

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter

AAA Festival

Curtain up! Light the Lights! The AAA Festival is almost here! So many new and wonderful surprises this year — great concerts, great competitions, great workshops, and some dazzling performances. Lots of surprise guests attending — you'll want to meet them all!

Kickoff is Wednesday, July 17 at 3 pm for 5 full days of accordion including the premier performance of the AAA's newest commissioned work by Joseph A. Natoli, "Child's Play," a chamber work for 2 accordions, cello, and percussion. On accordion is our own Dr. Robert Young McMahan and, of course, composer, Joseph A. Natoli. Cellist Cecylia Barczyk is no stranger to AAA concerts as well as Percussionist, Bill Trigg — an honor to have them both performing.

Kick-off event is the Meet and Greet Reception on Wednesday, July 17 open to all registered participants followed by the After Hours Club. Two great workshops in the afternoon will certainly pique your interest.

Our Thursday, Luncheon Concert artists, Nathan Chapeton, Stan Colcicovsci and Philly's own, **Joe Soprani** are ready to entertain you. Pasta Night — oh WOW — so many artists on hand Chris Brettschneider, Ray Oreggia, Cody McSherry, **Mario Tacca** & Mary Mancini, and the Westmont Philharmonia Orchestra all are sure to WOW you!

Off to the Mall on Friday as some of our participants head to King of Prussia Mall, which is

celebrating "Give the Gift of Music" month. Various areas in the mall will have performers entertaining the Friday shoppers. Then back to the Radisson to get ready to be Dazzled!

The chamber ensemble kicks off the program followed by **Petar Maric** and the amazing Michael Bridge! This is Michael's first time at an AAA Festival and he is sure to delight the audience.

Accordions? Did you say Accordions? YES and we've got them all. Support our accordion manufactures and visit the Exhibits in the Buchanan Room — Lower Level of Radisson Tower. Maybe you'd like to try something new?? Also all kinds of music, recordings, and accessories are available.

Competitions, Workshops, After Hours, Junior Orchestra, Youth Jazz Ensemble, Festival Orchestra — something for every accordionist. And all is included in your Festival Registration with the exception of food functions and the Friday evening Concert. Register and make sure you have your name badge with you at all times.

Visit the AAA website festival page to view flyers and information about all the events.

Download the flyers at: [2019AAAFlyers.pdf](#)

We are all looking forward to meeting some new friends and visiting with our regular participants. Don't delay — Register online today! **AAA Shopping Cart**.

• *Courtesy of the American Accordionists' Association*

July Meeting

The July meeting will be held on Sunday, July 9, at 3:30 pm.

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.

Before the meeting — from 2:30 to 3:30 — The *OAC Band*, directed by Barbara Duer, practices and plays easily played tunes. **All members are encouraged to participate in the fun!**



Prez Sez

Maggie Abel

Guess which "grownups" played toy accordions this past week at the exciting Independence Day Parade in Bethany? OAC VP Karen West, member Toni Paulding, and I were there doing our annual thing. We squeezed squeezeboxes (see photo) while we handed out little mini-flyers inviting the families lining the streets to our Sunday, August 11 concert!

Such fun seeing the children dive for candy tossed out by the passing floats and convertibles. It's a colorful, music-filled occasion, and maybe others would like to go with us next year!

Our next meeting is July 14, at *Messiah Lutheran*, in our customary room with kitchen located to the right of the sanctuary.

Thanks to those who are volunteering to help out at the August concert. So many tasks go into making this into an event meaningful to those both young and old in the community!

Last month's special guest, Nick Ballarini, drew a full and attentive crowd! The entire meeting, with the exception of occasional forays into the snack room, consisted of Nick demonstrating musical prowess on an array of electronic and other accordions. He took numerous song requests, answered questions, helped members try out different accordions, and delivered his usual wit with aplomb!

It was with great sadness that we learned last week of the passing of *Oklahoma Accordion Club* member David Richard. He, along with his wife Diana, and his mother-in-law Lois Roth -- these three members have been instrumental in supporting Club activities. David always had a kind word to say, and a hand to lend. He will be missed.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Sunday, July 14 meeting at the church. Doors open at 2:00 p.m. for setup and jamming, and the official meeting starts at 3:30.

And as for August 11: no meeting at church -- just a great free Sunday concert at *Czech Hall*!

• Maggie Abel, OAC President



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Mark Your Calendars

Dick Albreski

The **AMERICAN ACCORDIONISTS ASSOCIATION (AAA)** presents *FESTIVAL 2019*, July 17-21, 2019, at the *Valley Forge Casino Resort (Radisson Hotel)* in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. Guests include Peter Maric, Michael Bridge, Guest Conductor Vesna Mihonovic, Joe Natoli, Rachel Quirbach, and Dr. Robert Young McMahan. Other activities include workshops, *Junior and Senior Festival Orchestras* Carozza Scholarship, and Youth Jazz Ensembles. For more info, visit the website at: <http://www.ameraccord.com/festival.php>.

ACCORDIONISTS & TEACHERS GUILD INTERNATIONAL (ATG) will present its 79th meeting in Denver, Colorado, July 24-27, 2019. This Festival is the year of the DUOS. The *ATG* will feature some of the best accordion duos, plus workshops, competitions, and Festival orchestra. Featured artists include Jamie Maschler & Gabriel Rodrigues, Augustinas Ruakaukas & Greta Staponkute, Kim & Dan Christian, and John & Madalynn Neu with *The Voice of the Wood Chamber Players*. For further info, visit the website: <https://www.atgaccordions.com/2019-festival>.

2019 COUPE MONDIALE will be held August 12-18, 2019, in Shenzhen, China. Here's your chance to see and hear the most talented accordionists. China isn't that far away. For further info, visit the website: http://www.coupemondiale.org/2019/cn_coupemain.html.

The Bohemian Knights, under the direction of Milo Shedeck (*OAC*), will be one of many polka

bands performing at a gala Oktoberfest Party to be held at *Fassler Hall* in September. The *Knights* will play on Friday, September 27, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm; on Saturday, September 28, from 3:00 to 5:00 pm; and on Sunday, September 29, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. *Fassler Hall*, a German-inspired beer hall, is located at 421 NW 10th street in Oklahoma City. It is known for its unique food, and both local and European beers. Make plans to attend a real Bavarian event.

LAS VEGAS ACCORDION CONVENTION 20th year celebration, will be held October 14-17, 2019, at the *Gold Coast Hotel and Casino*. There will be workshops, concerts, and accordion vendors, plus a list of performing accordion greats. One outstanding artist who will perform is Professor Frederick Lips. Joanne Sommers will direct the *Roaring Twenties Orchestra*.

PEDONE-BALLARINI Accordion Clinic will be held at the *TbarM Ranch Resort* in New Braunfels, Texas, November 10-13, 2019. A great four days of group lessons, workshops, jam sessions, participants' concerts, solo performance opportunities, study groups, great guest artists/instructors, all in a beautiful learning environment. Nick Ballarini will be at the *OAC* June meeting to discuss in detail this awesome opportunity to advance your accordion experience.

Look for more accordion events in future issues of Squeezins.



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The Bohemian Knights

Featuring Master Accordionist Dick Albreski

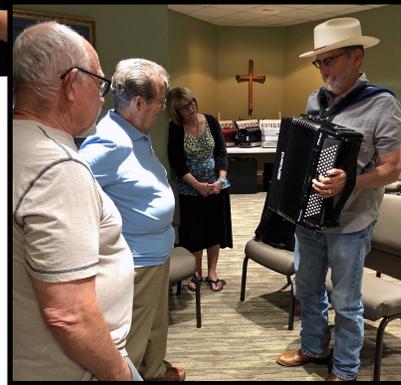


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June Meeting

Maggie Abel



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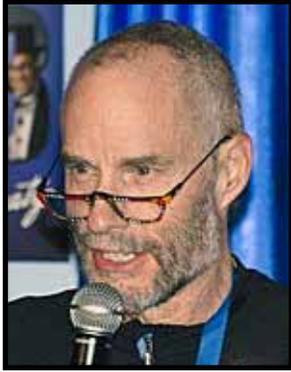
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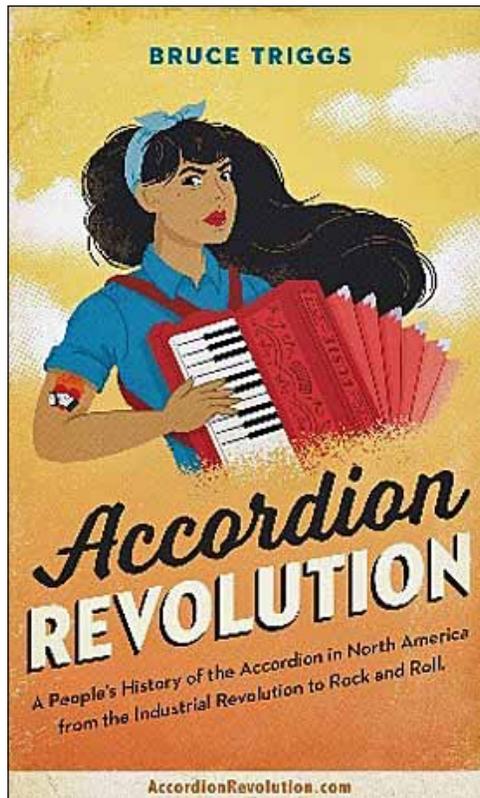
Accordion Revolution: A People's History of the Accordion in North America from the Industrial Revolution to Rock and Roll



Author Bruce Triggs new book in paperback, 6 x 9 in, 430 pages with 60 historical illustrations will be released in June 2019. The book will be available everywhere on-line, and through bookshops and libraries.

Bruce contributes:

"Before the dawn of rock 'n' roll, the accordion ranked among North America's most popular instruments. Arriving in the arms of immigrants: Irish, Scottish, French, German, Eastern European, Latino, and Jewish. Nearly every ethnicity on the continent played the squeezebox. The instrument packed barn dances, jazz clubs, and recital halls, and was heard in norteño groups on the Mexican frontier; Creole string bands in New Orleans; and Inuit square dances above the Arctic Circle. Portable, cheap, and loud, accordions became the



soundtrack for modernity as the music industry exploited them on records, radio, film, and television.

With a new generation of followers, this book invites beginner or seasoned accordionists and music fans in general to rediscover a forgotten legion of little-known artists. With an eye for colorful characters and a sharp sense of humor, accordion historian Bruce Triggs uncovers the hidden back-story of the squeezebox in everyone's closet. "Accordion Revolution" is about more than an instrument: it's a living, breathing restoration of the squeezebox to its rightful place at the roots of North America's popular music.

Bruce Triggs spent ten years living with the homeless at the radical Catholic Worker community in Tacoma, Washington. While there, he broke his first squeezebox at

the 1999 WTO demonstrations in Seattle. For over a decade, he has hosted the *Accordion Noir* radio program in Vancouver, British Columbia, and was in on the ground floor at the annual *Accordion Noir Festival*. After meeting many fabulous accordion players, Bruce decided to write about the instrument rather than learn to play it.

For more information:

accordion.noir@gmail.com

• Courtesy of Petosa Accordions

Try It, You'll Like It

Dick Albreski

Do you ever get tired of playing your favorite tune? I know that I do.

So, what can we do to restore the interest? Did you ever think about playing the tune in another key? It can be very easy.

Here's what you do. Find a pretty melody in the key of C. As you look at the notes, transpose them down one full step. You are now in the Key of Bb. All Cs become Bb. All Ds become C. All Es become D. All Fs become Eb. All Gs become F, and so forth.

Watch for accidental sharps and flats in the Key of C. They will also have to be transposed down one full step.

Your basses will work a little differently. Since Bb is two bass buttons below C, you will have to change the basses accordingly. It is very easy to transpose tunes from C to Bb because they are so close.

Once you become familiar with transposing from the key of C to the key of Bb, you can attempt other keys. For now and for fun, keep it simple.





EMCEE Lucas Ross
KFOR/KAUT-TV Personality

Oklahoma Accordion Club

7TH ANNUAL FREE CONCERT

An Accordion Affair

Sunday, Aug 11, 2019 2:30 to 4:30 PM

YUKON CZECH HALL

205 N Czech Hall Rd (I-40 exit 137)



Previous Concert Audience →

OKaccordion.club (405) 201-7867 (phone/text)
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Bethany Parade

Maggie Abel



Oklahoma Accordion Club Membership & Renewal Form

Make checks payable to: **Oklahoma Accordion Club**
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I prefer to receive the monthly newsletter, the Oklahoma Squeezins', by: E-mail Conventional mail

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

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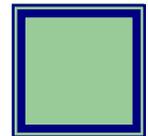
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