

Where knowledge and fun meet

Volume 1, Issue 21

November 23, 2008

## Massachusetts Accordion Association

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

With a song in your heart

October was our first true annual meeting as an official group. Would you believe that it was just about two years ago Tony and Joe started this great association of fellow enthusiasts. It is truly amazing what the group has evolved into.

Joe began the meeting with his state of the union address. Dan noted that we are at 40 members, of which there have been 35 renewals plus 3 new members (*an 86% member retention rate with a total of 8 new members over the last 12 months*). Our goal to next October is to have a total of 45 members. Our website has enjoyed a 50% growth in web hits to just over 1,350 hits per month.

Dan MacKowiak presented a Tech Tip on Arranging with a Samba Style where the feel of the music is very

important, even though there are many different rhythms with significant nuances. He was kind enough to give us handouts and some sheet music of his demonstrations and chord patterns.

The ensemble performed all their songs from the past 11 months. The list, with many thanks to Donna LaRue for all her hard work, includes: Silver Bells, Jenny Lind Polka, Anema E Core, Dixieland Rag and the Calypso Washerwoman. Donna promised to round out the year with Dredyl, Dredyl. One tip commonly heard amongst the ensemble cast members is "if you're going to make a mistake, make it as loud as you can". This way the audience will believe it was an intended part of the arrangement. My best to all and I look forward to seeing you on the 23rd. Bob

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:

Nov 23

Dec 21

Jan 27



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 October

Patty Simmons—Titano

Jerry Tramontozzi—Petosa

Phil LaPolla—Limex assisted

Dave Sullivan—Roland

John Thorp—Roland

Joe Maciejowski—PanJet

Al Paradis—Petosa

## Events Throughout New England

**November 22**

**Annie Royer and Les Gargons Musette with Roberto Cassan on accordion.**

Royer is a native of France and a powerful International French Cabaret Singer.

This show is "a Night in PARIS " a mix of French Cabaret, Jazz and Swing.

She will bring you to France for a magical night to remember.

Cassan is an accordionist, arranger and composer from Fanna (Italy).

He started playing the accordion at the age of eight,

playing and performing mostly Italian folk repertoire, and classical music.

He moved to Boston in 1991 and attended Berklee School of Music.

**Ryles Jazz Club, 212 Hampshire St. Cambridge, MA**

**Call 561-792-6189 for further details and tickets**



**November 28**

**Greenfield Contra Dance with music by "The Greenfield Dance Band"  
with Mary Cay Brass on accordion and keyboards.**

**8:00pm, Guiding Star Grange**

**401 Chapman Street, Greenfield, MA**

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

**November 29**

**"Mixed Grill Trio" with Lou and Jan Borelli performing at the Frohsinn Club.**

A night of Swing Dancing featuring the Mixed Grille trio - dinner, dancing music, jazz, background, easy listening music, for all occasions.

**8:00pm 25 North Quinsignamon Avenue, Shrewsbury, MA**

**Call 508-752-6213 for further details**

**November 30**

**"Polenta con Costezine" featuring accordion music by Frank Toscano.**

**1:00pm Magnanini Farm Winery and Restaurant,**

**172 Strawridge Road, Wallkill, NY**

**Call 845-895-2767 for further details**

**December 2**

**Lou Borelli Octet with Linda Dagnello on vocals,  
performing at Nick's German Restaurant and Bar.**

**7:30pm-9:30pm 124 Millbury Street, Worcester, MA**

**Call 508-752-6213 for further details**



**December 6**

**Magnolia Cajun Band featuring Alan Bradbury on cajun accordion.**

**7:30pm The German Club,**

**78 Carter Ave, Pawtucket, RI**

**Call 401-726-9873 for further details and tickets**

**Contact MAAA with additional New England accordion news and events.**

**[WWW.MAaccordion.com](http://WWW.MAaccordion.com)**

# What a great time!



A few of my friends and I went to Nick's German Restaurant and Bar last Saturday night (the 8th) to see Janet and Lou Borelli and their Oktoberfest celebration. What an incredibly great time we had. Not only do Janet and Lou perform and sing, they sure knew how to get the crowd involved with sing-a-longs and an interactive celebration of Oktoberfest. Janet and Lou, fellow MAAA members, provide a truly enjoyable night of entertainment and I invite you to check out their website at <http://cc25070.hostcentric.com/borelli/index.htm>, or just google Borelli Music for future performances and time.



## Guess who was seen in Florida the weekend of November 14th...



Jerry Tramontozzi performed at the 8th annual Florida Accordion Association Annual Smash at the Holiday Inn International Drive Resort in Orlando Florida. Jerry is one of several of our members who perform outside the Commonwealth. My sincere gratitude to Jerry and our other members who bring accordion joy to so many others throughout the country.

A note from the **Let's Polka—An Accordion Blog** website <http://www.letspolka.com/>

### Accordions Are Sexy (and We Have Proof)

Trying to fight that tired old stereotype that accordions are just for old men with lederhosen? The 2009 Bay Area Accordion Babes Pin-Up Calendar should do a thing or two to change that perception. This glossy, full-color calendar features stylized pin-up shots of 15 local accordion babes including [Tara Linda](#), (Mad) [Maggie Martin](#), [Skyler Fell](#), and more. The calendar will sell for \$20 and includes a companion CD with tracks by many of the ladies featured in the calendar. It's the perfect holiday stocking stuffer. (Stay tuned for ordering info.)



### eBay Find: Hohner Magic Organa



We've seen self-playing accordions before, but this is the first time I've seen a Hohner Magic Organa — an automatic accordion built in the 1920s. (Not to be confused with the non-magical Hohner Organa, which was a portable organ.) Music rolls inside the accordion are moved with a spring-wound mechanism over 44 tubes to generate sounds, while a foot pedal connects to the accordion via a hose to power the mechanism.

This particular instrument was recently up for auction on eBay and, while bidding reached \$2,750, it still didn't meet the reserve price. As fun as an automatic accordion sounds, \$2,750 could buy you a lot of lessons on a real accordion...



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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**

- [Janet Borelli](#) - 508-752-6213 (Paxton, MA)
- [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
- [Central Mass Accordion Club](#) (Rutland, MA) 1-508-885-2083

*The MAAA October meeting highlights*



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

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

*Special dates around national holidays...*

**Reminder— NEXT MAAA MEETING: November 23rd**