

THE OKLAHOMA *SQUEEZINS*

"Our squeezein'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter



June is National Accordion Appreciation Month



Calendar of Upcoming Events

June 6	Italian Festival
June 14	Summer picnic at Dick & Evie Albreski's home
July 12	Monthly meeting
July 13	Dick Albreski's performance for garden club
August 9	Big Squeeze, UCO Jazz Lab
August 29	Polka Picnic, Czech Hall, Yukon
September 13	Monthly meeting
October 11	Monthly meeting
November 8	Monthly meeting
December 13	Monthly meeting



The Prez Sez

Bill Henson

Hopefully this newsletter finds each and every one of you in good health and enjoying your accordion music.

Seems like lately we have to worry about everything, the most current worry is the H1N1 virus, originally called the Swine Flu. From everything I hear on the media, we don't have to worry in Oklahoma yet, but by the time this article finds its way into the newsletter and it arrives in your hands, we could have our own outbreak.

The club has a lot of activity going on, and the most important thing I want to mention is our next monthly meeting. It will be on our normal date, but it will be a picnic instead of a meeting. We will meet at Dick Albreski's home, and I'm sure anyone who had to have an accordion repaired will know where that is. There should be information in this newsletter as to what to bring and location information.

You may want to start planning now for our next Big Squeeze in August. This time we are going to have all local entertainment. I believe you will agree we have some of the best talent around. Tell your friends -- you never know how attached they may grow to accordion music. I've invited several people, and of those who attended before, many have enjoyed it so much that they have come back more than once.

I know there are a few of you who have been missing our meetings, and I do hope that you will be able to find time in your schedules in the future to support your club. Plus, we miss you.

See you at the picnic.



The Treasurer Sez

Dick Albreski

Aloha! When was the last time you put on your grass skirts, tuned your ukuleles to your accordions, ate tropical fruit delights, and basked in the Oklahoma sun? Well, the above is LOOKIN' GOOD. In place of our regularly scheduled meeting at the Messiah Lutheran Church, we will have a Hawaiian Theme Party at our home -- 7109 NW 102 Street, OKC, OK -- on Sunday, June 14, 2009, starting at 2:00 pm. Hawaiian attire is encouraged but not required. We do ask that you bring only one of your favorite dishes (e.g., salad, dessert, etc.). The club will furnish the meat, drinks, condiments, and the necessary paper products. Your accordion is also invited and would be a welcome guest. We do need your reservation. That is a must! You can contact Dick or Evie at 405/721-0564. You will be given specific directions to our home when you call in your reservation. The pool will also be available for your added pleasure. Think about a "water volley ball game," plus the crowd-pleasing "watermelon football." Let's make this a memorable occasion by planning to attend.

Our OAC expenses to date were \$67.20, and our checkbook balance reads \$1,721.87. There are still several members who have not renewed their 2009 membership. Please re-up before the party.

Until the party, keep squeezin'.



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Bio Sign

Bill Henson, our 2009 leader, was born in Waynesville, Missouri, and raised in Richland, Missouri. In addition to his better half, Beth, who is our club secretary and also plays the accordion, Bill (and Beth) has two children, Terry and Jodi.

Bill is one those rare birds who, as you may already know from one of his previous columns in this newsletter, started playing the accordion later in life (he finally came to his senses), much to our benefit because of his leadership. As he said soon after taking over the helm, "I'm not as pretty as Jackie, and I'm not as sophisticated as Dan, so basically I'm just the Accordion Guy."



Although he doesn't play professionally, Bill loves playing his squeezebox for himself, family, and friends and, occasionally, at our meetings. Bill also sings in his church.

Besides being dedicated to the accordion and our club, Bill is also an automobile enthusiast.

Bill is putting his stamp on our club by trying to improve it with several of his ideas. Please continue to give him the support he deserves.



Q: What kind of calendar does an accordion player use for his gigs?

A: "Year-at-a-Glance."

Q: What's the difference between an accordion and a concertina?

A: The accordion takes longer to burn.



May Meeting Minutes

Beth Henson

Minutes
Oklahoma Accordion Club
May 3, 2009

- There were 25 members present.
- Joan Colee, with the Oklahoma Seniors' Cabaret, invited OAC members to perform in the Cabaret's show this fall. Members of the Cabaret are 55 years old and up. She distributed business cards, if anyone is interested in participating.
- Bob Mansfield performed "Dajcovo" by Boris Karlov.
- The Elks Lodge has invited the OAC to perform at the Italian Festival again this year, on June 6. Dan will perform and asked members of the orchestra to join him.
- Dick Albreski will perform for a garden club on July 13.
- Anne Lopez performed a Mexican medley of "La Raspa," "Las Chiapanecas," and "La Cucaracha," and was accompanied by Sid Lopez, Jimmy Baquero, and Sandor Silagi. She also performed "Popular Jarabe Tapatio."
- Sandor Silagi performed "Hi Lilly, Hi Lo" and "Pop Goes the Weasel."
- Several members shared interesting stories and anecdotes about receiving their first accordions and when they began playing and performing.
- Roland Lohmann played and sang "I Will Be with You in Apple Blossom Time."
- The summer picnic will be at Dick and Evie Albreski's home on June 14 at 2:00 pm. The club will provide meats and drinks, and members are to

bring sides and desserts as well as their lawn chairs. An article providing directions to the Albreski home will be in the next newsletter.

- Bob Mansfield will hold a workshop on bellows control at the July meeting.
- The Calvary Baptist Church in Enid has invited the OAC to perform a 30-minute program on a Sunday evening at some future date.
- The next Big Squeeze is scheduled for August 9. Dan Orza is coordinating the performances; anyone who wishes to perform should let him know.
- There is a Polka Picnic scheduled on Saturday, August 29, at the Czech Hall in Yukon. The OAC has been invited to participate in a Battle of the Bands, and will perform first. Other participants are the Masopust Band and the Bohemian Knights. Food will be served.
- Next Saturday, May 9, the orchestra will meet at Dan's home to copy music and get their books in order.
- Margaret Oldham performed "Waiting for the Robert E. Lee" and "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."
- Bill and Diana Richard are working on getting the OAC website moved and brought up to date. Diana will see what she can bring over from the old site to the new, and will get a domain name.
- The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Henson



Oklahoma Accordion Club
ACCORDIONAIRS

Perform for the Bethany Nazarene Church
February 26, 2009

Back: Lois Roth, Max Gunther, Beth & Bill Hensen
Front: Bob Mansfield, Karen West, Dan Orza



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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