

Where knowledge and fun meet

Volume 3, Issue 10

December 19, 2010

## Massachusetts Accordion Association

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

### It's the most wonderful time of the year

This is truly a time for family and friends, both near and far and a time to play your accordion for those famous Christmas carols and family sing-a-longs. Speaking of parties, you've probably haven't heard enough about our upcoming holiday party on Dec 19th....check out the "from the Prez....." note from Dan for details.

Our November meeting started off with the play-a-long session performing Christmas songs. Dan also handed out some sing-a-long lyrics to get our audience rockin' into the spirit.

The meeting was also a trial run on break out sessions where people were able to go amongst three tech sessions going on simultaneously.



James Gerke presented the Chromatic accordion and how it is different from the piano accordion.

Bob Guenther

went over his playlist and how to prepare for both a regular gig and special gigs.



Ed Wawrzynowicz filled in for Dave Magliozzi and covered how to play with a band and the ten commandments for accordionists.

We were also welcomed by a new

flutist who joined our play-a-long session, Pauline Courchesne, which just as Jan Miller has in previous play-a-longs, added a nice accompaniment to the ensemble of accordions.

Our out-reach sessions have begun. Our first was at the Lasell Village in Auburndale this past Tuesday. It was a great time for both the performers and our great audience. Dan had lyrics for the audience and Linda Walden provided the choral leadership. Many thanks to Carol Avedisian who videotaped the evening. Editing is underway and looking forward to getting both outreach performances available on our Yahoo blog site.

Our next outreach performance is at The Williw in Westborough this coming Tuesday the 14th. If you can attend, please show up by 7:00 p.m.

Lastly, if you haven't been able to make a lot of the meetings over the past year, please try to make the holiday party on the 19th. It is open to our members and their guests, so please let Dan know a.s.a.p. for the headcount and bring your accordion. It will be a great time to be with friends, associates and fellow accordion players. See you then.

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!!!!

**December 19**

**Our Holiday Party**

Please don't miss this one...Accordions, smiles and appetites are welcomed.

**January 23**

**February 19**

**March 27**

**April 24**

**May 22**

**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....



In the December 2010 issue of USA Accordion News, editor Rita Davidson wrote an article entitled "Bring Joy and Peace with Your Accordion Music," in which she extols the virtues of playing music for other people. Music makes the world a better, happier place – and the MAAA is doing its part. We are in the midst of our community outreach program for the holiday season. Ten of us just performed at Lasell Village in Newton, MA and a similar group will be performing at The Willows in Westborough, MA. The satisfaction one receives from playing to such appreciative and enthusiastic audiences is remarkable!

Eager anticipation is in the air for the first ever MAAA holiday party on December 19 – our regular meeting date. The party committee has been hard at work – and the plan is for a festive afternoon that includes food, refreshments, music and other activities. Many MAAA members and guests are expecting to come. Of course, there will be an opportunity to play our accordions, so be sure to bring your instruments to the party.

Speaking of planning, we are working on the details of the MAAA calendar for 2011 – including guest artist presentations, discussion groups, play-along sessions and musical theme ideas. You can count on another series of fun, informative and music-filled Sunday afternoons.

I hope to see all of you this month – but if our paths do not cross, I would like to take this opportunity to extend our wishes to you and your families for a wonderful holiday season.

Dan

## Club Officers

### President -

**Dan MacKowiak**

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### Vice-President -

**Bob Guenther**

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### Treasurer\Secretary -

**Patty Simmons**

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### Board Member -

**Tony Marini**

amarini@aamcpa.com

**Al Paradis**

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**Lewis Howes**

howesfam@comcast.net

**Ed Wawrzynowicz**

edchris@comcast.net



Some additional old time 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 November meeting attendees....



Penny forwarded this photo she received in an e-mail of a really courageous accordion player.....some reflections of this photo, first and foremost, you are never too old to start the accordion, secondly, never ever be afraid to perform in public...and finally, life is too short, so , face it with all the vim and vigor you can and you will always be young at heart....

Many thanks Penny

## 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...



David Ruhkelman



Jim Avedisian



Al Paradis



Bob Guenther



Carmen D'Angelo



Dave Sullivan



Dan Mackowiak



This could be you...bring  
your accordion and join in  
the fun....

The MAAA is hosting its first holiday party at its regular meeting time and place.

**Sunday, December 19 at 1:30 PM, Ciociaro Social Club, Newton, MA**

We hope you and a guest (or two) will be able to join the group for lunch and refreshments, as well as music and other festivities.

## My favorite sites and organizations....



American Accordionists' Association (AAA)

Member of the Confédération Internationale des Accordeonistes - CIA (IMC-UNESCO)



## 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](http://www.black-olive.com)



# Our Play-a-long Group



This month's play-a-long performers were made up of: Carmen D'Angelo, Dan Mackowiak, Jim Avedisian, Patty Simmons James Gerke, Dave Ruhkelman, Al Paradis, Penny Yunuba, Lewis Howes and flutist Pauline Courchesne

With their wonderful rendition of:

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year,  
A Holly Jolly Christmas, Mele Kalikimaka, Christmas Island,  
Christmas in Killarney, I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus, Nuttin' for Christmas,  
I Wanna Do More Than Whistle, Winter Wonderland

**Looking for accordion music or lead sheets or fake books.....check out:**

**<http://www.sheetmusicplus.com/instruments/folk-accordion/3>**

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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

We just completed the arrangements for two community outreach concerts in December, and hope you will be able to participate in at least one of the performances. The music will consist of some of the selections in the last two Play-Along sets: holiday songs from the November set and the "Oklahoma" songs from the October set. We will also play some of the songs included in last year's holiday repertoire.. Please refer to the attached "2010 Holiday Concert Program" in the e-mail for the list of songs.



Last year's Christmas ensemble

The concert dates are slightly different from those mentioned at our last meeting, so please note the changes.

Tuesday, December 7, 7:30 PM at Lasell Village on 120 Seminary Avenue in Newton, MA. The concert will be in the "Ballroom" on the second floor which is accessible by elevator.

Tuesday, December 14, 7:30 PM at The Willows on One Lyman St. in Westborough

Lyman Street is a direct turn off Route 9 in either direction.

Please try to arrive by 7:00 PM, so we can talk through a few items.

As for attire - we are wearing black pants and a white shirt (but feel free to add a splash of holiday color).

*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: December 19th**