

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"

The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter



INVITING PAST & PRESENT MEMBERS
TO HELP CELEBRATE

OKLAHOMA ACCORDION CLUB'S 23rd YEAR ANNIVERSARY REUNION!

in the home of OAC Co-Founder
DICK ALBRESKI

Hey, young lady,
didn't I tell you,
No accordions
in the pool!



Hot Dogs,
Tato Salad,
Cole Slaw,
Anniversary
Cake!

Sunday, July 9 3:30 - 5:30 PM
7109 NW 102nd St. OKC 73162

3 doors west of NW 102nd & Rockwell in Beacon Hill addition

Dick sez bring:
Ur accordion
A Towel
A Chair
A guest



RSVP to Karen by Noon Wed. July 5
accordion_karen@yahoo.com
or
call/text Karen at (405) 830-1058



Prez Sez

Maggie Abel

What a joy it is to hear some of our seasoned accordionists having at it with tune after tune, often from memory. When Lois Roth and John Warren and Anne Lopez accompany each other, all tap their feet, and we listeners tap ours, too. Lois and Anne are famous for their singalongs -- simple, dearly-loved classic songs -- and they hand out the lyrics for us to follow.

It's not Hollywood, but there is a friendly small-pond-ness in the *Oklahoma Accordion Club*, which makes everyone who shares their musical vision, a star in our eyes.

Imagine the foresight it took 23 years ago, when the co-founders of *OAC*, Dick Albreski and others, began to carve out a regular place for good musical things to happen in that small but promising corner of the vast accordion world, Oklahoma City.

We mourn the passing last week of an icon of the accordion world, Nick Ballerini. We saw him every year at *National Accordion Association's* convention where -- behind that mustache -- he entertained with aplomb. With his son, he also oversaw his vendor room: between classes and workshops we visited accordions of every size, color, and number of buttons, always seeking the one that would tempt us to trade in our current one-man-band.

I got word that one of our previous members, Myke Dixon, who moved for several years to Minnesota, is now returning to our metro to bask in our *Club's* good musical company once again. We shall love to hear of his adventures.

Our usually delightfully costumed Past Vice-President Karen West always can be depended upon to help us pull off specialness for each succeeding holiday. She takes the RSVPs for our pizza party, Germanfest meeting, and other delights. Currently she's open to accept your RSVPs for the Club's 23-year-anniversary celebration and pool party. [See yellow poster on the front page in this newsletter for details, address, and RSVP instructions.] Sunday, July 9, from 3:30 to 5:30, there'll be swimming outside and dryer people inside playing accordion in the living room of Dick Albreski. Although most of us have visited this house for accordion lessons and necessary accordion repairs, we now return to pay homage to the collective vision which attracted all of us to the squeezebox side of town!

Members who support the heart and soul of the Club are very much appreciated! If you need to get paid up, call me or Treasurer Ron Shearon, and let's take care of that so you can RSVP to Karen that you'll be part of this reunion. You can bring a guest to help put away the hot dogs, coleslaw, tater salad, and the all-important Congratulatory Anniversary Cake!

The uniqueness and soulful appeal of the accordion drove each of us here, and still supports us as we caress those tuneful keys and buttons. We stand alone in the musical universe, and attentive heads turn our way whenever we unsnap the bellows strap.

• Maggie Abel, *OAC* President



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Lifetime Members

- Maggie Abel
- Jim & June Butricks
- William "Rusty" Dolton
- Janet Haskin
- Roland Lohmann
- Frankie Martinez
- Bob Mansfield
- Tom Phillips
- Phil Scibelli
- Ophelia Woody

July 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

SURPRISE! June is the anniversary month for the *Oklahoma Accordion Club*. It was founded on June 4, 2000, and first meetings held at 7109 NW 102 Street, Oklahoma City, OK. The *OAC Board* has agreed to celebrate this birthday event this year. It will be the 23rd birthday for the Club, and there will be **surprises!** June is the birthday month, but July will be a **birthday party**. You will hear about it today, you will hear about it at the June meeting, you will hear about it with e-mails and -- again -- prior to the July meeting. We want all members to attend the following: A pool party at the home of Dick Albreski, **7109 NW 102 Street, Oklahoma City, OK**. It will be from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm, July 9, 2023. All members are to bring their accordions and allowed one guest. Also, bring a chair, and if you wish to swim, bring a towel. Barb and Dick will be available to greet you and your accordion. Food, soft drinks, and cake will be served. Bringing snacks will not be required at this meeting. **Reservations are a must!!!!** (See the cover page). We need to know how many to plan for, and we may not be able to accommodate anyone who has not registered to attend the pool party. Let's make this event a big event. Your attendance will make that happen.

American Accordionists Association Convention, July 12-16, 2023, at the *Marriott Philadelphia West* in Conshohocken; PA. This will be their 85th anniversary celebration with concerts; workshops; competitions; the *Festival Orchestra*; plus many great accordion performers. Joan Cochran Summers will conduct the *Festival Orchestra*; Grayson Masfield, world-renowned accordionist;

will perform; plus one of my favorites is Joey Miskulin, with his "flyin' fingers," will also perform. There will be several orchestras at this event. The *Accordion Pops Orchestra*; the *Westmont Philharmonia Accordion Orchestra*; the *Busso Festival Orchestra*; and a *Youth Orchestra*. For more information, go to their website at www.AmerAccord.com.

Accordionists & Teachers Guild Festival (ATG), July 19-22, 2023, at the *Lisle Hyatt* in Lisle, IL. Among the honored guests will be the *Polyphonia Orchestra from Reunion Island*, and *Das Duo Kollektiv Duo* of flute and accordion from Austria. Grayson Masfield, Stas Venglevski, and Kevin Friedrich -- all world-renowned accordionists -- will perform, plus Helmi Harrington will give a workshop on a brief history of the accordion. This event will include workshops, concerts, competitions, exhibits, and a banquet, plus much more. For more information, visit their website at www.atgaccordions.com.

Free Accordion Music Websites. If you want some new and free accordion music; look at: <https://www.todoacordeon.com/> (Spanish), <https://www.donquattroccchi.com/sheetmusic>, or <http://8notes.com/accordion>. Try it! You'll like it!

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

• Dick Albreski; *OAC* Co-Founder



June Meeting Minutes

Lois Roth

Oklahoma Accordion Club Meeting Minutes June 11, 2023

The *Oklahoma Accordion Club* held its June 2023 meeting on Sunday the 11th, starting at 3:30 pm. We assembled in the Music Room of the *Messiah Lutheran Church*.

President Maggie Abel Boyd opened the meeting with a welcome to all. There were 13 attendees -- ten members and one guest in person, and two members on *Zoom*.

- Treasurer and Vice President Ron Shearon led us in reciting "The Pledge of Allegiance."
- Maggie explained how to put a song on the whiteboard or on a wall so everyone can see it. It requires *Ultimate Guitar* software. She said that key changes are easily made.
- Milo Shedeck announced that there will be a band concert at *Kite Park* in *Nichols Hills* on Thursday, June 15, at 7:00 pm. Concerts will be held there every Thursday evening through August. [Concert was later postponed one week due to weather.]
- The afternoon of music began with a singalong. Anne Lopez and Lois Roth played for a group-sing of "You're A Grand Old Flag" (in honor of

Flag Day), "Don't Fence Me In," and "Hey, Good Lookin'".

- We made plans for the July 9 meeting. It will be a pool party at Dick Albreski's home, in celebration of the 23rd anniversary of our Club. We discussed ideas for food, music, guests, etc. There will be a place inside for accordion players to perform. RSVP to Karen West by noon on July 5.
- An email poster will be sent with detailed information. [Sent June 30]
- Anne and Lois performed three country-western songs: "Tennessee Waltz," "Tumbling Tumbleweeds," and "Waltz Across Texas."
- Dick performed for us on *Zoom*. He played "L-O-V-E," and "Somewhere My Love" ("Lara's Theme").
- Anne and Lois played a collection of German music that they will perform on June 13 at *Touchmark Senior Living* in Edmond. Songs included "Hoffbrau Haus," "Lilli Marlene," "Tavern Waltz" ("Erika"), and many others.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Our next meeting will be Sunday, July 9 [but not at the church]! Watch your e-mail for the poster!

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Roth, OAC Secretary



Happy Birthday Wishes to the following OAC members:



Diana Richard, July 4

Lois Roth, July 6

Buck Anderson, July 10

Frank Gesinski, July 14

Dick Albreski, July 23

Billy Henson, July 31



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.



Nick Ballerini



Advertisement

The Bohemian Knights

Featuring Master Accordionist Dick Albreski



Music for your Party or Special Occasion
Polkas, Waltzes, Pop Tunes & Folk Dances

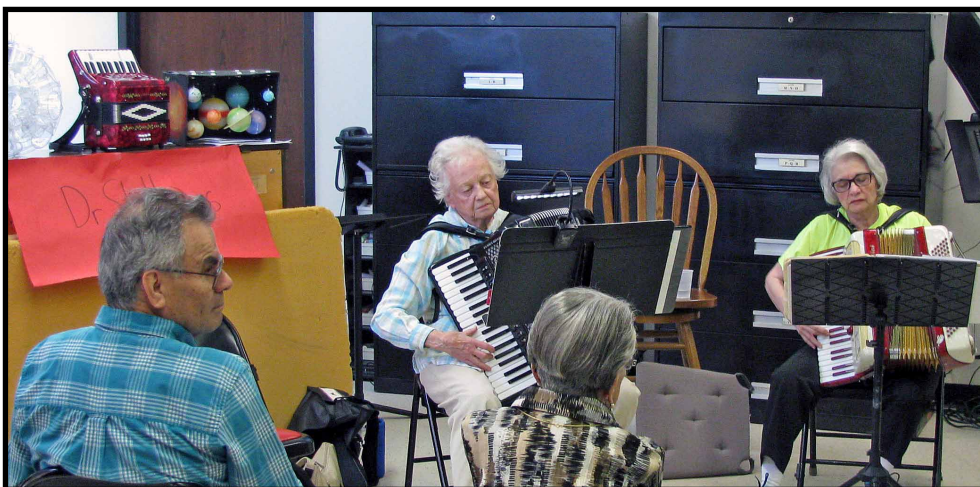
Contact: MILO SHEDECK
405-748-5376

miloshedeck@cox.net

Playing at the Czech Hall in Yukon, Ok.
www.czechhall.com for dates

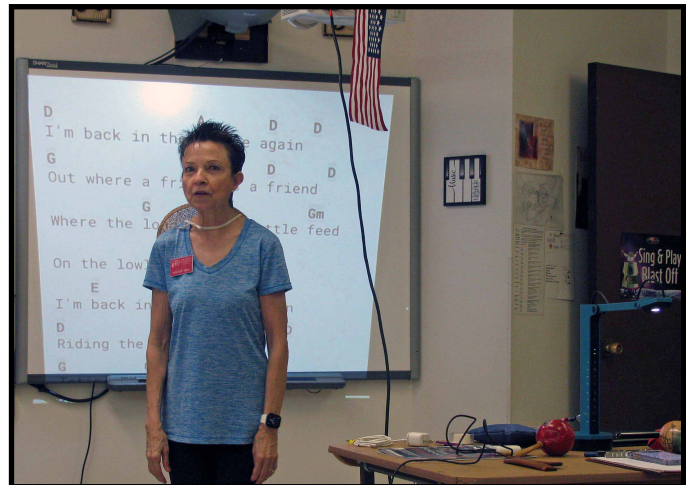
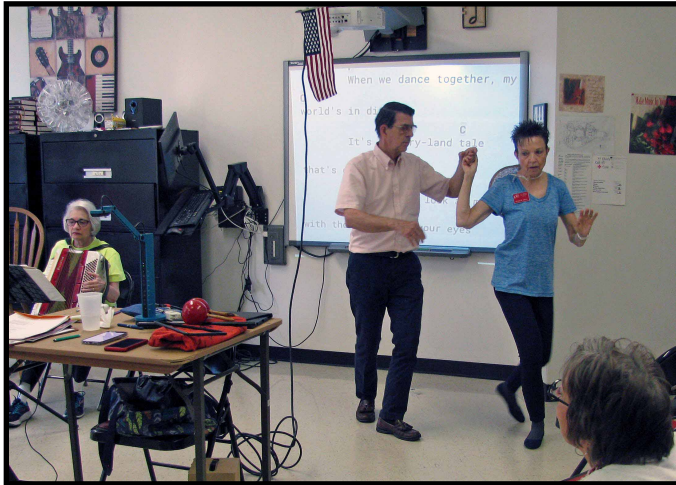
June Hybrid Meeting

Diana Richard



June 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



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