

Massachusetts Accordion Association

and we've off !!!!!!!

Our first meeting of 2010 started off strong with a wonderful welcome to all our new guests and first-time visitors.

Dan's continued efforts in developing the play-a-long set as an opening of the meeting for all accordionists, with the only requirement being the enjoyment to play, not one's ability to play, is proving to be one of the more enjoyable times for members and guests. This meeting's play-a-long set included the songs: Adios, Au Revoire, Auf Wiedersehn (as noted from the Lawrence Welk show closing number), Alpine Slopes, Reel Medley, Under Paris Skies and Just Squeeze Me.

After the play-a-long set, Dan gave a quick review of the 2010 planned meeting agenda. He mentions this in his letter from the Prez article on page 3, so delve in for more info.

Patty Simmons hosted this meeting's open "mic" session. This was a great idea from Dan's to have a different board member host each open "mic" session so that the member's will get to know them and become more familiar to encourage more interaction between the board and the membership. The open "mic" session sometimes is difficult to manage due to the number of performers and the time restraint on the use of the facility. Thankfully our members are the most gracious performers and help us with this.

Dan then presented the tech tip on: "It's all about the left hand" where he spoke about some non-standard bass chord combinations and the geography of the left hand buttons and the techniques of generating more unique sounds from that side of the accordion. Many thanks to Dan for his efforts in this great tip. It surely can enhance the sound of the left hand accompaniment and harmony and allow for easier navigation on the left hand keyboard.

Many thanks to James Gerke, who provided great sound mixing for the performers and audience to hear. He solved the problem of performers in groups, such as the play-a-long set, to hear what the players on the other side of the group were playing, by having monitors across the room. This allows for the whole group to keep time a lot easier. This also opens the possibility of future playa-long club CD's...... Bob Volume 2, Issue 12

February 28, 2010

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

1:30-4:00 pm

Upcoming Meetings:

Ciociaro Social Club 144 Bridge St Newton

Mark your calendars for another great year!!!!

> February 28 March 28

> > April 25

. May 23

June 27

July 25

August 22

September 26

October 24

November 21

December 19

Come and enjoy the fun!!!!

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

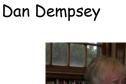
All instrument types, playing styles, and skill levels are welcomed.

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 January meet-





Jan Miller



Dave Sullivan

Al Paradis







Jerry and Joe



Joe Maciejowski

Patty Simmons

Club Officias

President -

Dan MacKowiak dcmackowiak@verizon.net

Vice-President -Bob Guenther bobguenther@comcast.net

Treasurer\Secretary -

Patty Simmons Pattysim@comcast.net

Board Member -

Tony Marini amarini@aamcpa.com

Al Paradis aparadis@comcast.net

Lewis Howes howesfam@comcast.net

Ed Wawrzynowicz edchris@comcast.net







<u>The Accordionist's Son:</u> <u>A Novel (Lannan Translation ...</u> By, Mary Whipple (New England)

Interesting title of a book I found on the internet under Amazon.com....I'll be picking one up to see what it's about...review to follow later...

A note from the Prez.....



MAAA is off and running in 2010! The program plan for the year is on the MAAA website, and it includes a full array of activities: group play-alongs, discussions, player showcases, music themes and special guests. The plan is

squarely aligned with the MAAA mission to "encourage and enhance enjoyment of the accordion."

We're beginning to think about our next outreach project in the spring. The theme for the community concerts will be world music styles. The play-along music selections for the first few months of 2010 will include tunes that fit the world music theme, some of which will be used in the concert program. In addition, in March, world music styles will be the theme for the "open-mic" session. Two or three individual or small group performances will be included in the community concert program, and the open-mic will give us an opportunity to hear some of the possibilities.

Music for the play-along session at our upcoming meeting on February 28 was recently distributed by e-mail. Four tunes are included in the set, including a waltz composed by Mantovani. It is interesting to note that the Mantovani Orchestra is comprised of 43 musicians, including an accordion player. And one of the accordion players who toured with the Mantovani Orchestra will be visiting the MAAA in May. You'll hear more about the appearance by that special guest in the coming months.

Remember to invite your accordion friends to our monthly get-togethers. There were several newcomers and guests at the January meeting, and it would be great to match that attendance in February.

Dan

Events Throughout New England

"Italian Night"

Finnish Center at Saima Park February 27, 2010 Doors open 6:00PM; Dinner 6:30PM Dancing 7:30PM to 10:30PM Music by: "**Lou and Jan Borelli**" Mix of Finnish and Italian Dancing Music The Finnish Center at Saima Park, 67 Scott Road Fitchburg, MA 01420 Information call Maija 978-582-7717

Ludwig and Hilda

March 6, 2010:

Ludwig and Auntie Hilda (Lou & Jan Borelli)

are playing at Nick's, 124 Millbury Street, Worcester, MA, 9:30 PM - 12:30 AM. We call it "Nicktoberfest" when we play at Nick's. It's German music, dancing, fun!

Dinner Dance at the Nordic Lodge Greendale People's Church 25 Francis Street, Worcester, MA March 13, 2010 Dinner 6:30PM, Dancing 7:30PM to 10:30PM Music by: "Lou and Jan Borelli" Mix of Scandinavian and American Dancing Music For information and tickets, call Bob at 508-842-8468

For any and all events in the New England area (even though we are a Massachusetts club, we like to travel....) involv ing an accordion, please contact the editor for posting in the newsletter. Since the newslet ter will be posted on the website this will also be the source for the event on our website.

bobguenther@comcast.net



My recommendation for a good read on all kinds of music and knowledge of all instruments and ages is a read of Making Music magazine. You can check out some of the articles on the website at **makingmusicmag.com**. An article this month features how a couple on the west coast formed an accordion orchestra that now plays around the world, great article, check it out...."A Jolly Good Bellow" by Jackie Saunders

Where knowledge and fun meet

WWW.MAaccordion.com

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

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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)
- <u>Luca Music</u> (North Providence, RI)
- Monte School of Music (Wellesley Hills, MA)
- <u>The Button Box</u> (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)
- <u>A.T.A.M.</u>—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)
- <u>Mel Bay Publications</u> (Web)
- <u>The Button Box</u> (Sunderland, MA)

Other New England based Accordion Clubs

- Connecticut (Chesire/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



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....

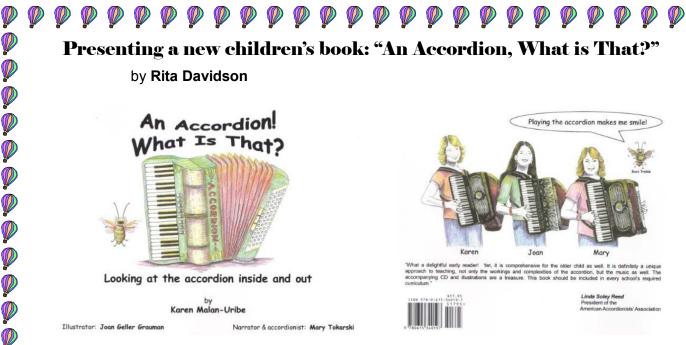
Reminder– NEXT MAAA MEETING: February 28th





Opening for John Pizzarelli in both venues will be the Cory Pesaturo Trio featuring **Cory Pesaturo** on Roland Electronic Accordion, Ron Murray on 6 and 7 string guitars and Art Dixson on drums.

Tickets at \$40.00 and \$30.00 for the Saturday, February 27 show at the Park Theatre in Cranston, Rhode Island can be purchased by calling 401-467-7275. Tickets at \$40.00 and \$30.00 for the Sunday, February 28 show at the Wilbur Theatre can be purchased at all Ticketmaster outlets, at the Wilbur Theatre Box Office, 246 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02116], or by calling. 800-745-3000.



Three good friends and fellow accordionists combined their special talents to create a delightful children's book about their favorite instrument entitled, "An Accordion! What Is That? Looking at the accordion inside and out". The book includes a CD with narration and music.

Karen Malan-Uribe, award-winning author of children's books, is the author. Celebrated artist, Joan Geller Grauman, illustrated the book and created its mascot, an animated honeybee named, "Buzz Treble". The CD includes a wonderful narration of the book, as well as music beautifully performed by world renowned accordionist, Mary Tokarski.

In the words of AAA President, Linda Soley Reed: "What a delightful early reader! Yet, it is comprehensive for the older child as well. It is definitely a unique approach to teaching, not only the workings and complexities of the accordion, but the music as well. The accompanying CD and illustrations are a treasure. This book should be included in every school's required curriculum."

The book is intended as an early reader, but it includes music and material that can be appreciated by older children, as well as adults.

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Copies can be purchased through SqueezinArt for \$17.95 plus \$2.05 for shipping & handling per book (total of \$20). Please send checks to: SqueezinArt, PO Box 2001, Rockville, MD 20847-2001. For volume discount (10 copies or more), please send e-mail to Joan Grauman: joangrauman@comcast.net

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