

Where knowledge and fun meet

Volume 1, Issue 4

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Massachusetts Accordion Association

www.MAaccordion.com

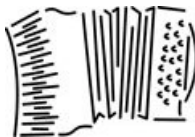
Did You Know?

A quick letter from the editor

The Massachusetts Accordion Association (affectionately known as MAAA) has become a vibrant interactive organization thanks to our many members who contribute to the organization in many different ways. Some by participating each month merely by attending our meetings since the sharing of knowledge and appreciation of music inspires those who participate. Some by working behind the scenes in attendance and administrative matters, some by doing the Herculean task of coordinating meetings, events and communications. There are many things that need to be done and many who contribute in so many ways. The organization is greatly thankful to our

contributors, our members and our attendees.

An organization where it is fun to play an accordion and learn from teachers and fellow accordionists, regardless of skill level.



Our founders, Tony Marini and Joe Maciejowski, welcome you to attend and become a part of our organization. If you are looking to learn how to play in front of others, enhance your skill level, see varying styles and/or techniques or just “hang” with fellow musicians, especially accordionists, then the MAAA is for you. We look forward to seeing you....

Monthly meetings are the 4th Sunday of every month.....

1:00—3:30 pm

The Dolphin Seafood Restaurant

12 Washington St.
Natick Ma.

(508) 655-0669

Upcoming Meetings:

June 24th

July 22nd

August 26



Come and enjoy the fun!!!!

No experience is necessary, just a love for the instrument, either playing or listening, or both.

All instrument types, playing styles, and skill levels are welcomed.

the opportunities to perform on a sign up basis

open forum accordion discussions are chaired to encourage MAAA member participation, involvement and resource sharing

Thank you to the performers at our May meeting!

Tony Marini

Dave Sullivan

Bob Guenther

Janet Borelli

Al Paradis

Patty Simmons

Domenic Livoli

Joe Maciejowski

See who these great performers are by visiting our website at

www.MAaccordion.com

Profiles in Encouragement:

Interview with **JOE MACIEJOWSKI**

By Patty Simmons

Joe Maciejowski and Tony Marini are the backbone of the Massachusetts Accordion Association. In previous letters, Joe has been featured in our "Joe's Closing Act" column. This month, you will learn a bit more about the man—if you watch him play, you already know that he plays his accordion(s) with sincere passion and is a gifted musician.

So imagine that you are an 8-year-old boy living in Taunton, MA; and a salesman knocks on your door with accordions to sell; and by the next week, a Galanti black and white accordion is yours! Joe never knew whether his parents planned the salesman's visit, or it just happened. The rest of this chapter flows seamlessly. Joe has embraced his accordion throughout the 47 years that followed that memorable day.

Joe took lessons from great accordionists that came out of Providence and New Bedford in those days—Lou Ludovico, Gene Furlani and Aldo DeRossi. He had his own dance band by 8th grade and remembers being asked for his autograph when they performed. By high school and through college, he had a trio (accordion, drum, trumpet) named "Allegro". Their gigs helped him pay for college. He recalls some of the groups that he met in person and influenced his playing then—he brought out LP's to show: Joe Brattesani (ethnic roots), Jack D'John's (style similar to his own band), Warsaw Accordion Quintet (classical). *Continued on back page.....*

Performance Tips from our May Meeting

by

Patty Simmons



BE AWARE OF WHAT YOU NEED TO DO TO GET WARMED UP TO PERFORM

- Organize the sequence of your repertoire to build your sense of confidence and loosen the muscles of your hands and arms. For example, start with an easier piece, or something flowing, or one that you especially enjoy.

Many songs tell a story, so talking briefly with the audience about the piece you are about to play may increase your sense of connection to the people in the room.

REMEMBER THAT YOUR ARE JOINED TOGETHER WITH THE PEOPLE IN THE ROOM IN THE PURSUIT OF APPRECIATION OF MUSIC.

- You are not standing there to be judged by a group of critical observers!!

MUSIC IS COMMUNICATION: we could write pages about this! Here are two observations for this month:

- If another accordionist has played a piece in previous performances that you enjoy, you may choose the piece for your own performance and play it in appreciation of them for giving you some artistic inspiration.
- Feel free to dedicate a song to someone special to you in the room, to mark an occasion or memory.

MAAA Special Event Concert

July 15th



featuring **Mario Pedone**
1:00pm, Dolphin Seafood Restaurant, Natick, MA
Event to be televised - limited seating.

Call 508-655-0669 for reservations.
Free Will Donation. CD's available for purchase.

Mario studied under the guidance of Miguel Casas Auge, conductor of the Valencia Symphony Orchestra, and Professor Roberto Ruscitti, a renowned classical Accordionist. He graduated Cum Laude from the Academia De Accordion Smith (Venezuela) with a degree of "Professor of Accordion". He has performed Internationally at such venues as Sweden's famous Ransater Accordion Festival, the National Accordion Association and the Las Vegas International Accordion Convention.

His renditions of Tangos, Waltzes and Schottisches will astound you!

Events Throughout New England

June 30th

Central Mass Accordion Club ensemble performing at the
Finnish Heritage Society - Sovittaja (Dance)
7:30pm - 10:30pm, Finn Park Road, Rutland, MA
Call 508-885-2083 for further details

July 7

Nils Lundin performing at the Finnish Heritage Society - Sovittaja (Dance)
7:30pm - 10:30pm, Finn Park Road, Rutland, MA
Call 508-885-2083 for further details

July 18

The Engaging Concertina - Lecture by Doug Creighton
4:00pm, Ventfort Hall, 104 Walker St, Lenox, MA
Call 413-67-3206 for further details

July 21

All Women Accordion Concert
10:00am - 4:00pm, Accordion Connection, Gilmanston, NH
Call 800-328-5227 for further details

Inform us of other local accordion events you have heard about!!!!

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WWW.MAaccordion.com

4th Sunday of every month
1:00 p.m. @
the Dolphin Restaurant

MAaccordion phone:
(508) 529-6163

E-mail: use our website for
direct contact

▶ Your music club where
fellow accordionists meet
for an afternoon of music
and discussions.

We're on the web:
MAaccordion.com



Saltarelle Shamrock

Local Resources for New and Pre-Owned Accordions

- [Accordion Connection](#) (Gilmanton, NH)
- [Luca Music](#) (North Providence, RI)
- [Monte School of Music](#) (Wellesley Hills, MA)
- [The Button Box](#) (Sunderland, MA)

Accordion Teachers throughout New England

- [Paul Monte](#)—781-237-0554 (Wellesley Hills, MA)
- [Joe Maciejowski](#) —508-529-6065 (Upton, MA)
- [A.T.A.M.](#)—Accordion Teachers of Massachusetts
- [CCE Boston Music School](#) Irish B/C Button Box classes at
Boston College & Harvard University

Additional resources for Accordion Music & Lesson Books

- [Accordion Connection](#) (Gilmanton, NH)
- [Mel Bay Publications](#) (Web)
- [The Button Box](#) (Sunderland, MA)



Other New England based Accordion Clubs

- [Connecticut](#) (Cheshire/Plantsville, CT) <http://www.ctaccordion.com>
- [New Hampshire Accordion Assoc](#) (Gilmanton, NH) 1-800-328-5227
- [Central Mass Accordion Club](#) (Rutland, MA) 1-508-885-2083

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Joe is especially drawn to ethnic music because of the stories it tells about people and their lives. He appreciates the emotion that ethnic pieces convey, in a broad range from happy...to sad. When Joe plays, his accordion becomes a voice that conveys the ideas and feelings contained in the songs he chooses.

In the way that he was surprised as an 8 year old boy, Joe brings surprises to the interviewer! When asked if he plays other instruments, Joe appeared with his classical guitar and flowed effortlessly through several pieces. Then he told of the time he stepped up to a church organ at a relatives's wedding, some 5 minutes before the ceremony, to fill in for the organist who had had an accident on the way !! It's no surprise that Joe himself does not get easily discouraged about his playing. But he does have something to offer to his students who might be struggling: if one approach does not work, try something else !! Flexibility can be more productive than stubbornness. It seems as if we should thank Joe for giving us some advice about how to live, as well....

- We appreciate your comments and any news related articles. Just visit the website and use the "[Contact Us](#)" tab. Fill out the **Meeting or Workshop Suggestion**. A response will be sent to you and may be used at our next meeting and/or newsletter.

Reminder– NEXT MAAA MEETING: June 24th