

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter

Happy 90th, Lou!



Lou and Barbara at the last NAA convention in Dallas.



September Hybrid Meeting

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

For details and instructions, see pages 2 and 3.



Prez Sez

Maggie Abel

The glorious day has arrived! Sunday, September 13, 2020, we'll meet in person once again. The *Oklahoma Accordion Club* can once again meet indoors in its accustomed meeting room! Board members will arrive early to disinfect and prepare the spaced tables. We have been instructed to wear masks as we enter and exit the church, but once we are seated at our "distanced" tables, we can remove masks as desired. We will have our usual room with the kitchen, just to the right of the church foyer, so "Let the snacking resume!"

This would normally have been the month for our "Septemberfest" but the Board did not learn of our non-Zoom status early enough to plan and publicize that food-laden theme for this month.

Behind the scenes, a lot of activity has taken place to keep the Club afloat during the hiatus from gathering. Board meetings have taken place by email, text, and online with *Zoom*. Board members and former Board members visited several parks in case of a need for an outdoor meeting if the church would not be available.

Our past *Zoom* meetings have had several unexpected advantages. Out-of-city and out-of-state members and visitors have been able to attend handily, some performing for us. Relatives of members have sat in via *Zoom* to enjoy the music. And we have all learned a lot more about this new "Zoomy" way of communication! Might as well keep up with the times!

There's one new trend emerging out of the lockdowns, that I hope we may continue to maintain. Many musicians have produced their own videos of songs or short performances to share online. A cellphone is the only equipment required to do so! Playing music is an ideal way to pass the time during a lengthy at-home stay! And others watching are the beneficiaries! Perhaps more music has been archived online during the past five months than any previous era!

We have a number of members to keep in your prayers. This past month saw the passing of Evelyn "Evie" Albreski, wife of past president and Club Co-Founder Dick Albreski. Historian Barbara Duer and member Lou LeBrun have had hospitalizations this past month. Member Barbara Mahar battles a health situation. Cassi, mother of Anne Lopez and mother-in-law to Sil Lopez, is having health challenges. Our group is a living breathing entity with its ups and downs. But we are all glad to be supporting each other together.

We'll rejoice to see the familiar faces this coming Sunday!

• Maggie Abel, OAC President



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- Tom Phillips
- Phil Scibelli

September 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).

We will "beam" the September 13 live meeting back to these *Zoom* attenders and, in return, they can also play for those of us who are "broadcasting" from the church meeting room.

(1) HOW TO JOIN US WITH AUDIO AND VIDEO

1. Use a computer, laptop, tablet, or smartphone to do this:
2. Click on the same link as in previous months, to zoom into the meeting:

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

(2) HOW TO JOIN US WITH AUDIO ONLY

1. Use a landline or non-smart phone to do this:

2. Dial: 1-346/248-7799 (your mobile phone might not require the "one")

3. When you are asked for a meeting ID, type in 523-670-9799.

4. The above numbers/codes/links are the same ones you used for the three previous *OAC Zoom* meetings.

5. *Zoomers* can check in as early as 3:15 pm to test out the system, etc.

Questions? Call or text Prez Maggie at 405/201-7867.

One way or another, we'd love to see you there!

Oklahoma Accordion Club

Established in 1990

Email: OklahomaAccordionClub@aol.com

Phone: (405) 201-7867

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

Our Facebook Page is named "Oklahoma



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

The intent of this article was to inform you OAC members of future accordion events that you can attend. It never entered my mind that I would someday reverse my actions, and advise only of cancelations. I will list all the current cancelations below.

Unfortunately, there will be no main accordion events for the remainder of this year. I will continue to monitor any and all events and if there happens to be a live event, you will be the first to know.

Rather than lose this space in the newsletter, allow me to add some accordion thoughts for your consideration.

Dynamics, what are they?

Dynamics refers to the signs or letters indicating the degree of loudness or softness. Today, I will stress the importance of playing softly. Have you ever practiced playing softly? This is perhaps the most difficult form of practice, because you must train your thoughts to pull less on the bellows. Playing softly leaves room for

expression. Expression is not volume. Take your favorite tune and play it straight. What is straight? No loudness or softness. Now play the same tune with feeling, another name for dynamics. Add loudness and/or softness. What a difference!

We have help. Most arrangers will show dynamic signs to help enhance our solo. In the soft mode we have:

p (*piano*) soft

pp (*pianissimo*) very soft

Also, as we have learned in our earlier training, there are *crescendo* (gradually increase loudness) and *decrescendo* (gradually decrease loudness), which are vertical angles that open or close the bellows. Incidentally, *decrescendo* can also be shown as *diminuendo*.

What if there are no dynamic signs on the music? This is where you can shine. **Add them.** Yes, take your pencil and write in your own dynamic signs. This now makes you a soloist and arranger.

See, you have improved. Try it, you'll like it!



FUNERAL MASS

Evelyn Ann Albreski

Born
February 2, 1938

Departed
August 23, 2020

Epiphany of the Lord
Catholic Church
August 28, 2020
Memorial of St. Augustine

In lieu of flowers, the OAC Board elected to purchase a \$200 gift card for Dick. Tom Phillips had the gift card made up in nice packaging and given to Dick. The Club received a call from Dick thanking us for the gift card.

Dick said he would like to spend it toward Evie's headstone, so she can be easily found and visited with a beautiful memorial.

A few other OAC members offered to chip in toward flowers, but the Officers suggested they could do this individually. If members send Tom funds, he will make sure they are given to Dick.

The funeral mass was beautiful and tasteful. Some of those attending included: Maggie Abel; Karen West; Tom Phillips; Lois Roth; Wayne Turgeon; Larry Gering; Toni Paulding's grandson, Matthew, and his grandfather; and Mr. & Mrs. Greg Klugiewicz, who are prominent in the Dallas convention each year. Everyone was required to wear masks.

Barb's Blog

Barbara Duer

Years ago, I found the "Expectation Waltz" on the *Vancouver Accordion Club* website. I thought it was the most beautiful waltz I had ever heard, and I still put this song in my category of most beautiful waltzes. It is in the key of E minor, and Songs in minor keys always have somewhat of a mournful sound. Many folk songs are also in minor keys.

I've included links to one version of an orchestra playing "Expectation Waltz," and a second version with a soloist on accordion.

This Russian orchestra playing "Expectation Waltz" has all the dynamics of how to play the song.

[Old Russian Waltz | Expectation](#)

Here's the accordion playing "Expectation Waltz" on *YouTube*. Amazing what this guy does on the smaller accordion. It doesn't take a big accordion to make a beautiful sound.

[Уральский гармонист Дашкевич Михаил Адамович Вальс Ожидание](#)

Listening to these two performances will give you an idea of the dynamics in this waltz. It's just wonderful.

On the next two pages is the music for "Expectation Waltz." You don't have to put in all the dynamics at first. Learn to play it first. You can impress your audience with this piece!!

"**Expectation**" (Russian: ожидание) is a Russian song composed by Herold Lavrentievich Kittler (Герольд Лаврентьевич Китлер). The only thing known about the author is that he served as a conductor of the *Sixth Tavrichesky Grenadier Regiment* in the year 1914.

The origin of this piece is nebulous, as many Klezmer orchestras know this song as a **Yiddish** piece (*Ersther valts*—Mayn ershte groyshe freyd), and plenty of Russians claim this is a Soviet Army song. An even less well-known song that goes by the name "Awaiting" uses the same melody with Russian lyrics. The original version of the song was written in **F Minor** and **B ♭ minor**, while the Klezmer version for the accordion and clarinet is in **D Minor** or **E Minor**. "Expectation Waltz" is mostly made of minor notes, along with relative minor thirds and sub-4th octaves, adding to its solemnity.

This piece has been featured in many media, such as the Russian film "The Optimistic Tragedy," and a famous **Klezmer** player **Dave Tarras'** album *Freilach in Hi-Fi*. Most of these appearances do not list the true song's name. However, plenty of sheet music appears online for the song, mainly for accordion.



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

Sil Lopez, September 15

Lou LeBrun, September 26 — Happy 90th

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.



EXPECTATION WALTZ

Ozhidanie

0603C

Russia

The musical score is presented in five systems, each with a piano accompaniment and an accordion part. The piano part consists of a treble and bass clef staff with chord diagrams (Em, B7, D7, G, Am) placed below the notes. The accordion part is shown in a single treble clef staff with a '1.' or '2.' marking above it. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The score includes repeat signs and first/second endings.

2 Expectation Waltz (Ozhidanie)

40

Acc.

Am Am Am B7 B7 Em Em B7

48

Acc.

B7 Em Em Em D7 D7 G G

56

Acc.

E7 E7 Am D7 D7 D7 G G

64

Acc.

D7 D7 G G G G Fine

7/28/2020

August Zoom Meeting

Oklahoma Accordion Club Meeting Minutes August 9, 2020

The OAC's (Zoom) meeting was held Sunday, August 9, 2020. President Maggie Abel called the meeting to order at 3:40 pm. Twelve people attended.

•Lou LeBrun began the music with a medley of familiar songs: "I'm In the Mood for Love," "White Christmas," and "I Can't Give You Anything but Love, Baby" -- with vocal.

•Barbara Duer performed "Blue Moon," "Zillertaller March," and "A Day in The Life of a Fool" — with a rhumba beat.

•Frank Gesinski treated us to the lively "Rain, Rain Polka". He followed with "Green Eyes," playing in two different rhythms, rhumba and fox trot. He told us the song was made popular in 1941 by Helen O'Connell, Bob Eberly, and "The Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra."

•Karen West played "Sway" and "Only You."

•Paula Bechtold (Lou's guest) performed Strauss's "Wine, Women, and Song" and "French Fried" by Frank Morocco.

•Ron Shearon played "Neapolitan Nights."

•T. Z. Wright didn't have his accordion with him, so he played his guitar and sang an old favorite, "I'll See You in My Dreams."

•Ron suggested having our October 11 meeting in a public park. Karen said that the *Will Rogers Park* has a suitable area near the Senior Center Building. Anne Lopez reminded us that it would take planning because of the rules about social distancing, wearing of masks, etc.

•Maggie told us that we probably won't be allowed to use the church for our meetings until the Covid Virus is no longer a concern. [Three weeks later we were granted permission to have our September 13 meeting at the church, once again!]

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Roth, OAC Secretary



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August Zoom Meeting



August Zoom Meeting



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Oklahoma Accordion Club Membership & Renewal Form

Make checks payable to: **Oklahoma Accordion Club**
Mail your membership dues to: **Oklahoma Accordion Club**
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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 |

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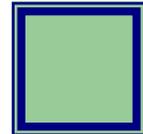
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