

VERDI CLUB

Newsletter | May 2023



Upcoming Events

Verdi Club Events

Saturday, May 13

[Verdi Club Anniversary Dinner](#)

[Dance w/ Cocuzzi Courtet](#)

Friday, June 9

[Summer of Swing Dinner Dance](#)

[w/ Clint Baker's Golden Gate](#)

[Swing Band](#)

Friday, July 7

[Summer of Swing Dinner Dance](#)

[w/ Silver Bell Jazz Band](#)

Public Events

Friday, April 28

[Rushmore on Tour](#)

Fundraiser for Rushmore Music Festival

Sunday, April 30

[SF Salon Music: Heels](#)

Walk and Dance in Your Own Shoes

Tuesdays

[Woodchopper's Ball](#)

Thursdays

[Milonga Malevaje - Tango](#)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Benvenuti a tutti!

To paraphrase Harper Lee from *To Kill A Mockingbird*, "You can choose your friends, but you can't choose your family." It's a tongue-in-cheek joke about family, and I think it misses the point, especially in May. May 14 is Mother's Day. I have some good friends I can count on for almost anything, and I have the love and devotion of my wife, Melissa.

But I have a special, and precious, relationship with my mother Christiana Bellicini. At seventy-something years young, Mom is still the anchor in my life, and my best example for living. Sure I have good friends, but they didn't make sure I had three balanced meals or that my school uniform was clean, or that I brushed my teeth every day. Mom did. Mom and Dad lived well, but frugally – they both came from humble beginnings and only wanted the best for my brother and me.

When Dad passed away nine years ago, Mom taught me, by her example, how to grieve without self-pity, how to move on without ever letting go, and how to honor our memories and still live in the present. When I was a child, I looked up to Mom because she and Dad were my authority figures. Now I just plain admire her.

Get your tickets now for the May 14 Dinner Dance, featuring the Coucuzzi Quartet. Buy an extra ticket, and treat Mom to a Verdi Club dinner-dance extravaganza. Purchase your dinner-dance tickets, and tickets 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

CELEBRATING
107 YEARS!



Verdi Club Directory

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Samuel Bellicini 415-298-7284

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Jean Perata 415-584-1075

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Annette Schutz 415-652-2130

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Verdi Club

415-861-9199

MEMBER NEWS

Please welcome new Associate Members Arie and Andrea Perry and Full Member Kevin Pursglove to our Verdi Club family. We now have a total of 144 Members and we continue to add new members almost every month. Thank you 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. We are off to a great start on 2023.

RECOMMEND THE VERDI CLUB ON FACEBOOK

Facebook has recently changed it's ratings system and we need your help to improve our online reputation! The more customers that leave reviews on our business page, the more social trust we build with new potential customers.

How to recommend the Verdi Club

1. Log into Facebook
2. Go to the [Verdi Club page](#)
3. Click the "Reviews" tab in the left-hand corner
4. Click "Yes" when prompted at the bottom of the page under "Do you recommend (Business name)?"
5. Write a recommendation of up to 25 characters
6. Add tags or photos
7. Post the recommendation



Like the Verdi Club on Facebook to keep up to date on what's happening at the Club.

DINNER DANCE CALENDAR

Upcoming Dinner Dances

Date	Band	Style	Menu
May 13, 2023	Cocuzzi Quartet	Swing and Ballroom	Braised Beef Short Ribs or Stuffed Mushroom and Spinach Manicotti
June 9, 2023	Clint Baker and his Golden Gate Swing Band	Swing	Chicken Picatta or Cauliflower Picatta
July 7, 2023	Silver Bell Jazz Band	Swing	Baby Back Ribs or Chipotle Veggie Sausages w/ Five Cheese Macaroni Gratan and Creme Fraiche Bisquits



Birthdays

John Madrigal
George Malson
Deborah Micallef-Smith
Constantin Roboostoff
David Stimmel
Marcus Stoesz

Anniversaries

Mr. & Mrs. Joe Corvino
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Cvetovac
Dennis Davison & Jean Perata
Dennis Duden & Anita Arellano
Mr. & Mrs. William Pallas
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Perez
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Spano
Adolfo Caszarry & des
Fernanda Valdovinos

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
415-584-1075

SUMMER OF SWING

Although we're thankful for rain and an end to the drought, we're already looking forward to Summer of Swing at the Verdi Club. The Summer of Swing Dinner Dances will be held on **Fridays** in June, July and August and will feature some the best swing bands in the Bay Area.

Clint Baker's Golden Gate Swing Band - Friday, June 9, 2023

Clint Baker, jazz musician extraordinaire and walking encyclopedia of jazz music and history, makes his Verdi Club Dinner Dance debut with his Golden Gate Swing Band. Whereas his New Orleans Jazz Band focuses on New Orleans Trad jazz, Clint Baker's Golden Gate Swing Band swings in the spirit of hard-driving Kansas City swing. Tight and powerful, they will make you want to dance every song! Great music for Lindy Hop, Balboa, Shag, and all things swing!



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.





Verdi Club Anniversary Dinner Dance w/ Cocuzzi Courtet

May 13 5:30pm

[Tickets](#)

Cocuzzi Courtet

Kristy Reed Cocuzzi has a sultry voice that has thrilled audiences everywhere for 35 years, and was featured on vocals, sax and clarinet with Big Tiny Little for 10 years. She has toured as lead alto, clarinet, & vocalist with the "Live Lawrence Welk Show" throughout the United States and Canada, and as a member of the "Champagne Music Makers" at the Welk Resort in Branson, Missouri. You can see her on the television special "The Lawrence Welk Show, Precious Memories". She is also part of the Wunnerful Women of Welk vocal quartet, alongside MaryLou Metzger, Ava Barber, and Gail Farrell.

John Cocuzzi plays with passion and intensity on piano, vibes, vocals and drums. For more than 35 years, John has been entertaining crowds internationally performing alongside jazz and blues greats. With dynamic style and diverse rhythms, John's innovation breathes new life into familiar tunes, from swingin' and burnin' jazz and blues to lush and sultry ballads. An intuitive performer, John possesses that musical fire, igniting the crowd with skillful improvisation. In addition to being a fine pianist, John has earned an international reputation as a premier swing vibraphonist.

Together, John and Kristy bring 70 combined years of youthful enthusiasm and experience to the table!

Buffet Menu

Braised Beef Short Ribs or
Stuffed Mushroom and Spinach Manicotti

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

Schedule

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



Summer of Swing Dinner Dance w/ Clint Baker's Golden Gate Swing Band

Friday, June 9 5:30pm

[Tickets](#)

Clint Baker's Golden Gate Swing Band

Clint Baker, jazz musician extraordinaire and walking encyclopedia of jazz music and history, kicks off Verdi Club's Summer of Swing with his incredibly fun Golden Gate Swing Band. Whereas his New Orleans Jazz Band focuses on New Orleans Trad jazz, Clint Baker's Golden Gate Swing Band swings in the spirit of hard-driving Kansas City swing. Tight and powerful, they will make you want to dance every song! Great music for Lindy Hop, Balboa, Shag, and all things swing!



Buffet Menu

Chicken Piccata or
Cauliflower Piccata

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

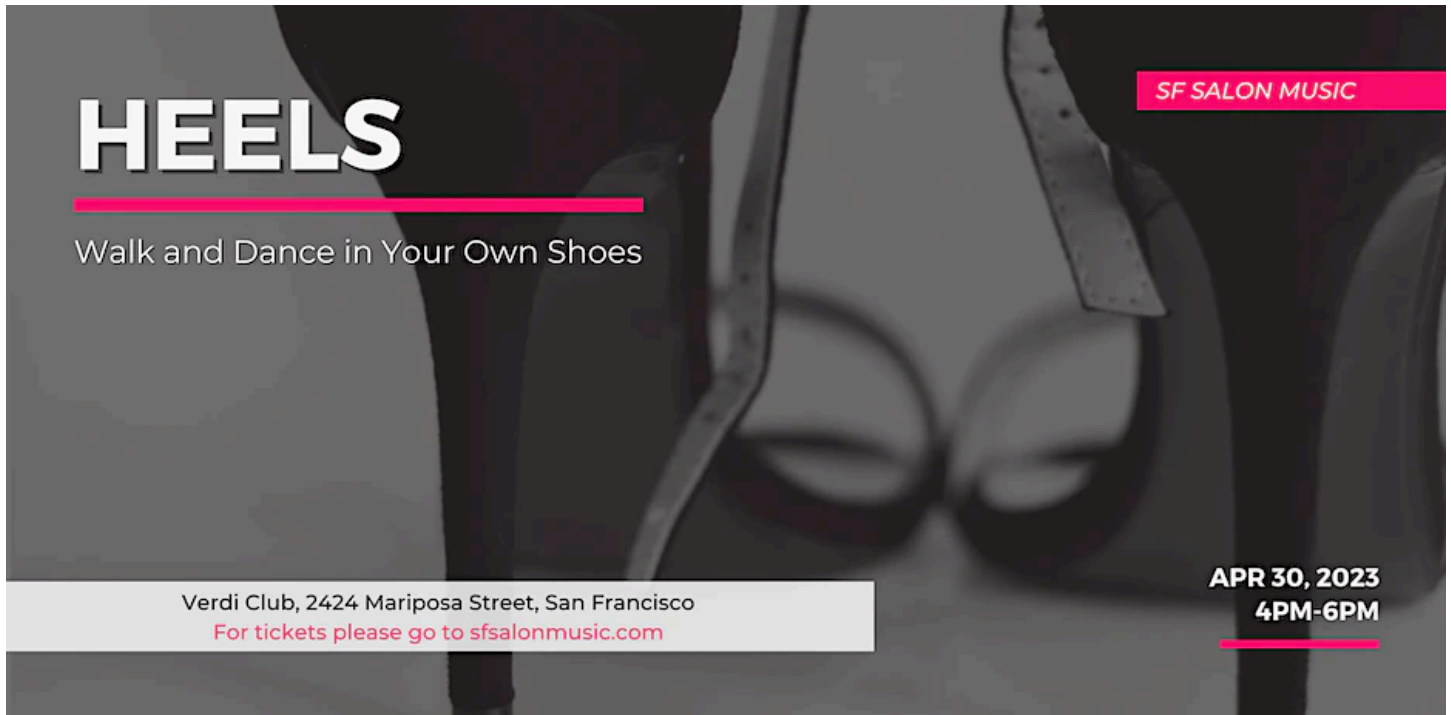
Schedule

5:30 Doors Open

6:45 Dinner

7:30 Dance

EVENT SPOTLIGHT



Sunday, April 30 4-6pm

They say that to know a person's journey, you need to walk a mile in their shoes. At this salon, we'll learn about the stories of several dancers through the history of their shoes - from bare feet to pointe slippers to tango heels!

The program will start with a talk about the symbolism and feminism of shoes, why women wear heels, and how wearing heels changes and reflects the body - the look from outside the shoes and the feel from inside the shoes. Then, join us for riveting dance performances from a group of trained dancers representing many different styles. You'll walk away inspired, and learn a bit more to tell your story with your own shoes.

As always with SF Salon Music, expect the unexpected! You'll leave with new knowledge, new memories, and perhaps even a new connection. Join us on April 30 at the Verdi Club in San Francisco for this once-in-a-lifetime performance.

About SF Salon Music

It can be hard to connect with other music lovers and artists in a larger concert hall - that's why SF Salon Music does things differently.

SF Salon Music was founded to bring artists and audiences together in a new and more intimate setting, inspired by the tradition of 18th-century French "salons", where ordinary people could interact with high society, and experience culture and art usually only accessible at the royal court.

Purchase tickets [HERE](https://www.sfsalonmusic.com)





*"If my ship sails from sight, it doesn't mean my journey ends... It simply means the river bends" –
Enoch Powell*

**Frank George Reppen - February 22nd, 1952-
January 7th, 2023**

Our hearts are heavy with the news of long time Verdi Club Member Frank Reppen's passing on January 7th, 2023. Our deepest sympathies to Pamela Reppen and family.

Frank was a native San Franciscan born February 22nd, 1952. He had a big presence and a gentle heart. He met the love of his life, Pamela Reppen, in 1985 and they married August 26th, 1989.

In 1988, Frank and Pamela were founders and owner operators of a construction dump truck company Rockin' Reppen's Transport Business until 2016. He then joined the teamsters Union 853, driving big rigs and large equipment until retirement in 2021.

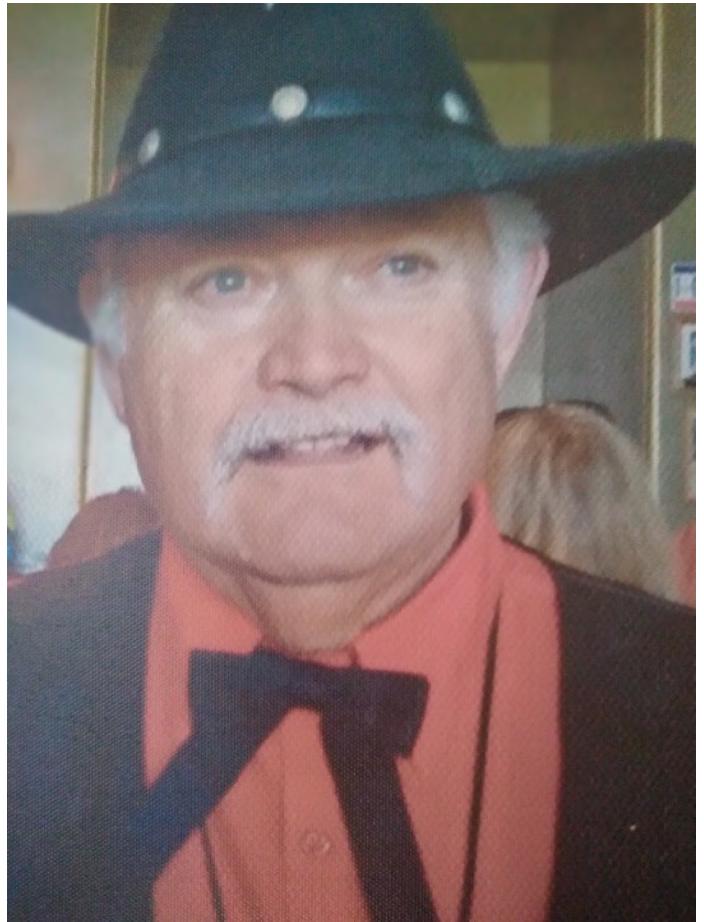
Together they enjoyed many organizations: South San Francisco Elk's Club, members since 1998; the fraternal organization of The Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus, an ancient order dedicated to the preservation and heritage of the American West, for 25 years. He held the position of Honorable Hangman for eight years; the International Sons of Norway Henrik Ibsen Lodge members for 35 years; Pacifica Moose Lodge Member and Officer since 1985. Frank and Pam became Verdi Club members in 2015 where Frank held the position of Sargent of Arms.

They loved traveling together especially cruising. He loved repairing automobiles and trucks, building model cars and was an avid Invicta watch collector.

Frank often said, "What will be, will be".

Frank leaves behind his loving family wife Pamela Reppen, daughter Deanne and son-in-law Frank Sweidan, grandchildren Jordan, Justin, Dalia.

He will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.



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Delores Homisak

Voiceover & Audio

deloreshomisak@hotmail.com

650 996-9060

Website: <http://deloreshomisak.icanvoice.com/>



Giuseppe Zumbo

REALTOR® | DRE #01753412

342 Highland Avenue

Piedmont, CA 94611

510.331.5153

Giuseppe.Zumbo@CorcoranGL.com

ZumboRealEstate.com

Each office is independently owned and operated.



Alex B. Lemberg, Esq. (they/them)

Attorney at Law & Notary Public

cell: (415) 921-9300

alex@alexlemborg.com

www.alexlemborg.com

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MALTA
& Company, Inc
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4220 California Street
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T 415.386.6657
F 415.386.6662



**LARRATT BROS
PLUMBING, INC.**

aaron@larrattbros.com

88 Elmira St, Suite A
San Francisco, CA 94124
Lic. 596026

Aaron Gianni
C. 650.438.5764
O. 650.873.5794
F. 650.873.6415



Reliance Realty Group

951 Mariners Island Blvd., Suite 300
San Mateo, CA 94404

Direct: 650-278-2457
RealEstateCallTom@gmail.com
www.reliancerealty.net



Residential/Commercial Real Estate Investment

Thomas Chasseur

REALTOR® Associate
BRE#00482094