

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"

The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter



January Hybrid Meeting

Our January meeting will be held on Sunday, January 8, at 3:30 pm ([see page 5](#)). It will be a "hybrid meeting," and will combine both an "in-person" meeting and a *Zoom* meeting. Please follow the signs.

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

Congrats to the always-decorated Past Vice President Karen West for winning the most spectacular Christmas garb award last month for her antlers and jingle bells!

Wasn't it great to hear the results of the dedication of those young people who performed at the Christmas party? All are students of Past President Dick Albreski.

Are you one who likes to make New Year's resolutions? Hopefully one of those resolutions involves regular practice time on your accordion! Dick tells me that a little time spent on it each day is preferable to cramming all those practices into one long one.

Gracias to Club Photographer Diana Richard for the pictures documenting last month's party.

Thanks to member Frank Boyd for decorating and illustrating our welcome whiteboard each Sunday before the meeting.

Nice to see that Anne Lopez's Mom, Cassi Radicelli, came to the December meetup to help us celebrate.

The sing-alongs presented by Anne Lopez and Lois Roth are always very popular. They always pass out lyric sheets, so we may enjoy singing our way down memory lane.

Thanks for donating the warm and wooly socks, gloves, scarves, and knit hats the Club received at the Christmas party. Dick promptly transported these to a needful charity where, with the recent weather, I'm sure they were heartily appreciated.

The *Oklahoma Accordion Club* has been a club you can count on, beginning in our first year: 2000. Later this year, we'll enjoy the scheduled events, such as the pizza party, the Germanfest celebration, and commemoration of popular holidays.

Our officers from last year have consented to reign again in 2023. That would include Vice-President and Treasurer Ron Shearon, Secretary Lois Roth, and Prez Me.

January 8, Sunday, at 3:30 pm, our meeting begins a new and fresh year in the Club. Some members even arrive early to play warm-up music for us while we set up the room. Whenever you arrive, your energy inspires everyone who attends!

• Maggie Abel, *OAC* President



The Bohemian Knights

Featuring Master Accordionist Dick Albreski



Music for your Party or Special Occasion
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- Jim & June Butricks
- William "Rusty" Dolton
- Janet Haskin
- Roland Lohmann
- Frankie Martinez
- Bob Mansfield
- Tom Phillips
- Phil Scibelli
- Ophelia Woody

January Hybrid Meeting Information

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!



Mark Your Calendars

Dick Albreski

FUN BAND at the National Accordion Association Convention. Once again, I will conduct the *FUN Band* at next year's convention. Mark your calendars for March 15-19, 2023. Currently, I am working on the tunes that I feel will be appropriate. If you have any suggestions concerning the music, please let me know. Thank you, Dick Albreski

FUTURE EVENTS

National Accordion Convention, March 15-19, 2023, at the *Hilton Hotel* in Richardson, Texas. The *NAA Planning Committee* is currently involved in research projects that are designed to best serve the accordion community at the 2023 Convention. The *Hilton Hotel* reservation system is now open. The

Convention registration system will officially open January 1, 2023. More data to follow as released.

Accordion Extravaganza, on May 17-20, 2023, at the *Hughes Theater* in Branson, Missouri. *Lodge of the Ozarks* will give special rates for those attendees. Costs for the accordionists is \$250.00. The motel costs are separate. For total and complete data on this event, go to <https://www.squeezeplay.biz/branson-band-camp>. More to follow.

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

• Dick Albreski, *OAC* Co-Founder



Happy Belated and Birthday Wishes to the following OAC members:

Barbara Yuill, January 12

Tom Phillips, January 19

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.



December Meeting Minutes

Oklahoma Accordion Club Minutes December 11, 2022

The *Oklahoma Accordion Club* had its annual Christmas party on Sunday, December 11, 2022, at 3:30 pm.

The location was *Messiah Lutheran Church* of OKC.

Twenty-three people attended: Fifteen members, seven guests, and one member on *Zoom*.

President Maggie Abel called the group to order at 3:30 pm. She introduced everyone who was present.

- Tom Phillips led us in "The Pledge of Allegiance."
- Dick Albreski and some members of our *Youth Group* began the music program. Laz Elliott and Dick performed "Here We Go." The *Adult Fun Band* will play this song at the 2023 *National Accordion Association* Convention in Texas.
- Dick got us in the holiday mood with a solo, "Let It Snow."
- Alex Rockwood played "Up on the Housetop."
- Luke Anderson continued the seasonal theme with "White Christmas" and "Sugar Plum." He was playing his new Titano accordion for the first time. Dick told us that Titano is the only brand of accordion that has the air button at the top of a bass row.
- Laz Elliott performed two solos: "Tanzende Fingel," and variations on "Dark Eyes."
- Maggie reminded members to pay their annual dues to Ron Shearon, Club treasurer. He is also accepting donations to help our young players with convention expenses.
- Dick will take our donated winter accessories to a needy charity.
- Dick announced that Job Elliott and Courtney are getting married next year.

- Christmas music continued, with Ron playing "The First Noel" and "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear."
- Maggie played "Silent Night" on her 72-bass accordion.
- Dick said that his first "big" accordion was an 80-bass instrument. Accordions smaller than 120 basses are now becoming more popular.
- Tom Phillips presented us with a trivia question: Upon what instrument was "Silent Night" first performed?
Answer: A guitar.
- Dick played as we sang "Happy Birthday" to Maggie Abel and Lucy Shedeck. He followed with the Polish version, which includes the words "May you live one hundred years."
- Karen West was wearing a cute reindeer antler hair decoration and jingle bell jewelry. She performed "Happy Holidays" and "Santa Baby." She said she had just begun to play again after months of dealing with a walking issue. We're happy that she's performing again!
- Singalong sheets were distributed, and everybody sang "Jingle Bells," "Silver Bells," and "Silent Night." Accordion accompaniment was provided by Anne Lopez and Lois Roth.
- Anne and Lois finished the afternoon of music with "White Christmas," "Parade of the Wooden Soldiers," and "Winter Wonderland."

During the meeting, we all enjoyed visiting the snack table, which was loaded with cookies, candies, and other delicious treats provided by Club members.

Our thanks to Karen and her helpers for setting up the refreshments.

We will begin 2023 with a meeting on Sunday, January 8. The official starting time is 3:30, but you are welcome to come early to visit and to hear (or play) some "warm-up" music.

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Roth, *OAC* Secretary



December 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

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