

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter



June is... National Accordion Awareness Month

www.NationalDayCalendar.com



A one and a two and a three...! June is *National Accordion Awareness Month*.

Through a complex construction of bellows and reeds, the accordion (also known as a concertina) produces its mournful timbre when air is forced over the reeds. While the accordion accompanies traditional polka music, the instrument has found its way into many classical and modern works of music.

For generations the accordion complimented many genres in American music. From Jazz and Zydeco to folk and Gospel and Blues, musicians found the accordion a fit a variety of musical styles.

The instrument changed, too. Manufactured in several different sizes, the smaller squeezeboxes became popular. The accordion fit well into country music, and when Rock and Roll made the scene, the accordion followed. Today, the instrument is no stranger to the recording studio.

Musicians such as Paul Simon, Bruce Springsteen, John Mellencamp, and Mumford and Sons all have recorded hit songs with the accordion playing a supporting role.

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June Hybrid Meeting

Our June meeting will be held on Sunday, June 12, at 3:30 pm.

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

Masking is not required for meeting attendance, but you are welcome to wear one.

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 pages 3.

Don't forget to bring your Music included at the end of this newsletter.



Prez Sez

Maggie Abel

Everyone is welcome to attend our monthly meetings at *Messiah Lutheran*. This month's meetup is the second Sunday of the month, as usual. That would be June 12 at 3:30 pm at *Messiah Lutheran Church* at the SE corner of Portland and NW Expressway. Bring yourself, your accordion, and any friends who like to sit back and enjoy live, wholesome music!

Some people are not aware that the *Oklahoma Accordion Club* has a Facebook age you can visit or subscribe to. Yes, there is!

Although our Club meets in person, to benefit any out-of-townners or car-free households, we also currently maintain an open line for *Zoom* attendees. If you need a tad of instruction to get started on that, read the paragraph on page 3 of this newsletter, or just call me at 405/201-7867, and you and I can test it out! You can use your computer or smart phone for the audio and visual, or even just your non-smart phone for audio only.

Pretty much every other Saturday night, The *Bohemian Knights* perform at Yukon's *Czech Hall*. The band plays plenty of polkas, throwing in a few waltzes and rhumbas to let you catch your breath.

If you bring children or grandchildren -- or if you are just plain young-at-heart yourself -- you may enjoy their occasional novelty dances, such as the "Flying Dutchman," the "Mexican Hat Dance," and of course, the infamous "Chicken Dance."

Playing in the band on Saturday night, June 18, are former *OAC* Treasurer, Milo Shedeck, and Founding Member and Past President Dick Albreski. If you get a hot dog at the snack bar, don't get mustard on your napkin, because there's an outside chance you could talk Milo and Dick into signing it for your celebrity collection.

But extra special thanks go to our dues-paying members, whose help pays for our monthly meeting room rental; special events such as our pizza party, German Fest party, and Christmas party; and special Youth benefits.

Repetition is key for practicing the accordion and, in that vein, we are repeating last month's song of the month, "Of Thee I Sing," to play together at the June meetup. You'll find "Of Thee I Sing" attached to this digital newsletter!

See you Sunday, June 12 at 3:30 pm!

• Maggie Abel, *OAC* President



Advertisement

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

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- William "Rusty" Dolton
- Janet Haskin
- Roland Lohmann
- Frankie Martinez
- Bob Mansfield
- Tom Phillips
- Phil Scibelli
- Ophelia Woody

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!



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 80th (ATG) Accordions Teachers Guild Anniversary Convention will be held in the Chicago area (Lisle, Illinois) July 20-24, 2022. The ATG is also promoting a Band Workshop. At this Festival, they hope to have an 80-piece accordion band to commemorate their 80th anniversary. The fee to hold your seat is \$25.00, and will be applied towards your festival registration. More information will follow.

The 2022 AAA (American Accordion Association) Festival has been postponed until 2023. Due to the AAA's commitment to the health and safety of its members, attendees, and guest artists, they have elected to postpone this year's event. You can visit their website: www.ameraccord.com for more information.

Gordon Koh Presents On-Line Workshops on Sundays, that cover a variety of music. For more

information, you can contact Gordon at gkohl5890@gmail.com. The fee is \$20.00, and will include handouts in PDF form.

NOT JUST OOMPAH will host a special summer live event in Austin, Texas, with Lori Brooke presenting "Western Swing," and Alex Meixner presenting "Polka Magic." This event will be held at the *Hilton Garden Inn*, Austin, Texas, June 25-26, and the cost is \$175.00, which includes workshops, meals, plus other amenities. Registration, payment, daily schedule, and hotel options will be available after May5 at www.NotJustOompah.org.

As future events happen, hopefully we will see them in advance to make plans. Keep checkin' this column.

• Dick Albreski, OAC Co-Founder



National Accordion Awareness Month

Continued from front page

HOW TO OBSERVE

Learn about the history and kinds of accordions. Each one produces a different quality sound. The sophisticated instrument is not only beautiful to hear but to witness being played. Find a local performance near you or watch a video. Take up lessons. Use "#NationalAccordionAwarenessMonth" to share on social media.

HISTORY

Since 1989, *National Accordion Awareness Month* has been educating the public about the musical stamina of this outstanding instrument.



Happy Belated and Birthday Wishes to the following OAC members:

Rusty Dolton, May 2
Tony Paulding, May 2
Robert Mercer, May 19
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.



May Hybrid Meeting

Oklahoma Accordion Club Meeting Minutes May 14, 2022

The *Oklahoma Accordion Club* held a meeting on Sunday, May 8, 2022, at *Messiah Lutheran Church*. Ten members attended in person.

President Maggie Abel called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm. She welcomed everyone to our annual Mother's Day meeting.

Our Treasurer and VP Ron Shearon led us in reciting "The Pledge of Allegiance."

- Maggie had planned a slide show but as her laptop was in the shop, we received a subset of the slideshow as an Accordion Trivia Quiz, with the questions throughout the meeting.

- Through it we learned the answer earthshaking questions such as:

- "Which accordionist married Mae West?"

- "When is *World Accordion Day* celebrated?"

- "What accordionist appeared on *The Ed Sullivan Show* 48 times?"

- Ron opened the music program with the harmony part of "Drink to Me Only with Thine Eyes." He said that song was his first concert solo at *Czech Hall*. He followed with "Neapolitan Nights" and "I Don't Know How This Song Ends."

- Janet Haskin came from Stillwater to play for us. She performed "Amazing Grace," "I'll Fly Away," and "Battle Hymn of the Republic." She

said she will be performing these songs for her church. She told us she's enjoying life in Stillwater, and finds the people friendly and helpful.

- Dick Albreski took the stage and played three songs: "Twilight Time" (a favorite of Tony Lovello), "Si Bon," and "The Pennsylvania Polka."

- Dick will be playing accordion with *The Bohemian Knights* at *Czech Hall* on Saturday, June 18.

- Winston Sok showed the group how he is progressing. He played "Merry Widow Waltz," "Hurray for Love," "Drink to Me Only with Thine Eyes," and "Echo Waltz."

- Anne Lopez and Lois Roth performed "A Gay Ranchero" and "Ashoken Farewell."

- Then the duo presented a lively jam session, entertaining audience requests. They played "Snow Waltz," "You Are My Sunshine," "Rain, Rain Polka," "When It's Springtime in The Rockies," "Tavern in The Town," "In Heaven There Is No Beer," "Chiapanecas," and "Harbor Lights."

- Anne soloed with "La Cucaracha," "Jarabe Tapatio," and a song she learned years ago in Costa Rica called "Temporary Love" ("Amor Atemporada").

- Lois played "My Old Kentucky Home" and "Mexicali Rose."

Meeting was adjourned.

- Lois Roth, *OAC* Secretary



National Accordion Appreciation Month

The accordion (also called the "concertina") is primarily used to accompany traditional polka music but has been featured in many classical and modern musical works, from Jazz and Zydeco to Folk, Gospel, and Blues.

The oldest name for the accordion is derived from the Greek word "harmonikos," which means "harmonic" or "musical." It goes by many names across the world — "Akkerdeon" in Germany, "Fiarmonica" in Italy, "Bayan" in Russia, "Sun-Fin-Chin" in China, "Harmonium" in Pakistan, and "Trekspill" in Norway. But it is commonly just called "accordion" in many countries.

The invention of this humble instrument is a subject of much debate among researchers. Some credit Austria as its birthplace, others think it was invented in Berlin. What researchers do know is

that the accordion spread around the globe because of European immigration into other countries.

This instrument made it into popular music in the 19th century, with five players — Pietro Frosini, brothers Count Guido Deiro and Pietro Deiro, Slovenian brothers Vilko Ovsenik and Slavko Avsenik, and Charles Magnante — becoming major influences during this period. While vaudeville theaters closed during the *Great Depression*, accordionists performed for and taught via the radio. The rise of Rock and Roll finally caused the decline of accordions in popular music, but the instrument has since been revived, with multiple musicians like Bruce Springsteen and John Mellencamp using the accordion in their songs.

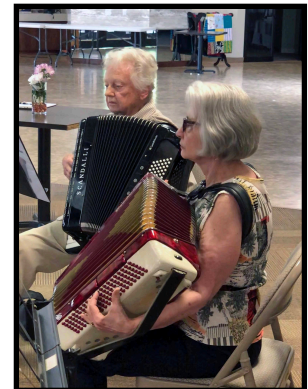
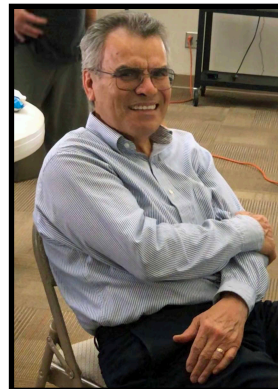
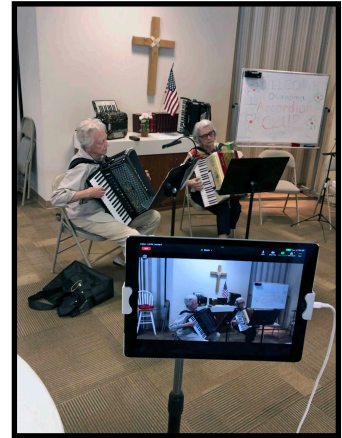
May Hybrid Meeting

Maggie Abel



May Hybrid Meeting

Diana Richard





Oklahoma Accordion Club Membership & Renewal Form

Make checks payable to: **Oklahoma Accordion Club**
Mail your membership dues to: **Oklahoma Accordion Club**
c/o 209 South 2nd; Bison, OK 7370

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

Oklahoma Accordion Club

7109 NW 102 Street

Oklahoma City, OK 73162



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Accordion
1st Accordion

OF THEE I SING

Vivace (lively w/feeling)

Arranged for the 2012 N.A.A. Recreational Band by Dick Albreski

The musical score is written for a 1st Accordion in treble and bass clefs. It consists of six systems of music, each with a key signature change indicated by a letter in a box (A, B, C, D, E, F, G) and a measure number. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and fingerings. Dynamics include *p (soft)*, *f (loud)*, *mf (mod. loud)*, *sempre staccato*, and *ff (very loud)*. The piece concludes with a *fine* marking.

1 2 1 5 4 [A] 1 2

p (soft) *f (loud)* *mf (mod. loud)*

7 3 5 4 [B] 3 1 1 3 2 1 2

13 [C] 5 3 1 2 3 2 1 2 [D] 1 2

19 1 5 4 [E] 1 2 3 5

25 [F] 3 2 3 1 3 2 1 3 5 2 3 1 3 3 [G] 2 1 4

sempre staccato *p (soft)* *f (loud)*

31 2 2 3 4 5

p (soft) *ff (very loud)* *fine*

This arrangement is for educational purposes only and not to be used for profit

Accordion

OF THEE I SING

2nd Accordion

Arranged for the 2012 N.A.A. Recreational Band by Dick Albreski

Vivace (lively /feeling)

The musical score is written for a 2nd Accordion in treble and bass clefs. It consists of six systems of music, each with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The tempo is marked 'Vivace (lively /feeling)'. The score includes various dynamics: *p* (soft), *f* (loud), *mf* (mod. loud), *ff* (very loud), and *fine*. It also includes articulation marks like *sempre staccato* and fingerings (1-5, 7). The score is divided into sections labeled A, B, C, D, E, F, and G. Section A starts at measure 1 and ends at measure 6. Section B starts at measure 7 and ends at measure 12. Section C starts at measure 13 and ends at measure 18. Section D starts at measure 19 and ends at measure 24. Section E starts at measure 25 and ends at measure 30. Section F starts at measure 31 and ends at measure 36. Section G starts at measure 37 and ends at measure 42. The score concludes with a *fine* marking at the end of measure 42.

1 *p* (soft) *M* *f* (loud) *mf* (mod. loud) 2 7

7 3 5 *M* *mi* *M* *mi* *mi* 7 *M*

13 *M* *mi* *M* 7 *M* *p* (soft) *M*

19 *f* (loud) *M* 7 *mi* 7

25 *sempre staccato* *p* (soft) *M* *mi* *f* (loud) 3-1 1-3 4

31 *M* 7 *p* (soft) *mi* 7 *M* *ff* (very loud) *fine*

This arrangement is for educational purposes only and not to be used for profit

Accordion
3rd Accordion

OF THEE I SING

Arranged for the 2012 N.A.A. Recreational Band by Dick Albreski

Vivace (Lively w/feeling)

The musical score is written for a 3rd Accordion in treble and bass clefs. It consists of six systems of music, each with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked 'Vivace (Lively w/feeling)'. The score includes various dynamics: *p* (soft), *f* (loud), *mf* (mod. loud), *sempre staccato*, and *ff* (very loud). Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5 above notes and 7 below notes. The score is divided into sections labeled A through G. Section A (measures 1-7) starts with a *p* dynamic and moves to *f* and *mf*. Section B (measures 8-14) features a melodic line with a *mi* note in the bass. Section C (measures 15-21) includes a *p* dynamic and a *f* dynamic. Section D (measures 22-28) is marked *sempre staccato*. Section E (measures 29-32) features a *p* dynamic and a *f* dynamic. Section F (measures 33-38) includes a *p* dynamic and a *ff* dynamic. The score ends with a *fine* marking.

1 *p* (soft) *f* (loud) *mf* (mod. loud)

8 *mi* *mi* *mi* *mi* *mi* *mi* *mi*

15 *p* (soft) *f* (loud)

22 *sempre staccato*

29 *p* (soft) *f* (loud)

33 *p* (soft) *ff* (very loud) *fine*

This arrangement is for educational purposes only and not to be used for profit