

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'!"

The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter



September Hybrid Meeting

Our March meeting will be held on Sunday, September 10, 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

Good News: an *Oklahoma Accordion Club* member from several years back has returned to Oklahoma, and now resides in Edmond. We'll be seeing more of Myke Dixon and hear of his Minnesota adventures. He has produced a short video based on the accordion, has a hobby of 3D printing, and has invented an app that creates a custom-made prayer to match your unique needs! It'll be good to rub shoulders with Myke again!

A few weeks ago, the Club received a query from a venue in Yukon, looking for accordion players for a series of *Germanfest* days. I forwarded it to several members whom I knew were accustomed to playing in public. If I missed anyone, please inform me!

Anne and Lois continue to churn out the sing-along songs to delight us each month, passing out lyric sheets so that a good time may be had by all!

Past Prez Dick Albreski showed me an instruction book entitled "Melodic Adventures in Bass-Land for the Accordion." It's nice to be studying with an instructor who makes things clear to you, so that your interest in the accordion stays fresh, and you continue to find it intriguing!

If you have had piano training in the past, one of the joys of the squeezebox is that an accordion with the piano keyboard lets you take your playing skill on the keys to any jam or practice session -- without hauling around that *Wurlitzer*.

Remember, accordions come in all sizes. So, consider having several, in case company drops over and wants to play along with you, or have a big one to play at church, and a smaller one to play on your patio.

Last month, the Club met in the music room at *Messiah Lutheran Church*, but this month we'll return to our customary room there, just inside the south [main] entrance -- the large room with access to the kitchen. Yes, the kitchen, from whence comes the ice for our refreshments, and the accoutrements to serve the snacks which Karen and Lois oversee! So, feel free to bring your own delicacies for us to share!

Our meeting officially commences at 3:30 pm, but if you arrive by 3:00, you can enjoy the live accordion music that accompanies and invigorates those preparing the room for the meeting. You may also sign in as early as 3:00 if you wish to access the 3:30 meeting through your computer on *Zoom*.

German music may dominate this Sunday's meeting, but all song types are welcome!

• Maggie Abel, *OAC* President



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

September 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. Fort Worth, Texas will host an Oktoberfest party September 21-23, 2023, followed by another in Durant, Oklahoma on October 7, 2023.

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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August Meeting Minutes

Lois Roth

Oklahoma Accordion Club

Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2023

The *Oklahoma Accordion Club* held a monthly meeting on Sunday, August 13, 2023.

We gathered in the music room of *Messiah Lutheran Church* in OKC. There were twelve members and two guests present.

President Maggie Abel called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

- Treasurer and VP Ron Shearon led us in reciting "The Pledge of Allegiance."
- At Ron's suggestion, all the members who had brought their accordions got together and played "Amazing Grace."
- Ron said that he has been helping children at his church learn accordion basics.
- The music program began with Dick Albreski and Barbara Yuill performing two duets: "Tick Tock Polka" and "The Waltz of Love" (a Czech waltz).
- Next Dick tried to stump the audience with some *Name That Tune* fun:
- The songs were "All of Me," "I Don't Know Why," "Volare," and "Marie." His listeners knew them all!
- Dick and his student Jack Schillo (a new Club member) played "Charlie The Chimp" and "Our Boys March."

- Jack performed "Sweet Caroline."
- Dick reminded us NEVER to buy an accordion on E-Bay!
- Then it was time for a sing-along:
- Anne Lopez and Lois Roth played the accompaniment to three seasonal songs: "In The Good Old Summertime," "Those Lazy Hazy Crazy Days of Summer," and "Cruising Down The River."
- Anne and Lois performed a collection of Spanish and Mexican tunes: "A Gay Ranchero," "Spanish Eyes": "South of The Border," and "La Paloma." They ended with "Chiapanecas" ("Mexican Hand Clapping Song"), assisted by an enthusiastic audience.
- Anne concluded the afternoon's music with a medley of Spanish songs: "Jarape Tapiteo."
- Dick announced that he will be busy in September and October performing at German gigs. He and Barbara will also be playing in Phoenix.
- He is planning some workshops for future OAC meetings.

Our next meeting will be Sunday, September 10, at 3:30 pm. "Warm-up" music starts at 3:00 pm. There will be fun and food — and you may hear some German music!

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Roth, OAC Secretary



**Happy Birthday Wishes to
the following OAC members:**

Sil Lopez, September 15

Barbara Pederson, September 22

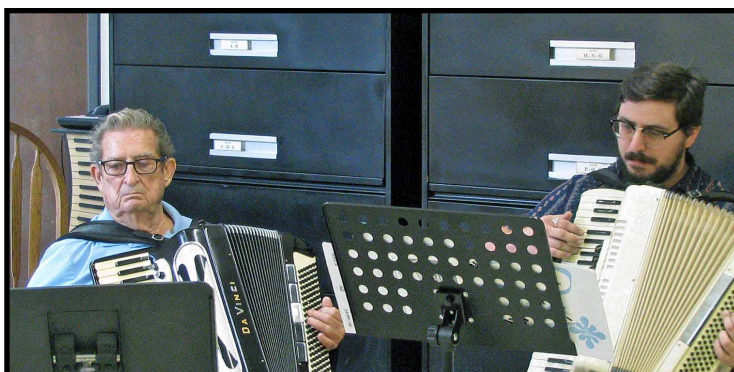
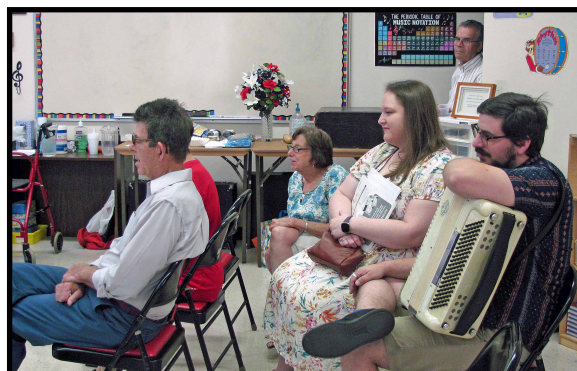
Lou LeBrun, September 26



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.

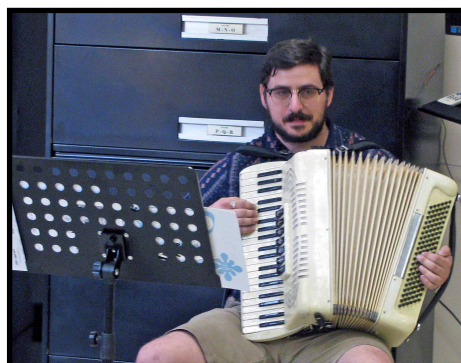
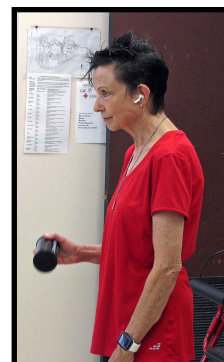
August Hybrid Meeting

Diana Richard



August Hybrid Meeting

Diana Richard



Dr. William Schimmel's Proudest Moment

Rob Howard



Dr. William Schimmel and Micki Goodman-Schimmel's proudest moment took place on July 28, when their son, Michael, celebrated his 25th birthday with a solo art show. And, of course, Dr. Schimmel supplied the music for the opening ceremony.

Michael Schimmel was born on August 9, 1980. From infancy to age 5, he attended the *Kennedy Child Study Center*, then went to PS 7, 146, 40, IS 131, *Manhattan School for Career Development*, and graduated from *Stuyvesant High School* in the *Special Education Program*. He currently works with artist, Jeff Macaluso, in the *Young Adult Institute Home Habilitation* program. Mr. Macaluso has facilitated the framing and presentation of the works in this exhibit.

Michael studied accordion with his father, Dr. William Schimmel, and movement with his mother, Micki Goodman, a choreographer and video artist. Michael has participated in numerous art programs such as the *92nd Street Y*, *The Metropolitan Museum of Art Discovery* program, and is currently working the *Hudson Center for the Arts and Habitation* sponsored by the *Federation for Educational Guidance*.

Michael's musical tastes are incredibly varied and eclectic. This has greatly influenced his painting, sculpture, woodcuts, mixed media, and ceramics. His work in this exhibit was produced in programs that encourage and stimulate artistic expression. From the earliest to the present works, Michael's exhibit demonstrates his unique experience, through an intense use of emotional sensitivity to color, a particular passionate delight for rhythm and form. Clearly his work is greatly inspired by his broad musical tastes.

He lives in Manhattan with his parents, William and Micki Schimmel. He has Downs Syndrome. This is his first solo show.



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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