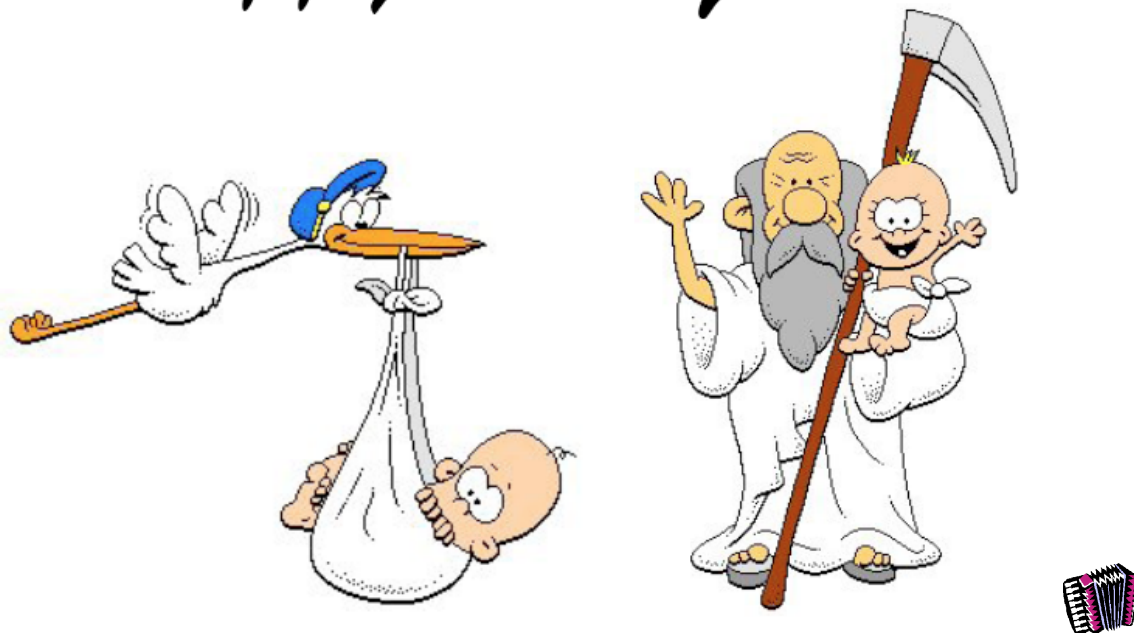


SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"

The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter

Happy New Year!



January Meeting

2:00 pm	Orchestra Rehearsal
3:00 pm	Business Meeting
3:15 pm	Individual and Group Performances
5:00 pm	Jam Session

The January meeting will be held on Sunday, January 12, at 3:00 pm. As usual, the meeting will be held at the Messiah Lutheran Church, located on the southeast corner of Northwest Expressway and Portland in Oklahoma City.

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.

After the individual and group performances, we will have a Jam Session.

All are welcome to join in on the fun!



The Prez Sez

Dick Albreski

What an exciting time for me. I have the privilege of introducing the new members of the 2014 Board of Directors. Our new president is Barbara Duer. Barbara inspires me, and I know she will do the same for the OAC. Tom Phillips is our new vice-president. Tom is relatively new to accordion playing, but what he accomplished in the past six months takes others a year. He's an accordion enthusiast. Karen West is now our historian/librarian. The accordion was invented for Karen. No one has more love and respect for the instrument than Karen. Watch out for her. The OAC is on the move.

I personally want to thank those members who voted for the above officers. You became involved, and that is what I'm hoping our theme for 2014 will be: **"I'll Get Involved."**

The next meeting will be "Christmas in January" on the 12th. Our first prayer is that the weather will allow a great turnout. Our second prayer is that you can make it. After that, it's a piece of cake, cookies, candy, refreshments, Christmas music, raffle (for some great gifts) and giving. All members are asked to bring gloves, hats, scarves, and socks that can be given to the homeless. We can spread love and warmth through our music, and also through our actions. Our Club will sponsor seven talented youth members at the March 2014 NAA. At our January meeting, there will be a raffle to help supplement their travel costs. Please be generous. Remember: I'll Get Involved at the Christmas in January meeting.

Last, **Thank You!** Each and every one of you who makes the OAC one of the best experiences an accordion player can have. We have come a long way together, and serving you all the last two years was joy.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

• Dick



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The Treasurer Sez

Milo Shedeck

Greetings from your Treasurer:

Dues are now due for 2014: \$16 for primary members, and \$8 for other family members. We finished the year with a positive account balance.

A belated birthday wish to Maggie Abel on December 21 (the shortest day of the year).

Happy Birthday this New Year to:
Tom Phillips on January 19, and Maxine Gunter on January 30.

See you at the January 12 meeting.

• Milo



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2014 Accordion New Year's Resolutions

Rita Barnea

Here are your Accordion New Year's Resolutions!

Can you think of any more? Please send them to me and I will add them to the February news.

1. I promise to practice my accordion every day.

You can find at least 20 to 30 minutes a day to practice your accordion if you want to. If you find time for watching the news on TV, or talking on your cell phone, enjoying your tablet, computer 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, a stress reliever, and also good exercise! And you don't need a doctor's appointment or a prescription!

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

Everyone who has ever seen me perform has always commented on the beauty and 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 by your playing.

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

Try to expand your repertoire. It doesn't have to be a concerto! What about a new 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 or more accordion events in 2012.

There are many accordion festivals, concerts, accordion clubs etc. around the country. Search the USA News www.accordionusa.com each month and you will find an event in your area. Not only will you have a wonderful time listening to great accordionists, but you will also 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 CD's. 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! Visit MusicForAccordion.com to find your favorite accordion CD!

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!

7. I promise to send news about my accordion club, association, concert, event to Ritabell@aol.com for a possible article in the USA news.

We want to know all about your accordion activities. Please let me know far in advance, if possible, so that readers can plan their schedules accordionly (Could not resist that one!!).

8. I will think about treating myself to a new accordion! Why not? When you have a new instrument, you sound better!!

9. I promise to read the USA News (www.accordionusa.com) news every month and the weekly news, Accordions Worldwide (www.accordions.com). Check on the Fan Club page for the latest updates.

10. I will reread Resolutions 1-9 again and again!

Happy New Year to All!

• Courtesy of 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) _____

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