

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter

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!**



March Meeting

The March meeting will be held on Sunday, March 8, 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. **Like last month, we will again meet in the Multi-Purpose Room.**

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.

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

You'll be glad you set your clock forward this coming Saturday night, so you and your soon-to-be-well-fed guests can be timely for the *Oklahoma Accordion Club* Pizza Party on Sunday, March 8! Your reservations are due by Saturday noon, and should be communicated to Karen West ASAP — refer to the red Pizza Party flyer on the front page for your pizza choices, and Karen's contact information!

It was a fun carpool February 19 when six accordion peeps burned rubber to Tulsa to practice with the "outpost" quadrant of *OAC*. Dick and Evie Albreski's mission was to rehearse the five *Fun Band* numbers that we'll perform at the March convention in Dallas. Barbara Duer, Toni Paulding, Colleen Rettman, and I enjoyed mingling again with NE Oklahoma peeps Annette Zongker-Smith, Barbara Pedersen, Irene Gordon Bookbinder, Barbara Mahar, John Mahar, Jutta Tanksly, and Vicky Mansur. By the way, Vicky has become the third trailblazer amongst us to adopt a Roland electronic accordion as her instrument of choice. (She plays an FR-1X — see photo page.)

While we were conducting the February meeting, Dick represented the Club by attending the funeral of member Jim Whitten. Jim's participation and sweet demeanor will be missed.

Some excited people are preparing now to attend the *National Accordion Association's* annual convention in Dallas, March 19-21. Carpools are forming and roommates are gelling. Let me know if we can help! At the event there will be more accordions in one room than you are likely to ever see elsewhere. Accordion vendors are present and offering you a chance to trade in your old accordion for a different one, have your accordion repaired, or just test drive a few to see what they'll do! Visit the *NAA's* website <http://www.accordions.com/naa/index.html> to see what classes, workshops, and concerts are offered. Then visit <http://www.accordions.com/naa/conv7Music.html> to download and practice a part in one of the four accordion bands.

In state or out, put some more mileage on your squeezebox! Anyone who wants to get extra worth from the monthly accordion meetup can feel free to arrive early at the 3:30 meeting. From 2:00 to 3:30, early comers arrive at the meeting room to set up tables, arrange snacks, and conduct a Board meeting in a side room. But the highlight is in the main room, where an ongoing casual jam of simple songs is hosted by Jam Leader Barbara Duer. A good chance to get in some more practice! E-Mail Historian Barbara if you haven't already received the current "brief & simple" song list, or she will hand sheet music to you at the jam.

One thing's for sure: in 2020, no moss grows under the feet of members of the *Oklahoma Accordion Club*!

• 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.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

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 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.

FUTURE DATES:

AMERICAN ACCORDIONISTS ASSOCIATION (AAA) CONVENTION to be held at the *Holiday Inn* in Alexandria, Virginia, July 8-12, 2020.

ACCORDION TEACHERS GUILD (ATG) 80th Anniversary Convention to be held at the *Double Tree Hotel* in Los Angeles, California, August 5-9, 2020.

Look for more accordion events in future issues of Squeezins.



Advertisements



JUST ACCORDIONS

Sales • Repairs • Instruction

Dick Albreski

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

7-07



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

February Meeting

Lois Roth

Oklahoma Accordion Club Minutes February 9, 2020

The OAC meeting was held on February 9 at the *Messiah Lutheran Church* in the Multi-Purpose Room. Eighteen members and three guests attended.

The *Jam Band* practiced before the meeting. Players were Anne Lopez, Toni Paulding, Barbara Yuill, Karen West, Barbara Duer, and Lois Roth.

President Maggie Abel called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm. She said that T. Z. Wright and Larry Gering called to tell her they had hoped to be at the meeting, but had to change their plans at the last minute. Dick Albreski is attending Jim Whitten's funeral service this afternoon, and will come to the meeting afterward.

- Members, please pay your Club dues to Tom Phillips.
- Guests were introduced. Crystal Hanshaw and her father, A. D. Hall, brought an accordion to sell. It belonged to Crystal's mother.
- Anne and Sil Lopez's guest was Anne's mom — Cassi Radicelli.
- Barbara Duer began the music program. She performed "Trompeten Echo Polka" (a Slovenian polka from Shelia Lee's website), and followed up with "Calliope Rag."
- Wayne Turgeon asked about the history of Ragtime. Barbara said she will do some research on the subject.
- The *Trio* (Barbara Duer, Karen West, and Lois Roth) played three songs for Valentine's Day: "I Can't Give You Anything but Love, Baby," "I

Can't Stop Loving You," and "You Light Up My Life."

- Ron Shearon gave a presentation on tuning an accordion using a computer program. He removed his accordion's keyboard and showed us the reeds. It's an aluminum accordion, and is 75 years old. He said that dust, rust, and smoke will put an accordion out of tune. After the presentation he took questions from the group.
- Dick told us that he had been to member James Whitten's funeral.
- The music continued with The *Dynamic Digital Duo* (Maggie and Ron) playing "Vive L'Amour" on their digital instruments.
- Maggie gave a mechanical pencil to each person at the meeting. The pencils have smudge-free erasers for use on sheet music.
- Anne and Lois performed "You Made Me Love You" and "L-O-V-E." Sil sang "Besame Mucho," accompanied by Anne on accordion.
- The music concluded with Wayne playing "Tennessee Waltz." He told us he has lived in Edmond for 29 years.
- Maggie gave us the church door codes.
- We gave Karen West a big Thank You for taking charge of the refreshments at every meeting.
- *Fun Band* players are going to Tulsa on February 19 to rehearse with Tulsa members.

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, March 8. Come and enjoy the pizza and music! Contact Karen to make your reservations by noon the day before, preferably ASAP.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Roth, OAC Secretary



What You Should Know

by Dick Albreski

Here is a great article that I found, written by Dale Wise an Accordion Teacher and Educator, who resides in Alexandria, VA. When choosing your next accordion, here are some helpful hints that you can review and discuss with your vendor. Let me know if you have any questions:

- Number of reed sets (RH 2 to 5; LH 4 to 5)
- Reed set arrangements as to Low, Middle, High (LM, MM, LMM, LMH, MMH, LMMH, LMMM)
- Quality of reeds (Commercial; Typo Amano [handmade type], Special Export, Handmade, Super Reeds)
- Number of RH keys (25 to 41 normally)

- Number of LH buttons (12 to 120 normally)
- Tone Chamber (cassotto ["box within a box"])
- Weight (12 to 35 lbs. normally)
- Width of RH white keys (1/2", 5/8", 7/3", 3/4")
- Most popular colors (black, white, red, or combinations)
- RH switches or registers (none to 14)
- LH switches or registers (none to 7 normally)
- Bellows straps (metal or leather)
- Shoulder straps (nylon, leather, felt, or combinations)
- Bass strap (leather, felt or combination)
- Carrying cases (hard or soft)
- Carrying cart (5" wheels)
- Countries of origin (Italy, Germany, China most commonly)

February Meeting

Diana Richard



Vicky Mansur practices with the Tulsa Group on her Roland Fr-4X



February Meeting

Diana Richard



Barb's Blog

Barbara Duer

LATIN RHYTHMS

The Rhumba

Enslaved Africans were first brought to Cuba in the 16th century by the early Spanish settlers. Due to the significance of sugar as an export during the late 18th and early 19th centuries, even greater numbers of people from Africa were enslaved, brought to Cuba, and forced to work on the sugar plantations. Where large populations of enslaved Africans lived, African religion, dance, and drumming were clandestinely preserved through the generations. Cultural retention among the African's had the most significant impact in western Cuba, where rhumba was born.

Rhumba served as an expression for those who were oppressed, thus beginning a social and racial identity with rhumba. The synthesis of cultures can be seen in rhumba because it "exhibits both continuity with older traditions, and development of new ones. The rhumba itself is a combination of music, dance, and poetry."

During slavery, and after it was abolished, rhumba served as a social outlet for oppressed slaves and the underclass, and was typically danced in the streets or backyards in urban areas. Rhumba is believed to have grown out of the social circumstances of Havana, because it "was

the center for large numbers of enslaved Africans by the end of the eighteenth century. Rebellion was difficult and dangerous, but protest in a disguised form was often expressed in recreational music and dance."

The accordion is made for the Latin Rhythms. I didn't know about these rhythms until a few years ago, when I bought one of Mario Pedone's music books at the *NAA* convention. Wow, what an eye-opening experience. Once I learned a couple of the rhythms, a whole new world of music opened up for me: Tango, Bolero, and Rhumba.

I am providing the Rhumba rhythm as an example for practice on pages 8 and 9. Keep practicing until you know it well, then try out the complete song provided. It will take some practice, but well worth the effort for the many songs with Latin rhythms, like "Besame Mucho," "Jealousy," "Amour," "Carnaval," etc.

Here's Pietro Deiro playing a Rhumba:
[Cubanera Rumba, Pietro Deiro](#)

E-Mail me with questions: bduer@sbcglobal.net

• Barbara Duer, OAC Past President & Historian



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

Ted Shadid, March 1
Al Giuntolli March 4
Janet Haskin March 8
Becky Rickard March 25
Dan Hanson March 28
Barbara Duer March 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.



Barb's Blog

Barbara Duer

Easy Latin

Accordion

Cm F7 Bb

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

AmourAmourAmour

mf A MOUR, MOUR C A-MOUR A-MOUR C A-MOUR C My heart is My lips are

5

Acc.

5 true, still, It's just for you, thrill So, won't you love me. res es. A-MOUR MOUR A-MOUR

10

Acc.

10 MOUR MOUR Dm A MOUR MOUR Dm G7 G I on-ly know there could n't be My love with-

15

Acc.

15 out thee This pur passion fire burn-ing my heart a-flame, This wildsweet-desire yearning

Barb's Blog

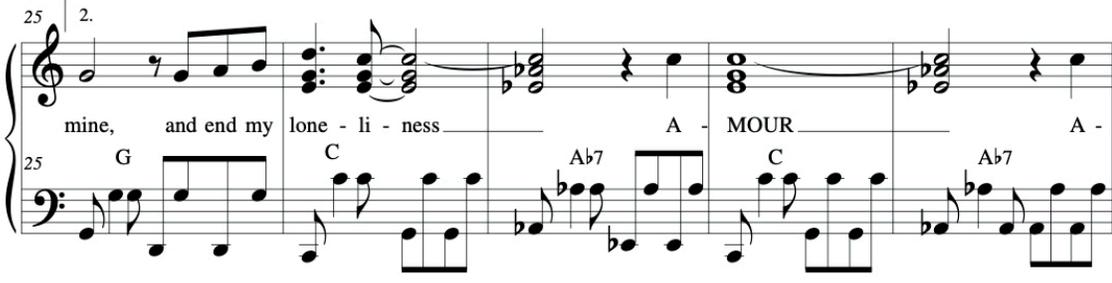
Barbara Duer

2 AmourAmourAmour

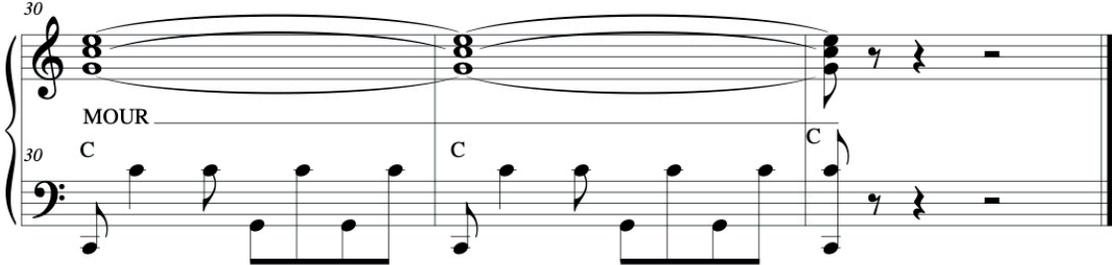
20

Acc. 

25

2. 

30

Acc. 

4/29/2019



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):

- Professional
- Teacher
- Repairman
- Student
- Semi-Professional
- Associate
- Hobby
- Amateur
- Other

Advertisement



FRANK GESINSKI

Live Accordion Music & Accordion Lessons

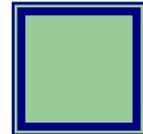
8035 S. Irvington Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74136-8404

918/492-1715

AccordionFrank@att.net

Oklahoma Accordion Club

7109 NW 102 Street
Oklahoma City OK 73162



FIRST CLASS MAIL