

Where knowledge and fun meet

Volume 1, Issue 13

April 27, 2008

Massachusetts Accordion Association

www.MAaccordion.com

It keeps getting better...

The March meeting was the best one yet! We are now an official organization with a Board of Directors, officers and by-laws. The by-laws were unanimously approved by the members. The next step is to develop committees to assist in the planning and execution of activities. If there is any assistance you would like to lend, please use the web-site and e-mail how you would like to volunteer. We would love to have you.

Joe started the meeting with his opening remarks on where we are and what direction we would like to head. Dan, in his vice-presidential role, lauded congratulations to Al Paradis for his award winning performances in the Ethnic-Senior and Festival Virtuoso segments at the American Accordion Musicological Society (AAMS) annual Festival in King of Prussia, PA.

Al gave the club it's first treasurer's report, of which, our first disbursement was for an advertisement in the ATAM annual festival

booklet. Although, not really news-worthy, it is a major milestone for the club.

Dan Mackowiak gave an informative presentation of the "Stradella Bass", the most common bass of the piano accordion. He facilitated the tutorial with a handout entitled "The Amazing Stradella" so the members could follow along.



The first part, presented at the meeting, was on the physical attributes of bass set-up and the range of notes covered. The final part to be covered at the April meeting is on the musical

features, particularly the non-standard combinations of bass and chord buttons.

Donna LaRue pulled together another rousing rendition by the ensemble group, this time orchestrating the "Jenny Lind Polka".

The April "open mike" session will focus on songs from around the world.

We look forward to seeing you on the 27th.

Bob

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Thank you to the performers at our March meeting!

Vito Aiello

Jerry Travantosi

Bill LaPolla

Bob Guenther

Lewis Howes

Al Paradis

And the MAAA ensemble cast with the "Jenny Lind Polka"

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

1:00—3:30 pm

The Dolphin Seafood Restaurant

12 Washington St. Natick Ma.

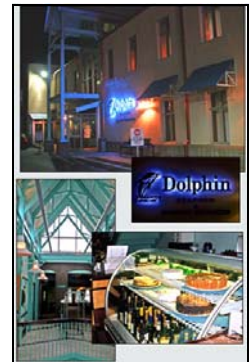
(508) 655-0669

Upcoming Meetings:

April 27

May 25

June 22



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



April 25

Greenfield Contra and Scandinavian Dance

with music by the Greenfield Dance Band (Mary Cay Brass on accordion)

7:30pm (Scandi) 8:00pm (Contra), **Guiding Star Grange**

401 Chapman Street, Greenfield, MA

Call 413-367-9380 for further details and entry donation



May 4

It's Polka Time featuring the Diamond Chips

Traditional Polish and German music as well as all-time favorites.
Kiebasea, Kraut, Pierogies and other ethnic food specialties available.

Open seating or table reservations available for 10 or more

3:00 pm to 7:00pm, Shriner's Hall

349 Wheelers Farms Road, Milford, CT

Call 203-272-1202 for further details

May 9

Greenfield Contra and Scandinavian Dance

with music by the Greenfield Dance Band (Mary Cay Brass on accordion)

7:30pm (Scandi) 8:00pm (Contra), **Guiding Star Grange**

401 Chapman Street, Greenfield, MA

Call 413-367-9380 for further details and entry donation

May 23

Greenfield Contra and Scandinavian Dance

with music by the Greenfield Dance Band (Mary Cay Brass on accordion)

7:30pm (Scandi) 8:00pm (Contra), Guiding Star Grange

401 Chapman Street, Greenfield, MA

Call 413-367-9380 for further details and entry donation

Contact MAAA with additional New England accordion news and events.

WWW.MAaccordion.com

So, you want to buy an accordion...

So, you'd like to start and learn how to play an accordion....or maybe, you'd like to upgrade for a different sound, weight or look. Asking a fellow accordion player or better yet, an accordion teacher, can guide you in the right direction.

Just as an aside, there are pretty close to hundreds of types and models of accordions from many, many, many different manufacturers in many different countries. If you ever wonder the number of different types of piano accordions, visit <http://www.accordionlinks.com/manufacture.cfm>. You'll more appreciate the value of local accordionists for your Q&A's.



ATAM Festival

The Accordion Teachers' Association of Massachusetts (ATAM) celebrated their 46th Annual New England Music Competition and Festival at the Newton Marriott in Boston, MA.

ATAM President David Lewis welcomed hundreds of contestants who took part in competitions for all ages and levels in solos, duos, ensembles and orchestras in Accordion, Drums, Guitar, Keyboard, Piano and Voice.



2008 ATAM New England Championship Winners
 Pictured left to right: Matthew Freire, Lenore DelPonte, Danielle Renzi, Ken Parsons, Paul Yao

Article taken from the Accordion Teachers Association of Massachusetts website.

Highlights of our March meeting

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Bill,
 Sorry for the bad photo....
 operator error.

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

- [Donna LaRue](#)—781-646-3013 (Arlington, MA)
- [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

Did You Know...

A couple of the major benefits of being a member of the Massachusetts Accordion Association (lovingly shortened to MAAA) is that if you wish, you can learn how to perform in front of people, get answers to a multitude of questions regarding accordions, repairs, music, "Fake" books, arrangements, chord structures, etc. Our group of members is an abundant source of information, parts and accessories, experiences and basically, just great people. Everyone is just a meeting, an e-mail or a phone call away.....Play with us and invite a friend.

We invite all our members and friends to join in the fun!!!

Remember, our meetings are scheduled on the 4th Sunday of each month.

Reminder— NEXT MAAA MEETING: April 27th