

Accordion Talk

February 2026



Upcoming club meetings

Mar. 21, 2026

Apr. 18, 2026

3200 SE Harrison St
Milwaukie, OR
97222

RCAC Board

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Amber Matz

Vice President

Beth McDonald

Secretary

Marlene Meissner

Treasurer

Delette Huffman

Camp Director

Sue Schwab

Past-President

Fran Maddox

At-Large Members

Don Devlaeminck

Lynne Clark

President's Message

Hello, Rose City Accordion Club members!

I hope this newsletter finds you well, and I hope the music you're making with your accordion is bringing joy to you and those you play for.

I want to thank **Beth McDonald** for leading February's meeting while I was away traveling for work. Thank you to **Beth** as well as **Delette Huffman** for taking photos of the meeting, which are featured in this newsletter.

The next board meeting will be March 30, from 2-4 pm at Delette's house in Canby. Approved minutes from the last meeting are now available.

This newsletter is packed with news and updates from our club members and accordion community. I'll see you at the next club meeting on March 21. ~Amber Matz



February Club Meeting

Music Circle

Led by **Marlene Meissner**

Songs celebrating the month of love:

Loveliest Night of the Year,
My Melody of Love,
Medley:

I Want a Girl
&
Five Foot Two



Thank you,
Marlene!

March Music Circle

Music Circle on **Mar. 21** will be led by **Beth McDonald**

Songs:
What Shall We Do with a Drunken Sailor, The Lonely Goat Herd, Yakety Sax

Join us as we work on our playing together skills as a group.

RCAC Members Playin' Around

Courtney Von Drehle on accordion and **Andrew Alikhanov** on clarinet form the duo, *Andrew and Courtney's Mystery Box*. If you have ever taken lessons from Courtney, you'll recognize many of the tunes, as they take familiar songs on a magical musical adventure.



Andrew & Courtney

Upcoming club member gigs:

The European Take-Out Band (featuring RCAC members **Bobbie Ferrero, Lisa Roeder, and Roxie Klinger**) will play for the McMenamins St. Patrick's Celebrations:

1. **Saturday, March 14, 8:30-10 pm**
McMenamins Grand Lodge, Pat's Corner
2. **Tuesday, March 17, 5:30-7:30 pm**
McMenamins Edgefield, Red Shed

Courtney Von Drehle's upcoming good stuff:

1. **Thursday, March 12, 8-10 pm**
Jack Falk & The Carpathian Pacific Express at Alberta Street Pub
2. **Tuesday, March 17, 5:30-7:30 pm**
Michelle Alany & The Mystics at Kennedy School



February Club Meeting



Marlene

The February meeting of RCAC was opened with Music Circle led by Marlene Meissner. She led us for three songs celebrating the “month of love”. They were: *The Loveliest Night of the Year*; *My Melody of Love* and a medley with *I Want a Girl* and *Five Foot Two*. We played round-robin style for each song with the three groups changing parts each time through, so that everyone gets a chance to play each part.



Music Circle Discussion

- After Music Circle, we took a few minutes for open discussion on ways to refresh the format and make our “play” time inclusive for all levels of skill. Initial ideas and comments were to potentially have an ensemble of RCAC members that plays at a separate time.
- This group would focus on pieces with multiple parts and take more than one month time to perfect the pieces. One goal for the ensemble would be to potentially perform at the Forest Grove Music Socials. A raise of hands indicated a good interest in pursuing this discussion.
- The suggestions will be shared with the RCAC Board and more group discussion.
- Share your additional ideas for Music Circle with club president **Amber Matz** via email at accordionamber@gmail.com.



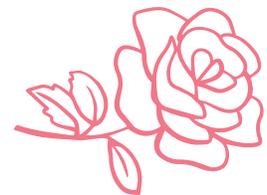
Beth



Jeanette



Bob



Highlights

Club Vice-President, **Beth McDonald** stood in for Amber for the regular meeting. Topics discussed were the upcoming May 16th performance of Andy Mirkovich (*see pg. 5*), RCAC Camp updates (*pg. 5*), and upcoming gigs for the European Take-Out group at McMenamins (*pg. 2*). The next quarterly Board Meeting will be March 30. Popcorn snacks were shared on our social break. 16 individuals played songs for us (*song list on pg. 4*).

February Club Meeting

Individual Play



Mariah



Sarah & Mariah



Susan



Leonard



Chad



Kim

- **Sarah**—Ciribiribim
- **Mariah**—Selection from the Howell Aretta course
- **Larry McCullough**—Accordion Boogie, Under the Sea
- **Delette Huffman**—Last Cheater's Waltz, Have I Told You Lately That I Love You
- **Bev Spurgeon**—Adela, Tormento
- **Susan Schwab**—Happy Together, My Sweetheart Polka
- **Wayne Nelson**—One Night of Love, Tenderly
- **Leonard Kosatka**—Medley of songs
- **Fran Kinkaid**—When I'm Sixty Four
- **Chad**—Bella Notte
- **Doug Stickler**—Little Love Affair, My Foolish Heart
- **Jeanette Baumann**—Cutie Waltz
- **Bob Myers**—When Morning Comes, Riding Down The Canyon
- **Marlene Meissner**—Spanish Eyes, Saturday Waltz
- **Beth McDonald**—When I Fall In Love, Ciao Ciao Palermo
- **Kim Nurmi**—Tennessee Waltz, Down by the Salley Gardens



Larry



Delette



Wayne



Fran



Doug



Announcements



Camp Update

- Rose City Accordion Camp will take place May 31–June 5.
- Orchestra parts will be sent out the week of March 8
- Lodge rooms still available or request to move to a single room for an additional \$550 (first-come, first-served).
- You can still register! See the updated registration form posted on our club website: rosecityaccordionclub.org.
- Contact **Susan Schwab**, Camp Director, with your registration form, questions, or requests: rosecityaccordionclub@gmail.com



May 16, 2026 1:00 pm

Special guest: Andy Mirkovich

Save the date! **Andy Mirkovich** will be our special guest and featured performer at the **May 16th** club meeting.

This event will be open to the public and is sponsored by the Rose City Accordion Club! Free admission.

June 19-21, 2026

Astoria Scandinavian Fest.

Coreen Bergholm will once again lead an accordion orchestra with RCAC players at the Astoria Scandinavian Fest. Use the YouTube playlist provided by Amber Matz to practice.

An in-person rehearsal is tentatively scheduled for May 16 at 9:30 am. (If the room can be reserved.) Look for an email update from Coreen this week about the next rehearsal.

2026 dues due!

How to pay:

To pay 2026 RCAC dues:

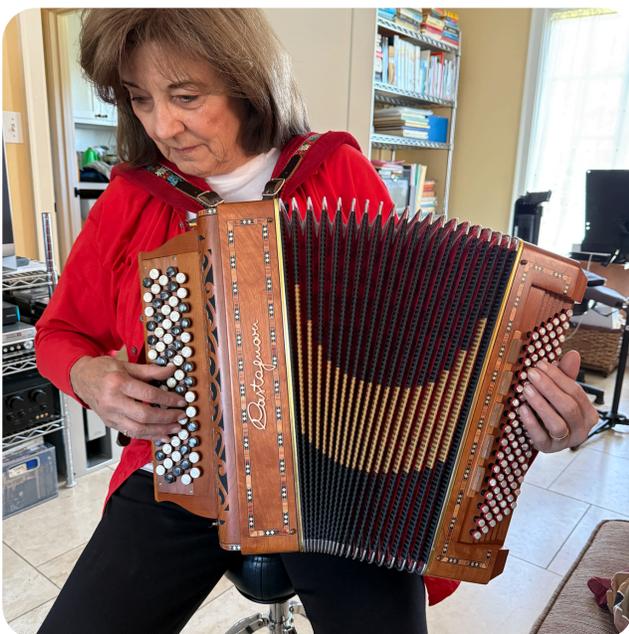
Mail \$25 check payable to
Rose City Accordion Club
c/o Delette Huffman
1441 S. Ivy St., Unit 304
Canby, OR 97013

New! Use Zelle tag:
rosecityaccordionclub

Accordion for sale

My name is Ted Janossy, and I belong to the Santa Barbara Accordion Club. I'm writing because I have an accordion for sale. It's a Castagnari 96 Bass, C System Chromatic. It's a beautiful instrument made out of cherry wood with nice inlays for decoration. The accordion is in great shape. All keys and reeds are functional. The straps are in good shape. No bellow leaks. I'm asking for \$2,000 for the instrument. It comes with a hard case that has wheels and some nice straps that I added to it a few years ago. If you are interested, please let me know.

Ted Janossy, Santa Barbara, CA
(360) 888-2121



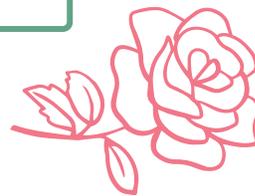
Community news

Mary Kasprzyk Tokarski

December 13, 1946 – February 20, 2026

The accordion world sadly lost one of its greats. Read the tribute:

<https://accordionusa.news/obituary-mary-kasprzyk-tokarski/>



More RCAC Member Gigs

See RCAC member **Matt Cooper's** upcoming events on his website:

<https://www.mattcooperpiano.com/calendar.html>



Musicians not to miss

Here are a couple of local accordion players to follow on social media. Look them up to learn about their upcoming events.

- Jet Black Pearl
- Jenny Conlee

Send in your news

Email **Amber Matz**

(accordionamber@gmail.com) with your upcoming gig dates and other accordion community news.