

Massachusetts Accordion Association, Inc.

Newsletter



Robert F. Guenther, Jr.

In Loving Memory

**Rest in peace, dear friend,
until that time we play
together again.....**

April 22, 2013

Volume 7, Issue 3

May 2013

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

1:30—4:00 pm

Ciociaro Social Club
144 Bridge St
Newton

Mark your calendars



ATAM holds its 51st New England Music Festival

On April 5-7th, 2013, the Accordion Teachers Association of Massachusetts held its 51st New England Music Festival. The festival ran from Friday afternoon to about 5 p.m. on Sunday.

Various competitors included accordionists, pianists, guitarists, violinists and vocalists. The number of individual competitions within those instrument types was mind-boggling to say the least. It seemed like all of the Newton Marriott was being used by the festival. You couldn't go anywhere without seeing instruments of one type or another! It wasn't all work, though. There was a really nice banquet on Saturday night, proceeds going to

the scholarship fund, as the ATAM gives out a good sized scholarship to a worthy individual as well as monetary prizes in some categories. At the banquet, the evening's entertainment was provided by Don McMahon and his wife. If you've heard Don play and heard his wife sing before, then even if you weren't there you just know that the entertainment provided by them was "top notch." After the meal and the entertainment, various trophies were awarded to winners of the competitions.

After the banquet ended, there was a special dance party for the kids who competed starting at 9:30pm. and ending at 11pm. The ATAM provided a DJ as well as snacks and soda for the kids.

There were several participating studios represented at the festival.

Continued on Page 4 bottom

Upcoming meetings:

May 26th

June 23rd

July 28th

August 25th

September 22nd

October 27th

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

A Few Pictures from the Event



Sam teaches a student memorization



MAAA Friends



Roland Orchestra Vocalists



Dave R. And Tony D.



Jim A. Waiting



Drum corp relaxes



Last minute instructions from the conductor



Getting trophies ready



Guess Who!



Roland Digital Accordion Orchestra

MAAA Member Ollie Luey scores a first place finish in the Accordion Entertainment Solo category at ATAM 51st New England Music Festival

I had the extreme pleasure of attending many of the ATAM Accordion Competitions at the 51st New England Music Festival. Maybe.... Just maybe.... If I practice for a few decades I might be able to play as well as some of the youths participating in this year's festival.

While all competitions were very enjoyable - you should have seen the Junior category for Battle of the Bands, they were so cute - there was one performance I enjoyed most of all, and it was in the Accordion Entertainment Solo category.

Three of Dr. Emilian Badea's students competed in this category: Ian Mitchell, Ollie Luey, and Daniel Pavlotsky. Ian and Daniel played beautifully, no doubt about it. But the shining star in my mind and that of the judges was Ollie Luey. She was extremely entertaining and one thing that made her act different was that she included more contemporary pieces. Now, my 63 year old memory isn't what it used to be, but I seem to remember hearing some of Dave Brubeck's famous work "Take 5" and I seem to remember hearing an entertaining version of "Bluesette".

I suppose I shouldn't be surprised that she would excel at the entertainment category. After all, if I understand correctly, she's a part of the street performing act called "Ollie & Bianca" who do children's parties throughout the year. The MAAA is lucky to have such a polished performer at such a young age.

WHERE DO MAAA MEMBERS COME FROM??????

Recently, an MAAA member related to me that he was curious about where MAAA members came from. No, not the stork story, the towns that make up the MAAA members' homes. So, digging a little bit, this is how it shapes up, no particular order:

Wakefield	Stoneham (2)	Peabody	Dover	Danvers	Saugus (2)
Millbury (2)	Ashland	Wellesley (4)	Northboro (2)	Fitchburg	Jamaica Plain
Milford (3)	Billerica	Wilmington	Burlington	Stoughton	Newton (3)
Natick (6)	Wilbraham	Walpole	Roslindale	Lincoln (2)	Livingston, TX
Paxton (2)	Cataumet	Watertown	Chelmsford (2)	Norwood	Barrington, RI
Brockton	Boston	Waltham	Leominster	Arlington	
Cambridge	Framingham	Upton	Ashby (2)	Quincy	



Accordions Now!

2013

Lots of accordions, lots of music, lots of fun

It's almost that time again, time for the Accordions Now 2013 coming up the weekend of August 9th - 11th, 2013. It is co-sponsored by The New Hampshire Accordion Association and The Accordion Connection LLC. It is held at The Courtyard Nashua, 2200 Southwood Drive, Nashua.

I attended last year's weekend and the year before and had a really great time. They always have a slew of talented well-known players performing. In addition there is a Cabaret Open Mic which is fun, a performance by the Accordions Now! Festival Orchestra (which you can participate in if you register early enough), Saturday luncheon buffet, Saturday night Gala Dinner and concert, a Just-for-fun play-along created and led by our own Dan Mackowiak, and perhaps my favorite, the night-owl jam sessions. Last year we were still jammin' at midnight.

If you are interested, contact:

Donna Maria Regis 603.216.9582

ACCORDIONS NOW! Music Festival

accordionsnow@yahoo.com

or Sue Welch 800.328.5227

(ATAM Festival, continued) Studios included in alphabetical order: Arruda Music, De Rossi Music, Edsac Music, Emilian's Music, Falcetti Music, Gaviani Music, Chet Lawson Music, Let's Play Music, Lewis School of Music, Miguel School of Music, Paul Monte Music Studio, Robert Paolo Music, and Rosita Lee Music.

MAAA was well represented too! People seen and/or performing there were Dave Sullivan, Tony D'Eramo, Jim Avedisian, Ollie Luey, Oliver Mutch and Jan Miller, Dan and Mary Ann Mackowiak, Sam Falcetti, Emilian Badea, Paul and Lillian Monte, Al Bacchiocchi, Penny Yunuba and others to whom I owe apologies since I wasn't taking notes and my memory isn't what it used to be. It was an incredible time, to be sure and I, for one, am looking forward to next year.

I am always looking for ways to improve the MAAA website. Please feel free to contact me with any comments, suggestions, things you would like to see put on the site. You can use the contact page right on the site or email me directly: Email Jim

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HELP NEEDED: The MAAA is looking for someone to take over the production of the monthly newsletter. If you can help us out in this it would be greatly appreciated. If you can, contact [Jim](#)

Second Annual Accordion Festival to be held June 15th

The second annual Accordion Festival will be held June 15th in Davis Square, Somerville from 1 - 6 pm

So far, Cory Pesaturo, Ralph Tofu from the Boogaloo Swamis playing Cajun music, Grand Fatilla, Lady Kielbasia will be MCing and Greek accordionist Sandy Theodouro are in the lineup expected to perform.

The MAAA Board sees this as a great opportunity to let the community know about the MAAA and we are in the process of researching by Patty Simmons of getting a banner for an MAAA table at the event. We anticipate getting a couple of MAAA members to man (or woman!!)... heck, maybe both.... The MAAA table to do things like explain about the MAAA and hand out some of our business cards.

We also hope that maybe some MAAA members will be willing to play at the event. It seems like it should be a great way to promote both the MAAA and the accordion. Don't forget, many young people haven't been exposed to the accordion and don't really know about it.

Consider submitting content or ideas for our Newsletter!

As I said in the last newsletter, the hardest part is finding things to write about. I need members to consider sending to me ideas about what they want to see in the newsletter, maybe a certain feature, maybe an accordion related story they have heard or read about, maybe news about a performance they have seen or given themselves, etc.

One feature we would like to institute is designed to get to know our fellow MAAA members better. It could be done by a "MAAA Member of the Month" feature where a member agrees to be interviewed and talks about things such as how they got started in studying and playing the accordion, who they studied under, why they like the accordion as an instrument, if they gig out and if so what they do, etc. It could be anything that the general membership would find interesting. To get to know members better it can even include other interests such as hobbies they like or travel to make it a little more personal.

Thanks to Penny, we are anticipating an interview with Ollie Luey, in the June newsletter, definitely one of our younger members who is very talented and took a first place in an event at the ATAM Festival described earlier in this newsletter. As you know, compared to most other instruments like guitar and piano, not nearly as many young people in this country choose to study the accordion. It would be interesting to discover how she came to study the accordion.

One of the best parts of the MAAA meetings is the socializing of people who enjoy the same types of things that we ourselves do. The accordion may be the vehicle and reason that we come together, but the camaraderie and friendships we build are so valuable. That's a great reason for members to agree to an interview. If you are interested, we'd love hearing from you. Let me know at the following link and I will pass it along: [I'd like to be interviewed for MAAA member of the Month](#). Thanks!

Some pics from April 28th, 2013 Meeting



New and Pre-owned Accordions

- [Monte School of Music](#) (Wellesley Hills, MA)
- [Falcetti Music](#) 413-543-1002 (Springfield, MA)
- [Accordion Connection](#) (Gilmantin, NH)
- [Luca Music](#) (North Providence, RI)

Accordion Teachers

- [Janet Borelli](#) - 508-752-6213 (Paxton, MA)
- [Paul Monte](#) - 781-237-0554 (Wellesley Hills, MA)
- [Emilian Badea](#) - 508-653-8441 (Natick, MA)
- [Falcetti Music](#) - 413-543-1002 (Springfield, MA)
- [Bill LaPolla](#) - 401-245-5209 (Barrington, RI)
- [Inessa Gilmore](#) - inessagilmore@yahoo.com

Accordion Music and Lesson Books

- [Falcetti Music](#) (Springfield, MA)
- [Accordion Connection](#) (Gilmantin, NH)
- [Mel Bay Publications](#) (Web)

Other Accordion Clubs

- Connecticut (Cheshire/Plantsville) www.ctaccordion.com
- NH Accordion Association (Gilmanton, NH) 1-800-328-5227
- Central MA Accordion Club (Rutland, MA) 1-508-885-2083

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.

A Note About the Businesses Listed here:

The businesses listed both
here and on the MAAA
website are for informa-
tional purposes only as a
service for members.

In fairness, the MAAA
cannot endorse any partic-
ular business but we do
encourage you to patronize
them.



Cordovox Ad 1964

First paragraph reads: It looks
like and accordion and it is - it
doesn't look like an organ - but
it sure can sound like one!



Meeting reminders for the next two

May 26

June 23