



MASSACHUSETTS ACCORDION ASSOCIATION

Volume 7, Issue 11
January 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!
4th Sunday of every month

1:30-4 pm

Ciociaro Social Club

144 Bridge Street

Newton, Massachusetts

Next meeting

January 26, 2014

Stay connected

www.MAAccordion.org



Like
Share
Post

[www.facebook.com/
MAAccordion](http://www.facebook.com/MAAccordion)

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

This issue...

Accordion New Year	2
MAAA members	3
Vicki	4
In the news	5
Calendar	6



MAAA holiday meeting January 26

This meeting is a good time to talk to old friends and make new ones. There will be socialization and refreshments from beginning to end. After a play-along of Christmas-themed songs (originally scheduled for our snowed-out December meeting), Gary Morin will emcee an informal open mic session and everyone who feels comfortable is invited to join in.

We look forward to seeing you!



2014 MAAA meetings

Mark these upcoming MAAA meetings in your calendar!

January 26
February 23
March 23
April 27
May 25
June 22
July 27
August 24
September 28
October 26
November 23
December 21

Meetings are free and everyone is welcome, players from beginner to professional, and nonplayers who love hearing accordion music.

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

2014 accordion calendars

Consider one of these calendars for keeping track of MAAA meetings and other musical events in the new year!

Collectors Edition Accordion 2014 Calendar

This calendar highlights bands—new and nostalgic—that feature the accordion, from Nirvana to John Melancamp. Proceeds from sales are donated to accordion scholarship funds.

www.petosa.com



6th edition of the Accordion Babes Pin-Up Calendar and CD

No X-rated images here—just fun photos celebrating real-life musicians and their accordions, with a CD of their music.

www.accordionpinupcalendar.com



What are your Accordion New Year's Resolutions?

Rita Barnea (who has performed at MAAA) has ten suggestions for us in the online accordion newsletter she has been editing for more than six years. [Check them out](#), get inspired, and make your own!

My favorite is: #2: "I promise to play my accordion for friends and family at least once a month (more often would be even better)!" This past holiday season was a happy reminder of how much people love listening to music that others make for them.



MAAA members make merry during the 2013 holiday season

Gary Morin performs Christmas Concert in Lunenburg

Jim and Carol Avedisian were among the appreciative audience members who attended Gary Morin's Christmas Concert on December 17 at the Drawbridge Puppet Theatre in Lunenburg. His program included Christmas favorites like "Rudolph," "Sleigh Ride," "White Christmas," "Christmastime is Here" (from A Charlie Brown Christmas) and many more.

"It was great! Most of the evening was by request from the audience. Whatever they wanted to hear, he played," reports Jim. "He didn't limit their requests just to Christmas music. All from memory, not knowing in advance what songs would be requested,



Gary Morin with his Accitone and Bulgari accordions (photo by Jim Avedisian)

he played standards like "Here's that Rainy Day," French songs, Italian songs, even a couple of polkas. He played so many songs I couldn't keep track of them all!"

Gary donated all of the ticket sales to the American Cancer Society.



Jim Avedisian and Dan Mackowiak performing at Newton's Christmas Crafts Fair (photo by Carol Avedisian)

MAAA members volunteer Christmas cheer at crafts fair

On December 8, MAAA members Dan Mackowiak and Jim Avedisian played holiday music at the Christmas Crafts Fair at Newton South High School in Newton MA. Throughout the day, they and other volunteer performers provided entertainment to add to the fair's festive atmosphere.

Jim reports that fairgoer's favorites from their hour-long performance included "The Chipmunk Song," "Feliz Navidad," "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year," and "White Christmas."

Vicki

by Dave Magliozi

I own several instruments
but in a tan leather soft
case rests Vicky.

Vicky is an auburn
Victoria Poeta, an Italian
masterpiece carved
and shaped of birdseye
maple and made in
Castelfidardo, Italy. When
I put her on my body,
her bellows become my
lungs and the accordion
becomes an extension
of myself. To ease air
through her reeds with
a squeeze, to push her
buttons with my left while
fingers cascade down her
right, is an unmatched
unity of rhythm, harmony,
and melody.

Even my fellow MAA
members who are
acoustic players--Lewis,
Penny, Tony, and James--
tell me they like the sound
and feeling of the accordion
and are mesmerized by the
vibrations it causes against the
chest.

Acoustic accordion seamlessly
fits in with Polish, Balkan, Jewish,
Swedish, French, Brazilian, and
Irish music. It sounds just as
exceptional playing jazz or an
Argentine tango. It is a world
instrument for all to behold and
admire.

I first saw a Poeta in the hands
of Frank Marocco and later met



Dave and Vicki at the 2013 New England Squeeze in (Photo: Stewart Dean)

up with a Poeta on the streets
of New Jersey when I traveled
there with Tony Marini and James
Gerke. On that trip I flirted with
others—a Midi Siwa, a Roland
Fr7x, a Scandalli, a Borsini, an
Excelsior, a Bell. They all sounded
wonderful to me, but not as good
as the Poeta.

In my head I was hearing Frank
Marocco's "With a Song in my
Heart."

To me, the pleasure and sound
created by the accordion free
reed cannot be matched. You
can't imitate Toninho Ferraguti's
"Migo," Renzo Ruggieri's "Terre,"
Richard Galliano's "Valse e
Margeaux," Ricardo Taddei's
"Tu Novembre," Cathie Traver's
"Oblivion," or Zoe Tiganoria's
"Antigoni" on any instrument
other than an acoustic accordion.

My Vicky puts a song in my heart.

Of notes: Accordions in the news

Happy anniversary!



The accordion, which was patented on Friday, January 13, 1854, was included in one of the UK's leading newspaper's list of "Eight good things that happened on Friday the 13th."

Performance art

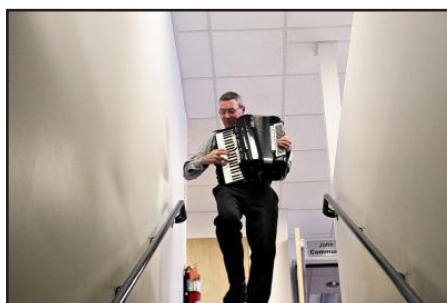
Andreas Buchwaldt, a Canadian artist, has built a wearable mobile accordion for Toronto's Long Winter festival. Made out of wood and cardboard, it requires three people to pump and play it. "I'm going to be walking around, bumping into people and saying, 'Hey, play me!'," he



said in an [interview](#). Buchwaldt previously built a giant accordion into a walk-in closet. When the doors opened and closed, they produced music out of the sound box in the middle.

Mindfulness

Accordionist Ivan Klopens keeps an accordion at the Grappone Toyota dealership in Bow, MA where he works. He and other employees get together regularly to jam as part of the dealership's mindfulness initiative. His



employer's innovative approach to employee wellness was featured in a recent Concord Monitor article about increased corporate interest in offering employees mindfulness activities like meditation, yoga, and massage therapy.

Cultural symbolism

Louisiana has a new [license plate](#) that features an accordion and a crawfish atop a fleur-de-lis as a way to sustain the French language in the state. The plate



reads "I'm Cajun ... and Proud" but any resident who wants to

support Cajun culture (the plate is a response to Governor Jindal's cuts to language program budgets in 2012) can purchase one.

Sexiness

Cory Pesaturo, the 25-year-old World Jazz Accordion Champion from Rhode Island, discusses his one-man campaign to imbue the accordion with sexiness in a recent article in the Providence Monthly. "It's basically like wearing an air conditioner," he says in the article, "An Accordion Champion with Sex Appeal."



Quirkiness

The 2013 Squeezebox Slam which took place in June (MAAA was there, sharing information about our Association) was selected as one of Boston's "Favorite Quirky Events of 2013," along with No Pants Day, the Boston Zombie Walk, and a dozen others. The 2014 Squeezebox Slam is scheduled for June 14—you can follow them on Facebook for updates.

Calendar

JANUARY

Angelo DiPippo
Master Class at NHAA
January 18, 1 pm, Accordion
Connection, Gilmanton, NH

Angelo DiPippo, world-renowned accordionist, will present a Master Class at the New Hampshire Accordion Association January meeting.

Angelo will not be performing—he will evaluate accordionists who volunteer to play in front of the class. Following a break for refreshments, Angelo will talk about his storied career as a performer, arranger, composer, producer, and conductor. He will also take questions from the audience.

After the meeting, Angelo DiPippo will be the guest of honor at the first Annual NHAA Membership Kickoff Dinner, to be held at Firefly American Bistro & Bar, 22 Concord Street, Manchester (approximately 45 minutes south of Gilmanton). Non-NHAA members are welcome to attend, space permitting. Each attendee is responsible for his/her own restaurant expenses.

Accordionists interested in playing, or non-NHAA members interested in attending, should contact DonnaRegis@comcast.net.

The Master Class is free and open to the public but registration is required as space is limited.

Dikki Du and the Zydeco Krewe
January 19, 4-7 pm, Watertown
VFW, 295 Arsenal Street,
Watertown

www.bostonzydeco.org

Dikki Du performs classic zydeco songs with a fresh, funky approach.

Klezmer Jam
January 26, 4-6 pm, Boston
Workmen's Circle Building, 1762
Beacon Street, Brookline, MA

www.klezmershack.com/calendar/

The monthly Permanent Floating Klezmer Jam welcomes musicians of all instruments and of varying levels. Classics and originals are played from sheet music and by ear.

FEBRUARY

Buckwheat Zydeco
February 27, 7:30 pm
Regattabar, Cambridge
www.regattabarjazz.com/

Contemporary zydeco accordionist Stanley "Buckwheat" Zydeco brings his bouncy band to town for some partying.

MARCH

March 5-9
28th 2014 National Accordion
Convention
Southfork Hotel, Plano, Texas
www.accordions.com/naa/

APRIL

New England Music Festival
April 4-5
Boston Newton Marriott
<http://atamnemusicfestival.com/>



JUNE

Django in June: Gypsy Jazz Camp
June 16-22
Smith College, Northampton, MA
www.djangoinjune.com/

JULY

AAA 2014 Festival
July 9-13, Tarrytown, NY
www.ameraccord.com/

AUGUST

24th Annual Cotati Accordion
Festival
August 16-17, Coati, CA
www.cotatifest.com/

SEPTEMBER

New England Squeeze-In
September 12-14 (tentative),
Becket, MA
www.squeeze-in.org/

