

Where knowledge and fun meet

Volume 5, Issue 4

June 26, 2011

## Massachusetts Accordion Association

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

*Does it get any better????*

Thank you to Dan and all our members who worked so hard to make our May meeting such a wonderful event. It was great to see so many people we hadn't seen in a while and the members of the NH Accordion Association who joined in our play-a-long and helped make the event a great place for accordionists and folks who love accordion music.

Many thanks to Paul Monte and Tal Shalom-Kobi for their wonderful performance, Paul's workshop and Tal's sharing of her accordion ability, in addition to her wonderful bass playing. There are a lot of upcoming accordion

events coming up this summer....see Dan's message from the Prez regarding Gerry Tramontozzi's concert in R.I and Accordion Connection's annual accordion festival in Nashua, NH in August.

If you know of any upcoming accordion events, please let us know so we can get the word out and share the enjoyment.

The play-a-long session is performing very nicely and thanks to all who play. Dan has sent out June's play-a-long music, so please give it a try. As Dan mentions, we are not looking for perfection, just a lot of fun.....Have a wonderful summer.....Bob



Have you ever thought about different ways to spice up your accordion performances? Some accordionists have come up with different hats, different outfits, adding a sound generator, performing with an auto accompaniment module, performing with a singer or another performer, such as a bassist, guitarist, drummer or just even another accordion.

There is an accordionist who performs at the Cotati Accordion festival every year who goes by the name—

### *The Great Morgani.*

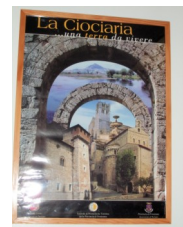
This accordionist is an incredible performer, but also costumes his accordion in the same detail as his full body costume. Take a look at his website <http://www.thegreatmorgani.com/> and look up his performances at the Cotati Accordion Festival YouTube videos. I think it is amazing the thought and designs he has been used over the years. And my wife frowns when I want to wear a hat when I play....Enjoy....



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

1:30—4:00 pm

**Ciociaro Social Club**  
144 Bshaeridge St  
Newton



Mark your calendars for another great year!!!!

**July 24**

**August 28**

**Sept 25**

Due to some upcoming holidays, some dates may change.

Notification will be made thru e-mail, the newsletter, the website and the yahoo site

### **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



What a fantastic meeting we enjoyed in May! The guest artist workshop and performance by Paul Monte and Tal Shalom-Kobi was exceptional. We were visited by several members of the New Hampshire Accordion Association.

Overall attendance was record-breaking, as was the participation in the Play-Along group. Thank you to everyone - and especially to those who contributed extra time and effort to prepare for this special meeting.

We will be getting together each month during the summer. So, be sure to circle the fourth Sunday of the month when planning your summer activities. You can also enjoy accordion music and accordion players this summer at a couple regional events. On Sunday, August 7, our own Gerry Tramontozzi will be leading an accordion ensemble in a concert benefitting Vasa Park in Foster, RI. This is a leisurely afternoon, featuring good

food and good music. And on Saturday, August 13, the New Hampshire Accordion Association will be hosting an all-day festival packed with accordion activities - including a great line-up of guest artists.

The music for the Play-Along session at our upcoming meeting on June 26 was recently distributed by e-mail. I am looking forward to working through these songs - a couple of which are of a style that will be new to the Play-Along group. Everyone is encouraged to join the play-along fun.

The Level One / Level Two arrangements are intended to fit the experience of a broad spectrum of players. For those of you who have been hesitant to sit-in with the group, rest assured we are not striving for perfection. Our intention is to enhance everyone's enjoyment of their instrument.

The invitation to attend our meetings is always open to visitors and newcomers. Feel free to spread the word.

Dan

## Swing (from <http://www.dolmetsch.com/musictheory20.htm>)

What we have said above about equality and inequality can be applied to much contemporary popular music.

The most common rhythm, called the 'eight-note triplet shuffle', is found in blues, jazz and swing music.

It is sometimes called 'rolled 8ths'.

We illustrate it here.



## Club Officers

### 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



The Roland US 2011 V-Accordion Festival information is now online. The 2011 Roland U.S. V-Accordion Festival finals will be on July 29, 2011 during the 71st Accordionists and Teachers Guild, International

(ATG) Festival in Orlando, Florida at the

Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel, 5445 Forbes Place, Orlando, Florida.

There will be three competition categories:

Senior (age 18 and older),

Junior (age 17 and younger)

Diatonic (age 18 and older).

Attend the many interesting workshops and master classes.

Please consider entering the competition.

For competition rules and entry form visit:

[http://www.rolandus.com/go/v-accordion\\_festival](http://www.rolandus.com/go/v-accordion_festival)

# Our May meeting pictures.....



# What's up and coming



## NH Accordion Connection Event

**ACCORDIONS NOW! 2011**

4th Annual Music Festival

Friday-Saturday, August 12-13

Nashua Courtyard Marriott

Nashua, New Hampshire, USA

*Note our beautiful NEW LOCATION*



<http://www.cotatifest.com/>

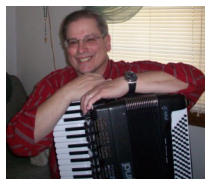


## MAAA Members Performing



**First Tuesday Jazz**  
1st Tuesday of every month  
with the Lou Borelli Octet  
(Jan on accordion)  
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)



**July 18, 2011**

**Black Sheep Jazz Band** plays a Dixie-land Concert at Sterling Band Stand, Sterling, MA 6 - 8 PM. The band stand is in back of the fire station which is

on route 12 in Sterling. If the weather is lousy, the concert will be re-scheduled. Bring a lawn chair and a picnic. Bring the kids and the grand children.



**July 31, 2011**

**The Lou Borelli Octet** plays for the "Jazz on the Patio Series" at the Castle Restaurant, 1230 Main Street, Leicester, MA, 3 - 7 PM.

If it rains, we'll be in the dining room. Reservations Welcomed.  
Phone 508 892-9090.

# Paul Monte & Tal Shalom-Kobi



What a great performance at our May meeting. Paul Monte on the accordion and Tal Shalom-Kobi and the bass. Truly an enjoyable listening experience.

Paul also held a workshop covering many topics, in summary:

proper alignment of the keyboard in relation to the chin (and why),

left hand strap alignment,

Fingering used in playing the bass (both 4/3 and 3/2 fingers are correct, never change, always stay with what you learned),

bellows shake technique—not left to right shake, but left hand up and down, Paul demo'd the bellows shake with his left hand out of the strap to show the up and down way for the bellow shake,

Cressandos—use your fingernails like runners on a sled to up.....use your thumbs to cressando down,

Do not break the bellows flow at improper places during a song—keep notes in the “flow”. Only change the bellows direction when you change a note.

Swell/staccato of bellows gives songs some “punch” and character.

To create a vibrato effect, shaking the right hand or tapping for the treble effect, shaking the left hand for the bass effect.

Matching bass chords with treble chord combinations, eg. Augmented chord patterns and 5ths,

Accordion maintenance, Packing the accordion and support the bass buttons/ cleaning your accordion.

Examples of different tempo patterns for tangos.



Now here's a treat that I missed...

Jim Avedisian and Chet Williamson (blues harmonica player) doing a gig at the Shrewsbury Crossing Retirement Community in Shrewsbury, MA on 5-18-2011

*Come Play with us...*



# AMERICAN ACCORDIONISTS' ASSOCIATION

2011 Festival  
Charleston, SC

JULY 13-17, 2011

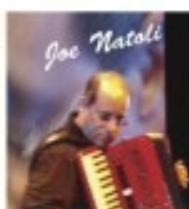
WORKSHOPS • EXHIBITS • CABARET  
LUNCHEON CONCERT • MASSED BAND  
GALA CONCERT • FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA  
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

## Introducing AAA's Youth Involvement Program!

Charleston's High School Musicians meet AAA  
Accordion Students to form the first combined  
instruments **Youth Jazz Ensemble**  
which will perform at the Awards Concert!



Ocotrillo



Joe Natali



Eddie Monteiro



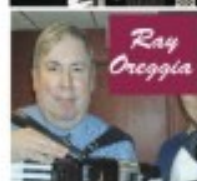
Alicia Baker



The "K" Trio



Rita Davidson



Ray Oreggia



Bob McMahan  
& Joy Bechtler



Jeff Lisenby



Joan Sommers



Rita Davidson

## An Accordion! What is That?



**An Accordion! What is That?** - Karen Malen-Uribe, Joan Grauman and Mary Tokarski presentation for teachers and adults.



The Martin Accordion Orchestra

## WORKSHOPS

**Rita Davidson** - Celebrating the Life of Eugene Ettore  
**Gabe Hall-Rodriguez & Ocotrillo** - Just Friends: creative ways to play and accompany other instruments in jazz and other genres.

**Dr. Robert Young McMahan** - Composers Commissioning  
**Eddie Monteiro** - The Jazz Man - integrating other instruments with accordions  
**Ray Oreggia** - Remembering Charles Magnante  
**Joan Sommers** - Everything We Should Learn Between Book 3 and Book 10

## SCHEDULE

<b>Wednesday</b>	Registration Press & Squeeze
<b>Thursday</b>	Luncheon Concert Cabaret Night and Dessert Buffet
<b>Friday</b>	Massed Band at Customs House Sightseeing Tour Gala Concert and Reception
<b>Saturday</b>	Awards Concert Youth Jazz Ensemble Gala Banquet & Festival Orchestra Lifetime Achievement Award presentation - Joan Sommers
<b>Sunday</b>	Breakfast Meeting & Farewell

**Sheraton at Charleston Airport**  
4770 Goer Drive, Charleston, SC 29406

JULY 13-17, 2011

Special room rates - \$109 single or double;  
\$119 triple or quad (adults)  
children no charge

csg@sheratoncharleston.com

1-888-747-1900

mention American Accordionists' Association

Mary Tokarski, Chairman - For information: 203-484-5095

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

### 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



Saltarelle Shamrock

### 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 (Roslindale, 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



American Accordionists' Association (AAA)

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



*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: June 26th**