

ACCORDION FEDERATION OF NORTH AMERICA (AFNA)

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT:	Randall Martin
VICE PRESIDENT:	Madeleine D'Ablaing
PARLIAMENTARIAN:	Oakley Yale
TREASURER:	Sylvia Prior
SERGEANT AT ARMS:	Judith Dewey
CIA DELEGATE:	Sylvia Prior

HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBERS:

Sal Algora, Claudio C.V. Castagnone, Art Van Damme,
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News from USA-AFNA...

AFNA history dates back to October 30, 1955 when Anthony Aretta and Andrew Ferraro called a special meeting to discuss the formation of a new accordion organization. There was a great number of subjects discussed and a great deal of work accomplished.

The purpose of this new organization was to stimulate the general public's interest in the accordion and the improvement of teaching methods.

Four categories of membership were designed: (1) Writers and arrangers (2) Music store owners (3) Accordion school owners (4) Instrument wholesalers. The "Accordion Association of Southern California" (AASC) was chosen as the name for this new group.

The AASC's members included George Howell, Anthony Aretta, Andrew Ferraro, and Peggy Milne; Accordionists and Teachers Guild, International (ATG) members were Sidney Dawson, PhD., Nik Nevel, Sylvia Prior and Ann Randall.

While the ATG members had experience in structuring the competitions, the AASC members had experience participating and judging in several nationwide competitions.

The very first festival was scheduled for April 21 - 22, 1956 at the Long Beach Municipal Auditorium. As attendance and membership grew to include states other than California, as well as contact with organizations in Mexico and Canada the AASC changed its name to Accordion Federation of North America (AFNA) in 1972.

AFNA Grand Prix Competitions: AFNA has hosted four Grand Prix competitions: 1974, 1978, 1987, and 1990, all held in conjunction with their annual Music Festival. Each competition was held in four categories:

- A test piece, the same solo that was selected by the CIA Coupe Mondiale that same year.
- A Recital Program which included at least two different historical periods, such as Baroque or Classical.
- The Concerto category with full Symphony Orchestra
- A variety program called for performance of music in a lighter vein, such as jazz or popular style.

First Place Grand Prix Winners:

- 1974 - Nick Ariondo, (Los Angeles-USA)
- 1987 - Nick Ariondo, (Los Angeles-USA)
- 1978 - EvAnn Dahl, (Salt Lake City-USA)
- 1990 - Adolfo Del Cont (Italy)

AFNA Celebrates 50th Anniversary in 2005: The Accordion Federation of North America hosts a Music Festival annually and will be celebrating its 50th Music Festival in August of 2005 in Los Angeles, California, USA. Many exciting events are being planned for our 50th Anniversary and we invite anyone interested to check our website for regular updates and details as the event time approaches. Winners of competitions are awarded Trophies and Cash prizes and are featured in the festival concert.

We hope to see you in August of 2005 at the AFNA 50th Anniversary Festival!