

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The

Oklahoma



We all know that it takes youth to carry on our traditions. The *OAC* has always promoted our Youth, and today we have five future stars that will keep the accordion alive. Matthew Medley, Laz Elliott, Asher Elliott, Alex Rockwood, and Anna Rockwood will perform at the *OAC* Christmas Party in December, and

will join with other talented young accordionists at the *National Accordion Association* Convention in March 2018. Mark your calendars to attend the *OAC* Christmas party to hear them play their individual solos, and as a group. You can encourage them by showing your interest.



November Meeting

The November meeting will be held on Sunday, November 12, at 3:30 pm.

As usual, the meeting will be held at the *Messiah Lutheran Church*. The church is 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.

Members are invited to bring snacks for everyone.

After the individual and group performances, we will have a jam session. All are welcome to join in on the fun!



The Prez Sez

Barbara Duer

Hello everyone. At the November meeting, we will nominate new Board members then vote in December. I believe we need new Board members for all the positions, except treasurer.

Here is a little information about the history of the accordion:

MIGRATION OF THE ACCORDION

Where It All Began

Between 1750 and 1850, the population in Europe almost doubled to 255 million people. Consequently, people in the industrial regions became poorer. In Germany, for example, between 1841 and 1913, over six million Germans emigrated to avoid poverty. Similar emigration happened from much of Europe and Great Britain. Many sought fortune in America, and some took their instruments with them -- mostly harmonicas, which reminded them of their homeland.

After a time, people began to ask their relatives to send them accordions and, soon after, manufacturers began receiving orders from around the world. Sales representatives also began to set up business in North and South America and the Asia Pacific regions. They received orders, as they were known and trusted by their relatives back at home.

Manufacturing Growth

Some accordion manufacturers also emigrated. Amongst them were brothers Carl and Wilhelm Zimmerman of Castlefildardo. They founded an accordion factory in Philadelphia. In a few years, Carl went to Latin America and went missing. In 1864, the firm in Castlefildardo was taken over by Ernst Louis Arnold, and developed into a leading accordion manufacturer. They became large exporters. In those days, harmonicas were one of the few products sold worldwide. In 1860, Arnold's company produced 218,400 accordions, and export continued to grow.

Soon, manufacturers in Amsterdam, Antwerp, Bremen, and Rotterdam began to export their accordions to the American chain stores. By advertising in catalogues, accordions were sold throughout North America, but the biggest export market was in Latin America: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Guatemala, Uruguay, Columbia, and Ecuador.

Colonization by European powers was also responsible for the spread of the accordion, from Germany to America, Africa, China, the Pacific, and the Caribbean.

The accordion was originally a reminder for the migrants of their former homelands, but evolved into a very popular instrument in these countries, often with its own unique style. Whether the accordion became part of the Cajun or Zydeco music of the southern states of the USA or the Brazilian tangos, it started off as a reminder of what was once home (from *Accordions Worldwide*).

Tango music: https://youtu.be/VTAP_Oz5cnU

Hungarian: <https://youtu.be/YO929MBqgaw>

French: <https://youtu.be/3kDi5Hk-Vmw>

• Barbara



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- Phil Scibelli
- Ophelia Woody

October Meeting

Lois Roth

OAC Meeting Minutes October 8, 2017

There were six members attending. Because of the small group, there was no business meeting. Instead, we had an impromptu concert of German music.

- The players were Bob Mansfield, Annette Zongker, Karen West, and Lois Roth.

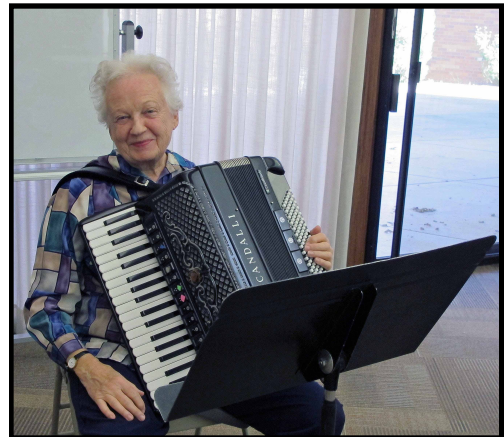
- Karen played Bob's small, free bass accordion.

- The song list included: "Edelweiss," "Lilli Marlene," "Liechtensteiner Polka," and "Blue Skirt Waltz."

The next Club meeting will be Sunday, November 12, at 3:30 pm. There may be more music that is German. Come and join the fun!

Respectfully submitted,

- Lois Roth (acting secretary)



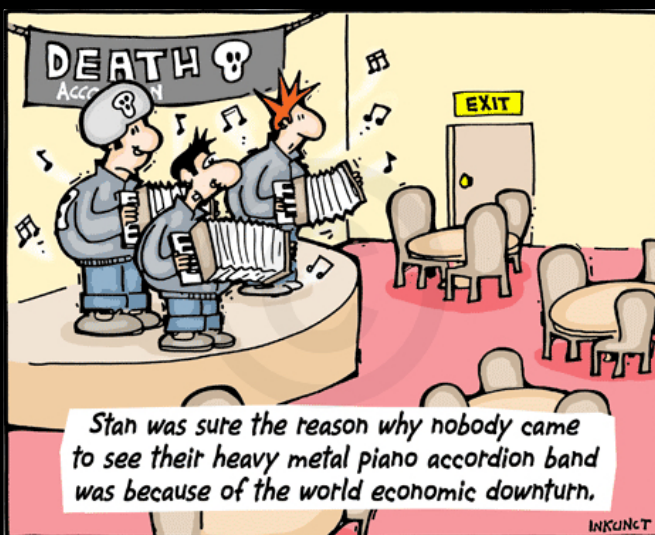
Mark Your Calendars

Dick Albreski

Heads Up! On December 10, 2017, the *OAC* is planning their annual Silent Auction (supports the *OAC* Youth) and "Help for the Needy" Christmas party at the *Messiah Lutheran Church*. If you have any small items that you could donate to the Silent Auction, the Youth of our Club would be very grateful. All proceeds of the auction go to support the *OAC* Youth with their trip to the *National Accordion Convention* in March 2018. Also, we ask all members and guests to donate gloves, scarves, socks, and hats, which the *OAC*, in turn, will give to the homeless in our City. This annual appeal has grown to being a tradition, thanks to your generosity.

Plan on This! The *National Accordion Association* will hold its annual convention next March 7-10, 2018, at the *Hyatt Regency Hotel* in Richardson, Texas. This is a great event to bring you up to date on the accordion world. The *NAA* committee is presently completing the program and, starting next month, this column will bring you up to date on all the performers, workshops, and dealers. See you there.

Look for more accordion events in future issues of Squeezins.



POLKAHONTAS



**Happy Birthday Wishes to
the following OAC members:**

Frankie Martinez, November 9

Donna Dove, November 16

Your birthdate is collected from your OAC membership application, if you have chosen to include it. If your birthdate is not listed on our newsletter birthday page during the year, please contact Karen West at 405/949-0394, or at accordion_karen@yahoo.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

Membership Dues

The OAC membership year runs from January through December. Membership cost is prorated quarterly for new members.

☐ Primary Membership is \$20.00 per year per individual.

☐ Family Membership is \$10.00 per year for each additional family member when accompanied by a Primary Membership.

☐ Lifetime Membership is a one-time fee of \$300.00.

☐ 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:

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