

Where knowledge and fun meet

Volume 5, Issue 8

October 23, 2011

## Massachusetts Accordion Association

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

# It's October, the gateway to the holidays!!!!

### Oktoberfest



h30756 www.fotosearch.com

Although Oktoberfest is usually celebrated in September every year to celebrate the upcoming month of October, thanks to Dan, the MAAA play-a-long ensemble will be

cranked up to give us that great feeling of celebration through his selection of polkas, marches and waltzes indicative of that culture. Although we won't be able to provide a stein or two of your favorite bubbly, grab your latest style of lederhosen and join us for a great afternoon of music and camaraderie.

Our September meeting was one that I hope you didn't miss.....our play-a-long ensemble continues to grow in performers, providing wonderful listening music that makes you want to dance in your seat.

The September meeting was also a thrill thanks to our featured performer Corey Pesaturo. More on his great contribution to our meeting on page 4.

Some notes from our meeting....October is our annual meeting with the elections of officers and board members for the upcoming 2 year term, so as in early American days, please come early and

vote often. Before the actual elections, the floor will open to the general membership for any additional nominations for the elections to add to our nominating committee selections. Dan has the info on page 2. James Gerke will be going to the Accordion festival in Las Vegas this year, Oct 31 thru Nov 3rd. Here's hoping James has a great time in Vegas and maybe earns a few more rubles at the tables for all the accordions he can dream of.

On Sunday, November 6th, thanks to Ed Wawrzynowicz, the MAAA play-a-long ensemble will meet with the N.E Chapter of the Theater Organ Society at Babson College in Wellesley. Directions accompanying the e-mail of the newsletter.

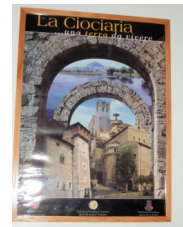
My sincere thanks to Dan and the other members who have served our club over the last four years. They've done a tremendous job and have made the MAAA a really great place for accordionists and friends of the accordion to meet and have a lot of fun. Also, many thanks to their spouses who do and have done so much of the "under the radar" work to assure the all members and guests are made welcomed and comfortable.

See you on the 23rd.....Bob

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

1:30—4:00 pm

Ciociaro Social Club  
144 Bridge St  
Newton



Mark your calendars for another great year!!!!

**Oct 23**

**Nov 20**

**Dec 18**

**(holiday party)**

Due to the upcoming holidays, Nov and Dec dates have changed from the 4th Sunday.

**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

## American Accordionists' Association

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



# from the Prez



Our upcoming meeting on October 23 is special, since it's the Annual Meeting of the Organization at which we will be electing members of the Board of Directors and Officers for the next two-year term. At the September

meeting, three nominees were named to fill the vacancies on the Board resulting from term limits stipulated in the By Laws: Jim Avedisian, Al Bacchiocchi, and Penny Yunuba. Nominees for the three Officer positions were also named: Bob Guenther - President; Jim Avedisian - Vice President; Patty Simmons - Treasurer / Clerk.

The MAAA is fortunate to have so many members who are willing to undertake active roles and leadership positions. We hope to see many of you at the Annual Meeting.

On Sunday, November 6, the MAAA Play-Along Group will be appearing at the meeting of the Eastern Massachusetts Chapter of the American Theater Organ Society (EMCATOS) at Babson College in Wellesley.

Ed Wawrzynowicz is a member of both organizations, and arranged for this unique outreach program. It will include accordion music, as well as music played together on accordions and organ (with Eddie W. playing the organ). Details of the event, and for a rehearsal in advance of the event, will be sent to members by e-mail.

Thank you to everyone who has made membership renewal contributions to the MAAA. To date, the renewal rate has exceeded 80%.

The Play-Along music for the October meeting features music that would likely be heard at Oktoberfest celebrations - waltzes, polkas and marches. Suffice it to say, this kind of music is made for the accordion. The play-along session may very well turn into a simulated Oktoberfest - which should be great fun.

Feel free to bring a guest to one of our meetings. We enjoy visitors!

Dan

## 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

**Ed Wawrzynowicz**

edchris@comcast.net

## New Hampshire Accordion Association



...for people who really appreciate the accordion!

[Click here for NHAA membership information and photos.](#)  
NHAA welcomes listeners and players of any level  
-- beginner to professional --  
as well as family members of all ages

## New Hampshire Accordion Association

proudly presents  
and invites you to be our guest at

**A SPECIAL FREE CONCERT EVENT**  
**Saturday, October 29, 2011**

**2:00 PM**

**"Mystery Man"**

### Contents

### Quick Links

### Our Sponsors

### Join Our Mailing List

### Attention All Accordion Fans

Here is a bit of information about "Mystery Man" and his talent:

- Born in 1945, he entered and won many competitions as a youngster
- Performed in 1953 for an audience of 70,000!
- Has toured extensively in Europe - France, Germany, all the Scandinavian countries, plus Iceland.
- Upholds folk music traditions but also presents concert material.
- Keeps a collection of sheet music numbering some 16,000 pieces.
- Has co-produced a television program, helped found and added memorabilia to a museum - all honoring an accordion "king" of his country.

Please help us keep the secret...

For the moment we are not at liberty to reveal publicly the name of this outstanding musician. If you want to know, contact Donna. Why the secrecy? We want to keep this artist's visit a surprise for Nils Lundin, the 90th birthday "boy" and NHAA Life Member. Sh-h-h.

Don't miss this opportunity to hear

"Mystery Man" live and up close!!

**FREE ADMISSION**  
courtesy of NHAA

**Fabulous International Guest Artist**  
**Master of Diatonic & Chromatic Accordions**

**Call Now to Reserve Your Seat**

**Accordion Connection LLC**  
**136 Route 106**  
**Gilmanton, NH 03257**

**1-800-328-5227**

**FREE ADMISSION**

**NHAA Regular Monthly Meeting**  
**Saturday, October 15, 2011**  
**1:00 - 4:00 PM**

## RSVP

Seating is limited -- Please let us know by 4:00 PM October 28 whether or not you will attend the October 29 Special Free Concert. Thank you. -- Hope to see you at AC!

Musically yours,



Donna & Sue

**Donna Maria Regis, Music Director**  
1-603-425-1825  
[regisdonna@yahoo.com](mailto:regisdonna@yahoo.com)

**Suzanne Welch, Executive Secretary**  
1-800-328-5227  
[accman@accordionconnection.com](mailto:accman@accordionconnection.com)

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NHAA welcomes listeners and players of any level  
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as well as family members of all ages



# Our play-a-long ensemble



Were you at our September meeting?





# Our September Featured Performer



CORY PESATURO



kind of restricted when we just play according to sheet music....

What an incredible time it was....not only is Cory a world-class accordionist and world-wide champion, he is also an extremely personable entertainer and a truly wonderful person.

It was surprising to hear that Cory doesn't really like to compete. His last few competitions were by invite only and formatted to his stylings. Cory also admitted that he hasn't "practiced" in years (traditional practice with scales and techniques), rather he plays continuously with jazz and improvisation and always tries new techniques to enhance his playing.

After performing some wonderful French tunes, some Italian songs and Mazukas, Corey held a Question and Answer session. The first question had to do with his incredible skill at improvisation. Corey's answer was not a surprise to many—You have to know music theory to get the background and understanding of improvisations. He did mention that many people say that the piano is the best instrument to learn music theory, but the accordion has it all. It contains a piano keyboard and the left hand bass and chords are arranged in the circle of 5ths (stradella bass). Many songs have a base chord arrangement of 2-5-1 or, for an example on the left hand side of the accordion it would be D bass-G bass-C bass due to their placement on the C scale of C-D-E-F-G-A-B where D is the 2nd note on the scale, G is the 5th note on the scale and C is the first note....Now you see it, once you know any scale you can begin to formulate the chord pattern of a majority of songs. Corey did talk about his experiences at the New England Conservatory of Music and his classes in learning how to "play by ear" - learning to hear the root chord of any song and then by using the musical circle of 5ths, hear the pattern of the song. Corey did mention that we become

he recommended to just let go and add some "grace" notes or arpeggios ("broken" chords) to areas of our songs that have a few rests in the music to cover up the pauses of the notes.....

Corey then gave a short presentation on the white board on the circle of 5ths in the key of C...surprisingly, when he finished drawing it out, it was the Stradella bass\chord set-up of most of our accordions....for example.....

representing the numbers of the 5th notes in the scale of C

7b- 4- 1-5- 2-6- 3- 7

Bb-F-C-G-D-A-E-B

He mentioned that every once and a while we have to "jump" of the cliff of what we know and just try something new and different.....and of course, practicing to improvise will always remain a real base to accomplish what you are attempting to achieve.

Corey also spoke on the so many types of World music and many of the different timing and scales (odd-meter stuff) of the different cultures.

Through his New England Conservatory experience he went through lots of ear-training e.g. listen to a song just twice and then write down all the chord changes. One of the questions asked Corey what he wishes he could do...surprisingly, the answer was more speed drills in every key. Most of his current key board techniques comes from his intense jazz and improvisation. He then demo'd "Autumn Leaves" in jazz improvisation...absolutely wonderful.

Finally Corey invited our very own Dave Magliozzi in a play a long, followed by Dick Contino's version of "Lady of Spain"...Thanks Corey for a really great day....MAAA

### 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.



'The Complete Guide To Mastering  
Left-Hand Bass/Chord Patterns',  
North Carolina - USA

by Rob Howard

'The Mighty Accordion', by David  
DiGiuseppe, is a guide to playing the

bass side of the accordion. The book includes a comprehensive collection of progressive exercises to guide the student in learning and mastering bass/chord patterns. For the beginner, the first few chapters assume little or no knowledge of the instrument and teach how to play simple accompaniment patterns. Uses of the major, minor and seventh chords are explained, with numerous exercises offered to develop skill in executing various bass/chord accompaniment patterns.

For the advanced player, latter chapters present exercises on chord combinations needed to play sixth, minor seventh, major seventh and ninth chords, and other advanced techniques. Throughout the book, explanations are offered on the workings of the instrument and relevant music theory. The book includes 2 CDs, featuring many of the book's exercises played at both a slow and moderate tempo.

David DiGiuseppe is an accomplished and versatile accordionist, mandolin and cittern player, singer, and storyteller. He is equally at home performing Irish tunes in a pub, French musettes in a cabaret, contra or Cajun music for a dance, or in the intimate setting of a concert hall. For further information email:

daviddg@mindspring.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 (Roslindale, MA)
- [Emilian Badea](#) —508-653-8441 (Natick, MA)
- [Inessa Gilmore](#) —inessagilmore@yahoo.com
- [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're on the web:  
MAaccordion.com



Check out the number 1 accordion news for us here  
in the USA .....many thanks to **Rita Davidson** for  
her continuing great job as editor.....

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

*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: Oct 23rd**