

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter



December Hybrid Meeting

Our December meeting will be held on Sunday, December 13. It will be a “hybrid meeting.” It will combine both an “in-person” meeting and a *Zoom* meeting.

If you need directions to the “in-person” meeting, please call Maggie Abel.

For meeting details and instructions, see page 3.



Prez Sez

Maggie Abel

As the year 2020 draws to a close, many of us reflect on the unexpected changes we have gone through. How we work, whether away from home or at home; whether our children go to school in person or online; whether our hobbies have had to accommodate municipal guidelines. The *Oklahoma Accordion Club* can be proud that we have braved the slings and arrows of outrageous circumstance to stick together and come out on the other side with renewed spirit.

Treasuring our ability to use our beautiful instruments to bring joy to ourselves and others, we have something that no pandemic can take away. Some members who have gone through unimaginable losses still strike out to entertain and make the lives of others better through our music.

The Club's Christmas party this year has special meaning, as we evaluate what we have left and what we have gained through this tumultuous year. We will nominate and elect the upcoming year's Board members, bring wooly winter garments to put in Dick Albreski's donation box for the needy, and gather around the once-a-year Christmas snacks we have brought to share together.

Hopefully, each of us has a little song to play, whether Christmas-themed or not, to close out the year in the special way we have of sharing joy with each other. Supportive audience members are an important component of the equation!

We are grateful for the standing location for our meeting which is generously maintained by *Messiah Lutheran Church*. Easy to find and equipped with a lovely kitchen to support our snacking, the meeting room is the site of a welcoming monthly reunion we look forward to.

Our recently formed tradition of conducting a meeting -- both in person and with the ability to reach those far away and include them through the *Zoom* apparatus -- is starting to gradually feel more comfortable as we grow accustomed to its ins and outs. Your cooperation and patience in this regard has made this outreach possible.

Bring or mail your dues this month for the coming year. It helps pay our meeting room rent and the special parties that we have during the year. In lieu of a raffle and auction this Christmas, let's send -- by separate check or cash in-person -- our donations for the precious, talented Youth who practice all year long to help represent us in the upcoming convention.

This newsletter contains elsewhere, instructions for attending the *Zoom* meeting, if that is your preferred avenue. But hopefully those of us meeting in person can renew our acquaintances, and share the holiday spirit with those attending through whatever means.

Much appreciation to each member for their unique contributions to this one-of-a-kind Club that we are fortunate to be valued members of.

• Maggie Abel, OAC President



Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Maggie Abel

Oklahoma City, OK 73107

405/201-7867

magster@aol.com

VICE-PRESIDENT

Ron Shearon

Bison, OK. 73720

580/603-0078

rlshearon@gmail.com

TREASURER

Tom Phillips

3326 NS 367 Road

Holdenville, OK 74844

TomScPh@AOL.com

SECRETARY

Lois Roth

Edmond, OK 73013

405/340-6454

roth6454@gmail.com

HISTORIAN/LIBRARIAN

Barbara Duer

Oklahoma City, OK 73162

405-721-9657

bduer@sbcglobal.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.l.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

January Hybrid Meeting

Out-of-town members, or anyone who cannot attend the live meeting in person, may still wish to experience it in *Zoom* (the same way they did in previous months).

(1) On computer, tablet, or smartphone, to join us with audio and video, go to:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5236709799>

OR

(2) On your landline or non-smart telephone, to join us by audio only, call this number:

346/248-7799. When you are asked for a meeting ID, type in 523-670-9799.

If you want to try out the system before that date, just call me at 405/201-7867, and we'll give it a test to make sure all systems are go.

Grab your Ma and bring your Pa, as we broad-jump into that *OAC* squeezebox spirit, anticipating our upcoming meeting!



Outside Group Policy Messiah Lutheran Church Open Up and Recover Safely Plan:



- We ask that everyone who is entering the building wears a mask. The rule of thumb is:

IF YOU'RE MOVING, YOU'RE MASKING

- Once you are in place and safely distanced, you may remove your mask if you desire
- Groups are responsible for providing masks for their group members if they do not have their own
- Groups are responsible for providing their own hand sanitizer, gloves and disinfecting wipes to do the wipe down of touch points on the doors, bathrooms and surfaces used by their group during their activities.

Sanitation & Disinfecting of touch points: Wipe down all touchpoints used by group including but not limited to:

- Inside and outside door handles on all doors touched by group members
- Restroom touchpoints including faucet handles and stall door touchpoints
- Any chairs and or tables used by the group

Maintain Social Distancing

- Groups are asked to abstain from shaking hands and we encourage doing non-contact greetings.
- Seating should be set up to maintain proper spacing (family members from same household may sit together)
- If distancing cannot be assured, then masks should be worn
- It is recommended that group members use hand sanitizer before your group activity begins and again before leaving

Mark Your Calendars

Dick Albreski

Oklahoma Accordion Club will hold its annual Christmas party on Sunday, December 13, 2020, starting at 3:30 pm, with changes. Traditionally, the Club holds an auction to raise money for our Youth who, in turn, perform in Dallas, Texas, at the annual *National Accordion Association* convention.

Well, the auction is out this year. We do, however, anticipate that the *OAC Youth* will perform at the Convention on March 19, 2021. In order to compensate for the loss of the auction, the *OAC Board* has allowed the following: one student, Laz Elliott, will perform a mini-concert at the meeting, and the members will be asked to donate to the *Youth Travel Fund*. Laz is an exceptional student who goes beyond normal practice habits to enhance his playing ability. As his teacher, I truly enjoy the challenge of — in plain English — keeping up with him. Laz will give a great concert. If you can donate to the *Youth Travel Fund*, please send a separate check to Tom Phillips, our treasurer, indicating on your check that it is intended for the *Youth Travel Fund*.

Customarily, our Club also collects hats, scarves, gloves, and socks for the homeless at the

Christmas party. We want this to continue, as well. Again, this requires a little more sacrifice on your part. You will have to get the donated items to me and I, then, will make sure some homeless individuals will be a little warmer.

The Virus is cruel! It is trying to erase tradition but, with the strength our members possess, the Virus can't win.

The **National Accordion Association** (NAA) is planning to hold its 2021 convention at the *Hyatt Regency Hotel* in Richardson, Texas, March 17-20, 2021. A new sentence is added to the announcement. "Social distancing and mask MAY be required." I do want you all to plan on attending. I have been told (unofficially) that I will once again direct the FUN BAND, and that means — once this is confirmed — those planning to attend and be part of the FUN BAND can get the 2021 FUN BAND music.

Keep watch on this column for more accordion happenings in our accordion world.

• Dick Albreski, OAC Founder



For those of you who knew and fondly remember Barbara Mahar, a stalwart member of the OAC, who passed away recently, here is a good photo of her.

Advertisement

FRANK GESINSKI
Live Accordion Music & Accordion Lessons

8035 S. Irvington Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74136-8404

918/492-1715

AccordionFrank@att.net

Barb's Blog

Barbara Duer

Here are some unusual stories about popular Christmas songs you didn't know:

1. **"Silver Bells"** was written in 1951 for the movie, "The Lemon Drop Kid," starring Bob Hope and Marilyn Maxwell. It was written by Jay Livingston and Ray Evans, who were very reluctant to write a Christmas song, as new ones had never made the hit list. Their uncertainty about taking on such a project also stemmed from the fact that their contracts were coming due, and they had not written a hit in a while. Another flop would have sealed their fate.

Because the studio was insistent on a new Christmas song being written for this movie, the duo wrote a song based on department store Santas and Salvation Army workers tinkling their bells on New York street corners. They named their song, "Tinkle Bell," and fortunately for all of us, Jay told his wife about the song, including their name for it. Asking Jay if he was out of his mind, she proceeded to inform him of the slang meaning of "tinkle" – understood by most people.

Find the arrangement on the next page.

2. **"Jingle Bells"** *"Dashing through the snow, In a one-horse open sleigh, O'er the fields we go, Laughing all the way." While this is a popular Christmas jingle, this song wasn't written for the holiday at all. Originally written in 1857, it was entitled, "One Horse Open Sleigh," and was meant for Americans to sing at Thanksgiving.*

3. **"12 Days of Christmas"** *"On the first day of Christmas my true love gave to me, A partridge in a pear tree." Do you remember trying to memorize the lyrics to this Christmas carol in school? It could be tricky, trying to remember how many "maids a milking" there are. Originally crafted as a memory game, the most popular version of this song appeared in a children's book in 1780.*

4. **"Silent Night"** *"Silent Night, Holy Night, All is calm, And all is bright...Sleep in heavenly peace." This song dates back to 1914 during World War I. On December 24, a ceasefire occurred up and down the Western Front. For the one night, the soldiers put down their weapons, played football, and sang carols. The famous story references English and German troops taking turns singing the song in the trenches.*

5. **"Oh Holy Night"** *"O holy night the stars are brightly shining. It is the night of our dear Savior's Birth." This classic Christmas carol also brought about a truce during the Franco-Prussian War. Unlike "Silent Night," this song was actually controversial. It was banned in France after it was discovered that it was written by a Jew.*

6. **"White Christmas"** *"I'm dreaming of a white Christmas, Just like the ones I used to know, Where the tree tops glisten, And children listen, To hear sleigh bells in the snow." As one of the most popular Christmas songs of all time, you wouldn't imagine that it was actually about the holidays in California. There is a lesser-known version of the song that shows its origin. Bing Crosby ditched this part of the song, and went on to sell 50 million copies.*

The original "Silver Bells" from the movie "Lemon Drop Kid" with Bob Hope:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UNwGVgfkcgI>

[Editor's Note: Skip the advertisements]

"Silver Bells" on a Roland Accordion:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h5QldO5of8U>

• Barbra Duer, OAC Historian/Librarian



**Happy Birthday Wishes to
the following OAC members:**

**Lucy Shedeck, December 13
Larry Gering, December 29
Alex Knight, 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:karen@yahoo.com).



SILVER BELLS

Composer:
Jah Livingston
Ray Evans

BELLS INTRO XXX XXX XXX XXX XXX XXX XXX XXX XXX Pickup
1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 1/8 note pickups.

Ci-ty side-walks, bus-y side-walks dressed in hol-i-day style, in the air there's a feel-ing of Christ - mas.

Chi-dren laugh-ing, peop-ple pass-ing, meet-ing smile af-ter amile, And on ev-ry street cor-ner you

hear, Sil-ver bells. Sil-ver bells. It's Christ-mas

time in the cit - y. Ring-a - ling, hear them ring.

Soon it will be Christ - mas day.

11/7/2020

November Hybrid Meeting

Oklahoma Accordion Club Meeting Minutes November 8, 2020

The *Oklahoma Accordion Club* met on Sunday, November 8, 2020. There were ten members and four guests present in person, and four members and one guest present on *Zoom*.

Before the meeting, we enjoyed accordion music played by Lois Roth, followed by Dick Albreski. Maggie Abel and Ron Shearon set up and tested the *Zoom* equipment.

- President Maggie Abel called the meeting to order at 3:40. She told the *Zoom* attendees the names of those present in the room. She said that the Christmas meeting will have a few changes this year, including no raffle.
- The music program began with Wayne Turgeon and Dick playing "Come To The Sea."
- Then, Dick got us in the holiday mood with a medley of "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town," "Jingle Bells," and "We Wish You A Merry Christmas." This medley is Dick's arrangement, originally made for Milo Shedeck's band.
- Dick also performed "Waltz of Love" and "Une Valse Musette."
- Dick told us more about the Christmas party plans. The younger members will perform, featuring Laz Elliott playing selections by Frosini. Instead of purchasing raffle tickets, members will be asked to donate their raffle money to the Youth Travel Fund. Dick will collect hats, scarves, socks, and other winter accessories for charity.
- The music continued with Maggie playing two Palmer Hughes songs: "The Donkey" and "Charley the Chimp."

- Ron added to the Christmas mood with "Silent Night."
- Guests Kris and Buck Anderson entertained us with a military medley for Veterans Day. With Kris playing accordion and Buck on bass guitar, they performed "The Army Air Corps," "The Marines Hymn," "The Caissons Go Rolling Along," and "Anchors Aweigh."
- Kris discovered *OAC* one day when Karen and Maggie had lunch in the restaurant where she works. The subject of accordions came up, and Kris said she used to play one. She was invited to attend a meeting, and she did!
- Buck told us some highlights of his musical career.
- Dick and Lois played several songs together, including "Tennessee Waltz," "Que Sera, Sera," and "Til We Meet Again" (a song from WWI).
- Dick soloed with "Amour."
- Barbara Duer (on *Zoom*) performed "Rustic Dance" and "A Day in the Life of a Fool."
- Wayne Turgeon concluded the music program with "Tennessee Waltz."
- President Maggie Abel asked for nominations for club treasurer. Wayne volunteered to be a nominee. Thank you, Wayne, Voting will be next month.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.

Our Christmas party will be Sunday, December 13. There will be plenty of music, snacks, and fun! Please join us for the celebration.

Respectfully submitted,
• Lois Roth, OAC Secretary



Advertisement



JUST ACCORDIONS

Sales • Repairs • Instruction

Dick Albreski

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

7-07

December Hybrid Meeting



December Hybrid Meeting





Oklahoma Accordion Club Membership & Renewal Form

Make checks payable to: **Oklahoma Accordion Club**
Mail your membership dues to: **Oklahoma Accordion Club**
c/o 3326 NS 367 Road, Holdenville, OK 74844

Name _____ Date _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____ Phone (____) _____

Birthday (MM/DD) ____ / ____ (optional)

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.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Primary Membership is \$20 per year per individual | <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime Membership is a one-time fee of \$300 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership is \$10 per year for each additional family member when accompanied by a Primary Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Membership is complimentary for accordion-playing youth through age 18 |

Your status (please check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> Professional	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher	<input type="checkbox"/> Repairman	<input type="checkbox"/> Student	
<input type="checkbox"/> Semi-Professional	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate	<input type="checkbox"/> Hobby	<input type="checkbox"/> Amateur	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

The Bohemian Knights

Featuring Master Accordionist Dick Albreski



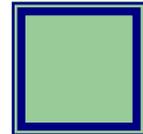
Music for your Party or Special Occasion
Polkas, Waltzes, Pop Tunes & Folk Dances

Contact: MILO SHEDECK
405-748-5376
miloshedeck@cox.net
Playing at the Czech Hall in Yukon, Ok.
www.czechhall.com for dates

Oklahoma Accordion Club

7109 NW 102 Street
Oklahoma City OK 73162

Advertisement



FIRST CLASS MAIL