

The Songs

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Chicago (R. Carrier) 4:17 | 11 You Stole My Love (R. Carrier) 3:41 |
| 2 Who Got Her? (R. Carrier) 2:47 | 12 Tired of Worrying (R. Carrier) 4:25 |
| 3 I'm the One You Need (R. Carrier) 4:28 | 13 She's in Love with the Zydeco
(R. Carrier) 2:56 |
| 4 My Baby Don't Wear No Shoes
(R. Carrier) 2:58 | 14 Let the Good Times Roll (Traditional) 3:39 |
| 5 Kansas City (J. Lieber/M. Stoller) 2:37 | 15 Zydeco's Back Again (C. Chenier) 3:19 |
| 6 Hot Pepper (R. Carrier) 3:01 | 16 Mama Don't Know (R. Carrier) 4:13 |
| 7 Leaving Lawtell (R. Carrier) 3:20 | 17 You Don't Have to Go (J. Reed) 4:39 |
| 8 Living in the USA (R. Carrier) 2:35 | 18 You Got Me Dancing (R. Carrier) 3:18 |
| 9 Teebu (R. Carrier) 3:01 | 19 You Used to Call Me in the Morning
(C. Chenier) 3:38 |
| 10 Black Snake is in My Room
(C. Chenier) 4:06 | 20 On My Way Back Home (R. Carrier) 4:42 |

*All songs © by Roy Carrier, Chubby Dragon Music (BMI) with the exception of
 #5 - Jerry Lieber & Mike Stoller Music (ASCAP); #10 - Tradition Music (BMI); #15, #19 - © Clifton Chenier;
 #13, #18 - Write on Rhythm (BMI); and #17 - Seeds of Reed Music (BMI).*

Produced by Ray Alden

Design and Cover Graphics by Jim Garber, PaperClip Design

Recorded and mixed by Ray Alden

Digital Mastering by Dr. Toby Mountain, Northeastern Digital Recording

Photography by Ray Alden • Liner Notes by Ray Alden

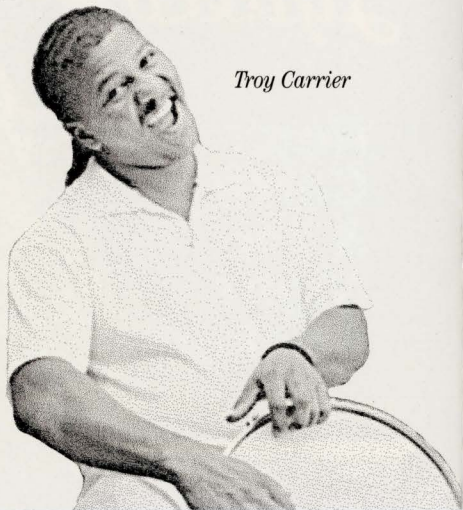
Special Thanks to: Renee and Rick Allmen, Diane Alden

© © 1997 Chubby Dragon Productions, 124 Quaker Bridge Rd, Croton, NY, 10520



Roy Carrier (born Feb. 11, 1947) grew up in a music playing family whose Creole roots can be found in the twenty-two parishes of French speaking Southern Louisiana. The French Patois of this region can be heard in songs like Roy's *Teebu*, derived from the French *Petite Bout*, also abbreviated as *P'tite Bout*, meaning little bit. Roy grew up in Opelousas, later residing in Church Point and Lawtell, all nearby villages of St. Landry parish, west of the Bayou Teche (pronounced Tesh) and north of the area's largest town, Lafayette. When Roy was just over six years old, he began playing scrub board with his father, the accordionist Warren Carrier, just as his sons Roy Jr. (Chubby), Troy and daughter Elaine would later do with him (see family tree). In 1960, by age 13, Roy was accompanying his father at house concerts where they played for La-La dances (old time style Zydeco). Roy wrote his song, *My Baby Don't Wear No Shoes*, based on memories of barefoot girls dancing in their long dresses at neighborhood LA-LAs.

In 1962, Roy played guitar with the original Night Rockers; this band included Chris Johnson on accordion, Roy's brother Murphy Carrier on drums and his Uncle John Carrier on scrub board. At that time Roy began learning double row accordion, on which one plays in two keys, instead of the single key-single row accordion commonly used by the white Cajun musicians. The accordion, introduced to Acadia by early German and Czech immigrants, was adopted by black and Mexican populations before the white musicians accepted it. Creole accordionists includ-



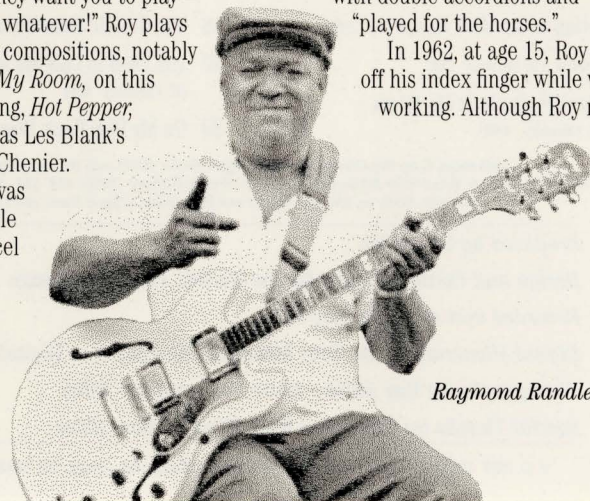
Troy Carrier

ing Amédé Ardoin, who played in the first racially mixed recordings with white fiddler Dennis McGee in the late 1920s, and Clifton Chenier (1925-1987) helped fuse Cajun tunes with the bluesy sound of African-American musicians. It is exactly this tradition which Roy carries on.

Young Roy met and was deeply influenced by Clifton Chenier, his mother Marie's third cousin. Clifton told Roy; "If you start playing the accordion, don't let nobody beat you – I mean be a *hog* – I don't care where they want you to play – go play, rain, mud, whatever!" Roy plays several of Clifton's compositions, notably *Black Snake Is In My Room*, on this recording. Roy's song, *Hot Pepper*, has the same title as Les Blank's film about Clifton Chenier. Roy also met and was influenced by Creole accordionists Marcel Dugar, Delton

Broussard and Rocking Dopsie, who lived in nearby Sunset. Roy also heard Cajun accordionist Aldus Roger playing on Lafayette radio stations. Closer to home, he often heard his father's first cousin, the great fiddler Bebe Carrier, playing with relatives Aaron and Cloyd Carrier. From 1961 to 1962, accordionist Boozoo Chavis was Roy's neighbor. Boozoo had recorded a big hit in 1954, *Paper In My Shoe*, but had left commercial music for training race horses. Roy and Boozoo often went into the barn with double accordions and "played for the horses."

In 1962, at age 15, Roy cut off his index finger while wood-working. Although Roy now

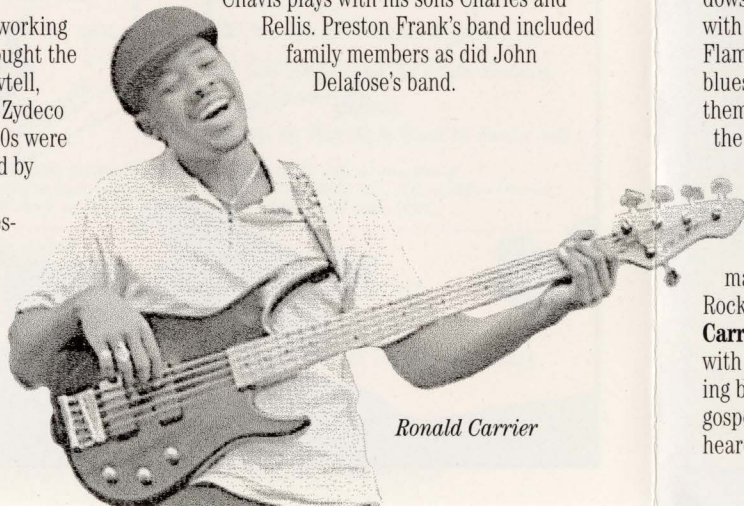


Raymond Randle

plays the triple row accordion, this accident prevented from graduating to a piano accordion such as Clifton Chenier played. Three years after this mishap, at age 18, Roy reformed the Night Rockers with his Uncle John, Irvin Amédé, Metson Chavis and Dave Edmond. At the same time, Roy made his living working as a rice farmer. At age 26, tired of working for pennies, he became an offshore driller. For 16 years he worked 7 days of hard labor on the offshore rigs, coming home to play music on his 7 days off duty.

In 1980, while still working the drilling rigs, Roy bought the Offshore Lounge in Lawtell, Louisiana. Many of the Zydeco bands active in the 1990s were encouraged and tutored by Roy at the Offshore Lounge's weekly jam sessions. Musicians Beau Jocque, John Delafosse,

Willis Prudhomme and others came to these jams. In 1987, Roy retired from offshore drilling and began to play music full time. Roy's sons Chubby and Troy and his daughter Elaine played with the Night Rockers at various times. Each of them had begun scrub board under Uncle John Carrier's instruction. This is in the tradition of many Zydeco bands formed by groups of family members. For example, Clifton Chenier played with his brother Cleveland and uncle Maurice. Boozoo Chavis plays with his sons Charles and Rellis. Preston Frank's band included family members as did John Delafosse's band.



Ronald Carrier

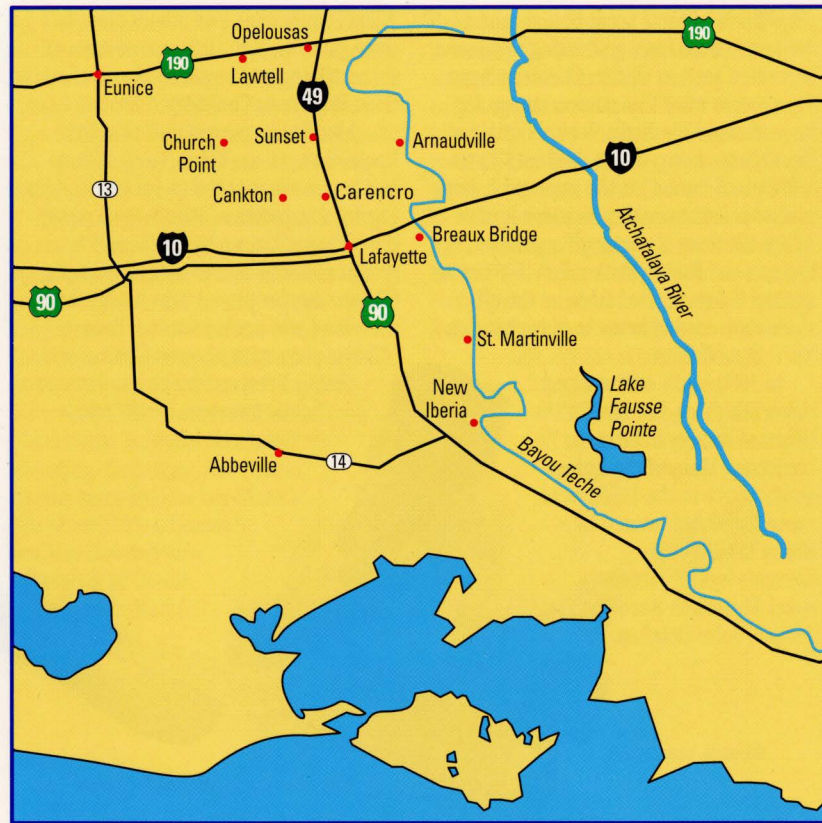
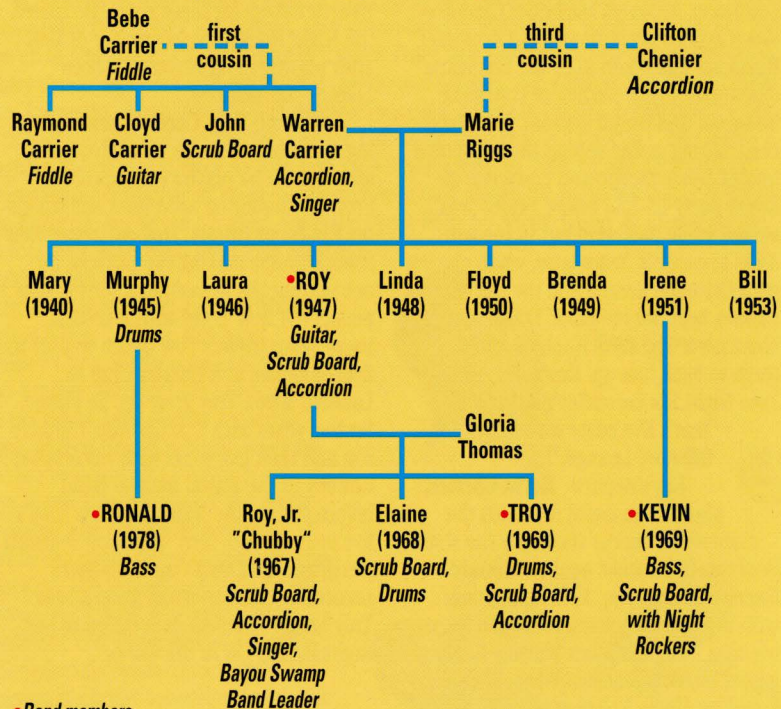
Raymond Randle (born February, 1948), the one non-family member of the Night Rockers, grew up in Arnaudville, Louisiana. Although his father Clarence was a Zydeco accordionist and drummer, Raymond was taken in by the Louisiana blues style guitar playing of Lonesome Sundown and Guitar Gabriel. He remembers playing guitar behind his father and uncles Jesse, Melvin and Lawrence at house party LA-LAs where gumbo was served while pies were put in the windows to cool off. Years later, while playing with Clarence Randle and the Burning Flames near Sabine Lake, Louisiana, blues great Lightnin' Hopkins asked them to back him up. Raymond joined the Night Rockers after playing a New Year's Eve party with Roy at the Offshore Lounge.

Roy's nephew, **Kevin Carrier**, plays scrub board and adds the main set of chorus vocals for the Night Rockers. Roy's other nephew **Ronald Carrier** (born June, 1978) plays bass with the Night Rockers. He began learning bass from his father Murphy to play gospel music in church. When Ronald heard his Uncle Roy play on radio he got

his cousin Kevin to help him learn to play Zydeco style bass. Ronald later played bass with Little Pookie and the Heartbreakers for three years. He joined the Night Rockers in November of 1995 after playing in numerous Offshore Lounge jam sessions.

Roy's son, **Troy Carrier**, began playing scrub board at age nine. Every day after school he played with his older brother Chubby on accordion and his sister Elaine on drums. Troy can remember school chums making fun of them for not playing the in-fashion Rap/Hip-Hop music, but now notes with glee that these same friends now dance weekly to Zydeco music at Richard's Club in Lawtell. When Troy grew up, he played for two years with C.J. Chenier, Clifton's son and then five years with his brother Chubby in the Bayou Swamp Band before joining the Night Rockers. Troy's five year old son, Troy, Jr. is now learning the drums and backs up his father's accordion. "He can really keep a beat," Troy brags. The next generation of the Night Rockers is in the works.

Carrier Family Tree

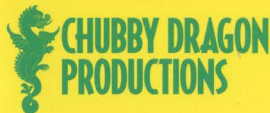


Offshore Blues & Zydeco • Roy Carrier & the Night Rockers

Combining the sublime with the explosive, Roy Carrier and the Night Rockers simultaneously play two dynamic forms of Louisiana music, Zydeco and the Blues. Roy's family, the Carriers, are one of the great musical Creole clans of the Atchafalaya Basin. Roy, kinsman to both Zydeco king Clifton Chenier and fiddler Bebe Carrier, sings and plays accordion in many styles: modern Zydeco, old time La-La, rock 'n' roll and pure blues. Accompanied by his son Troy on drums, old friend Raymond on guitar, nephews Ronald and Kevin on bass and scrub board, Roy and the Night Rockers sprinkle some hot pepper on an irrepressible musical gumbo.

— Ray Alden, Producer

- 1 Chicago (R. Carrier) 4:17
- 2 Who Got Her? (R. Carrier) 2:47
- 3 I'm the One You Need (R. Carrier) 4:28
- 4 My Baby Don't Wear No Shoes (R. Carrier) 2:58
- 5 Kansas City (J. Lieber/M. Stoller) 2:37
- 6 Hot Pepper (R. Carrier) 3:01
- 7 Leaving Lawtell (R. Carrier) 3:20
- 8 Living in the USA (R. Carrier) 2:35
- 9 Teebu (R. Carrier) 3:01
- 10 Black Snake is in My Room (C. Chenier) 4:06
- 11 You Stole My Love (R. Carrier) 3:41
- 12 Tired of Worrying (R. Carrier) 4:25
- 13 She's in Love with the Zydeco (R. Carrier) 2:56
- 14 Let the Good Times Roll (Traditional) 3:39
- 15 Zydeco's Back Again (C. Chenier) 3:19
- 16 Mama Don't Know (R. Carrier) 4:13
- 17 You Don't Have to Go (J. Reed) 4:39
- 18 You Got Me Dancing (R. Carrier) 3:18
- 19 You Used to Call Me in the Morning (C. Chenier) 3:38
- 20 On My Way Back Home (R. Carrier) 4:42



© 1997 Chubby Dragon Productions,
124 Quaker Bridge Rd, Croton, NY, 10520



AS YOU'RE IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT YOU DO AS LONG AS YOU'RE RIGHT ON RHYTHM

ROR008
Made in the
USA

**Roy Carrier and the
Night Rockers**

**Offshore Blues and
Zydeco**