

Where knowledge and fun meet

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November 21, 2010

Massachusetts Accordion Association

www.MAaccordion.com



It's the holiday season!!!!



It's that time of year again, when we shift our usual meeting dates to the 3rd Sunday of the month for November and December due to the holidays and everyone's travelling schedules.

But, because of the holiday season, we once again are planning our outreach performances at some assisted living facilities. Last year was a great success and we hope you can join us for the practice sessions and the actual performances.



At our October meeting, Dan gave us an overview of we've accomplished over the last 12 months and what we have in the pipeline for this coming year.

Although we are still planning, I will guarantee it will be at least as wonderful as this past year has been.

Just to make a quick summary of our past 12 months, here's what you've done: last holiday season outreach performances, many new pieces for the play-a-long sessions, Lenny Feldman's visit and workshop, our meeting at the Hibernian Hall, being on YouTube, having a spot in the town newspaper and a video on television, Roberto Cassan with Joe Muratore

and his workshop on the tango, the opportunities to see many of our members performing outside of the club and our club members' performing in the Accordions Now event in Manchester, NH.

On top of all this we have been blessed with many new faces and some that we don't see so often, still come and visit with us. The friendships that have been made and the bonds that have been strengthened from working together have made this one of our best year's ever.



Tony told us about the plan to have members share their talents and knowledge amongst us by starting workshop breakouts of 10-15 minutes with 3 members presenting topics of interest (e.g. James Gerke on the chromatic accordion, Bob Guenther on how to prepare for a gig, Dave Magliozzi and how to learn a song and make it your own, some members technical how-to's and how some members embellish a song, etc).

All in all, it has been a wonderful year and I thank all of our members for making it happen. 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!!!!

November 21
Member work shops

Play-a-long
Open "mic"

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

from the Prez....



The next two MAAA meetings will each include first-time features.

On November 21st, for thirty minutes or so, we will conduct three concurrent “break-out” discussion sessions – each led by a member with specific experience and knowledge. The first set of topics will include chromatic accordions, preparing for a gig, and making a piece of music your own. As Tony Marini explained when we were last together, this discussion series will notch-up our resource-sharing activities – and it will also directly engage a number of members in the process.

(I suspect it will be a tough decision as to which of the three sessions to attend.)

On December 19th, as part of its regular meeting, the MAAA will host a holiday party. The planning for this event is just beginning – but it is sure to be an afternoon befitting the festive season and camaraderie of the MAAA. Of course, the event will include accordions and accordion music, but it will be a special get-together. So, as your holiday party schedules develop over the next several weeks, be sure to circle December 19 for the MAAA.

Speaking of the holiday season, we recently distributed the Play-Along music for the November 21st meeting, which contains nine holiday songs with varying time signatures, tempos and rhythms. We'll get a lot of mileage out of this set, since it will also be used as part of the repertoire for our upcoming community outreach concerts in December.

Details of these performances will be provided as soon as possible.

Think about inviting a friend to the next meeting. As you know, we enjoy entertaining guests.

Dan

Club Officers

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Some answered my request for earlier photos of their accordion past....Please look for some earlier photos, always great to learn more about others.....See if you can guess who is who.....

Our October meeting attendees....



I hope you're here.....

Classifieds

If you have an accordion or some musical accessory for sale, send me a picture and I will post it here. Please include your contact number or e-mail and the price.



PANCORDION VIDEO LARGE ACCORDION 19 1/4" KEYBOARD 33975 This was mfg in Italy, Dry tuning w\o musette



IORIO MODEL 51 MELODY ACCORDION. Purchased from Iorio in NY although probably built in China

I have these two acoustic accordions for "sale". I need to make room for a new accordion addition to my limited space. These are very available and *extremely* affordable. Just give me a call, if interested on my cell: 978-204-0945

Our open "mic" performers...

Our open "mic" performers...



Jan Miller



Oliver Mutch



Dave Sullivan



Pat DeSantis



Dave Magliozzi



Dan Mackowiak and Jim Avedisian



Patty Simmons



Lewis Howes



David Rukhelman

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 and dance 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



Here is a note I received from one of Lenny Feldman's newsletter recipients in response to an article Lenny posted. I thought it would give some insight as to how some

accordionists share their talents with others....

Bob. I was happy to receive Lenny Feldmann's link to "your story."

I appreciate the value of music as therapy. I'm currently giving some over-the-phone accordion help to a guy who suffers from C.O.P.D (lung disease) same as I, who was a tubist years ago, so now his therapist has him playing his sousaphone 15 minutes a day to develop more lung power.

About 50 years ago, I joined a volunteer group at the Pennsylvania State Hospital (mental) in Harrisburg. We played games with about 80 patients every week. Some of the volunteers knew I was an accordionist, and suggested that since a few of us were pretty good singers, they asked the administrator if we could tour some of the wards and sing Christmas Carols in December. When the doctor agreed, we asked about the wards we had never visited because the patients were catatonic and non-responsive (they sat and stared all day long). He agreed as long as we were accompanied by at least two nurses to observe any negative effects it might have on the patients.

Bob, two gals and a guy, backed up by yours truly strapped to a Pancordion moved through 15 wards (some small with 5 or 6 beds, and some large - 20-30 beds) singing Jingle Bells, Rudolph, Silent Night, White Christmas,

Frosty, O Holy Night, S.C. Is Coming To Town, et al. in nice harmony. We had been told not to expect those in what they called the "bad wards" to demonstrate any appreciation for our talent, and sure enough, I noticed only one man start to sing Jingle Bells (out of key) along with us.

The following week the entire volunteer group was called to a special meeting during which three nurses gave us detailed reports on 5 patients who had a "reaction" during our tour. As soon as we left her ward, one 50-year-old woman jumped up and danced and sang Santa Claus Is Coming To Town. She had been in a catatonic state of schizophrenia for four years, and now was being treated for recovery. The other 4 stories was similar. About a year later, we were told that a 59-year-old man who had been "under it" for 11 years, was being prepared for discharge. Absolutely amazing! I know how difficult it must have been for you to struggle with those narrow keys, but I see in the last picture in your message that you appear to be playing a Roland FR-7.

In my case, a 16.5 pound Roland FR-3s has made it possible for this 78-year-old guy to play again after 15 years (a back injury followed by a neck injury made it impossible for me to lift my 29 pound instrument, and my C.O.P.D. made it impossible to pump the bellows without exhaustion after a few minutes. Now I can again enjoy those minor 9ths and minor 7flat 5ths in beautiful jazz progressions (from Gershwin to Mancini).

Ed Farabaugh
Southeastern Pennsylvania USA

Editor's note: Ed called me this past Wednesday and we spent some time talking about accordions and health. He is a truly fascinating person with an incredible accordion background. He sent me exercises for the left hand stradella base that he wrote. These are incredible. Give him a "poke" on his e-mail address, he will be great to get to know. farabaug@ptd.net

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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)
- [Bill LaPollai](#) —401-245-5209 (Barrington, R.I.)
- [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



I hope you are checked in on the MA Accordion Assoc Group Yahoo account. It's a great place to exchange information, playlists, songs, pictures and almost whatever you want, amongst members.

It is a great way to keep track of all activities and share experiences. Many thanks to David Magliozzi for all his work in pulling this site together for us. To enter the site and enroll as a member go to:

<http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/maaagr/?prop=eupdate>
[maaagr-MA Accordion Association User Group](http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/maaagr/?prop=eupdate)

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: November 21st