



MASSACHUSETTS ACCORDION ASSOCIATION

Volume 8, Issue 2
April 2014

The MAAA is a group of accordion enthusiasts that welcomes players of all skill levels and accordion types, as well as interested non-players.

Join us! Open to the public.

1:30-4 pm
Ciociaro Social Club
144 Bridge Street
Newton, Massachusetts

IMPORTANT MEETING NOTE

The April meeting has been rescheduled. The next meetings of the MAAA are:
May 4
May 25

Detailed meeting info is available on our website.

Stay connected

www.MAAccordion.org



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Email your news and items of interest to Catherine Coleman, newsletter editor: catherine.coleman@gmail.com



Photo: Carol Avedisian

Playing with another accordion

At our March meeting, MAAA members Gary Morin and Ed Wawrzynowicz demonstrated how to play with another accordion. Both Gary and Ed are seasoned performers and are members of the MAAA Board of Directors.

Playing "Satin Doll," Gary and Ed show us how it works to take turns playing the theme and comping, then reversing roles. Since they are both incredibly skilled players, of course it sounded great! They continued on to play "Charade" and "Here's that Rainy Day."

During a question and answer period, Gary shared some of their secrets. "Play using different reeds--for example, bassoon and a lighter reed. Listen to each other, look at each other so you are not in each other's way. And above all, don't both play musette, because they all are different and will produce a significant clash."

Also in this issue...

MAAA News	page 2
March Open Mike	page 3
Accordion Radio	Page 4
Calendar	page 5

MAAA NEWS

Photo: Carol Avedisian



May 4: Playing accordion with other instruments

Janet Borelli will present on how to play accordion with other instruments, demonstrating techniques with her husband, trumpeter Lou Borelli. In this photo, they are performing together at the March open mike.

Become part of the new MAAA Accordion Group

Two pieces have been chosen for the first session of MAAA’s new accordion group, which will start on May 4 after the regular meeting. Arrangements of Spanish Eyes and a March Medley have been emailed to members, who are invited to choose one part and be prepared to participate.

If you would like to play with the group, please email Carmen D’Angelo at dangeloc@comcast.net as to which part you will be playing,

“We hope that we can ramp up to playing about an hour or so for outside performances,” says Tony Marini, MAAA president.

“I can’t emphasize enough that this group is open to musicians of all playing abilities,” he adds. “If group members need help with the music, there are plenty of people in the group to help them. The only requirement is a commitment to playing as a group, learning the music, and coming prepared.”

MAAA Board of Directors

Officers

Tony Marini, President
 Jim Avedisian, Vice-President
 Patty Simmons, Treasurer/Clerk

Board Members

Al Bacchiocchi
 Jan Borelli
 Carmen D’Angelo
 Lewis Howes
 Gary Morin
 Ed Wawrzynowicz

May 25 meeting

Open mike theme is “Duets.”
 No play-along

June 22 meeting

Special performance by Don McMahon (accordion) and Leslie McMahon (vocalist).

March Open Mike

The theme of the March open mike was songs from the '50s and '60s. Here's a sampling of what was played. Photos by Carol Avedisian.



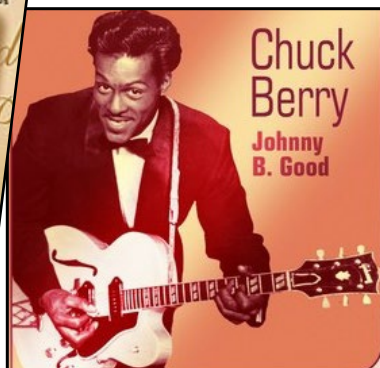
Lewis Howes played Tea for Two and Take the A Train.



Carmen D'Angelo played Save the Last Dance for Me and Volare.



Gary Morin played an unforgettable arrangement of Unforgettable.



Jim Avedisian played a screaming guitar solo on Johnny B Good

After just two rehearsals together, David Rukhelman, David Magliozzi, and Dan Mackowiak performed, beautifully, Shostakovich's Second Waltz and Buglers Holiday by Leroy Anderson at our March meeting. Bugler's Holiday was an Angelo DiPippo arrangement that David M. found on a piece of tracing paper in his accordion teacher's basement!



Tuning in to accordion music: Where to find it

Share your own favorites with other members on [Facebook](#) or email the [editor](#).



Accordions Noir, broadcast weekly from Vancouver, British Columbia, plays “punk rock classical folk music from around the world, with jazz and an occasional token polka.”

It’s hosted by Bruce Triggs and Rowan Lipkovits on Vancouver Coop Radio. A typical show: Bruce, who is writing a history of the accordion, celebrates the birthday of Cornell Smelser (Duke Ellington’s accordionist in the 1930s) while Rowan is out of town playing accordion underwater with marine biologists in the Puget Sound because apparently the accordion is the only instrument capable of replicating the sounds sturgeons make.

The Accordions Noir producers also organize Vancouver’s annual [Accordions Noir Festival](#).

Accordions Noir
Wednesdays, 10-11 pm
CFRO, 100.5FM
 Vancouver, British Columbia
 Live and archived shows:
www.accordionsnoir.org



With ten albums borrowed from his father’s collection, [Gary Sredzienski](#) created **Polka Party** on his college radio station in 1987. An accordionist himself, Gary was “a great admirer of this form of radio. Years ago radio shows in America became the focal point for ethnic communities. People waited to hear their favorite recipes, cultural tidbits, birthdays, anniversaries and well wishes announced.”

Twenty-five years later, he arrives at the “Polka Shrine” each Saturday morning with three turntables and a bag of around 50 records.

Sometimes he brings his accordion and plays that too.

Polka Party
Saturdays, 9-11 am
WUNH, 91.3 FM
 Durham, New Hampshire
 Live and archived shows:
www.wunh.org

On the air 24/7

Accordions Radio has been broadcasting “100% accordion music, 24 Hours a day since 27th March 2001” proclaims its website. The station is run by David Batty of Leyland Accordions Club in Lancashire, England. Music ranges from jazz to classical to pop.

Online: www.accordionsradio.co.uk

On the air locally

Several great local radio shows focus on ethnic music that is accordion-centric.

Ceangal Ceilteach (WMBR, 88.10) Mondays, 6-8 am

Explores “the diaspora in Celtic music...hear hip hop, rap, jazz, and more in Celtic languages.”

Archives: www.wmbr.org

Chaglgah (WERS 88.9) Sundays, 8-10 am

Yiddish and klezmer music from 1914-today.

Playlists: www.wers.org

A Celtic Sojourn (WGBH, 89.7) Saturday, 3 pm

Traditional and contemporary music from around the Celtic world **Archives:** www.wgbh.org

French Toast (WMBR, 88.10) Wednesdays, 6-8 am

New and old Francophone music **Archives:** www.wmbr.org

CALENDAR

New England Music Festival
April 4-6
Boston Newton Marriott, Newton



www.atamnemusicfestival.com

This annual musical competition sponsored by the Accordion Teachers Association of Massachusetts features 3000 entries and 800 contestants from across New England.

PigPen Theatre Co.
Sun, April 6, 8:30 pm
The Sinclair, Cambridge MA

www.boweryboston.com

Acoustic guitar, accordion, and harmonies are interated with film and theater.

Highland Dance Boston Ceili/ Seisun

April 12, 6:30-10:30 pm
Irish Social Club of Boston, 119 Park St., West Roxbury

Info: 603-778-5165

Featuring Emerald Rae (fiddle), Tom Pixton (accordion), Stuart Highlanders, Highland Dance Boston, and Heavey-Quinn Academy of Irish Dancers

Marié Abé: Reimagining Oaxacan Heritage through Accordions and Airwaves

April 23, 7 pm
Harvard University, 12 Quincy St., Cambridge (Room 133, Barker Center)

The Mahindra Humanities Center at Harvard offers a presentation by BU scholar Marie Abe. Abe is

also a co-producer of the NPR radio documentary “Squeezebox Stories,” which tells stories from Californian immigration history using the accordion, and an active performer who is currently performing with the Boston-based Ethiopian groove collective Debo Band.

Roland workshop/performance
April 13, 2-4 pm

Falcetti Music, Springfield

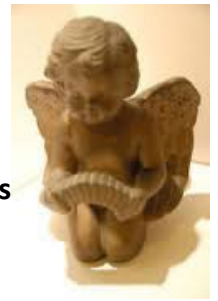
This workshop will explore how to control bellows and keyboard velocity for maximum expression on orchestral sounds (treble keyboard), and using left-hand bass and chord controls for orchestral and percussion sounds. Customers who have developed different performance aspects to enhance their playing will perform. For more info call 413.543.1002 ext 304 or email peggyf1944@gmail.com.

Keep up-to-date with the Massachusetts Accordion Association by visiting our [website](http://www.MAAccordion.org): www.MAAccordion.org

Follow MAAA on Facebook to get and share tips about musical happenings in the area and news about the national and international accordion community. www.facebook.com/MAAccordion

Evan Harlan memorial

Sunday, May 11
3-7 pm
Center for the Arts
191 Highland Avenue,
Somerville



Evan Harlan, a member of MAAA, died on February 27, 2014 at age 60, after a ten-year battle with brain cancer.

At the MAAA March meeting, Dan Mackowiak honored Evan’s memory by playing the beautiful “Waltz for Ron,” which was written by Joseph Natoli in memory of another accordionist, Ron Lankford.



Patty Simmons also shared her memories of studying with him. “He had me practice changing stops/registers as if the motion of the hand were an integral part of the music. In this same vein, he saw the bellows movement as a key part of every piece.”

Visit Evan’s website to read his obituary, find details about the celebration of his life, listen to his music, and write in the memory book: www.evanharlan.com.