

# Accordion Repair Basics

**April 23-26, 2010**

*Harrington ARTS Center in conjunction with*

*A World of Accordions Museum*

**1401 Belknap Street**

**Superior, WI**

**Email: [accordion@sprynet.com](mailto:accordion@sprynet.com)**

**Phone: 715-395-2787**

**Website: [www.accordionworld.org](http://www.accordionworld.org)**

The seminar will be introduced by an extensive tour of the museum and its resources on April 23, 4:00-7:00 PM. This tour offers invaluable information on accordion-family-instruments' history and evolution, the connections and interrelationships of all members of the instrument family, recognition of decade/era/ethnicity of manufacture, assessing value, companies vs. brand names, worldwide dissemination and use, aesthetic considerations, and demos of acoustic types and tuning standards.

Participants will have opportunity for hands-on work with button diatonic-, and piano-accordions. Button chromatic accordions, concertinas and bandonions will be included in demonstrations on:

- instrument handling procedures
- understanding how they play and should sound according to quality rankings
- assessing condition: determining problems/solutions
- the worktable/workshop and basic equipment
- disassembly/reassembly procedures in basic maintenance and cleaning procedures
- grill cloth replacement and cosmetics
- treble keyboard work: pulling the axle, key removal and cleaning, pallets issues
- understanding how reeds work, their types and problems
- reed-banks and reed-blocks layouts
- denoting pitches; understanding shift functions
- Stradella (Standard) bass machines
- basic tuning procedures
- rewaxing and releathering
- common bellows issues
- storage, traveling, shipping, crating
- preventing problems: care of your instrument
- repair procedure pricings

Maximum number of participants will be twelve. Sessions will begin at 9:00 AM and continue until 1:00, then resume from 3:00-7:00 PM. The books and music libraries will be open to participants during the break hours.

Studies flow best when our instruments are used. If you wish to work on yours, prior approval is required. Students are encouraged to work with a partner, may use our tools or bring their own, and we will furnish basic supplies. Snacks and coffee will be provided.

Participants will need to arrange for their accommodations during the seminar. We always recommend the Superior Inn, 525 Hammond Ave., Superior, WI 54880 (715-394-7706), which is in walking distance to HARTS and often provides reduced rates for our events. Many types of food service are nearby.

Participation fee is \$350.00, including a substantial repair-procedures manual. Registration and \$50 nonrefundable deposit are required by April 12, 2010. Please indicate your intent by contacting Dr. Helmi Harrington, *Harrington ARTS Center*, 1401 Belknap Street, Superior, WI 54880, phone: 715-395-2787, email: [accordion@sprynet.com](mailto:accordion@sprynet.com). The enrollment form, schedule, (optional) tools list, protective items, (suggested) preparatory reading, and other details will follow. Still photography is permitted; video/audio taping is not.