

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter



It is with deep sadness that we must report the death of long-time and faithful *OAC* member, Barbara Duer.

Barbara was born and raised in Oil City, Pennsylvania. She had two sons, five grandchildren, and three great grandchildren, and was a widow for several years.

Barbara comes from a musically talented family — her grandfather played the concertina, and she had two aunts who played the piano accordion. She started playing with a 12-bass accordion when she was 10 years old, and had to wait until she was 16 to get a 120-bass.

Besides playing the accordion, Barb also played the guitar, banjo, mandolin, and piano. She contributed her many talents to our Club meetings and other Club functions. Barbara also sang in a girls' trio at the *Senior Cabaret*, the *Accordion Trio*, played at the annual *NAA* convention, and played with a *Ladies Accordion Trio* at local retirement and nursing homes.

On top of all that, Barbara also found the time to do flower gardening; quilting, knitting; cooking; visiting and cooking for friends; and playing and singing country music with friends.

Barbara was an *OAC* member for nine years. During those years, she found the time to serve as our president. Her tenure was very successful, and contributed greatly to the continued success of our Club. Her President's and *Barb's Blog* columns in the *Squeezins* are fondly remembered for the many things we learned from them, both accordion- and music-related.

Barbara is sorely missed, and will be remembered for many years.



June Hybrid Meeting

Our June meeting will be held on Sunday, June 13.

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

Some of you are more than familiar with one of the more zealous and well-known practitioners of the electronic squeezebox. This three-time world champion player and Guinness Book of World Records-holder, Cory Pesaturo, entertains and amuses each year at the *National Accordion Association* convention in Dallas. Well, Cory appeared on national TV June 4 on "Let's Make a Deal!" Dressed in red and bearing his bright orange-red box, he demonstrated the talents of his instrument to other contestants, swinging and swaying before the studio audience. He closed out his performance by winning a fabulous electric motorbike with red helmet. In case you missed this peak moment, here's the four-minute link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HGWj2uCSunk>

At the upcoming June meeting, music presented may continue in a patriotic vein, but every genre is welcome and appreciated. Last month, we enjoyed watching -- via *Zoom* -- a talented teen taught by our *Youth Band* leader, Dick Albreski. After hearing young Luke Anderson play three pieces, Dick exclaimed, "I've been teaching Luke for months, and this is the first time I've seen what he looks like!" Of course, he meant that the student whom he had been teaching in person was -- by virtue of *Zoom* -- not wearing a mask!

The June 13 meeting will again be hybrid. That is, we not only will meet face-to-face in the *Messiah Lutheran Church*, but also, we have retained the *Zoom* meeting option, which will take place simultaneously. The how-to details are on page 3, and have not changed since we began our *Zoom* meetings in 2020.

Guess what I am driving around with in my car? A ton of accordion sheet music and stacks of interesting music books for all skill levels! These were donated to the *Oklahoma Accordion Club* by our late Past President Barbara Duer. Thanks to Barbara for sharing her musical tools with fellow members! These fruits of Barb's downsizing will be made available to Club members next meeting. You'll have plenty to work on in 2021, after you select your favorite pieces from these stacks.

I'm sure you'll want to look through them at the next meeting. So, see y'all Sunday, June 13, at 3:30 pm!

• Maggie Abel, *OAC* President



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- Bob Mansfield
- Tom Phillips

June 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

June Is National Accordion Awareness Month. It was established in 1989 to increase the popularity of the accordion. We must admit that there has been some rebirth, and I personally attribute that to the accordion clubs that do a great job in promoting the accordion. I also hope the virtual world does not take over the accordion.

To me, the accordion was always close to my heart, and there can be no greater love than playing solo or in a duet or trio, etc., and in person. I look forward to our Club getting back to an increase in live attendance, and some great accordion performances.

I also think of my accordion as a **magnet!** I make sure that my accordion is always in sight and, as I walk by it, I pick it up and play it. Try it, you will like it! Let me know if your accordion becomes a magnet!

Do your part to support the accordion, especially this month. You can start by practicing a little more. Look for new music. Join with friends to have an old-fashioned jam session. Support any accordion performance. (Incidentally, there will be

an accordion player with the *Bohemian Knights* at the *Czech Hall* on July 17.) Influence someone to consider playing the accordion. The only way the accordion can continue is by the actions of the current accordion players.

2021 NOT JUST OOM-PAH! -- ACCORDION CONCERT & WORKSHOP!

See the flyer on page 9.

The **Accordionists & Teachers Guild (ATG)** reluctantly has cancelled the *80th Anniversary Festival* in Lisle, Illinois that was to be held in July 2021. Definite plans are being made to reschedule the *Festival* for next year, 2022, with many of this year's scheduled artists to perform. We all know the reason for this year's cancellation! COVID!!

I have seen an increase in calls pertaining to accordion players for the remainder of this year. As I learn of future events, I will list them for you and hopefully the list will be long. Please keep this column in your watch list.



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

Jean Hill, June 20



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

Patriotic song for the month: "The Army Goes Rolling Along"

*Then it's hi! hi! hee!
In the field artillery..."*

"The Army Goes Rolling Along" was designated the official song of the United States Army in 1956. Yet, its history goes back to March 1908, when Brigadier General Edmund Louis "Snitz" Gruber, a graduate of the *United States Military Academy at West Point*, wrote "The Caissons Go Rolling Along."

Early in his Army career, Gruber, a descendent of Franz Gruber, the composer of "Silent Night," was stationed in the Philippines. During a difficult march through the *Zambales Mountains on Luzon Island*, Gruber went ahead with a small detachment to select the best route for his battalion. He climbed to higher ground to get an overview, and to look back down on the marching companies and artillery. As they rattled nearer, Gruber heard one of the section chiefs shout out to his drivers, "Come on! Keep 'em rolling!"

Months later, with lyrical assistance from a number of his fellow lieutenants, Gruber came up with a tune that grew from that experience. Gradually, their song became popular throughout the Army's ranks:

*Over hill, over dale
As we hit the dusty trail,
And those caissons go rolling along.
In and out, hear them shout,
Counter march and right about,
And those caissons go rolling along.*

Refrain: Refrain:

*Then it's hi! hi! hee!
In the field artillery,
Shout out your numbers loud and strong,
For where e'er you go,
You will always know
That those caissons go rolling along.*

Caissons song from YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7MmWAWppQ6A>

Caissons from a very young accordionist:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tLWgN3NGaTM>

Same Caissons song with different player and accordion:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EzGHdnEt7lc>

See the accordion arrangement on the next page.

• Barbra Duer, OAC Historian/Librarian



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The Bohemian Knights

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THE CAISSONS GO ROLLING ALONG

mf O - ver Hill, o - ver dale, As we hit the dus - ty trail, And the Cais - sons go

roll - ing a - long In and out, hear them shout coun - ter march and right a -

bout And the Cais - sons go roll - ing a - long Then it's **Hi! Hi!** Hee! in the

field ar - til - ler y. Shout out your num - bers loud and strong. For where e'er you

go, You will al - ways know That the Cais - sons go roll - ing a - long.

The musical score is written for piano accompaniment in 4/4 time. It consists of five systems of music. Each system has a treble and bass clef staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. Chord symbols (C, G7, F, D7) are placed above the bass staff. The first system starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The second system is marked 'Acc.' (Accelerando). The third system includes accents (>) over the notes 'Hi!' and 'Hee!'. The fourth system includes a forte (*f*) dynamic marking. The fifth system ends with a final cadence.

5/25/2021

May Hybrid Meeting

Oklahoma Accordion Club Meeting Minutes May 9, 2021

The *Oklahoma Accordion Club* meeting was held on Sunday, May 9, 2021. Twelve people attended: seven members in person, and three members and two guests on *Zoom*.

President Maggie Abel called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

- The music program began with three duets by Barbara Duer and Dick Albreski. They performed “Zillertaller Schurzenjager,” “Domino,” and “On Danse a la Villette.”
- Dick soloed with “Accarezzame” and “L-O-V-E,” which he dedicated to all the mothers on their special day.
- Ron Shearon played “Arkansas Traveler” and “I Don’t Know How This Waltz Ends.”
- Barbara had our toes tapping with “Trompeten Polka,” as arranged by Lou Le Brun.
- Karen West and Lois Roth celebrated the month of May with “While Strolling Through the Park One Day.”
- Dick joined them to play “Battle Hymn of The Republic” from Barbara’s Blog.

They followed with “Waltz Across Texas” and “Love Makes the World Go Round.”

- Then we enjoyed music from our *Zoom* players:

–Lou performed “La Cumparsita,” and “Baby Elephant Walk,” composed by Henry Mancini.

–Teen Luke Anderson has been taking lessons from Dick for nine months. He said he is really enjoying it.

He entertained us with “de Coloras,” “I Wish I Was Single Again,” and “Hoedown.”

- Maggie made the following announcements:

–Barbara is retiring as *OAC* historian. She has two boxes of documents of Club history. Diana Richard offered to keep the boxes at her home until we can elect a new historian.

–Maggie has been playing in a band at *VFW* shows.

–Lou wishes all the moms a Happy Mother’s Day. Thank you, Lou!

–Karen and Lois concluded the meeting by playing “Battle Hymn of The Republic,” “Tavern in the Town,” and “Irene Goodnight.”

The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be on Sunday, June 13. Join us for music and fun — in person or via *Zoom*.

Respectfully submitted,

- Lois Roth, *OAC* Secretary



Advertisement

An advertisement for Frank Gesinski. On the left is a photograph of Frank, an older man with glasses wearing a hat and playing an accordion. To the right of the photo, the text reads: "FRANK GESINSKI", "Live Accordion Music & Accordion Lessons", "8035 S. Irvington Ave.", "Tulsa, OK 74136-8404", "918/492-1715", and "AccordionFrank@att.net". The background of the ad is dark with a blue and orange graphic at the bottom right.

May Hybrid Meeting



2021 NOT JUST OOM-PAH! ACCORDION CONCERT & WORKSHOP

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Cory Pesaturo

& Mahatma Costa



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FREE CONCERTS on FACEBOOK! (Donations appreciated)

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Mahatma Costa: <https://www.facebook.com/CostaMahatma>

Saturday, June 26, 2021 7:00 - 8:30 pm Central Time

Cory Pesaturo: <https://www.facebook.com/corypesaturoofficial>

ACCORDION WORKSHOP on ZOOM

MEET & GREET * Tuesday, JUNE 22 *** 7:00 - 9:00 pm all times Central Time**
WORKSHOP * Wed. & Fri., JUNE 23 & 25 *** 7:00 - 9:00 pm,**
Thur., JUNE 24 * 7:00 - 9:30 pm *** Sat., JUNE 26 *** 1:00 - 3:30 pm,**
& Sun., JUNE 27 * 1:00 - 3:00 pm REGISTRATION @ www.NotJustOompah.org**

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"This project is supported in part by the Cultural Arts Division of the City of Austin Economic Development Department."
Additional Support is from Texas Folklife, Accordion Renaissance, Accordion For Kids, USA, and the San Antonio Accordion Association.

For More Information and Details, CONTACT:
Shirley Johnson 512-680-0422

ShirleyJ@Vjeverica.com or accsaj@gmail.com

Laura J. Niland 210-651-4359 Ljniland@texas.net

For Online Registration visit: www.NotJustOompah.org



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)

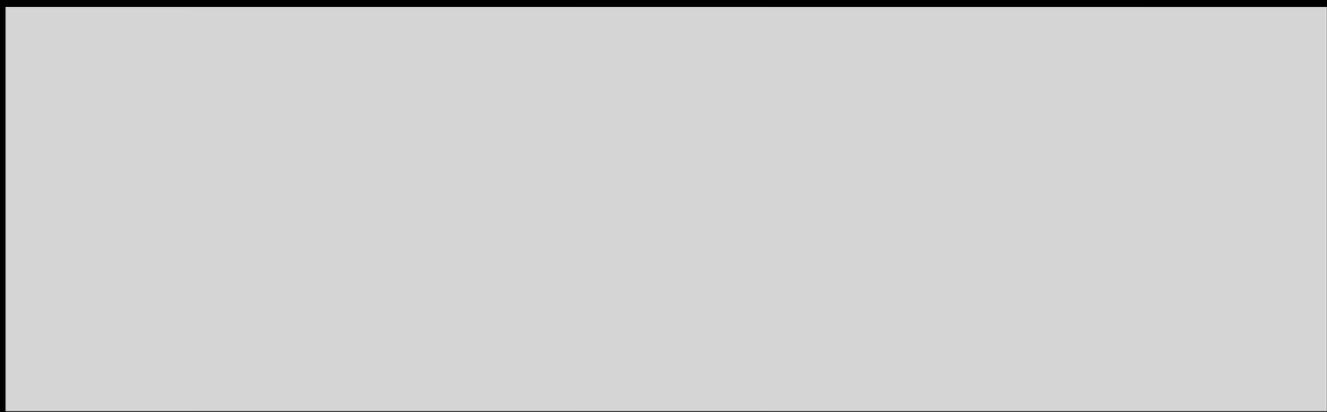
I prefer to receive the monthly newsletter, the Oklahoma Squeezins', by: E-mail Conventional mail

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):

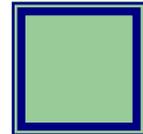
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