

THE OKLAHOMA SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezein'...is pleasin'!"

The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter

Accordion Care

Dick Albreski

I see a lot of accordions and know at first glance which ones are cared for and which ones are not. Do you care about your accordion?

When was the last you looked at your shoulder straps, bellow straps, and bass strap? Not only on top of the accordion, but also on the bottom as well. Are they showing signs of wear? If one of your shoulder straps broke and you dropped your accordion, you could look at a very high repair bill. Are your bellow straps rubbing on your bellows?

When was the last time you looked at the bottom of your bellows, the back of your bellows, and the bellow corners? Are they showing signs of wear? Replacement bellows can start at \$350.00.

When was the last time you wiped your accordion with a damp cloth followed by a dry cloth? A mixture of very little alcohol and a lot of water on a cloth will do wonders for your treble keyboard. Accordions are very sensitive to temperature — they cannot take extreme cold and heat. I always say that if you are comfortable with the temperature, than the accordion should be as well.

When was the last time you had your accordion out of the case? Keeping your accordion locked up in a case is perhaps the worst treatment you can give it. Stagnant air stays trapped in the case and can cause your accordion to smell musty. Also, this can cause your reed leathers to bend and become stiff. The best way to care for your accordion is to play it at least once a week. This allows fresh air to get inside your accordion. If your case starts to smell musty, throw in a sheet of fabric softener that you use in your clothes dryers, like Bounce. This is only for the case. **DO NOT PUT A FABRIC SOFTENER NEXT TO YOUR ACCORDION!** Bounce and celluloid do not mix.

I just worked on an Ace accordion that was over 50 years old. This was the owner's first accordion, and he treasures it. Because he takes the time to care for his accordion, it looks and plays like it is brand new. If you have any questions about the care of your accordion, talk to one of the many professional players at our meetings.



November Meeting

The November meeting will be held on Sunday, November 13. As usual, the meeting will be held at the Messiah Lutheran Church, 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. 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.

Oklahoma Accordion Club Meeting Agenda for Sunday, November 13, 2011

2:00 pm	Orchestra Rehearsal
3:00 pm	Board Meeting
3:30 pm	General Membership Meeting



The Treasurer Sez

Evie Albreski

I guess only accordion lovers know the real meaning of playing the accordion. This month we lost an "accordion lover." Richard "Jim" Butricks was a true accordion lover. He passed away on October 13, 2011. Jim was one of the oldest members of our Club, and lived in Enid, Oklahoma. He would travel every month, a total of 160 miles, to attend our meetings. If Jim missed a meeting, the weather was really bad. Our prayers and best wishes go out to June, his dedicated wife. Jim will always be a member of the Oklahoma Accordion Club.

We also lost another true accordionist: Arleen Faulkner was the secretary of the National Accordion Association in Dallas, Texas. She passed away last week. The NAA meeting in March will certainly not be the same without Arleen. No, it will be great because her spirit will be there.

We have two remaining meetings this year. Where did the year go? It's that time again when we ask that each of you renew your membership in the Oklahoma Accordion Club. I can't say at this time what is going to happen next year, but I can tell you it will be exciting to be a member. We have a strong board, with Oliver Delaney as our president, and his creative mind will certainly be evident in the events that are currently being planned.

Speaking of events, the picnic was truly a success. Clare and Oliver Delaney opened their gorgeous home to our Club, and we partied. As usual, there was too much of everything. The food, the music, the friendship was tremendous. Thanks to everyone: the Delaneys, and the members and friends who supported and attended this event.

As I stated earlier, there are things in the hopper for next year's agenda. But, that's what we want to do. What would *you*, as a member, like to see our Club do in the year 2012? Yes, I said, what would you like our Club to do? Nothing is impossible, and certainly, anything may be feasible.

We are not in the red. Our cookie jar still has \$276.28. Don't forget the November 13 meeting at the Messiah Lutheran Church.

PS: Think youth in the 2012 OAC agenda.



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Annual Picnic

Lois Roth

OAC Picnic October 16, 2011

A big Thank You to Oliver and Clare Delaney for hosting the picnic! After touring their beautiful historic home, we all enjoyed a bountiful picnic-feast.

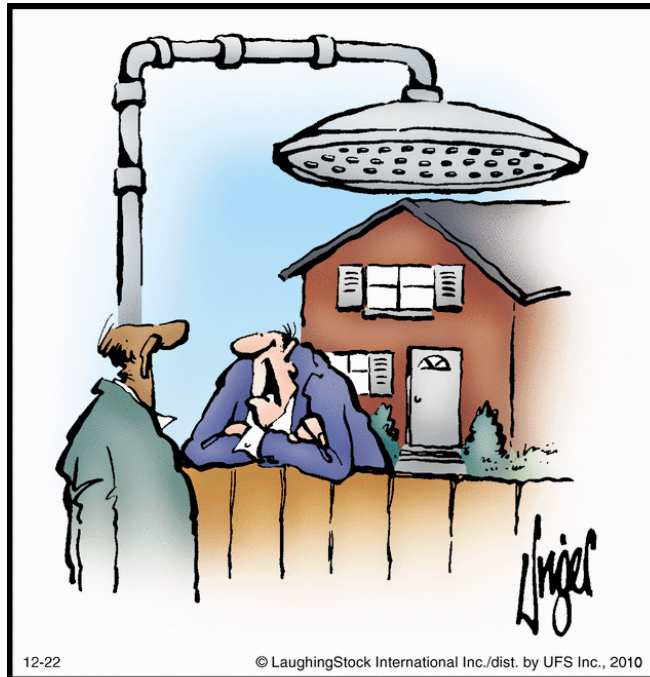
The weather was perfect for music on the patio afterwards. The trio (Karen West, Dan Orza, and Lois Roth) played "Ol' Man River" and three other songs; Bob Mansfield performed several pieces,

including selections From *Amelie*, and Anne Lopez played "Danny Boy."

Twenty-seven people attended the picnic.

Our next meeting will be Sunday, November 13, with an autumn/Thanksgiving theme. Orchestra rehearsal starts at 2:00 pm, and the regular meeting begins at 3:30.

Respectfully submitted
Lois Roth



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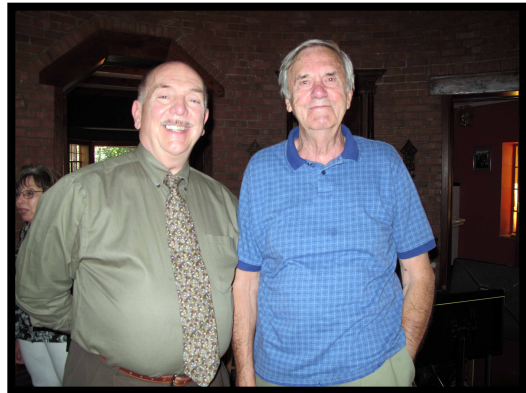
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Picnic Photos

Diana Richard



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