

Where knowledge and fun meet

Volume 1, Issue 6

August 26, 2007

Massachusetts Accordion Association

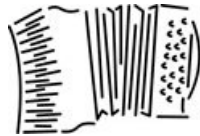
www.MAaccordion.com

So, you want to play an accordion?

A quick letter from the editor

Come on, I know you've been wanting to pick up your friend's or your spouse's accordion and just start banging away at all the keys and the buttons. Especially on those romantic candle light evenings after decades of marriage or at your next 39ish birthday party.....

Seriously, it doesn't you can carry a tune at learn how to play the



matter what age you are or if a Karaoke bar. Anyone can accordion and play it well enough to enjoy by yourself or with your family and friends.

You do not have to spend thousands of dollars on a professional type accordion to get started. Many people start with a smaller size to manage the bellows while playing the keys and buttons. There are many places to buy an accordion. It's best to ask some accordion players how they got started and what kind of accordion was their first. You can also do some research on the internet. If you choose to purchase on the web, ask first, since instrument quality is important so as to not discourage you.....

continued inside

Thank you to the performers at our July meeting!

Bob Guenther

Vito Aiello

Al Paradis

Dave Sullivan

Bill LaPolla

Dan Dempsey

Patty Simmons

Jerry Tramontozzi

Joe Maciejowski

See who these great performers are by visiting our website at

www.MAaccordion.com

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:

July 22nd

August 26

Sept 23



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

Events Throughout New England

August 18

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

August 31 - Sept 2

Rhythm and Roots Festival

Folk, Blues, Cajun and Zydeco music. Many bands with accordion players.
Music starts Friday 5:00pm, Ninigret Park, Charlestown, RI
Call 888-855-6940 for further details

Sept 8

Bob Trottier performing at the Finnish Heritage Society - Sovittaja (Dance)

7:30pm - 10:30pm, Finn Park Road, Rutland, MA
Call 508-885-2083 for further details



Sept 14-16

Northeast Squeeze-In

Wonderful Berkshire weekend get-a-away
Starts Friday afternoon, Bucksteep Manor, Washington, MA
Call 413-665-7793 for further details



Sept 29

Accordion Concert

10:00pm - 4:00pm, Accordion Connection, Gilmanton, NH
Call 800-328-5227 for further details

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

Did You Know?

All you really need is some desire to learn and a commitment to yourself of a minimum of an hour per day to practice. A good teacher is the best springboard to quality practice and an understanding of what the lessons are trying to accomplish. A good teacher will encourage and will challenge you to allow you to get the most out of your practice. After only a short time, you will be playing tunes that people know and you will be happy to hear them sing along...

There are also e-lessons on the internet and self-teach books at your local music store for you to download if you wish to teach yourself.....although you can do it, I personally recommend a teacher to at least get you started.

Well so much for these thoughts. Young or old, boy or girl, with a little time, practice and desire, you too can play the accordion and bring happiness to yourself and those around you.

Bob

Performance Tips from our June Meeting

by

Patty Simmons

"BELLOWS, BELLOWS, BELLOWS"




If you play a reed accordion, you have a wind instrument, with air moved by the motion of bellows...think about it! A beginning accordionist is concentrating on simply getting the air to move smoothly and steadily, not a simple task. Now think about how the bellows can be used creatively by the advancing accordionist. The wonderful bellows shake is the unique extreme of bellows movement, but there is a whole world of motion. Your dynamic interpretation of the music is significantly controlled by the movement of your left arm!

Suggestion: Sit down with your accordion and experiment. Play a phrase or piece and listen to how you can change it by moving the bellows in different ways. Read through these ideas and then take it from there: How far with one motion? How fast? How much force? Smoothly, with undulation, or with dramatic changes in motion? Entire bellows in or out at once, or lower/upper moved differentially? When to change direction?

Instead of simply playing your accordion, treat it as a wonderful toy and play with the bellows in your practice sessions. Your performances will improve without your learning a single new note—the pieces you already know will come to life, thanks to your accordion's bellows!



Upcoming Meetings

 Sunday Aug 26	1:00 PM	Dolphin Seafood Restaurant Natick, MA	MAAA WORKSHOP Accordion Repair/Tuning Assessment Bring your instrument for a checkup survey, courtesy of the Accordion Connection	PROPOSED Contact us to confirm interest
Sunday Sept 23	1:00 PM	Dolphin Seafood Restaurant Natick, MA	Performing Ballroom dance songs	Scheduled

Where knowledge and fun meet

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



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

A note from our website

" You are never too old for any kind of musical interest or instrument. If you want one, you NEED one! If you really like the instrument (or playing any music for that matter), it will be so much fun and so rewarding that you won't believe it! ... If you teach yourself, you can easily triple the time to achieve your learning/playing objectives. Your chances of quitting will also increase greatly. If possible, find an instructor YOU LIKE, or find people to play with to keep your interest up... Have fun and make music a part of your life. It will open a door to your soul. "

Reminder— NEXT MAAA MEETING: **August 26th**