

Where knowledge and fun meet

Volume 2, Issue 9

November 22, 2009

Massachusetts Accordion Association

www.MAaccordion.com

Our 2009 Annual Meeting

Hard to believe it's been two years since our last election of officers. At the beginning of this year's annual meeting Joe started off by taking the attendance of voting members to ascertain that a quorum was present. As such, the membership voted the new officers and board members as read. The names and e-mails of the new officers and board members are noted on page 2 of this newsletter.

Dan took over the meeting at this point as the newly elected president and proceeded to graciously thank Donna LaRue for her tireless efforts and tremendous contribution with the MAAA ensemble. Tony Marini gave a heartfelt thank you to Joe & his lovely wife Ann for their part in laying the cornerstone as to what the MAAA is today. Joe, from his first meeting with Tony dreaming of pulling together a meeting of people who love accordion music, both playing and listening, to his countless hours as a leader in our infancy and as our club president over the last two years organizing, compiling, planning, scheduling and arranging meetings, agendas, members and everything and anything else that was needed. A truly amazing guy.

Special note- 11/22 & 12/20 will be the Sunday meeting dates during the Holiday season. Dan asked that we give some thoughts to volunteer playing holiday songs as an outreach to various venues such as assisted living centers, senior centers, nursing homes, et.al.

Oliver Mutch and Jan talked about their 39 day trip around Newfoundland. They found that their accordion, flute and little dog

proved to be the best passport around the country. They ended up playing in 26 different locations. A truly great story.

James Gerke presented an idea on an excursion to next year's accordion festival in Castelfidardo, Italy, the birthplace of the accordion. The trip would include such items as attendance at the festival and a factory tour. It was suggested we take some time to discuss over the coming months to determine the numbers needed to make this an affordable excursion and what other clubs would need to be involved or would actually run the event.

Al Paradis spoke of his gig in Marblehead he got through the MAAA. It was a birthday party at the Marblehead Yacht Club with the theme—Memories of Paris. Nicely done Al. He also mentioned that the book the Golden Age of the Accordion is available for a club member to borrow, if they are interested. You can also order it on-line for about \$12-15.

Joe also graced us with several tunes. He is an amazing performer and his tasks as our prior president kept him from performing as much as he could have.

The meeting was then passed to our guest artist—Jeremiah MacLane and his double chamber Petosa accordion. Dan wrote an article on Jeremiah's performance (page 2) and upcoming workshop in VT (separate page to this newsletter).

Thanks everyone....looking forward to seeing you all in the coming weeks.

Bob

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

1:30—3:30 pm

Upcoming Meetings:

Ciociaro Social Club

144 Bridge St
Newton

November 22

Song Rehearsal

December 20

Holiday Song Fest

Look for any changes to our meeting place

Planning for 2010 meetings and events is in process.

We will keep you posted....

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

Our October meeting at the Ciociaro Social Club



Club Officers

President -

Dan MacKowiak

dcmackowiak@verizon.net

Vice-President -

Bob Guenther

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Treasurer\Secretary -

Patty Simmons

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Board Member -

Tony Marini

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Al Paradis

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Lewis Howes

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Ed Wawrzynowicz

edchris@comcast.net

THANK YOU JOE AND DONNA



Two wonderful people recently completed two-year terms on the MAAA Board of Directors - and their service was acknowledged at the Annual Meeting on October 25.

Donna La Rue was an important contributor to the development of MAAA programs. Her background in music, the arts, and education is outstanding, and she brought a font of ideas to the Organization. Her most visible contribution, of course, has been as conductor of the ensemble program - in which many of us experienced, for the first time, the enjoyment and challenge of playing together.

In addition to serving on the Board of Directors, Joe Maciejowski was the President for the past two years. His involvement, however, began much earlier. In fact, it began on day one, when he and Tony Marini merged their energy to organize a group which eventually became the MAAA. The value of having Joe's trusty hand on the rudder during the start-up and initial operating stages of this Organization cannot be overstated. Joe has also been serving as the MAAA webmaster. His technical and creative work has made the MAAA website a very effective communication tool. Joe, with the enthusiastic support of his wife, Ann, has given an inordinate amount of time, effort - and heart - to the MAAA.

Thank you Donna and Joe for all you've done. We are looking forward to seeing you - and to listening to your music - at our monthly meetings.
Dan



JEREMIAH McLANE PERFORMANCE

Periodically, the MAAA presents a guest artist at its monthly get-together - and on October 25, accordionist Jeremiah McLane was in the spotlight. For the predominant portion of his performance, Jeremiah took the audience on a tour of the French countryside by playing tunes that demonstrated various styles of traditional French music. While McLane plays a Petosa piano accordion, he cleverly uses its treble and bass registers, along with skillful bellows technique, to mimic the accordion sound that is unique to each style. As an added feature of the musical tour, he included picturesque stories about French culture and history.

Jeremiah is involved in several musical projects, including recording, composing and teaching. He currently teaches at the Floating Bridge Music School, of which he is the founder, and at the State University of New York in Plattsburgh, NY. In addition, McLane conducts seminars and workshops. During his performance for the MAAA last Sunday, Jeremiah McLane mentioned a weekend workshop that he will be conducting in Vermont, beginning Friday evening, December 4, and concluding mid-day Sunday, December 6. The topic is Improvisation - and the session looks like a wonderful opportunity to learn and relax. There is a one-page flyer accompanying this newsletter that provides the details.

Events Throughout New England!

Nov 6

Greenfield Contra Dance with music by
"Moving Violations" with

Becky Ashenden on accordion.

Guiding Star Grange, 401 Chapman Street,
Greenfield, MA

413-772-0501 further details and entry donation

Nov 8

"Risotto/Cornish Hen" featuring accordion music by
the **Carozza Bothers**.

1:00pm Magnanini Farm Winery and Restaurant,
172 Strawridge Road, Wallkill, NY

Call 845-895-2767 for further details

Nov 13

Greenfield Contra Dance with
music by Stuart Kenney

with **Mary Cay Brass** on accordion.

8:00pm, Guiding Star Grange, 401 Chapman Street,
Greenfield, MA

413-772-0501 further details and entry donation

Nov 15

Dennis Stroughmatt and Creole Stomp performing
at the "Turkey Two Step Zydeco Dance"

Rob Krumm featured on accordion.

4:00pm - 9:30pm, The German Club, 78 Carter Ave,
Pawtucket, RI

401-726-9873 for further details and tickets

Nov 15

"Crespelle Party" featuring accordion music by
Mario Tacca with vocals by Mary Mancini.

1:00pm Magnanini Farm Winery and Restaurant,
172 Strawridge Road, Wallkill, NY

Call 845-895-2767 for further details

Nov 21

"Nicktoberfest Ein Prosit with Ludwig and Hilda"
aka Lou and **Janet Borelli** with Janet on accordion,
performing at Nick's German Restaurant and Bar.

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

Call 508-752-6213 for further details

Nov 27

Greenfield Contra Dance with music by Stuart
Kenney with **Mary Cay Brass** on accordion.

8:00pm, Guiding Star Grange, 401 Chapman Street,
Greenfield, MA

Events Throughout New England!

Nov 29

"Polenta con Costezine" featuring accordion music
by **Mario Tacca**.

1:00pm Magnanini Farm Winery and Restaurant,
172 Strawridge Road, Wallkill, NY

Call 845-895-2767 for further details

Dec 5

Ben Angelo Band featuring our very own
Ed Wawrzynowicz on accordion

Ballroom dancing 7:30-11:30 \$12.00 pp

Jackson Street Suite at the Jackson Street
Garage, Malden free pkg

Dec 6

Boston Symphony Orchestra's Holiday Pops
Emilian Badea, Conducting with

Christopher Gorton on accordion

West Junior High School

156 W. Elm Street, Brockton 3:00 p.m.

Adults \$25, Seniors \$20, Students \$15

A Note from the Prez

On behalf of the newly-elected Board of Directors, thank you for your vote - and for your interest and participation in the MAAA. The new Board will be getting together shortly to begin planning for the coming year; we will keep you informed of that process as it progresses over the next two months.

We are always looking for your ideas, suggestions and feedback, so please feel free to relay your thoughts to any Board member. Speaking of feedback, we have received a number of favorable comments on the Play-Along sessions conducted over the past four months. Therefore, we intend to continue the sessions. The next Play-Along session will be at the November 22 meeting, and it will feature music of the upcoming holiday season. The Play-Along music will be distributed to members by e-mail in advance of the November meeting.

One element of the MAAA Mission is "to facilitate sharing accordion music with the community." We regularly address that objective by opening our monthly sessions to the public. I would, however, like to suggest increasing the MAAA's public exposure - and this may be a good time to take the next step. Here's what I am thinking. We will investigate opportunities to present a program of holiday music to one or two outside audiences in December. After we run through the holiday music at the November Play-Along session, we will collectively determine if we want to pursue any outside performance opportunities. It would be fun, and it would be nice to make a musical contribution to the joy of the season.

Dan

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WWW.MAaccordion.com

4th Sunday of every month
Check the newsletter or website for locations

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

- [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



Almost like...where's Waldo.....

This is none other than our own Jerry Tramontozzi.....I shouldn't say our own, although he is one of our better known members, I suspect Jerry belongs to a couple of other accordion groups. Jerry has been sighted playing all over the country. It is truly amazing. Whenever I do a Google or a Bing! search on accordions, Jerry is playing somewhere, for someone.....It seems that Jerry's next gig is at the 9th Annual Florida Accordion Association Smash! He is the Sunday, Nov 11th morning featured accordionist.

We all know that Jerry has played at the Accordion Connection in Gilmanton, NH, he has also played at the Coupe Mondiale, the Tewksbury Blaire House, the Methuen Elder Affairs, Boston's own Quincy Market and so many other local events it's hard to keep track (and this is just the east coast!)

I would recommend that just do a Google or Bing! search on Jerry to see what's happening. When it comes to the accordion, he is extremely active and one of the nicest guys you'd ever want to meet.

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 22nd