

THE OKLAHOMA SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezein'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter

The Prez sez

Bill Henson

For those who had to wait outside for the doors to be unlocked at our last meeting, I fall on my sword and ask for forgiveness. It was poor planning by me, but I have taken measures to be sure more than one member has access to the building in the future.

This month I'm writing this article from the National Accordion Association (NAA) in Dallas. We are having a great time, and even though the attendance is down and it is raining outside, we are having a wonderful time with our workshops and evening performances.

At our last meeting we had numerous performances by our members; we had just about everything you can think of, including Frankie and Eleanor Martinez plus their band members.

Hopefully, this newsletter will make it to Troy Jones, because I want to express best wishes to him and his wife as they are traveling from Oklahoma to Wisconsin to live near their children. This last meeting was Troy's last, and I will miss his gospel melodies.

Our meeting this next month will be on April 5, that is one week earlier than usual, but we felt that we should not have our meeting on Easter. Also, the following month will be a week earlier in May because of Mother's Day.

I hope everyone is having a good time at the meetings. Bring your friends, and come join us.



Meeting info

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, April 5, 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

Dick Albreski

I can't believe it's over. For months I have been preparing for the youth concert at the National Accordion Association convention in Richardson, Texas. My preparations were not in vain. I had the pleasure of working with eight very talented young accordionists who played flawlessly. Oklahoma seems to always lead. I might mention that our club had the most members in attendance plus, we had the most young performers.

I also gave a workshop, along with my long time friend Mario Pedone, on improving one's playing ability. I don't believe there is another accordionist in this world that can play with such ease and feeling as Mario. He is a true accordionist's accordionist. The NAA convention this year was, in my opinion, one of the best. I have been attending NAA conventions since 1999. This year was also a "learning year" for the NAA. I suspect their convention next March will be something special that you should not miss.

Enough words about my great holiday. Let's concentrate on the best accordion club in the land.

Many thanks to the revenue-producing members of the OAC band who performed at the Bethany Nazarene Church. Their efforts and performance have increased our checkbook total by \$200.00.

Expenses to date are \$335.48, and the checkbook balance is \$1,674.65. Don't forget our next meeting will be one week earlier because of Easter. I will see you all on April 5th at the Messiah Lutheran Church.



How do you make two
accordionists play in
time?
Shoot one of them.

What is a bassoon good
for?
Kindling for an
accordion fire.

What do you call an
accordion player with a
pager?
An optimist.

How do you protect a
valuable instrument?
Hide it in an accordion
case.

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March Meeting Minutes

Beth Henson

Minutes

Oklahoma Accordion Club

March 8, 2009

- There were 26 members and 10 visitors present.
- President Bill Henson presented an OAC name tag to new member John Conner.
- Visitors were introduced.
- Beth Henson reminded everyone to sign in. Performers were asked to list on a form that will be provided the name(s) of their musical selection(s); this will make it easier to list the songs in the monthly minutes and will be requested every month.
- Throughout the meeting, OAC musicians performed outstanding renditions of musical numbers. The first up were The Smith Sisters, Maddie and Brea, granddaughters of Dick and Evie Albreski, who performed an accordion duet "Skating."
- Bill Henson passed around a thank you card and picture of the OAC orchestra that were received from the Bethany First Nazarene Church where the orchestra performed recently. The orchestra received payment of \$200 for the club treasury. The orchestra was treated to dinner and heard a very good motivational speaker. Dan Orza reported that, as a result of this performance, the OAC orchestra has been invited to play patriotic music at Spanish Cove in Yukon in July. The gig will pay \$200.
- Bob Mansfield brought the music library, along with a journal, to the meeting. Members are welcome to borrow music from the library, and are asked to record

the date the music is borrowed as well as the names of the pieces that are borrowed.

- The Youth Band, consisting of Jairon Baquero, John Conner, and Micaiah Elliott, performed several numbers: "Polish Polka Medley," "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious," "On Campus March," and "El Relicario." They were joined with a vocal from Brea Smith on "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious." The Youth Band will perform at the NAA convention in Richardson, Texas next weekend.
- Roland Lohmann played "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now" and "Jambalaya."
- Sandor Silagi played "Drink to Me Only with Thine Eyes."
- Dan Orza performed "Waltz Allegro" by Charles Magnante.
- Micaiah Elliott performed "Jolly Caballero."
- The club was informed that this meeting was Troy Jones' last meeting with the OAC. He has decided to return to Wisconsin, his home state.
- Johnny Sakaly said that he had held a party for President Barack Obama's inauguration, and he invited Jairon Baquero to perform. Jairon did an outstanding job and was the hit of the party.
- Jairon then performed "Indifference." Following his solo, he performed a duet with Bob Mansfield, "Stars and Stripes March."
- Bob followed on with "American Patrol" and "Original Boogie Woogie."
- John Connor performed "Expressione."

Continued on page 4

March Meeting

Troy Jones and Beth Henson



*Newlyweds Ophelia
and C.L. Woody*



*Beth Henson, Lois Roth, Dan Orza,
and Janet Haskin*



*Bill Henson and
John Conner*



*Maddie and Brea
Smith*



Jairon Baquero and Bob Mansfield



Roland Lohmann



March Meeting Minutes

Continued from page 3

- Bill Henson stated that he received a call from a garden club wanting someone to play and demonstrate the accordion. Dick Albreski volunteered to meet with the group.
- Troy Jones played “Whispering Hope” and “Keep on the Firing Line.”
- Troy then gave a demonstration of a tabletop accordion. The tabletop accordion, as well as another accordion, are for sale before his moving at the end of the month.
- Frankie and Eleanor Martinez and their band performed several numbers to

entertain the OAC: “Nuevo Laredo,” “La Media Naranja,” “Before the Next Teardrop Falls,” “La Media Vuleta,” “La Bamba,” “The Chair,” “Silver Wings,” “Wildwood Flower/In Heaven There Is No Beer/Got No Reason,” “Fiesta Noche la Paso Contigo,” and “La Mucura/Amover el Bote/Limbo Rock.”

• All the music was excellent, and it gets better at every meeting! Each person’s unique style and interest makes our club what it is.

• Respectfully submitted,
Beth Henson



March Meeting

Troy Jones and Beth Henson



Frankie and Eleanor Martinez performing with their band



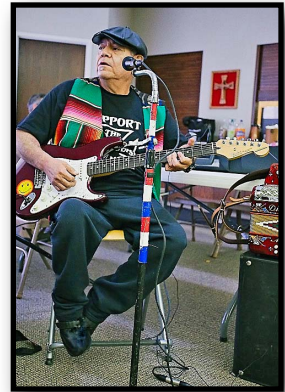
Sandor Silagi



John Conner



Dick Albreski directing the Youth Band: Jairon Baquero, John Conner, and Micaiah Elliott



Frankie Martinez



This guy plays a New Years Eve gig and afterward the club owner says, "Great job, can you play again next year?"

The accordionist replies, "Sure, can I leave my instrument here until then?"



NAA





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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