



# LVAC TIMES



## Mary Tokarski

*Honorary Director 2015*

Mary has been a friend and an avid supporter of the Las Vegas International Accordion Convention for the past 14 years. Mary first came with the K Trio and then returned most years as a soloist and clinician teaching classes. Mary's been a great positive influence to the event over the years with great workshops and also serving as Concertmaster to the Accordion Orchestra! Even though Mary is president of AAA and in charge of their event in two short weeks, she found the time to be here!

We are honored to have Mary join us and become part of our very elite family of honorary directors. This family includes:

*Art Van Damme, Dick Contino, Myron Floren, Gina Brannelli, Joan Cochran Sommers, Peter Soave, Iona Reed Pukara, Walter Ostanek, Carl Fortina, Pete Barbutti, Frank Marocco, Angelo Di Pippo, Jeff Lisenby, Joey Miskulin, Stas Veglveski and now Mary Tokarski!*

Welcome Mary! We are honored and so thankful for all you do!

**Youth Scholarships Available!**  
*Details on Page 3*

## COME LET US ENTERTAIN YOU!

**Entertainment at its best – We need you to help us make this year great!**

From our Opening Summer Solstice Concert to our Grand Finale this will be an unforgettable event with more fun, more entertainment and more reasons to attend!

**Riders in the Sky!** We are confident you will say opening night alone was worth the cost of attending the event! Having a major group like Riders at the Convention is a magnificent first and you will not want to miss this great night of entertainment that will surely be a night to long remember!



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**Grayson Masefield** - what an honor it is to have this young powerhouse performer and world champion join us. Grayson is anxious to share not only his great talent but to teach some wonderful workshops. See and hear where the accordion is going today, as Grayson will surely astound you with his artistry and willingness to share!



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**Joey Miskulin** - A true accordion legend, gentleman, and friend to us all, Joey returns to the Convention for a command performance. We are honored to have Joey return and not only hear from him on stage but to learn from his exciting workshops.



**Europa** - Another great reason to attend. Fun, music, and entertainment that will leave your toes tapping and hearts filled with joy. Europa will bring the great sounds of Austria, Germany and the USA to the stage. There will be a dance floor as well – so you might want to bring your dancing shoes!



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**Joan & Stas** - Entertainers, dare we say comedic concert artists! Either would be a great reason to attend but put them together as a duet and it is an event you will not want to miss! Stas will be performing and teaching (the little bird says) some great classes! Are you not convinced yet to attend – YES there is MORE!



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**Paul Betkin and Jerry Cigler** – Jazz at its best! This year we have a wonderful array of music offered from Country Western to Classic to Folk to Jazz. There will be something for everyone and Paul and Jerry are set to knock your socks off with some of the most tasteful and wonderful smooth sounds you could ever imagine!



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**Joan Sommers and the International Accordion Orchestra** - For many the Orchestra has become the quintessential reason for attending the Las Vegas International Accordion Convention. We are so honored to have Joan again rehearse and conduct what will be a most fitting Grand Finale to the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Las Vegas International Accordion Convention.



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**Plus Mary Tokarski, Gina Brannelli, Gordon Kohl, Pete Barbutti and MORE!** The reasons may seem like many **but above all we need your presence!** It is your attendance and the friendship that we all share that make this event so special! If you have not registered, register today – For assistance call Paul Pasquali at (801) 486-1695.

Dear Friends,

Hope this finds you well – as the spring is now in full bloom and summer is around the corner it is time to think about Las Vegas! And oh what a fun time we have coming June 22 as we start with a Special Summer Solstice Celebration – including an appearance by Merlin the Magician to officially bring in summer!



Come join us as we celebrate life, great friendships, and the magical music of the accordion. Personally, I am very excited to announce this year's artists! Often people say, "Paul, I don't know how you do it – every year is better than the last." I am sure that 2015 will be our most exciting year yet! Check out our new website at [www.AccordionStars.com](http://www.AccordionStars.com) where you may even register online!

Note! If you know any young accordion players there is still time to take advantage of our Scholarship program. Please let them know (see article). This is a great opportunity and a way to give back to our future accordion stars!

There are still great fares available – so if you have not booked do so today! Remember the hotel rate is only \$36 a night (premium \$44) but come May 25 the special block rate goes away! This really is the year to come to Las Vegas. Please accept my personal invitation to join us in what surely will be our best year yet – come celebrate life at our Summer Solstice Celebration.

If you have any questions or concerns – or just need some help finding an airfare to Las Vegas, give me a call toll free at 1-800-472-1695 (direct line +1-801-486-1695). I would love to hear from you. Oh and by the way, there will be a few nice surprises this year – so register, make your reservations, mark your calendar, and come celebrate!

Paul Pasquali  
Las Vegas International Accordion Convention

## Questions!

*Here are some Answers!*

**Classes and workshops!** Complete class schedules will be in your printed program you will receive on Monday at registration. You may check our website beginning May 20 for class schedules.

**Do I need my accordion?** Only if you are playing in the Orchestra do you need to bring your accordion. Loaner accordions will be available for classes and Club Concerto performers.

**Weather?** Although we expect pleasant 90-100 degree dry weather outside, bring a light sweater as the air-conditioning can be very cool at times.

**Ground transportation** – plenty of shuttle services are available from the airport. The usual fee is about \$10. Cabs are also available and the fare is reasonable as the Gold Coast is not that far away from the airport.

**When should I arrive & Leave?**  
Minimum stay - Check in to your room before 4 PM so can join us for a free fountain drink and pick up your packet of materials from 3-5PM  
Check out Friday morning June 25

## Deadlines!

*There is time but it is running out!*

**Pre-registration** is June 15 (the last day to postmark your registration) – late registrations taken at the door Monday, June 22 from 3-5PM.

**Registering after May 22** – Yes you may register after May 22 and pre-register right up to June 15. After June 15 registrations will be taken at the door at a slightly higher rate

**Hotel** – May 25 for \$36 rate and special resort fee savings. Room reservations made after May 25 will be at the prevailing rates.

## Dress Code

*Be comfortable & know when to dress up!*

Dress code each day is casual. Each evening for dinner the dress is business casual – and the final evening is semi formal. Monday evening is our welcome concert; Tuesday evening is our awards night, Wednesday is our fun concert with dancing, and Thursday evening is our dress up grand finale Concert. Thursday we will be judging for best dressed and awards will be presented for first, second and third place.

## We NEED YOU!

*Come join friends new and old for the accordion event of a LIFETIME!*

Sign up NOW! It is not too late to join the FUN in Las Vegas! Without YOU it will not be fun – registering is simple – there is a form enclosed with this newsletter on page 4. OR you can go online and register instantly at [AccordionStars.com](http://AccordionStars.com). Now is the time – get your airfares and make your room reservations before May 25 and SAVE! Of course you can make reservations after May 25 but the room rates go up – so act today and come enjoy as we celebrate the Summer Solstice in Las Vegas.  
**We need YOU!**



**Our promise**, attend just once, and you'll discover why people come back year after year saying, "Paul, I don't know how you do it – the event is really first class and what a true bargain!"

So come join the best kept secret in the accordion world! Book early (registration, rooms, airfare) and save on the accordion event of a lifetime!

- Seven wonderful meals!
- Seven Wonderful Concerts
- 4 Nights of FUN
- 3 full days of classes & events

Come join the fun as we celebrate 16 years of great bringing you the BEST!

## Youth Scholarship Awards Available!

Each year we offer youth scholarship awards to young accordion players. The scholarship pays for the youth to attend full time including all seven meals, concerts and workshops.



All accordion players under the age of 18, who are accompanied by a full time parent or guardian paid attendee, are eligible. For a scholarship application visit our website [AccordionStars.com](http://AccordionStars.com) or call our hotline and request a form.

If your accordion club or someone you know has a youth accordion player, then please spread the word! What a great opportunity for your young accordion players to hear and learn from the greats!

## Lots of Great Seats- Register Today!



If you are considering coming to the Las Vegas International Accordion Convention, please register TODAY! We strongly recommend you make your

hotel reservations and travel reservations immediately. Now is the time before May 25 to make your reservations. If you wait until the last minute, you might be caught paying much higher airfare and hotel room rates. The \$36 rate goes away May 25, 2015.

Enclosed please find a color flyer with registration form. Simply fill it out and return it to the convention headquarters at LVAC 1760 South 450 West, SLC, UT 84115. Or go online to [AccordionStars.com](http://AccordionStars.com) where you may register and pay online.

*If you need more flyers or assistance just ask!*

## Gold Coast Room Rate \$36

*Special LVAC Rate ENDS May 25 – Pictured Deluxe \$36 King Room*

WOW – And YES they are nice, clean, comfortable rooms – all the rooms have been renovated and if you want a premium room they are only \$44 a night Sunday thru Thursday night stay. Deluxe rooms feature a rainforest shower – premium rooms a tub shower combo. Plus save even more by reserving your room on block – we have the lowest resort fee rate as well which saves you an additional \$3 a night! Friday and Saturday nights are slightly higher. But the magic room rate goes away May 25 so make your reservations TODAY! Simply call 1-888-402-6278 and mention the Accordion Convention or our group code ACCORD5. Or go to our website [AccordionStars.com](http://AccordionStars.com) and click on hotel registration link and simply click on the yellow box. Hurry; there will never be a better time to save!



## Las Vegas International Accordion Orchestra Needs YOU!

Professor Sommers, our very own Maestro Extraordinaire, is now preparing the 2015 program. If you want to be a part of this exciting orchestra, NOW is the time to register. ***Music is already being sent to those in the orchestra, so if you want to be included in the orchestra, register immediately so you will have time to learn your parts!***

The Orchestra's past performances have been very exciting. Anyone who's heard this magnificent orchestra under Maestro Sommers' baton would agree the sound is nothing less than glorious!

Professor Sommers is excited to work with those dedicated to making this a great event. If you are interested in joining this esteemed group and making accordion musical history, then the steps are simple.

1. **Register** today, or if you are already

registered, then tell us you want to be in the orchestra.

2. **Fill out** the orchestra **questionnaire** form online at [AccordionStars.com](http://AccordionStars.com) (or call us for a form)!
3. **Practice** your **assigned parts** and learn them before coming to Las Vegas.
4. **Bring your music, your accordion,** and a music stand to Las Vegas (portable music stands will be available for purchase at the Convention store).
5. **Attend rehearsals**, 3-5 PM each day at the event with our illustrious conductor, Joan Cochran-Sommers.
6. **Wear black and white** to the Thursday GRAND FINALE performance!

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Mary Tokarski  
*Honorary Director*  
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Color Flyer Insert with Registration Form



*Come to our  
16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration*

*June 22-25, 2015*

**STARRING**

**Riders in the Sky!**

**Grayson Fassefiled – Joey Miskulin**

**Mary Tokarski – Stas Veglevski**

**Europa Trio**

**Featuring**

**Pete Barbutti,**

**Paul Betkin & Jerry Cigler**

**Gordon Kohl, Gina Brannelli**

**Liz Finch, Chuck Henry**

**& MANY MORE!**

**PLUS**

**The Las Vegas International Accordion  
Orchestra**

**& MORE – See flyer insert!**

[www.AccordionStars.com](http://www.AccordionStars.com)

Toll free hotline – 1-800-472-1695 – outside the USA +1 801-486-1694



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