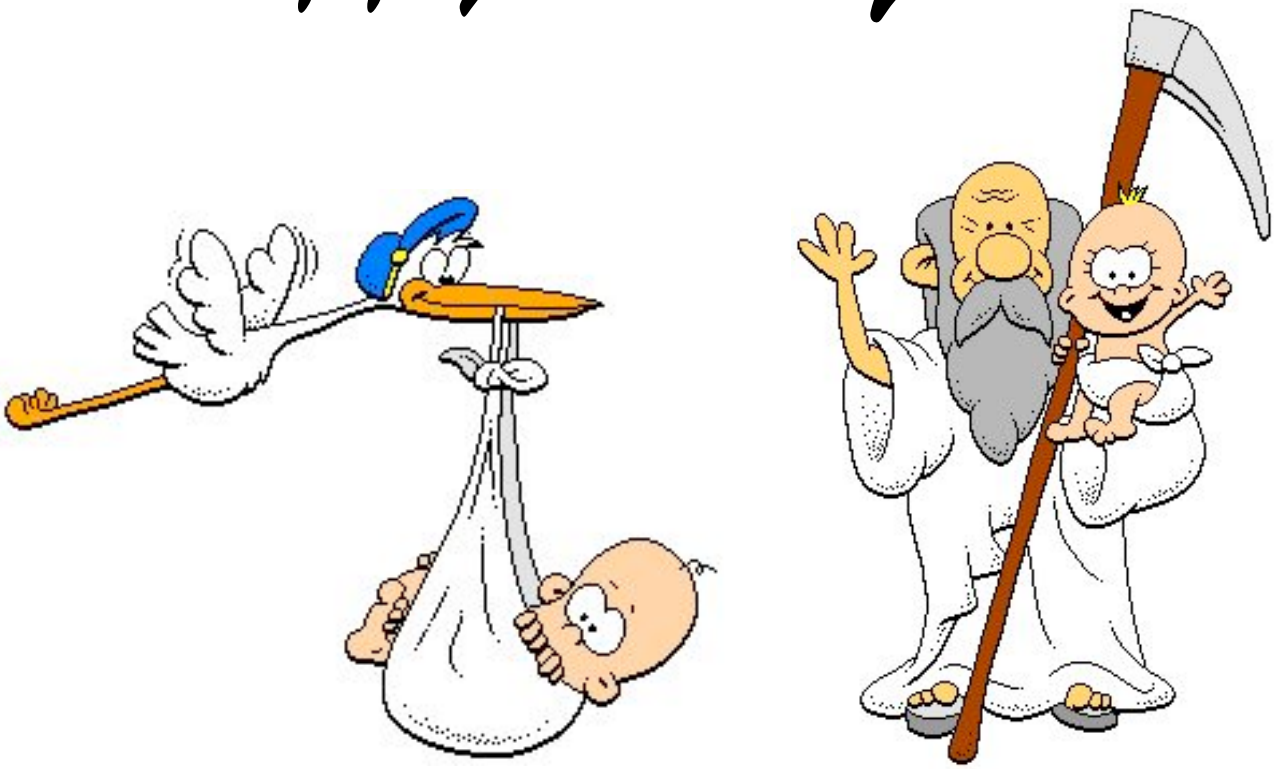
Volume 10, Issue 9 January 2011

THE OKLAHOMA SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"

The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter

Happy New Year!



January Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, January 9, 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 in 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

I once heard a soldier say, "Never volunteer for anything, because you could get the job." Well I volunteered for the OAC treasurer's job and -- guess what? -- you got it! If I'm not mistaken, I am the first board member who doesn't play the accordion. That doesn't mean I don't like the accordion. Living with Dick doesn't allow much time for anything else.

I hope your Christmas was as grand as ours. We had a houseful, and that's the way we like it. Dick closed our accordion school for the end of December due to the many playing engagements that Dick and our granddaughters had. Plus, we needed the teaching room for a bedroom. One of our gifts was a trip to visit our son, Doug, and his family in Avon, Connecticut. Doug, in turn, on the Saturday before Christmas, took us to Times Square in New York City. What a thrill to be on Fifth Avenue, under the giant Christmas tree, wishing I had enough money to buy something at Saks 5th Avenue, and saying a prayer of thanks in St. Patrick's Cathedral. What memories.

Well, my sign says I am the treasurer, so let me treasure. We have only received nine membership renewals at this point in time. That's bad. I know what a budget means, and without the membership renewals, we can't continue. I know this will change and the renewals will come rushing in. Don't let me down, folks.

Dick and I collected all the hats, scarves, and socks that were brought to the Christmas party. We then passed them on to Jimmie Woolly, who knew of some deserving families. Knowing Jimmie, I can only imagine the thrill he received as he passed out the needed items. I have to mention four members who gave above and beyond to this donation. Jim and June Butricks and Frankie and Eleanor Martinez also gave large cash donations just to make sure the items were balanced out. Accordion people are special. I believe that one little person looked up to the sky and said "thank you" to all the OAC members who participated in this annual clothing drive. Let's do it again next Christmas.

Our checkbook is down, but remember we do have nine renewals but that money is in 2011 income. The Christmas party was grand, but we really missed those who couldn't attend. The expense for the party totaled $185.30, and that, plus year-end expenses, will leave our checkbook with a grand total of $322.38

HAPPY NEW YEAR to all our members, friends, associates. HAPPY NEW YEAR to everyone.

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December Meeting

Beth Henson

Minutes
Oklahoma Accordion Club
December 4, 2010

The Christmas party was held -- in conjunction with the regular meeting -- on Saturday, December 4, with 21 members and 8 guests in attendance. A potluck was held with the club providing fried chicken, and members bringing side dishes and desserts. All the food was delicious, and members enjoyed the time of fellowship.

Bob Mansfield led the entertainment by playing various Christmas carols: "Christmas Waltz," "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day," and "There's No Place Like Home for the Holidays." He also played the "B.C. Clark Jingle," and was joined by Jackie Mashore who led the members in singing the lyrics. He followed up with "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," "The Christmas Song," "Let It Snow," "Jingle Bell Rock," and "White Christmas."

The following officers were elected for the 2011-2012 term: President—Oliver Delaney; Vice President—Phil Scibelli; Secretary—Lois Roth; Treasurer—Evie Albreski: and Historian—Diana Richard.

The following amendment was voted on and passed by the membership by secret ballot: "No expenditure or commitment of funds over $50.00 may be made by any club member, including board members, without approval of at least two members of the Board of the Oklahoma Accordion Club."

Beth Henson reported that Bill Henson, OAC president, was working out-of-town and was sorry he couldn't be at the Christmas party and meeting.

Hannah Brennan, one of our very talented younger members, performed "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" and "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring."

The OAC Orchestra performed the "Merry Christmas Overture," "Greensleeves," and "Frosty the Snowman."

Karen West performed "Winter Wonderland."

Dick Albreski closed out the event with "Let It Snow" and "White Christmas."

Since the Christmas party was held the first weekend of December, it was a perfect lead-in to the Christmas season. Everyone left feeling the joy of the upcoming holiday.

A special thank you goes to Dick and Evie Albreski for arranging for and picking up the food, bringing table decorations, etc. A thank you also goes to their assistant, Anne Lopez, who helped set up the tables.

This is the last meeting for which I will be taking minutes. Thank you for allowing me to serve during the past two years. It has been my pleasure and gave me the opportunity to become more acquainted with our great members.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Henson

It's Time to Plan

Dick Albreski

In less then 70 days, the National Accordion Association's 24th Annual Convention and Trade show will start in Dallas Texas. The convention will run from March 10 to 12, 2011, at the Westin Park Central Hotel in Dallas, Texas. This year's preplanning gossip indicates one of the best meetings ever. Our OAC Youth will again perform at this meeting. There will be a lot more information to follow. Mark your calendar today!

The American Accordionists Association (AAA) will host its annual Festival from July 13 to 17, 2011 at the Charleston Airport Sheraton, in Charleston, SC. The AAA is very student-oriented, and they will bring some of the best young and not-so-young accordionist together for a truly memorable accordion experience. I give this show a 10, and urge you to put it on your things to do. More data on this meeting will follow.

December Meeting

Beth Henson

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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)** _____

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