

# SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"

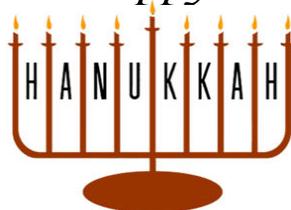


The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter



*This time of year brings family and friends together to celebrate Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, and New Year's. On behalf of all the officers, we wish each and every one of you a very blessed and happy Holiday Season.*

*Merry  
Christmas*



*Happy  
New Year*

## December Meeting

**The December meeting will be held on Sunday, December 11, 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

Happy Holidays, everyone. At the December meeting we will have a celebration with Christmas songs, food, and the annual auction for the Youth. We also bring hats, scarves and gloves to be donated to the homeless.

This month our Member, Lou LeBrun, is sharing her experience of taking lessons from the famous teacher and accordionist, Galla-Rini.

## Studying With Galla-Rini!!!

In the year 1945, my accordion teacher — a man and wife team -- moved to Arizona.

My departing teachers told my parents that I needed to study with Galla-Rini, but his lessons were \$10 an hour. This was a lot of money for my parents, but they took me over to Galla-Rini's for an interview. It was difficult for my parents to afford it, so Galla-Rini agreed he would take me on as a student for one lesson a month. I took three streetcars on that day each month so I could take my lesson, using his son's accordion.

Galla-Rini was a tough taskmaster. His concentration was on teaching students to interpret classical music properly. He was a perfectionist, and expected his students to be the same. There were many lessons when I felt I had let him down, not because he was hard on me, but because he was the kind of teacher you did not want to disappoint. He was a master of the accordion, especially the left-hand, and tried to instill that in his students. In addition to my monthly lesson, I lived for one Saturday a month, because that was the day that eight of us crammed into his little living room and practiced accordion music together. Thank goodness there was no charge for that.

After several years of my studies with this "giant" of the accordion, he started his tours and taught less and less. I was out of high school by this time, and started teaching at a big studio in California, using some of the same techniques as Galla-Rini did for me. I only wish I had more years with him, but I am thankful for what I had.

Lou LeBrun

*Fun With Lou LeBrun*



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- Ophelia Woody

# Mark Your Calendars

Dick Albreski

**December Oklahoma Accordion Club meeting** will hold its annual "The Gift of Giving" meeting. We not only give, but also receive. All members are urged to bring hats, gloves, scarves, and socks that can be donated to the homeless. In addition, we will have an auction, and all funds received from the auction are given to the Youth Program in our Club. Last and perhaps the best, **A Cookie and Candy Exchange**. Here's your chance to receive. All members are urged to bring sweets that can be exchanged and enjoyed by members and guests. This has proven to be one of the best meetings of the year. No, I didn't forget. There will be lots and lots of accordion music. See you there.

**The Royal Bavarian Restaurant**, located on Sooner Road in Norman, OK, will feature the *Bohemian Knights Band* under the direction of Milo Shedeck each Friday and Saturday in January 2017, as they celebrate their anniversary. Music

will be from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Reservations are encouraged.

For the Future: **The National Accordion Association** will hold its annual convention March 8-11, 2017, at the *Hyatt Regency Hotel* in Richardson, Texas. This is their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary meeting. You must mark your calendars for this event. As accordionists, you cannot afford to miss this one. More to follow on this great event.

**A very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our members. Thank you for your continuing support of the Oklahoma Accordion Club.**

*Look for more accordion events in future issues of Squeezins.*



# Treasurer Sez

Milo Shedeck

**A reminder that the membership fees have increased. The \$16.00 single membership is now \$20.00, and the additional membership for a family member goes from \$8.00 to \$10.00. The lifetime of \$180.00 is now \$300.00. These prices go into effect on January 1, 2017.**

This will be my final month being treasurer of the Club. I am happy to pass the books and money to your new Accordion Club Treasurers, Sil and Ann Lopez.

I appreciate the fact that you members have been making prompt dues payments the last four years, and for the support of the Board of Directors, especially Dick Albreski for maintaining computer files to keep track of our membership.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!  
• Milo



**Happy Birthday Wishes to the following OAC members:**  
**Lucy Shedeck, December 13**  
**Maggie Abel, December 21**  
**Larry Gering, December 29**

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](mailto:accordion_karen@yahoo.com).



# November Meeting

Maggie Abel

## OAC Meeting Minutes November 13, 2016

Club President Barbara Duer opened the meeting, introducing guests Ms. Alex Knight and her young friend, Gabriel, who brought his accordion.

- Barbara asked for nominations for club treasurer to replace Milo Shedeck, whose term is ending. Sil Lopez accepted, and voting will occur in December.
- Lois Roth and Anne Lopez played "Harbor Lights" and "Danube Waves."
- A "mob" composed of Historian Karen West, Secretary Maggie Abel, Toni Paulding, Annette Zongker-Smith, Janet Haskin, Mary Hojem, Vice President Tom Phillips, Lois, and Barbara played "Autumn Leaves," "Yankee Doodle," "Grand Old Flag," and a military medley arranged by Past President Dick Albreski.
- Lois, Karen, and Barbara played Lou LeBrun's arrangement of "New York, New York," and

Shelia Lee's arrangement of "I Left My Heart in San Francisco."

- Dick and Toni played Frosini's "Autumn Breezes."
- Dick's solo was Mindy Chetti's "Sparkling."
- Bob Mansfield went international with three songs: The French "Les Feuilles Mortes," the Italian "Luci e Ombre," and the German "Dansa Farfella Kammermusik I."
- Wayne Turgeon played "The Bowery" and "Annie Oakley" (aka "Yellow Rose").
- Barbara played "Expectation Waltz" and "Lasst uns Brezeln Raofen."

Everyone was reminded to bring scarves, hats, gloves, etc., to the Christmas party meeting for a good cause. Also requested are donated items for the auction and raffle at that meeting.

- Maggie Abel



## Christmas Party

Dick Albreski

One of the favorite OAC meetings of the year is the Christmas party. The Club, however, does not follow tradition at this time of the year. Instead of receiving gifts, we encourage giving gifts. Members are asked to bring hats, gloves, scarves, and socks that can be donated to the homeless in Oklahoma. For several years, our Club has kept less fortunate children and adults a little warmer with your donations. We know we can count on you to support this worthy cause again this year.

In addition, we hold a silent auction, and the proceeds are given to the OAC Youth so they can attend the *National Accordion Association* Convention, to be held in Dallas, Texas in March 2017. Please help by bringing a gift that can be auctioned off at this meeting.

Giving is the theme of this meeting. However, we also can receive because we ask members to bring candies and cookies that can be exchanged and **enjoyed**. What greater joy can we have then candies, cookies, fellowship, and accordion Christmas music.



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# November Meeting

Diana Richard



# Garden Jam

Karen West, Maggie Abel

These photos were taken the last two Friday evenings at *Will Rogers Park*, in the Conservatory, when a group called the *Garden Jam*, started by our member Jimmie Woolley, played Christmas carols. The first Saturday

night was the occasion of the tree lighting ceremony at the Conservatory, and lots of people attended. The second Friday, Dick and Evie came!





## 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) \_\_\_\_\_

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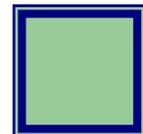
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