

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter

World Accordion Day (WAD) is held annually every May 6, which is the day that the accordion was patented in 1829.

WAD began in 2009, started by the *CIA (Confederation Internationale des Accordeonists)*, with the intent to increase the popularity of the accordion. Each association, group, orchestra, performer, and all those related to the accordion, are asked to actively support this event with an activity or activities that support and increase appreciation for the instrument.

You can register your activity on the *CIA* website:

<http://www.accordions.com/cia/>

and then later report the results. No event is too big or too small. The more we do, the more the accordion will be recognized and accepted.

The *OAC* has lost another member -- Jim Whitten passed away on January 29, 2020. Jim was not active in the Club, but very supportive. Jim was one of the very first members to pay his 2020 membership dues. We know now that he wanted to make sure that he received the monthly newsletter. We will miss Jim, and feel good knowing he will be active in the big, heavenly accordion band.



February Meeting

The February meeting will be held on Sunday, February 9, 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.

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

So much news this month, we only have room for "Just the facts, ma'am!"

Northward Ho! *Fun* Bandleader Dick Albreski and a carpool of *Oklahoma Accordion Club* accordionists are heading for Tulsa on Wednesday, February 19! Our "outpost" of-out-of-town members who practice together each Wednesday from 10:00 to noon is expecting us! This will give us all a chance to play together, particularly the five tunes we'll play in Dallas at the *National Accordion Association* Convention on *Fun Band* Friday, March 20. The link to downloads of the five songs, with all of their parts (in a variety of skill levels) is: <http://www.accordions.com/naa/conv7Music.html>. If you want to pile in the car with us, contact Club Historian Barbara Duer at 405/205-6565 for details!

Hard to believe no one has claimed the stylish jacket left behind at the Christmas party! It's too big for me! See photo of it in this issue, and call me at 405/201-7867 if it belongs to you or your guest.

Note that the *OAC* Pizza Party meeting will be held on March 8 this year. See the bright red flyer in this issue for instructions on making reservations, so that food will be ample! You and your first guest are free, and additional guests are welcome for a donation.

One week after that party, the squadron will depart, heading for the Dallas *NAA*, March 18-21. Carpools and roommates help make it quite affordable, and we'll try to matchmake if you're looking to link up for the trip. It's a fun trip, and every skill level is more than accommodated in the workshops and bands. To peruse the remarkable event details, click on: <http://www.accordions.com/naa/index.html> and rummage around!

Thanks to all members for your social and fiscal support of these enjoyable activities. Your Club dues for 2020 help assure that they will continue!

• Maggie Abel, OAC President



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Mark Your Calendars

Dick Albreski

NATIONAL ACCORDION ASSOCIATION CONVENTION will be held at the *Hyatt Regency Hotel* in Richardson, Texas, March 18-21, 2020. This year's theme is "From Classic to Folk — the World of the Accordion." This is one event you don't want to miss. Now is the time to make your hotel reservations at the *Hyatt*, plus send in your reservations for the *NAA* Convention. The accordion is KING, and the attendees are all royalty. There will be unique workshops and ensembles dedicated to the acoustic and digital accordions, plus performers that will capture your attention. The *Fun Band* will once again be part of the program. I will conduct the *Fun Band* in 2020, and ask that the Oklahoma members who plan to attend let me know, so I can get the arrangements to them at an earlier date. The *OAC Youth* will also attend and perform their concert on Saturday,

March 21, 2020, at 1:30 pm. Go to <http://www.accordions.com/naa/> for complete coverage of this event.

2020 NOT JUST Oompah Accordion Concert and Workshops to be held in Austin, Texas, June 26-28, 2020. Go to www.NotJustOompah.org for a complete schedule of events and performers, plus hotel information, workshop registration, and payment information. Grammy-nominated accordionists Kevin Solecki and Alicia Baker (French musette accordionist) will conduct special workshops and concerts. This event is worthy of both your consideration and attendance.

Look for more accordion events in future issues of Squeezins.



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



Evie Albreski, February 2

T. Z. Wright, February 21

Bob Mansfield, February 24

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.



Someone left this jacket behind at the Christmas meeting. It has nice sunglasses in the pocket, plus several other things. The jacket is black and appears to be size Large. There is no tag inside. I posted this on the Club's Facebook page, but got no response. If you or one of your guests at the Christmas party left this behind, please contact me, Maggie Abel, at 405/201-7867 or magster@aol.com.

January Meeting

Lois Roth

Oklahoma Accordion Club Minutes January 12, 2020

The first meeting of the New Year was held on January 12, 2020. There were nineteen members and three guests present.

Before the meeting, the *Jam Group* practiced two new songs: "Hava Nagila" and "Domino." Players were Barbara Duer, Karen West, Anne Lopez, Toni Paulding, and Lois Roth.

President Maggie Abel called the meeting to order. She made the following announcements:

- Our March meeting will be held, as scheduled, on the second Sunday, March 8. The *National Accordion Association* Convention is a week later than usual, March 18-21.
- Our April pizza party/meeting is normally scheduled for April. However, the Board voted to reschedule it for March 8, to avoid having the pizza party on Easter Sunday or Mother's Day.
- If you haven't paid your dues yet, please send or give your payment to Treasurer Tom Phillips.
- A man's black, all-weather jacket, with sunglasses and other items in the pocket, was left at the December meeting. Please contact Maggie if it's yours.
- Dick Albreski, Barbara Yuill, Toni Paulding, and Barbara Duer (on banjo) performed the March 2020 *NAA Fun Band* songs: "The Best Things in Life Are Free," "Dear Hearts and Gentle People," "Il Mio Primo Musette, Waltz No. 2 from Suite No. 2," and "Tzena, Tzena." Each piece has three parts, and was arranged by Dick Albreski.
- Dick wants to have a "mass practice" of all *Fun Band* players before the Convention. The *Fun Band* will perform on Friday, March 20, at the Convention. This is a change from the usual Thursday night performance.

•According to the Club bylaws, Colleen Rettman (newly elected Historian) cannot be an officer until she has been a member for one year. Barbara Duer volunteered to take the office. She was nominated and elected.

•Dick introduced his guest, Jarrell Cathy, who is one of the original founders of the Club. Wayne Turgeon introduced his guest, Richard Montague. Anne's guest was her mother, Cassie Radicelli.

•A group photo was taken of the five Board members.

•We sang "Happy Birthday" to Barbara Yuill, Cassie Radicelli, and Tom Phillips. Dick added a Polish song, "May You Live to be 100."

•Dick suggested that OKC members have a *Fun Band* practice in Tulsa with some of our out-of-town members. Barbara Duer will check on the possibility. [For details or to be included in the carpool, check the *Prez Sez* column in this issue.]

•The music continued with Wayne and Dick performing "Fascination." Wayne played his new Scandalli accordion.

•Bob Mansfield played and sang three songs: "Adios Querida," "Amor, Amor," and a South American song, "Carnival."

•Karen West, Barbara Duer, and Lois Roth played "Don't Be Cruel," as a tribute to Elvis. Three Everly Brothers songs followed: "All I Have To Do Is Dream," "Bye Bye Love," and "Let It Be Me."

•Barbara Duer ended the program with "Monday Morning Blues Rag" and "Accordion Rag."

Our next meeting will be Sunday, February 9. Come and enjoy an early Valentine celebration with music and fun!

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Roth, Secretary



January Meeting

Diana Richard



Your 2020 OAC Officers



December Meeting

Diana Richard



December Meeting

Diana Richard



**SUNDAY MARCH 8
IS OUR OAC
PIZZA PARTY**

You and your guests are invited to
Oklahoma Accordion Club's
fabulous **Annual Pizza Party!**



Nothing could be finer than to bite into a piece of **supreme, pepperoni, cheese, or veggie pizza** -- accompanied by spirit-lifting accordion music provided by our Club members.

So that the pizza may be plenteous, **RESERVATIONS BY NOON, SATURDAY, MARCH 7**, are requested for this March 8 event. Each member is **free to invite one guest**. (But for a **donation, you may invite additional guests**.) Our reservations mistress, Karen West, would like to be emailed at **accordion_karen@yahoo.com**. If email is not convenient, leave a **voice message on 405/949-0394, Karen's home phone**. Or a **text message on 405/830-1058, her cell phone**. In your message, state the **number of attendees and your preference** among the 4 types of pizza mentioned above!



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.

- Primary Membership is \$20 per year per individual
- Lifetime Membership is a one-time fee of \$300
- Family Membership is \$10 per year for each additional family member when accompanied by a Primary Membership
- Youth Membership is complimentary for accordion-playing youth through age 18

Your status (please check all that apply):

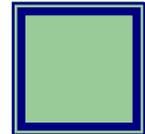
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