

THE OKLAHOMA SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezein'...is pleasin'"

The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter

The V. P. Sez

Phil Scibelli

On behalf of our president, Oliver Delaney, I thank you for your support of the OAC. Your board is excited about the New Year, and you should know that we met last month before the January meeting to discuss the way ahead for the club in 2011.

The board agreed on five goals and objectives for the upcoming year:

- Improve the newsletter
- Improve the website
- Create conditions for people to play their accordions at club meetings
- Increase the exposure of the club to the OKC community
- Conduct at least one meeting in Tulsa

You should see some of the actions for achieving these goals and objectives at the February meeting, and in the March newsletter.

We want to encourage everyone to bring their accordion to meetings. We will be bringing back the popular "jamming sessions" starting next month, and we are also planning a workshop. What's more, we will help you carry your accordion from your car, if that is a problem for you!

The board serves you – the members of the club – and we sincerely invite your input, comments, and suggestions. Please don't hesitate to attend a club meeting or just e-mail one of us.

I look forward to hearing from you – and seeing you at the February meeting.



March Meeting Change

The March meeting will be held on March 20 (third Sunday) instead of March 13 (second Sunday). This will allow those attending the

Dallas NAA the opportunity to work up their notes so they can give a presentation at the March meeting of what happened at the convention.



February Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, February 13, at the Messiah Lutheran Church, which is located at the intersection of NW Expressway and Portland Ave., just west of I-44 and Baptist Hospital, and across the street from Deaconess Hospital on Portland Ave. Festivities begin at 2:30, when the orchestra rehearsal starts.

At 3:30 our meeting begins, followed by individual and group performances, and then a "jam session" follows until 5:00 or 5:30 pm. Everyone is encouraged to come, and everyone is encouraged to perform. If you are shy about playing alone, some of us will play with you.



The Treasurer Sez

Evie Albreski

Well, the number is 27. On a scale of 1 to 10, that would be terrific! But, when it represents the number of new or renewed OAC memberships, that's bad. Four of the 27 are new members. Three joined on the family plan, and we have a brand new member from Mooreland, OK. So, 4 from 27 means only 23 existing members renewed. I know in the next mail I will receive your membership renewal, so let me thank you in advance.

Our new member from Mooreland is T.Z. Wright, and this gentleman plays the accordion quite well. He visited with us several weeks ago, and Dick and T.Z. had some fun playing together. Also, please welcome into the OAC June Butricks (wife of Jim), Marilyn Scibelli (wife of Phil), and Clare Delaney (wife of Oliver). Thank you all for joining.

I think it is important that we all realize our fiscal year runs from January to December. A single membership is \$16.00, and an additional family membership is \$8.00. All brand new single membership fees are prorated if received in the second, third, or fourth quarter of the current year. Existing members receive no discount if the renewal fee is received after the first quarter. Also, anyone who joined the OAC in either the second, third, or fourth quarter last year must renew at the full (\$16.00) membership fee this year. If you have any questions, please give me a call at 405/721-0564.

Well, the income has grown. We received \$356.00 in membership income. Our expenses for January totaled \$88.06. We still are in the black, and that's the way I like it.

See you all on February 13 at the Messiah Lutheran Church. That's our next meeting.



Johnnie Zibert has for sale a Roland FR7 digital accordion with carrying bag, FRC-7 charger, instructions, cable, etc. The accordion is less than two years old. He is asking \$3,200.00 for the total package. Contact Johnnie at ButtonBox@ckt.net, or phone him at 620/347-4561.



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Oliver Delaney

Choctaw, OK

Delaney3@cox.net

VICE-PRESIDENT

Phil Scibelli

Oklahoma City, OK

pscibelli@tds.net

TREASURER

Evie Albreski

7109 NW 102nd Street

Oklahoma City, OK 73162

405/721-0564

evrich@swbellnet

SECRETARY

Lois Roth

Edmond, OK

Roth6454@gmail.com

HISTORIAN/LIBRARIAN

Diana Richard

Edmond, OK

Diana.l.richard@gmail.com

PAST PRESIDENT

Bill Henson

Mustang, OK

MustangBilly@cox.net

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Frank Gesinski

8035 South Irvington

Tulsa, OK 74136-8404

918/492-1715

OKAccordionClub@sbcglobal.net

WEBMASTER

Diana Richard

Diana.l.richard@gmail.com

WEBSITE

<http://www.okaccordions.com/>

January Meeting

Lois Roth

January 2011 Meeting Oklahoma Accordion Club Minutes

The first meeting of the New Year was held on Sunday, January 9. Twelve members attended. Vice President Phil Scibelli presided.

- The new board members were introduced.
- Several ideas for encouraging more members to bring their accordions and play at meetings were presented. For example: bring back jamming, and distribute jam music one month ahead to give players time to practice at home.
- Having members make more contributions to the newsletter, with informative articles and with announcements of upcoming local accordion performances.
- Potential improvements to the club website were also discussed.
- Phil suggested that a committee be formed to help market the club. Anyone interested in this

project is asked to contact Phil.

- Dick Albreski announced that the annual National Accordion Association Convention will be March 10, 11, and 12 in Dallas. Exciting events are planned --- watch for more information from Dick!
- He also reminded us to protect our accordions from the cold weather.
- After the business meeting, we were treated to some fine accordion music:
 - Bob Mansfield played "Quien Sera" (Sway), "Frenesi," "Sabor a Mi," and "Waitin' for the Train to Come In"
 - The orchestra played "Missouri Waltz"
 - Dick Albreski concluded with the "Pennsylvania Polka," "Bourasque," and "One of Those Songs."

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Roth



Why I Should Attend the NAA

Dick Albreski

The following could influence your decision. Willard Palmer, the cofounder of the Palmer-Hughes Accordion Method, has told the NAA that he intends to attend the meeting. As you may know, Mr. Palmer is a living legend.

The convention will be held at the Westin Hotel in Dallas, Thursday through Saturday, March 10 through 12, 2011.

Thursday: Will start with the National Accordion Band Camp. All levels of accordion players can attend. This all-day workshop starts at 9:00 am, ending with an evening concert at 7:00 pm. Guest conductors include: Gordon Kohl, show tunes; Bruce Gassman, rock & roll; and Joan Sommers, Palmer/Hughes. Music will be available in advance, with a modest charge for handling. "Circle of States" will follow the concert.

Friday: All-day workshops. At 6:30 pm, the Ballarini Invitational Concert will be scheduled,

followed by a polka dance with the *Czech and Then Some* polka band.

Saturday: All-day workshops except at 1:30 pm, when the Youth Program will begin. Five members of the OAC will perform in this program. At 6:00 pm, there will be a formal banquet, followed by the "Head-liners" concert.

Roland, Hohner, Giuletti, Petosa, and Castle are some of the many manufacturers who will be there for your convenience and education. There will be a Swap Shop, where you can trade or sell used accordions and accessories.

This is only a brief description of the tremendous program scheduled for this year. For more information, go to:
<http://www.accordions.com/naa/convention>
on your computer. Pack a lunch, because there is a lot of information on the website.



Minimum safe distances between street musicians and the public:

- Violinist: 25 feet
- Bad Violinist: 50 feet
- Tone Deaf Guitar Player who knows 3 chords:

75 feet

- 15-year-old Electric Guitar Player with Nirvana fixation: 100 feet
- Accordionist: 60 miles

2011 New Year's Resolutions for Accordionists

Rita Davidson

2011 New Year's Resolutions for Accordionists

by Rita Davidson

1. I promise to play my accordion every day.

You can find at least 30 minutes a day to practice your accordion. If you find time for watching the news on TV, or talking on your cell phone, enjoying your iTouch, iPad, or just sitting on your couch, you can find the time to take your accordion out of its case! With a little effort, you will be pleasantly surprised with the results.

Practicing your accordion is relaxing and a stress reliever, and is also good exercise!

2. I promise to play my accordion for friends and family at least once a month (more would be even better!).

Everyone who has ever seen me perform has always commented on the complexity of the instrument, as if there were something very magical about playing the accordion. But it is magical, isn't it?

Going to a family dinner or having the family and friends over? take out your accordion and play for them.

No matter what your level of proficiency is, people will be amazed about your playing. Trust me on that one.

3. I promise to learn at least one new song every two months.

Try to expand your repertoire. It doesn't have to be a concerto! What about a popular song or one from the past that you always wanted to learn. Don't have the music? Look it up on the Internet or e-mail your accordion friends. If you want the song, it is out there. However, if you really cannot find it, try to play it by ear, sound it out, write out the notes. It may take time, but it is a good experience to learn it on your own. It is possible, don't be afraid to try it.

4. I promise to attend at least two accordion events in 2011.

There are many accordion festivals, concerts, accordion clubs, etc. around the country. Search the USA News (<http://www.accordionusa.com>) and you will find an event in your area. Not only will you have a wonderful time listening to great accordionists, but you will be able to participate on any level from beginner to advanced. There will be accordion bands, ensembles, people who will enjoy



meeting you and hearing about your experiences with the accordion. If you want to meet interesting people who share your love of the accordion, you will find them!

You will not only hear great music, but you will go away with new friends.

5. I will purchase at least two accordion CDs this year!

There are so many wonderful accordion CDs. Again, search the Internet and you will find lists of accordion artists. It is important to show our support for these outstanding musicians by buying their CDs!

6. I promise to introduce the accordion to people who have never heard one before.

This is a special opportunity for you to expand the musical horizons of someone. The accordion is so versatile, found in cultures all over the world, and running the gamut from folk to classical and everything in between! There is a visual fascination with the accordion that no other instrument can claim. How do we do it? Keys, buttons, bellows. It is a coordination of fine motor skills that places an accordionist at the top of the list of the best multitaskers in the world!

Make 2011 the Year of YOUR Accordion!!

Courtesy of [accordionusa.com](http://www.accordionusa.com)



Oklahoma Accordion Club Membership Form

Name _____ Date _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone (____) _____ Birthday (mm/dd) ____/____ (optional)

Newsletter

I prefer to receive the monthly newsletter, the Oklahoma Squeezins, by:

- E-mail at address (above) or at _____
 Conventional post (snail mail)

Membership Dues

The OAC membership year runs from January through December. Membership cost is prorated quarterly for new members.

- Primary Membership is \$16.00 per year per individual.
 Family Membership is \$8.00 per year for each additional family member when accompanied by a Primary Membership.
 Lifetime Membership is a one-time fee of \$180.
 Youth Membership is complimentary for accordion-playing youth through age 18.

Your Status (please check all that apply):

- Professional Semi-Professional Amateur Student
 Associate Hobby Teacher Repairman/Repairwoman
 Other (specify) _____

Make checks payable to: Oklahoma Accordion Club

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