

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter

The 2022 National Accordion Convention will be held at the Hilton Hotel in Richardson, Texas March 16 – 19, 2022.

"We Are Back"

Featuring 42 workshop sessions, 16 presenters, and 6 orchestra practices

Convention Focus:

The focus for the 2022 National Accordion Convention will be on socializing activities, band practice, interactive workshop sessions, the dance party, and wonderful concerts!

Same Hotel with a New Name:

We are moving forward! The next National Accordion Convention will be March 16-19, 2022, at the Hilton Hotel (formerly the Hyatt Regency), Richardson, Texas.

Convention event, presenters, workshop descriptions, and schedules are being updated daily on our website starting on November 1, 2021.

Online Registration Starts Approximately November 15, 2021. Watch our website daily (<http://www.accordions.com/naa/>) for up-to-date information.

Following are eight (8) of the 16 scheduled presenters; more will be added daily: Dick Albreski, Nick Ballarini, Paul Betken, [Dee Langley](#), Rand McPeck, Loren

November Hybrid Meeting

Our November meeting will be held on Sunday, November 14.

It will be a "hybrid meeting," and will combine both an "in-person" meeting and a *Zoom* meeting.

We will be meeting in the south pod, as usual, and the door code remains the same as last month.

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.

Don't forget to bring your "Sing-Along Music" that we recently e-mailed you!



Prez Sez

Maggie Abel

November 11 is Veterans Day, and just three days later, November 14, we'll meet at *Messiah Lutheran Church*. Enter through the south (main) entrance, under the portico! Veteran-related songs are invited, but all songs are appreciated! Camaraderie is the key!

Our Past Vice President, Karen West, entertained with "Tico-Tico," and encored with "12th Street Rag" at *Unity Church's* potluck and talent show last week. I attended and saw standing-room-only, with onlookers entranced to hear our "uncommon" instrument being played!

Each March, an annual "Fun Band" performs in Dallas under Dick's tutelage. We locals practice in advance, using songs Dick has arranged in parts, so every skill level can participate. Peeps from other cities join us there, where Dick knits us into a cohesive whole!

This month, Newsletter Editor Frank Gesinski emailed all OAC Club members several FUN BAND songs from years past -- "Music, Music, Music" and "Cruisin' Down the River." Print out that sheet music, then stick the pages in your accordion case to bring to our November 14, 3:30 pm meeting. There, we will play them together for "fun" as a little group!

This year, due to the uncommon circumstances, there will be no auction/raffle at the December meeting. However, our Treasurer, Ron Shearon, will accept donations to offset expenses of youth whose families travel with us in March to our *National Accordion Association* convention in Dallas.

Zoom online meetings have been very useful for our Club over the past year or two. Lately we have fewer Zoom attendees each month, but more in-person attendees. We'll keep on *a-Zoomin'* as long as there is likelihood of its usage! Hence, out-of-state Club guests can be accommodated, and their music heard! Easy sign-in details for Club Zoom are spelled out on Page 3 of this newsletter.

When I turned on the car radio this week, I was surprised by Christmas carols! A reminder to ruffle through the sheet music **today** to select a favorite(s) to play at the December 12 (3:30 pm) Christmas meeting! Such great memories we have of our past holiday meetings! Six things stand out!

- (1) Delightful — sometimes homemade — Christmas snacks!
- (2) "Certain people" wearing lit-up Santa hats and ties!
- (3) Performances ranging from "Noel" and "Mama Kissing Santa Claus," plus our trusty non-holiday fare.

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November 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

Wurstfest in New Braunfels, Texas is scheduled for November 5-14, 2021. If you want to enjoy some great polka and waltz music, plus a ton of good ethnic food, then plan to attend this event. There will be many great polka bands and soloists performing. Go to wurstfest.com for the schedule of events. The Wursthall and food pavilions are completely rebuilt after the devastating fire that destroyed the area in 2019. Think about this one. This is really a fun event.

IDEAS Virtual Symposium 4.0 Update! The *International Digital Electronic Accordion Society (IDEAS)* is announcing its 2022 Symposium that will be completely virtual, once again, because of the ever-advancing COVID Delta variant. The new dates are now January 21-30, 2022. The quality and scope of next year's Symposium promises to be every bit as engaging and educational as the past Symposiums, with a line-up of world-renowned digital, accordion players. Read more at gr8ideas.org.

Annual OAC Christmas Party. Yes, we will have our traditional party, with hopes that a lot of members will attend. We must get back to normal. We encourage those attending members to bring socks, scarves, gloves, and hats for the homeless. This tradition should not be lost. If you want to donate and can't attend the party, contact me, Dick Albreski. We will not (this year) have our silent

auction to raise money for the *Youth*. We do suggest however, if you have an extra 50 cents, that you might consider donating it to our *Youth*. They will perform at the *National Accordion Association Convention* in March 2022. **Bring a friend, bring your accordion and, OH YES, bring a treat that you can share with others. Mark your calendars that you will attend our Christmas Party on December 12, 2021. You know the time. SEE YOU THERE!**

HEADS UP! Yes, there will be a *National Accordion Association* convention in March 2022. The dates are March 16-19, 2021. Plans are now being completed with special emphasis on new talent, new workshops, and new performances. Start marking your calendar for this one, because it will be a great one. Yours truly will once again direct the FUN BAND. Keep in touch, a lot more will follow. Incidentally, the *Hyatt Regency Hotel*, which housed the previous *NAA* conventions is now the *Hilton Hotel*. I'm told there are no changes to the program from that we attended in the past. See you there.

There seems to be a lot more happening this year in spite of the Pandemic. As I hear or learn about upcoming events, I will pass them on to you. Keep Squeezin'.

• Dick Albreski, OAC Founder



Prez Sez

Continued from page 2

(4) Our inspiring youth players take time off from their homework, soccer, and afterschool activities to come demonstrate what they've been practicing this year. OAC Past Prez Dick Albreski is known for overseeing accordion youth ensembles! Make sure your camera/phone is charged up!

(5) Warm and fuzzies! Dick collects our donations of warm hats, gloves, scarves, and socks for those less fortunate. Past years' Christmas parties have produced armloads of such to distribute in the coldest month with the shortest daylight!

(6) End-of-year meeting is time to pay Club dues for 2021! \$20 for members, \$10 for additional family members, \$300 for lifetime members. Treasurer Ron will officiate!

November fellowship with other squeezeboxers provides us with much to be thankful for! Our accordion enthusiasts welcome you and your family and friends to partake in musical enjoyment.

• Maggie Abel, OAC President



Happy Birthday Wishes to
the following OAC member:

Donna Dove, November 16

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.



October Hybrid Meeting

Oklahoma Accordion Club Meeting Minutes October 10, 2021

The *OAC* met on Sunday, October 10, 2021, at the usual venue, *Messiah Lutheran Church*. People were greeted with a variety of German songs played by Anne Lopez and Lois Roth.

There were eleven members and three guests present in person. The *Zoom* connection remained open throughout the meeting, but no one signed in.

- President Maggie Abel called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm. We stood and recited "The Pledge of Allegiance."
- Maggie and her guest, Frank Boyd, were dressed in colorful German folk costumes, and they added to the fun by dancing the polka.
- The music program began with the Junior Fun Band playing the songs that Karen West and Frank Gesinski emailed to members a few weeks ago: "Schnee Waltzer" and "Just Because."
Players were Dick Albreski, Karen, Anne, Maggie, and Lois.
- Barbara Yuill and Dick performed a lovely waltz duet: "Trattoria il Centro."
Dick soloed with "Madeline Polka," and an Italian song.
- Dick told us that he is busy with 21 gigs this month, but he managed to "squeeze us in."
Thank you, Dick!
- Wayne Turgeon was visiting in person from his new home in England. We were all happy to see him!
He said he is taking lessons from Dick via *Zoom*.
He played "Cruising Down The River" and "A-Hunting We Will Go."

Yes, there are accordionists in England! Wayne said he hopes to join a jam group and have some fun.

- Wayne easily won the monthly "Who Came the Farthest to the Meeting" contest.
- Music continued with Maggie playing "Lida Rose" and "Til There Was You" — two great songs from "The Music Man".
- Both Maggie and Karen attend music classes at the *Will Rogers Senior Center*.
An interesting article about Maggie appeared in the August-September issue of *Caregiver Magazine*. It told about her busy life, and included photos of her with her accordion.
- Next, Ron Shearon played "This Is Our Song For You" on his *Roland 4x* accordion, following with a duet, "Silent Night". He had recorded the melody part previously, and he played the harmony part "live"— Saccompanying himself! He demonstrated several of the Roland accordion's 120 instruments/voices.
- Anne and Lois handed out song sheets, and we harmonized with "Lilli Marlene" and "Edelweiss."

Then it was dance time, and everyone joined in the traditional "Chicken Dance."

- Anne and Lois played a German Landler — "The Country Musician," and "Rain, Rain Polka."
- Karen and Lois concluded the meeting with more German music: "Hoffbrauhaus" and "Schutzenliesel."

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.

We'll meet again Sunday, November 14, at 3:30 pm at *Messiah*. All players and listeners are invited!

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Roth, *OAC* Secretary



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October Hybrid Meeting



October Hybrid Meeting





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):

<input type="checkbox"/> Professional	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher	<input type="checkbox"/> Repairman	<input type="checkbox"/> Student	
<input type="checkbox"/> Semi-Professional	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate	<input type="checkbox"/> Hobby	<input type="checkbox"/> Amateur	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

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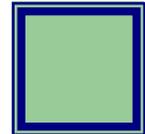


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