

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin' ...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter

THE SUNDAY TRANSCRIPT

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Norman, Oklahoma

SUNDAY, JULY 23, 2023



Provided by Roland Lohmann

Roland Lohmann, left, and Bob Mansfield are Norman residents and members of the Oklahoma Accordion Club.

Love at first squeeze

Accordionists make a unique mark in Oklahoma music scene



Prez Sez

Maggie Abel

You probably want to know how it went at the first-ever *Oklahoma Accordion Club* Pool Party and 23rd Anniversary Celebration of the Club! Well, right off the bat, I'll say most of those attending had either experienced -- or were still experiencing -- taking accordion lessons in Dick's lesson room. So, we each had to peek our heads in there to see what accordions he had accumulated lately.

This was one Club meeting at which no one played with the benefit of sheet music. Just melodies off the cuff! Of course, we started with eating: enough hot dogs, potato salad, and coleslaw to feed an army. Then comes the matter of cake. From the newsletter photographs, you can see for yourself a lot of eating was involved.

While we were ingesting picnic foods and listening to random duets and trios, outdoors -- in Dick's swimming pool -- the Club's Former Treasurer Sil Lopez was putting quite a bit of mileage on Dick's beautiful, sparkling-blue, in-ground pool. I did note Sil was obediently following Dick's cardinal rule, "Absolutely no accordions in the pool!"

My friend, Susan, a piano teacher who loves to swim, came with me to the party out of curiosity, and expressed amazement at the lovely melodies coming from the squeezeboxes of several players.

I had brought along a petite red accordion as an extra for guests. "It would be like having a portable piano," I proposed. Susan admired it! I obligingly handed it over to her to try it out. After a little instruction, she was able to dominate the bellows to play a tune. "It's traditional to try 'Lady of Spain' next," I suggested, as the audience she had begun to attract looked on.

After a few measures, Susan announced immediately that she had fallen in love with it. "Where can I get one of these?" I named a price, and she bought it from me on the spot. We hauled the current treasurer away from the cake table so Susan could join the Club, and she is now in *Palmer Hughes Book One*.

Who knows what adventures lie in wait for persons daring to cross the inviting boundary into the friendly accordion universe?

Our next meetup is at *Messiah Lutheran Church*, OKC, at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, August 13. We'll gather in the Church's Music Room (enter the main door to the sanctuary foyer and go left down the hallway per the signs). Hopefully, bring several of the following: your imagination, a guest, and an accordion.

• Maggie Abel, *OAC* President



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- Janet Haskin
- Roland Lohmann
- Frankie Martinez
- Bob Mansfield
- Tom Phillips
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- Ophelia Woody

August 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

AUGUST 13, 2023. Enjoy the monthly OAC meeting at the *Messiah Lutheran Church* from 3:30 to 5:30 pm, located at the corner of Portland and Northwest Expressway. Bring your accordion and a friend.

Heads Up! Yours Truly will again conduct the **FUN BAND** and **Children's Band** at the *National Accordion Convention*, to be held in the Dallas area next March. 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.

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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July Meeting Minutes

Lois Roth

Oklahoma Accordion Club Meeting Minutes July 9, 2023

The *Oklahoma Accordion Club* held its July 9, 2023, meeting at the home of Dick Albreski. It was a pool party, and it was a celebration of the Club's 23rd anniversary.

Fifteen members and four guests attended. Three of the guests became members by the end of the meeting.

· We enjoyed a delicious meal of hot dogs, with a variety of side dishes and drinks. Dessert was ice cream and anniversary cake with decorative frosting.

· The pool was available for swimming, but most partygoers were happy to relax and visit.

· Accordion music was provided by Anne Lopez, Lois Roth, Dick Albreski, Barbara Yuill, and John Warren. No printed music -- just an entertaining and informal jam session.

Many thanks to Dick and his helpers for a wonderful afternoon!

Our next meeting will be Sunday, August 13, at *Messiah Lutheran Church*.

We'll start at 3:30 pm, but early arrival will give you time to visit and to hear the "warm-up" music. All members, guests, and accordions are welcome!

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Roth, *OAC* Secretary



Happy Birthday Wishes to the following OAC members:



John Buchanan, August 1

Kristine Anderson, August 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.



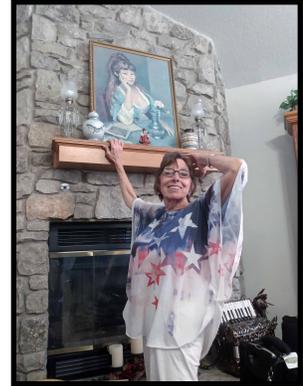
July Hybrid Meeting

Diana Richard, Karen West, Maggie Abel



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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

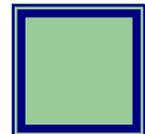
Your status (please check all that apply): Professional Teacher Repairman Student

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