

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter



February Hybrid Meeting

Our February meeting will be held on Sunday, February 14. It will be a “hybrid meeting,” and will combine both an “in-person” meeting and a *Zoom* meeting.

If you need instructions for using *Zoom*, please call Maggie Abel and ask her for a trial session on using the *Zoom* meeting features.

For meeting details and instructions, see page 3.



Prez Sez

Maggie Abel

The *Oklahoma Accordion Club* lucked out this month because our annual Valentine's Day party is coming up exactly on Cupid Day, February 14! Although this month we will continue our temporary stance of bringing no snacks out of respect for virus prevention, there is nothing stopping us from dressing in pinks and reds, and letting the dimpled angel of romance do his work during our next meetup!

And among our usual variety of songs presented, let a slew of love songs abound!

As of this writing, the *National Accordion Association* convention in Dallas has been cancelled, as a result of Covid-19.

As it was last month, again we will have the "hybrid" Club meeting -- meaning we meet in person at *Messiah Lutheran* (front/south door) in the area to the right of the lobby. At the same time, those who sign in from afar on *Zoom* will also be electronically a part of the meeting, even performing from their own living rooms!

The *Zoom* sign-in info remains the same as all previous months. Review it on page 3 in this newsletter. Call me at 405/201-7867 if you want to try it out anytime beforehand and, believe me, VP Ron and Photo Lady Diana and I pretty much have it down to a science now!

Speaking of VP Ron, he is now also our new treasurer as well! He will wear two hats! Our outgoing bean counter, Tom Phillips, served us loyally the past few years, and kept *OAC* nicely afloat. Our remaining board members, Historian Barbara Duer, Secretary Lois Roth, and Prez Me, have all re-enlisted for another hitch.

If you have "due dues" for 2021, please send them to Ron (whose address is in the newsletter sidebar). That's \$20 (annual) for an accordionist, and you can even get that nice red badge for your additional family member for \$10 more.

Last month's farthest traveling attendees were Tom and Ron, and several far-located *Zoom* attendees included member Barbara Yuill from Arizona and Norm Seaton, head of Dallas's NAA. An eclectic and geographically diverse crowd!

Please be our Valentine, and let your real-life or digitally transmitted face show up in our next get-together!!

• Maggie Abel, OAC President



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- William "Rusty" Dolton
- Janet Haskin
- Roland Lohmann
- Frankie Martinez
- Bob Mansfield
- Tom Phillips

February 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

Sadly, we were informed that the **National Accordion Association (NAA)** convention scheduled for March 2021 will not be held. Due to the ongoing pandemic, there were not enough members or presenters signed up to attend. Hopefully next year, 2022, there will be one big *NAA* convention.

There is some good news. *OAC* student, Laz Elliott, was chosen to play a solo in the *Accordion Teachers Guild* student recital March 21, 2021. This will be a national event that will be shown to the *ATG* members. Laz will select the solo of his choice, and then have a video prepared that will be sent to the *ATG*. Once the video is available, I will see if it can be shared with *OAC* members as well.

This is a great opportunity for Laz to show his talent to the accordion world.

The Accordionists & Teachers Guild (ATG) is planning their 80th Anniversary Festival in Lisle, Illinois. Join them on July 2021 for a weekend of concerts, workshops, competitions, and great food. Don't miss the opportunity to participate in the *ATG Orchestra* under the direction of Joan C. Sommers. Come and see the special guest, performing artist Michael Bridge, plus many more. Additional information will follow upon release for this event.

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



Happy Birthday Wishes to the following OAC members:

Tom Phillips, January 19

T. Z. Wight, February 21

Bob Mansfield, February 24



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Barb's Blog



Most people associate cowboy and western music originating with Gene Autry, Roy Rogers, and Tex Ritter, but the music predates the era of the “Singing Cowboy” by several decades. For example, that toe-tapping number, “Ragtime Cowboy Joe,” was penned in Brooklyn in 1912 by Tin Pan Alley writers Maurice Abrahams, Lewis Muir, and Grant Clarke.

Ragtime was a uniquely American music, basically African-American, an ingredient of jazz that became popular in the mid-1890s. The music of Scott Joplin was all the rage by 1912, the same year Arizona became a state. Incidentally, in 1912, Ragtime music was banned at the *University of Arizona* in Tucson. Knowing how college students are, that probably made Ragtime even more alluring.

The story behind “Ragtime Cowboy Joe” goes that Abrahams, Muir, and Clarke were trying to come up with a song that celebrated both Arizona statehood and Ragtime music.

The original “Ragtime Cowboy Joe” was Abraham’s four-old nephew, Joe. The youngster

liked to dress up in cowboy clothes, and whenever he came to visit, his uncle would introduce him as “Little Ragtime-Cowboy Joe.” Little Joe came thundering through the room and one of them commented, “There goes ol’ Ragtime Cowboy Joe,” and the rest is history.

The song became a number one hit that year, and was the second-best selling song of 1912.

See the next page for an accordion arrangement.

“Ragtime Cowboy” Joe from *You Tube*:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X92V88JFHso>

“Ragtime Cowboy Joe” on accordion, from *Palmer-Hughes Accordion Course Book 5*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0sBIQ5IMT2I>

• Barbra Duer, *OAC* Historian/Librarian



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7-07

RAGTIME COWBOY JOE

MUIR/
ABRAHAMS/
CLARKE

1. ♩ = c. 120)



2nd time 8va segue

The musical score is presented in two systems. The first system (measures 1-5) features a piano accompaniment with a treble clef and a bass clef. The treble clef part contains eighth-note patterns and chords, while the bass clef part contains a steady eighth-note bass line. Chords G7 and C are indicated. A repeat sign with a first ending bracket is shown. The second system (measures 6-20) is for an accordion, with a treble clef and a bass clef. It features a similar eighth-note pattern in the treble and a bass line in the bass. Chords D7, G7, and C are indicated. A second ending bracket is shown at measure 15, leading to a 2nd time 8va segue. The score concludes with a final chord C.

1/24/2021

January Hybrid Meeting

Oklahoma Accordion Club

Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2021

Our first meeting of the new year was held on January 10, 2021. It was a hybrid meeting, with seven members attending in person, and six members and one guest attending on *Zoom*.

Because of Covid precautions, there were no snacks today.

• Dick Albreski played “warm-up” music before the meeting.

• President Maggie Abel called us to order at 3:30. We stood and repeated the *Pledge of Allegiance*. She told us that Ron Shearon is recording the meeting.

• Dick played three *Fun Band* pieces that will be performed at the convention in March. They are: “Il Mio Primo Musette,” “Waltz No. 2 from Suite No. 2” by Shostakovich, and “Tzena, Tzena”.

• Dick told us that he had to search for a charity that would accept our donations of winter clothing accessories. Several places were closed (*The Jesus House*, etc.) because of Covid rules. He finally discovered that the *Salvation Army* was open, and that they were glad to accept the items. Thanks to Dick for persevering!

• He also said that the cash donated by our members for the *Youth Group* will be used for their convention expenses. If there is no convention this year, the money will be kept for the next one. He’s proud of our group for carrying on as best we can during these unusual times.

• Anne Lopez read a touching note from John, Barbara Mahar’s husband. He thanked the Club for their sympathy card.

• Maggie noted the two members who drove the farthest to the meeting today: Tom Phillips (Holdenville), and Ron Shearon (Bison).

• Election of a new Treasurer took place. Ron Shearon nominated himself, and was elected unanimously. He is also our vice president. Thank you, Ron! And thanks to Tom Phillips for his two years as our treasurer.

A reminder: Send dues checks to Ron.

• Barbara Yuill, joining us on *Zoom* from Arizona, said that she was enjoying 69-degree weather today.

• Then we had more music. Dick played “Happy Birthday” to our guest, Cassi Radicelli, Anne Lopez’s mother.

• Anne (on *Zoom*) performed two “Cleveland” songs: “Lover Tell Me Why” and “Oh Dear Polka.” She told us that radio station WRJQ plays polkas all day, every day.

• Karen West and Lois Roth played “San Antonio Rose,” followed by their favorite January song, “In the Good Old Summertime.” Then they played for a sing-along of “Auld Lang Syne.”

• Dick performed “You Are My Homeland,” a Slovakian waltz.

• Karen soloed with “Put on a Happy Face.”

• Karen and Lois played “Old Piano Roll Blues” from Barbara Duer’s January blog music.

• Ron concluded the program with a French waltz: “I Don’t Know How This Song Ends.”

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, February 14. Bring on the love songs! Please either come in person or “*Zoom-in*,” and we’ll celebrate Valentine’s Day together.

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Roth, Secretary



January Hybrid Meeting



OAC Members Lost in 2020



Evelyn Albreski was the wife of Dick Albreski, one of the founders of the Oklahoma Accordion Club. From the very first days of the Club, Evie was always an active participant in all of Club's activities, even though she didn't play the accordion.



George Secor was a talented and generous man, who introduced the Oklahoma Accordion Club to the Moschino Free Bass System. He will be fondly remembered for playing varied music pieces on his various Stradella Bass and Moschino Free Bass accordions. He was especially talented at playing difficult classical pieces.



The members of the Oklahoma Accordion Club fondly remember Barbara Mahar, a stalwart member of the OAC, who travelled an hour each month from Tulsa to Oklahoma City to attend the monthly Club meetings. This is a good photo of her.



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5:00 – 7:30 pm Pacific

**For Online Registration, visit
www.NotJustOompah.org**

\$65.00 Includes all Workshop Materials (via email)

AND in CONCERT TOGETHER!

**Elena & Gregory Fainshtein
on Facebook**

**Sunday, February 21, 2021
3:00 – 4:00 PM Central Time**

4:00 – 5:00 pm Eastern

2:00 – 3:00 pm Mountain

1:00 – 2:00 pm Pacific

<https://www.facebook.com/elena.fainshtein.5>



Concert is FREE, but Virtual Tips are encouraged!

For More Information and Details, CONTACT:

Shirley Johnson 512-680-0422 ShirleyJ@Vjeverica.com or accsaj@gmail.com

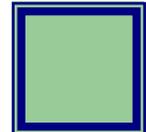
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