

# Vienna Union Hall News

## Squeezing in Another Show

On Saturday, September 17th at 7:00 PM the Vienna Union Hall Association will present **The Maine Squeeze Accordion Ensemble** in concert.

The Maine Squeeze includes five accordionists and one percussionist playing eclectic ethnic music from around the world. Members **Alina Blakesley** (from Boothbay Harbor), **Nancy 3. Hoffman** and **Janine Blatt** (from Peaks Island), **Peter Blackstone**, **Sally Trice**, and **Barbara Truex** (from greater Portland), bring their lively music to summer fairs, parades, and concerts

throughout Maine. Polkas, waltzes, Zydeco, jazz and folk standards, and original tunes are just the tip of the iceberg for the Squeezers. The concert at the Vienna Union Hall provides the perfect setting to include some songs that are best suited to a listening audience as an addition the foot-tapping festival fare.

The Maine Squeeze has performed at Lincoln Art Festival, the Common Ground Fair, Yarmouth Clam Festival, Rockland Lobster Festival, Wooden Boat Show, Fryeburg Fair, Johnson Hall Performing Arts Center, Downeast Country Dance Festival and many, many other venues.



Musical biographies of the group are as diverse as their accordion music.

**Alina Blakesley.** Born in England to Polish Immigrants she honors her roots through Polish songs and dances. Her motto is "Look to your roots and find a jewel shining bright in your being." She enjoys ballroom dancing and competes every year at the Easternsport dance championships in Boston.

**Nancy 3. Hoffman** is a singer, accordionist, pianist, and musical director. In addition, she is the instigator, director, and curator of the World's Only Umbrella Cover



Museum. [www.umbrellacovermuseum.org](http://www.umbrellacovermuseum.org). As a cabaret singer, Ms. Three is well known for singing in six or seven languages on any given program. Spending part of the year on Peaks Island, Maine, Nancy 3. is a member of two ethnic musical groups: The Casco Bay Tumblers, [www.cascobaytumblers.com](http://www.cascobaytumblers.com) a klezmer band, and The Maine Squeeze.

**Janine Blatt** made her accordion debut in 1996 with Squeeze, Please! a homegrown Peaks Island group, and has been playing ever since.

**Peter Blackstone**, is an avid composer of original music on accordion and guitar. He first studied the accordion in 4th grade. He has played in a Zydeco band, an African band, and the Poor Valley Salvation Society, an old time gospel band. He also plays steel drum with the Blueberry Pancakes. He is an avid gardener, growing rare orchids.

**Sally Trice** started playing accordion as a child. She was drawn to the instrument then and still finds it fun to play. She also teaches accordion and is working with students of all ages. She has been playing with the Maine Squeeze for 10 years.

**Barbara Truex** lives in Windham and splits her time between playing, composing, teaching, theatrical sound design, and community radio. Her primary instruments are mountain dulcimer (acoustic and electric), ukuleles and guitar, but her second love is tapping away for accordions! She is also hosts a weekly global music program on WMPG in Portland <http://www.wmpg.org>, composes for radio drama with award-winning FinalRune Productions

Come to the Vienna Union Hall at 5 Vienna Mountain Road on Saturday, September 17 at 7:00 PM to hear these wonderful musicians. Part of the main floor will be set aside for those who cannot stay in their seats due to the

rousing, foot moving musical experience. Stretch those legs, dance a bit and welcome autumn with this soul warming accordion music. Tickets are \$8.00. For more information call 293-2674 or email [viennaunionhall@gmail.com](mailto:viennaunionhall@gmail.com).

## Looking Forward

There are only two more shows scheduled at the Union Hall for this season. In October we will bring back the Theater at Monmouth players who will present a wonderful version of Shakespeare's *The Tempest* adapted and directed by Dawn McAndrews.

Finally, in December we present the community favorite Winter Revels featuring *Castlebay* with traditional holiday music and song by Julia Lane and Fred Gosbee.



In November there will be a fundraising Harvest Ham dinner at the Vienna Community Center. With the funds raised from these events we hope to be able to look at a set of new, quieter and more fuel efficient heaters. There is still a lot to do with the building interior including painting, stage curtains and lighting. The old outhouse can soon be used for storage, opening up the available stage space.

Scheduling for next summer begins shortly after the Revels. Any suggestions or help in scheduling would be appreciated. As always we are looking for new members so that the Union Hall can keep functioning as old members begin to take a back seat.

**For Information or Tickets: Email us at [viennaunionhall@gmail.com](mailto:viennaunionhall@gmail.com).**

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