

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter

June -- Accordion Awareness Month

Have you hugged your accordion lately? If you haven't, think about all the fun you have missed. In San Francisco, they have a *Ms. Accordion San Francisco* contest where (as I understand) both men and women can compete for the coveted title. The accordion even made the *USA Today* newspaper. The bellows shake is on a roll.

Now it's your turn. I am asking each and every member in our Club during the month of June to:

1. Play your accordion for yourself.
2. Play your accordion for a friend or relative.
3. Play your accordion as a gift of music for another's enjoyment.



Try it. You'll like it. Remember: Our Squeezin' Is Pleasin'!



May Meeting

The May meeting will be held on Sunday, May 13, 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!



Prez Sez

Maggie Abel

World Accordion Day was May 6, and *OAC* members celebrate it in different ways throughout the year:

Some participate in the *OAC Band* that practices at 2:00 pm before each monthly meeting and several times throughout the month at *Bellevue Rehab Center*. Past President Barbara Duer is currently masterminding our practices.

Vice-Prez Karen West plays at assisted living centers and church talent shows. Several members have joined together to form a duo, trio, or ensemble with regular rehearsals in their homes.

Several people on our rolls perform, teach, and even repair accordions throughout the month.

Perhaps you enjoy promoting the accordion in conversations with friends. When a friend plays the piano, I can't help pointing out that they have already mastered half the skills of playing the piano accordion. If a pal likes to dance the polka, I mention that a lively polka is apt to be played at every Club meeting.

The day approaches when our Club is at its most visible to the community -- promoting the historic instrument that has brought joy to so many people. The privilege of filling *Czech Hall* each August with hundreds of people for our free concert is a noble mission, which we share as a group, each year. Approximately 300 people have been thus entertained each year.

This Sunday's meeting is the time for members to play for our receptive Club audience the music you intend to perform at our August concert held at *Czech Hall*. The May-June-July meetings offer the chance to warm up gradually before your receptive Club friends, rehearsing the tunes you are preparing for this event.

Volunteers with willing hands and hearts are being enlisted to support this effort, as publicity, ushers, setup, and parking! Thanks to all who prepare for this annual landmark occasion that is a hallmark of our Club.

That heartwarming Sunday afternoon on August 12, we will see expectant faces in the *Czech Hall* crowd -- including some children who have never seen an accordion played live, seniors with fond memories of our beloved accordion, and -- no doubt -- a few spectators considering joining us in our "hands-on" mission to promote this historic instrument!

• Maggie Abel, President



Advertisement



JUST ACCORDIONS

Sales • Repairs • Instruction

Dick Albreski

(405) 721-0564
7109 N.W. 102nd St., OKC, OK 73162
juaccord@hotmail.com

7-07

Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Maggie Abel

Oklahoma City, OK 73107

405-201-7867

magster@aol.com

VICE-PRESIDENT

Karen West

Oklahoma City, OK 73112

405/949-0394

accordion_karen@yahoo.com

TREASURER

Sil Lopez

Edmond, OK 73013

405/285-9145

sil.lopez68@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Anne Lopez

Edmond, OK 73013

405/285-9145

danz4545@hotmail.com

HISTORIAN/LIBRARIAN

Beth Henson

Mustang, OK 73064

405/376-4407

bhenson1@cox.net

PAST PRESIDENT

Barbara Duer

Oklahoma City, OK 73162

405-721-9657

bduer@sbcglobal.net

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Frank Gesinski

Tulsa, OK 74136

918/492-1715

OKAccordionClub@sbcglobal.net

WEBMASTER

Diana Richard

Diana.I.richard@gmail.com

WEBSITE

<http://www.okaccordion.club/>

Lifetime Members

- Jim & June Butricks
- William "Rusty" Dolton
- Janet Haskin
- Roland Lohmann
- Frankie Martinez
- Bob Mansfield
- Tom Phillips
- Phil Scibelli
- Ophelia Woody

Mark Your Calendars

Dick Albreski

Not Just OOM-PAH concert and workshop to be held June 16-17, 2018, at the *Texas Folklife Resources*, 1708 Houston Street, Austin, Texas. Featured are Ginny Mac (Gypsy Jazz), Jan Flemming (South American), Shirley Johnson (Eastern European), and Mario Pedone (Electric World). The fee is \$150 for accordionists, and \$60 for non-accordionists. The fee includes breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Saturday, plus one concert ticket. For more information, contact Shirley Johnson at ShirleyJ@Vjeveric.com, or Laura Niland at ljniland@texas.net

American Accordionists Association (AAA) will hold its 80th Anniversary celebration July 11-15, 2018, at the *Holiday Inn*, 625 First Street, Alexandria, Virginia. 22314. There will be exciting competitions, workshops, outstanding guest artists, plus concerts. This year will also include solos and duets by famed dulcimer, cello, and violin artists. Grayson Masefield, a seven time accordion champion, will be one of the performing artists. Incidentally, Grayson performed with *NAA Fun Band* at the recent March convention.

Accordion Teachers Guild (ATG) 78th annual convention will be held July 25-28, 2018 at the *Hyatt Hotel* in Lisle (Chicago) Illinois. There will be workshops, vendors, plus original music for the

accordion concert. Cory Pasaturo, Mike Alongi, Stas Venglevski, plus Donna Dee and Dennis Ray duo will be some of the featured artists at this event.

OAC Annual Free Concert will be held on August 12, 2018, at the *Czech Hall* on Czech Hall Road in Yukon, Oklahoma, from 2:20 to 4:30 pm. The talented members of the *OAC* will perform. If you plan to perform at this event, we encourage you to practice your selections starting now. More information to follow.

Yukon Czech Days will be held on Saturday, October 6, 2018, in downtown Yukon, Oklahoma. Festivities begin at 11:00 am, with a massive parade, followed by traditional Czech music and dancing throughout the day. *OAC* member Milo Shedeck will direct the *Bohemian Knights Orchestra* in performing familiar polkas, waltzes, and schottisches. There will be many culinary and merchandise vendors available to satisfy all your wants and desires. In the evening, there will be a grand ball at the *Czech Hall* on Czech Hall Road. Plan today for a day in Yukon, Oklahoma.

Look for more accordion events in future issues of Squeezins.



Happy Birthday Wishes to the following OAC members:

Toni Paulding, May 2

Rusty Dolton, May 2

Phil Scibelli, May 16

Barbara Mahar, May 30

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.



April Meeting

Anne Lopez

OAC Meeting April 8, 2018

After the *Music Makers* 2:00 practice, directed by Dick Albreski, and the officers' Board meeting at 2:45, the Club's annual pizza party commenced at 3:30, with 22 members and 5 guests.

The *Youth Group* had graciously sent a thank you note for funds donated to them for their recent Dallas Convention trip. The thank you note was passed around for members to view.

Members' cell phone numbers were confirmed, and members were asked if they texted, so that a list could be created in the event a future meeting has to be cancelled due to severe weather. If you were not present at the meeting, please update President Maggie Abel with this information at 405/201-7867 or magster@aol.com.

It was noted that President Maggie would formally announce adjournment of meetings in the future so that performers would not be interrupted by members leaving.

Jimmie Woolly announced a *Garden Festival* to be celebrated at the *Will Rogers Garden* on May 19, from 9:00 am till 3:00 pm. If you are interested

in jamming at the festival, call Jimmie at 405/443-7090.

We began our pizza party with *The Scandalli Sisters* (Lois Roth and Anne Lopez) serenading members with "Maria Mari, Ciribiribin," and "Springtime in the Rockies." Anne played the "Italian Tarantella."

Ron Shearon came all the way from Bison, Oklahoma to entertain us with "Je'en Connais Pas" and "DeColores."

Wayne Turgeon performed "The Tennessee Waltz" and "Good Night, Irene."

Dick Albreski played a French waltz, "Calinerie," and a peppy Scottish polka, "Jigtime."

Although we had winter weather, our own *Music Makers* (Dick, Lois Roth, Toni Paulding, Maggie Abel, and Beth Henson) made it feel like Spring. They performed "Easter Parade," "When You Wore a Tulip," and "April Showers."

Many thanks to Karen West for organizing the Pizza Party, even while recuperating from hip surgery. And thank you, Jimmie and Mike Clark, for picking up the pizzas!

• Anne Lopez, Secretary



Posture Probe

Dick Albreski

Are you holding your accordion correctly? Does your accordion feel comfortable? Are both your feet flat on the floor? Are you sitting on the edge of the chair, with your back and shoulders straight? Are your knees slightly separated, and is your accordion balanced on your left leg? Is your right shoulder strap longer than your left shoulder strap? Is your treble keyboard directly under your chin? Is your right wrist flat with your elbow extended, and your fingers curved on the treble

keyboard as you play? Can you see your entire treble keyboard, if required? Is your bass strap fairly tight, to allow good bellows control? Are the fingers of your left hand curved, to allow fingertip access to the bass buttons? Do you fan out your bellows from the top? Do you have good access to your air button?

Many times, we become complacent in our routines. We should not be complacent when playing our accordion.



Advertisement

The Bohemian Knights

Featuring Master Accordionist Dick Albreski



Music for your Party or Special Occasion
Polkas, Waltzes, Pop Tunes & Folk Dances

Contact: MILO SHEDECK
405-748-5376

miloshedek@cox.net

Playing at the Czech Hall in Yukon, Ok.
www.czechhall.com for dates

April Meeting

Diana Richard



April Meeting

Diana Richard





*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:

**Oklahoma Accordion Club
c/o 7109 NW 102nd Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73162**

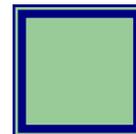
Frank Gesinski
Live Accordion Music
and Accordion Lessons

8035 S. Irvington
Tulsa, OK 74136-8404

918/492-1715
accordionfrank@att.net

Oklahoma Accordion Club

**7109 NW 102 Street
Oklahoma City OK 73162**



FIRST CLASS MAIL