

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"

The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter



Oktober Hybrid Meeting

Our March meeting will be held on Sunday, October 8, at 3:30 pm.
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

One of our recent members dropped over to a local Senior Center last week. The staff ladies who greeted him learned that he played an instrument. He had told them only "I play a little bit of accordion." They advised him that the senior band (comprised of ages 50 and up) was meeting in the next room at that very hour.

He could hear the strains of "Boot Scootin' Boogie" coming from behind the sliding curtain. He looked in and saw a dozen people somewhere in his age range, each with a different instrument in hand. They were singing and playing with vigor, occasionally laughing, and occasionally starting over so everyone could keep the same beat. By the time he heard "That Magic Moment," followed by Ricky Nelson's "Hello Mary Lou," he had picked up a nearby tambourine to enhance the aura of the room. "That song, I listened to when I was in high school," a guitarist said. The room was dimly lit, but what light there was, came from a white screen of the 40-inch TV on the wall. On the whiteness were the words and chords of each song that was presented. The cry, "Who's next?" went around the circle of chairs. "Gary, it's your turn. What song would you like us to do?"

"Something by the Beatles," Gary replied. He eventually chose "A Little Help From My Friends." "Yah, you need a lot of help," said the man next to him, which brought some laughs.

In the middle of the session, a woman entered, bringing her mother with her. The two of them had brought fresh-baked cookies, each wrapped in a colorful napkin, and adorned the plate with handfuls of orange candy corn.

After snacking and chatting, our member was requested to bring in his accordion next time, to complete their sound.

When you step into a room where there is music, it can soak into you. It can change you. It can bring you new and different friends. Hobbies are for sharing, and from them comes companionship with those who are like-minded. When I joined the *Oklahoma Accordion Club* over a decade ago, many attendees were already longtime members. And now, maybe like you, I/we "are" one!

Our upcoming meeting is in the Halloween month. Not to spoil the surprise, but one "Bavarian" couple will be sporting Oktoberfest attire complete with lederhosen. Costumes and German songs are not required, but neither are they turned away!! As for the suggestion of German music, we know who all has some ready to go!

Our next meetup on Sunday, October 8, 2023, is at *Messiah Lutheran Church*, at the corner of NW Expressway and Portland, Oklahoma City. Yes, you can bring snacks to share! You could come at 3:00 pm to help the setup crew, or to practice your accordion with other early birds! But officially, we convene at 3:30 pm. and go till 5:30.

This in-person meeting also offers a hybrid opportunity for those needing to "zoom in" from afar (see instructions in this newsletter on page 3).

• Maggie Abel, *OAC* President



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

Oktober 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

Heads Up! Yours truly will again conduct the **FUN BAND and Children's Band** at the *National Accordion Convention*, to be held in Lewisville, Texas, March 20-24, 2024. There will be significant changes to the 2024 Convention, and plans are now being made to make it one of the best. I would strongly urge all accordionists and accordion lovers to attend this annual event. More information to follow as it becomes available.

It's the Oktoberfest Season. Durant, Oklahoma will host an Oktoberfest party on 10/07/2023. I don't know much about this party, so I might just try go there.

Try to attend the **Oklahoma Accordion Club meeting October 8, 2023**. Yours truly will be giving a special workshop on the accordion, and you don't need to bring your accordion, just a pencil. Oops, I do want you to bring your accordion to the meeting. Will I see you at the meeting?

You must attend the Wurstfest in New Braunfels, Texas, November 3-12, 2023. Alex Meisner and Chris Rybeck are among the many polka stars who will perform at that gala event. Check the website for the additional information and schedule.

If You have a hankering to learn the to play the Concertina or Button accordion, you might consider going to the *O'Flaherty Irish Music Retreat* in Midlothian, Texas, October 19-22, 2023. Again, check the website for additional information. P.S. Midlothian Texas is near Dallas/Fort Worth.

Free Accordion Music Websites. If you want some new and free accordion music; look at: <https://www.todoacordeon.com/> (Spanish), <https://www.donquattrocchi.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



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September Meeting Minutes

Lois Roth

Oklahoma Accordion Club Meeting Minutes September 10, 2023

The *Oklahoma Accordion Club* met on Sunday, September 10, at *Messiah Lutheran Church* in OKC. Twelve members and two guests attended, plus two members on *Zoom*.

We were welcomed with German music played by Anne Lopez and Lois Roth.

President Maggie Abel Boyd called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm. Ron Shearon led us in reciting the "Pledge of Allegiance." We sang "America The Beautiful."

- Anne and Lois played "Tavern Waltz" ("Erika").
- Apple pie, ice cream, and cookies were served to all.
- Dick Albreski and Barbara Yuill joined us on *Zoom* from Phoenix. They said it is 111 degrees there today. They performed "Tulips From Amsterdam",

"Marching in March" (a 2024 **Fun Band** song), and "Pennsylvania Polka".

- Ron played "Bavarian Nights Waltz."
- Anne and Lois played for a German singalong -- "Happy Wanderer" and "Wooden Heart" ("Muss iM Denn").
- "The Chicken Dance" had everyone joining in the fun!
- Anne and Lois performed "Black Hawk Waltz," "Long, Long Ago," "Beer Barrel Polka," and "Auf Wiederseh'n."

The meeting was adjourned.

John Warren joined Anne and Lois for a jam session while the Cleanup Committee worked.

The next meeting will be Sunday, October 8. Music, food, and fun for all!

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Roth, *OAC* Secretary



Happy Birthday Wishes to the following OAC members:

Karen West, Oktober 8

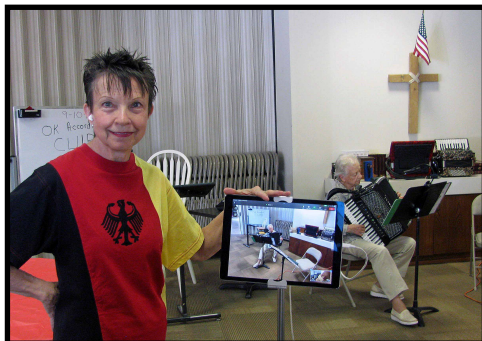
Anne Lopez, Oktober 22



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

September 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

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