

Where knowledge and fun meet

Volume 3, Issue 6

August 22, 2010

Massachusetts Accordion Association

www.MAaccordion.com

What an AMAZING event!!!!

and I am not talking about the Perseids meteor shower on August 12th.

Our July meeting was a really great time with our play-a-long participation and song selection, the new faces in attendance and our members.

Some of the items discussed were the announcement of the annual membership drive, the Accordions Now Festival, which was held the weekend of Aug 7&8, Jerry Tramatozzi's concert series in Vassa Park, R.I, the October 15-17th Northeast Squeeze-in, held by the Button Box in Washington, MA.....

<http://www.buttonbox.com/>,

and Dave Magliozzi's work in pulling together the MAAA yahoo discussion forum for members only.... this is proving to be a great way to communicate amongst one another and share many new ideas....

<http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/maagrp/?prop=eupdate>

Patty Simmons threw out an idea and I think it is a terrific one. Patty suggested that "we should do a "then and now" photo album for our accordion club, especially if we have photos of us with accordions (I have some going back to 6 y.o.). That would be worth quite a few laughs--we could pass it around and have people guess who's who!"

So, if you have an earlier picture of you either playing the accordion or not, I think it would be great to display the earlier photos, without names, in one issue of the newsletter and see who can name who, by e-mail, as a little contest. Maybe a small prize for the winner. Send me the photos and I can scan them in and return them to you. The number of photos submitted can determine the size of the prize.

Hope you are enjoying your summer and looking forward to seeing you at our August 22nd meeting. Bob

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!!!!

August 22

"Themes"

September 26

October 24

Show Tunes

Annual meeting

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

THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

ACCORDION
— CRIMES —



E. ANNIE PROULX

Accordion Crimes is a 1996 [novel](#) by American writer [E. Annie Proulx](#).

The novel begins in the nineteenth century, as a [Sicilian accordion](#)-maker comes to the United States in search of better opportunities. He is shot by an anti-Italian lynch mob, and his accordion falls into the hands of several other owners, many of whom meet painful ends themselves.

The accordion traverses a continent, traveling to [Louisiana](#), [Iowa](#), [Texas](#), [Maine](#), [Illinois](#), [Montana](#), and [Mississippi](#). The novel ends in 1996, when a group of [Florida](#) schoolchildren throws the accordion onto a highway, where the instrument is crushed by a truck.

from the Prez...



The MAAA has been “on the road again” in August – first at an accordion concert and dance in Foster, RI and then at an accordion festival in Manchester, NH. The RI event involved an assemblage of nearly twenty accordionists from the New

England region, led by Jerry Tramontozzi. Members of the MAAA participated as players, listeners, and picnickers. (I don’t recall seeing any on the dance floor, however.) The NH event was organized by the New Hampshire Accordion Assoc and the Accordion Connection, and involved a full day of workshops, concerts and camaraderie. The MAAA had a significant presence with its large contingent of festival participants. It also assisted the NHAA with work behind the scenes. And seven of us played together during one of the open mic sessions.

As a result of our participation in these events, a few more people are aware of the MAAA. I wouldn’t be surprised to see some of them at one of our upcoming meetings.

Our regular meeting on September 26 will feature a

guest artist. Roberto Cassan will present a workshop and concert, featuring music from his recently released CD. You can look forward to an enjoyable and informative session with a fine accordionist and teacher. We will soon circulate a publicity piece about Roberto’s appearance. Feel free to send it along to your friends.

Many of you have already returned your membership renewal form and dues payment – for which we are grateful. We understand the summer has a lot of distractions – but please take a few minutes to consider your decision to continue your commitment to the MAAA. We appreciate your support – financial and otherwise.

Music for the August 22 play-along session was recently distributed by e-mail. The music consists of theme songs from TV programs of years gone by – some of which, I’ll bet, were among your favorites. This music will be fun to play!

Remember to invite a friend or relative to one of our meetings. It’s nice to see new faces – and we guarantee to put a smile on them.

Dan

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Our Play-a-Long Players



Dave Magliozzi, Jerry Tramatozzi, Pat DiSantis, Lewis Howes, Mike Quinn, Al Paradis, Jan Miller, James Gerke, Dan Mackowiak, Jim Avedisian, 2

Photos from our July meeting

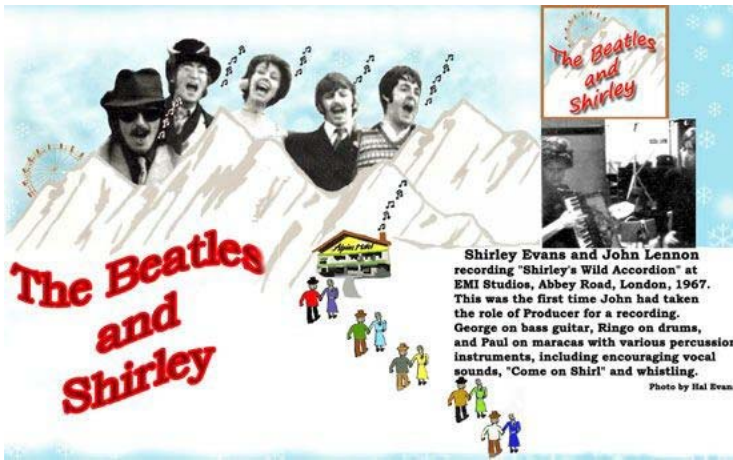


Ever wonder how to enhance a melody?

You can always add an arpeggio in the melody where the timing between notes will allow some filler. In music, an arpeggio (plural arpeggi or arpeggios) is Italian for broken chord where the notes are played or sung in sequence, one after the other, rather than ringing out simultaneously. This word comes from the Italian word "arpeggiare", which means "to play on a harp". Formed from scales, the arpeggio is based on the relative scale playing the "key" notes or those affected by the key signature.

An arpeggio is a group of notes which are played one after the other, either going up or going down. Executing an arpeggio requires the player to play the sounds of a chord individually to differentiate the notes. The notes all belong to one chord. The chord may, for example, be a simple chord with the 1st, 3rd, and 5th notes of the scale in it (this is called a "tonic chord"). An arpeggio in the key of C major going up two octaves would be the notes (C, E, G, C, E, G, C).

An arpeggio is a type of broken chord. Other types of broken chords play chord notes out of sequence or more than one note but less than the full chord simultaneously. Arpeggios can rise or fall for more than one octave.



television show.

In 1999, she composed 40 minutes of music for the world premiere of the ballet "Twin Flame" at Texas Tech University. She wrote additional music, "Pretty Snowflakes", for a St. Petersburg Classic Ballet Theatre performance of "The Nutcracker" last December at the Dade County Auditorium.

She considered the Beatles "her brothers," Owens said, and they liked her because she was "sweet and nice, not pushy." "To me they were lads from the same neighborhood with the same sense of humor," she once said. They gave her 45 rpm pressings of Wild Accordion and told her, "We want you to make a lot of money from this," Owens said. She never did, but had hoped to put the song on a CD with her own compositions and release it with a memoir.

Evans fell in love with the accordion as a small child. In an interview with Rob Howard, she said she was discovered by a sheet music vendor who introduced her to a booking agent. An entertainment agency signed her and sent her to Austria and Italy with the Tessie O'Shea Show! to entertain British troops. Shirley toured the Middle East with Radio Bandbox Show and had her 21st birthday in the middle of the Sinai Desert billed as the "Accordion Starlet".

She said that the Beatles found her while she was touring in Scotland in 1967. "When I got back to London, I got a call from someone asking me if I wanted to entertain with the Beatles on a bus. I thought someone was making a joke, so I said, 'Let me think about it.' A few days later, she received another call and was convinced."

Owens said that Evans was "spiritual and kind," traits that served her well during a USO tour to Vietnam War wounded at Veterans Administration hospitals.

Shirley had a long career and her accomplishments included playing the accordion in the Beatles film 'Magical Mystery Tour' and three Royal Command performances, one of which was at Buckingham Palace. She has the unique distinction of having an accordion solo, 'Shirley's Wild Accordion', written for her by John Lennon. The recording of this piece, which features backing by George Harrison, Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr, was deleted from the final edit of the film, and to this day lies unissued in the vaults at EMI in London.

Shirley Evans played accordion for British royals at Buckingham Palace, Flamenco great José Greco, diners at Key Biscayne's Rusty Pelican, 4,000 Shriners in Pittsburgh -- and the Beatles.

Evans was born Jan. 29, 1932, near Liverpool, England, came to South Florida in 1976 and became a U.S. citizen in 2000. She had a unique career performing, writing childrens' books and ballet music. She also recorded polkas and worked with International Artists Series Inc. as director/consultant.

Shirley Evans died July 10, 2010 of breast cancer at Baptist Hospital, according to Robert Owens, her companion of 34 years and partner at International Artists. Evans met Owens in 1972 en route to a cruise-ship gig with her former professional partner, Donald Hulme, a two-time accordion World Champion.

In addition to Owens, a brother and two sisters in Australia, Evans leaves two accordions-- a Scandalli that John Lennon once played and a rare, extended-keyboard Hohner -- and a unique musical legacy.

Shirley was backed by George, Paul and Ringo, with John as the producer in an Abbey Road Studios recording session. Other career highlights included backing Cliff Richard at the 1968 Eurovision Song Contest, when he came in second with Congratulations.

According to program notes from the Greco concert at the Dade County Auditorium in 1978, Evans appeared with Engelbert Humperdinck, Victor Borge, George Jessel and Liberace. At 26, she hosted a British quiz show called Claim to Fame. She played the accordion on top of Mount Fuji in a bikini and appeared as Mabel, the Black Label girl, in Carling beer commercials. She also toured in USO shows, and was "Auntie Shirley" in a Hong Kong children's

MAAA Members Performing



First Tuesday Jazz
1st Tuesday of every month
with the Lou Borelli Octet
(Jan on accordion) at
Nick's, 124 Millbury Street,
Worcester 7:30—9:30 p.m.



Smooth dinner music by accordionist **Bob Guenther**

Every Monday 5:00p to 8:00pm

The Black Olive Restaurant,
1866 Main St., Tewksbury, MA
www.black-olive.com

Second Sunday of Every Month
Billerica Crossing Assisted Living

Our Open mic Performers



Lewis Howes



Jim Avedisian & Dan Mackowiak



Al & Claudette Paradis



Pat DiSantis



Jan Miller



Jerry Tramatozzi



Patty Simmons



Dave Sullivan



James Gerke



Mike Quinn



Dave Magliozzi



Where knowledge and fun meet

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)
- [Roberto Cassan](#)—617-413-8199 (Roslyndale, 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



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The 63rd CIA Coupe Mondiale Competitions And Festival - Croatia

by Raymond Bodell, President, Confédération Internationale des Accordionistes (CIA)

Be part of this great event, as a competitor, with the closing date for entries set as 10th September 2010 - have you completed your entry submission? As a visitor, have you submitted your online submission to participate in the CIA World Orchestra (online soon)? Have you made your hotel reservation?

Highlights of the Coupe Mondiale week include:

- Five days of accordion entertainment, competitions and concerts.
- Performance of the CIA World Accordion Orchestra.
- Instrument Trade exhibits.
- A series of social receptions with lots of entertainment.

For further information about the 2010 Coupe Mondiale competitions and festival in Croatia can be found on the Coupe Mondiale website.

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: August 22nd