

# THE OKLAHOMA SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"

The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter



## *The Prez Sez*

Bill Henson

Well, it's officially been celebrated – now our club is 10 years old. We all had a wonderful time at our tenth anniversary celebration. The food was very extravagant, and there was more than enough of it. If you missed it, you missed a great celebration.

Oliver Delaney did an excellent job of working with his committee to help us celebrate our anniversary. It was a time of remembrance as well as celebration.

Sunday, July 11 is our next meeting. Come join in as we celebrate our summer.



## *July Meeting*

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, July 11, 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

Did you ever hear the phrase, "It won't last?" There were those who said the Oklahoma Accordion Club wouldn't last, but at the OAC Birthday Party on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010, we proved that statement wrong. Our members are truly dedicated to keeping the accordion alive and well. A sincere "thanks" to Oliver Delaney for taking charge of the event. The food was great, and preparations were more than expected. A sincere "thanks" to the board for their wish to celebrate our ten years of growth. A sincere "thanks," also, to all members who have supported the OAC and, hopefully, your support will continue in the future.

I feel a strong sense of pride in our accomplishments, and look forward to what the next ten years will bring. I do know that you cannot go forward until you review the past. President Billy Henson remembered those members who have passed away: Karl Geppert, Bob Lynch, Al Good, Fred Onken, Judy Cathey, Lillian Leskala, Erv and Millie Biernat. We know their "Squeezin is now Pleasin."

Each of us has a role in the club and each of us should express our thoughts and wishes for the club. I can't recall any moment in time that a member did not have a voice in the club's future. Take a moment and think hard about what you feel the club should be doing. We have 55 supporting members. If each of us contributed an idea, there would be 55 new ideas. Who knows, we could even have another "bash."

The expenses for June give a hint for the club to consider a FUND RAISER.

We are not in the red (current checkbook balance is \$812.32). But, There was no income for June, and our expenses totaled \$775.00. Again, if there are 55 supporting members who could give a fund raising idea, who knows what could happen.

See you all on July 11<sup>th</sup> at the Messiah Lutheran Church.



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Mustang, OK

[MustangBilly@cox.net](mailto:MustangBilly@cox.net)

### VICE-PRESIDENT

**Jim Wooley**

Oklahoma City, OK

[jimmiewoolly@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jimmiewoolly@sbcglobal.net)

### TREASURER

**Dick Albreski**

7109 NW 102<sup>nd</sup> Street

Oklahoma City, OK 73162

405/721-0564

[evrich@swbellnet](mailto:evrich@swbellnet)

### SECRETARY

**Beth Henson**

Mustang, OK

[BHenson1@cox.net](mailto:BHenson1@cox.net)

### HISTORIAN/LIBRARIAN

**Bob Mansfield**

Oklahoma City, OK

[bobmansfield@cox.net](mailto:bobmansfield@cox.net)

### PAST PRESIDENT

**Dan Orza**

P. O. Box 721320

Oklahoma City, OK 73172

cell: 405/326-1124

fax: 405/722-5525

[dano9731@att.net](mailto:dano9731@att.net)

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

**Frank Gesinski**

8035 South Irvington

Tulsa, OK 74136-8404

918/492-1715

[OKAccordionClub@sbcglobal.net](mailto:OKAccordionClub@sbcglobal.net)

### WEBMASTER

**Diana Richard**

[Diana.l.richard@gmail.com](mailto:Diana.l.richard@gmail.com)

### WEBSITE

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

# June Minutes

Beth Henson

## Minutes Oklahoma Accordion Club June 13, 2010

- President Bill Henson welcomed 25 members and 11 guests to the celebration of the OAC's tenth anniversary. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful catered Italian meal, funded by the club.
- Bill presented a nametag to new member Jocelyn Pederson.
- According to the first newsletter, Bob Mansfield performed at the very first meeting of the OAC, and it was considered fitting that he should perform at the tenth anniversary party. He, his son Beau Mansfield, and student Jocelyn Pederson performed several pieces. Solos performed by Bob were "Russian Energy Drink" (composed by Beau), and "81 Rue de Briey (Valse Caprice)." Bob and Jocelyn performed "Bluebird Waltz," "Copy Cat," and "Follow the Leader." Bob and Beau performed "Blue Skirt Waltz," "La Camparsa," and "Quisos Post."
- The founding members of the OAC were: Dick Albreski, Richard Butricks, Oliver Delaney, Frank Gesinski, Bob Mansfield, Johnny Sakaly, Kay Stout, and L.D. Todd.
- Members who have passed away in the past ten years are: Karl Geppert, Al Good, Judy Cathey,

Lillian Leskala, Bob Lynch, Erv and Mildred Biernat, Fred Onken, and Virginia Drisko.

- Anne Lopez performed "Tarantella," "Amoré," and an Italian medley to go with our Italian meal theme.
- Dick Albreski, who was also at the first meeting, performed "Becca's Request," "Breanna's Dream," and "The Madelyn Polka" in honor of his granddaughters who were at the party. He also performed "I Love to Dance" in honor of his wife Evie.
- Norwood and Nina Dunham of Tulsa, Oklahoma were able to attend the celebration, and recently celebrated their 62<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary. Nina donated musical instruments to the OAC.
- Dick said that in the last ten years he was privileged to visit the factory in Italy where his accordion was built; got to attend the Coupe Mondiale in Arlington, Virginia; and has composed two books of music, one of which was recently copyrighted.
- The food was delicious, the tables were decorated beautifully, the music was fantastic, the company was great -- it was a festive occasion, and the tenth anniversary of the Oklahoma Accordion Club was an event that will be remembered for a long time to come.

Respectfully submitted,  
Beth Henson



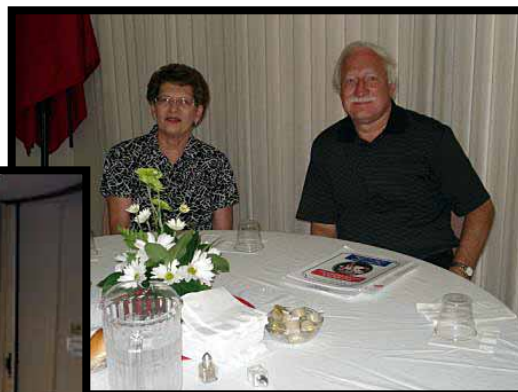


# Tenth Anniversary Celebration

Beth Henson



*Bill and Beth Henson*



*Lucy and Milo Shedeck*



*Bill Henson, Dick Albreski, Evie Albreski, and Oliver Delaney visiting before the celebration begins*



*Kathryn Koenig and Frances Engel*



*Oliver Delaney, Phil Scibelli, and Bill Henson*



*Diana and David Richard, and Lois Roth*



*Claire Delaney*



*Anne and Sil Lopez, and friend Ashley Raines*



# Tenth Anniversary Celebration

Beth Henson



*Norwood and Nina Dunham*



*Dick Albreski*



*Bill Henson presenting Jocelyn Pedersen with her nametag*



*Beau Mansfield, Lou Mansfield, Bob Mansfield, Richard Butricks, and Jocelyn Pedersen*



*Richard Butricks, Karen West, and Karen's cousin Linda Echols*



*Karen West*



*Anne Lopez performing*



*Richard and June Butricks*





# Italian Festival

Dan Orza



*Phil Scibelli, Maxine Gunter, Lois Roth, and Dan Orza*

I'm always so proud to share the music and friendship of our fellow accordionists. Lois, Maxine, and Phil all did a magnificent job performing at the Italian Festival. And, as always, we had our support group of Diana Richard and Karen West there helping out and cheering us on. Diana also took the photos.

The audience really enjoyed our music. IT WAS HOT, but we were in the shade. The food was yummy.

I personally awarded each musician a new heavy-duty music stand so that they would have a stand that would hold the heavy notebook filled with all our music.



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

A: The accordion takes longer to burn.

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

A: A chainsaw can be tuned.

Q: What is the difference between an Uzi and an accordion?

A: The Uzi stops after 20 rounds.

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

A: One is loud, obnoxious, and noisy. The other is a bird.

Q: Why did the chicken cross the road?

A: To get away from the accordion recital.

Q: What is the best thing to play on an accordion?

A: A flamethrower.

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## Oklahoma Accordion Club Membership Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

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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

Mail your membership dues TODAY to:

Oklahoma Accordion Club  
c/o 7109 NW 102<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Oklahoma City, OK 73162

## Editor's Note

On a somewhat personal note, I would like to acknowledge the person who was the driving force behind the founding and the initial success of the Oklahoma Accordion Club -- Dick Albreski. In the very beginning, Dick spent the time calling people, writing the first newsletters, having the first meetings at his house, and (with his accordion) entertaining and educating us at our monthly meetings.

Dick has been followed by a string of presidents and board members – right up to the present – who have continued Dick's initial “push” with their dedication, hard work, and enthusiasm, and who have not only made our fledgling club an initial success, but a continuing success, right up to the present day.

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