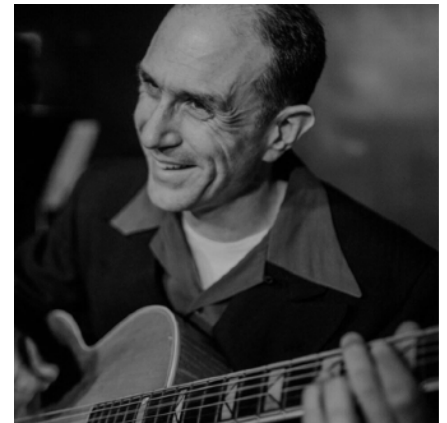
#### The Silver Bell Jazz Band

represents traditional New Orleans jazz with a beautiful blend of jazz roots that moves the soul and makes you dance! With clarinetist and international Lindy Hop instructor Ryan Calloway leading the band, they play with a special focus towards dancers. Ryan brings together musicians from all over the Bay Area, and with a rotating cast of all-star jazz musicians, you're sure

to get a fresh, breathtaking experience each and every time, just like in the early jazz sessions.

### Nick Rossi Swing 6 - Friday, August 11, 2023

Swing rhythm guitarist Nick Rossi, who can often be seen and heard playing throughout the Bay Area and beyond with other bands, brings his own all-star group to play hard-driving 1930's-1940's small group swing, perfect for both Lindy Hop and Balboa.





Summer of Swing Dinner Dance w/ Silver Bell Jazz Band  
July 7 @ 5:30pm

### [Tickets](#)

#### **Silver Bell Jazz Band**

Silver Bell Jazz Band represents authentic jazz with a beautiful blend of jazz roots that moves the soul and makes you dance! With clarinetist and international Lindy Hop instructor Ryan Calloway leading the band, they play with a special focus towards dancers. Ryan arranges and brings together musicians from all over the Bay Area, and with a rotating cast of all-star jazz musicians, you're sure to get a fresh, breathtaking experience each and every time, just like in the early jazz sessions.

#### **Buffet Menu**

Baby Back Ribs or  
Vegetarian Sausages

*Served with Five Cheese Macaroni Gratin, Creme Fraiche Biscuits, Salad, Dinner Wine and Dessert*

#### **Schedule**

5:30 Doors Open  
6:45 Dinner  
7:30 Dance

#### **Price**

\$45 Member  
\$90 Member +1s  
\$55 Non-Member  
\$25 Dance Only



## EVENT SPOTLIGHT

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### The Age James Austin Johnson (SNL)

Friday, July 28 7:30pm

[Tickets](#)

JAMES AUSTIN JOHNSON is a comedian originally from Nashville and a featured player on Saturday Night Live. The *New York Times* has called him “one of SNL’s most versatile celebrity impressionists.” His spot-on impression of Trump paired with his improvisational ramblings about Weird Al, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, and Scooby Doo have garnered over 5 million views, with profiles on James in *Vanity Fair*, *Slate*, *Mashable*, and *Vice* to name a few. As an actor, James’ TV/Film credits include *Future Man*, *Baskets*, *Robbie*, *Better Call Saul*, *The Last Tycoon* and the Coen Brothers’ feature *Hail, Caesar!*.

As a stand up, James has performed on the Vice series *Flophouse*, as well as *Riot LA* and *Just For Laughs* as a New Face.

### STUD COUNTRY QUEER LINE DANCING & TWO-STEPPING



### Stud Country - Queer Line Dancing & Two-Stepping 8pm Wednesdays

Stud Country premiered at the Verdi Club to a full house of 200 dancers hot off their feature in the [New York Times](#). When they’re not taking breaks to appear in *Vogue* and on *Good Morning America*, Stud Country will have their SF home at the Verdi Club on Wednesdays. Open to all, this community has been a wonderful addition to the Verdi Club dance schedule. Hope to see you on the dance floor! Tickets are available at the door.



## Summer of Swing Dinner Dance w/ Nick Rossi Swing Six

Friday, August 11 @ 5:30pm

[Tickets](#)

Verdi Club wraps up the Summer of Swing with the incomparable Nick Rossi and his Swing Six!

### Nick Rossi Swing Six

Swing rhythm guitarist Nick Rossi, who can often be seen and heard playing throughout the Bay Area and beyond with other bands, brings his own all-star group to play hard-driving 1930's-1940's small group swing, perfect for both Lindy Hop and Balboa. Enjoy this wonderful band on a spacious hardwood floor with room to swing out!

### Buffet Menu

Bacon Wrapped Pork Loin or  
'Plant Based' Vegetarian Meatballs

*Served with Side, Salad, Vegetable, Dessert and Dinner Wine*

### Schedule

5:30 Doors Open  
6:45 Dinner  
7:30 Dance

### Price

\$45 Member  
\$90 Member +1s  
\$55 Non-Member  
\$25 Dance Only





## NOTES FROM YOUR VERDI CLUB BOARD

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### **Wishing Associate Member Marco Bass Well in His Mission**

On February 24th, 2022 Russia invaded the sovereign nation of Ukraine. The entire world (with notable exceptions) gasped in the unfolding horror – a country besieged by violence, war crimes and the kidnapping of Ukrainian children. For one San Franciscan, Verdi Club Member Marco Bass, this act of war struck a nerve; it began a calling he could not ignore. On the heels of his 70th birthday he made the commitment to travel to the war-torn country, following his heart.

Marco Bass had spent years teaching kindergarten through 8th grade in Catholic and public schools in Columbus, Ohio. He knew he must answer the call and reach out to the vulnerable children of Ukraine. In October 2022 he began his research, first at the Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in the Castro neighborhood and later, at a fundraiser which began his relationship with the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, Ukraine. A professor at the Chicago Ukrainian Catholic University knew Marco's teaching experience would prove valuable. Marco was gratefully accepted as a volunteer for the English Summer School Program, teaching English Immersion.

Since relocating to San Francisco Marco has been a substitute teacher at St. James, St. John and St. Phillip's Schools. Marco plays a large role in the lives of his daughter Samantha and granddaughters Margaret and Bernadette, who reside in Eureka Valley. He has been an active member of our Verdi Club family. During our in-service day he worked at painting the upstairs green room, along with Caroline Anzur, another Verdi Club Member, who has become his life partner. Caroline captained much of the complicated travel arrangements for the Ukraine trip.



Marco Bass with Ukrainian Women in San Francisco

Marco's arduous journey began with a flight to Los Angeles. His overnight flight to Warsaw, Poland was followed by a 10-hour bus ride. His paperwork was in order, but traveling across the border into Ukraine is not for the faint of heart, as there are no direct flights into the country. Marco will return to San Francisco on August 10th following 9 weeks of teaching and all types of humanitarian work. One of his goals is to help create a Sister Catholic Church with our beloved Most Holy Redeemer.

Living on the University campus Marco will become part of the community which has come together in support of volunteers like Marco who have traveled from around the globe to do what they can. This famous quote of former President Jimmy Carter has particular resonance for Marco: "My Faith demands - this is not optional - my Faith demands that I do whatever I can, wherever I can, for as long as I can with whatever I have to try to make a difference."

## SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!



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