

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter

Happy New Year



January Hybrid Meeting

Our March meeting will be held on Sunday, January 14, 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

Past Treasurer Tom Phillips came early to the Christmas meeting, armed with treats and also a box of gifts, somewhat small and all wrapped alike, of which he had enough for every attendee.

A collecting box was displayed containing heaping donations of warm and woolly garments -- socks, gloves, mufflers, hats, etc. -- destined for a needy community nearby.

A number of young students of Dick Albreski and Bob Mansfield performed at the holiday meeting. Quite inspiring! Many will attend and perform once again at the *National Accordion Association* convention in March.

One witty lad was invited to introduce everyone at his table. After first noting his teen sister's age, he followed that success by introducing everyone else at his table by age as well. We had a chuckle, but -- well, -- you had to be there!

Member John Warren arrived early at Karen's invitation, and during the normal room setup, John played delightfully and shyly by ear, until regular meeting time commenced.

Someone generous to employ the fruits of his labor for the benefit of the Club is our returning member, Myke Dixon. Mike brought his pro camera and lighting equipment to photograph attendees posing with their accordions. Myke also shot video of that day's performers, some clips of which already appear on the *Oklahoma Accordion Club's Facebook Page*. Additionally, these clips shall drift onto the Club's website shortly.

It's a great feeling to already be registered for the *National Accordion Association* convention in Lewisville, Texas, two months from now. Breakfast is included in the hotel reservations of those who register timely.

Some folks will arrive as early as Wednesday, March 20, at the Convention just to socialize, warm up, and renew previous year's friendships. Actual scheduled events begin Thursday, March 21, and continue through Friday and Saturday, March 22 and 23. The calendar is studded with performances, workshops, a dance party, and the final night's special dinner and concert. After Sunday morning's breakfast on March 24, it's "parting is such sweet sorrow" time!

You may have noticed that rarely do you find a multitude of accordions for sale here in Oklahoma, thus this annual event is an opportunity to pack up all your accordions and think of trading up one or two of them when visiting the lively vendor rooms at Lewisville's *Hilton Garden Inn*.

Arranging for ride-sharing and room-sharing makes the Convention economical. I especially look forward to the nightly "impromptu" jams with squeezebox friends of all skill levels. The artful planning that goes into these events creates precious memories galore!

I look forward to seeing you all -- plus many new faces -- in the exciting new Lewisville location!

The next monthly Oklahoma City meeting of *OAC* is Sunday, January 14, at 3:30 pm at *Messiah Lutheran Church*. For information, text or call Prez Maggie Abel at 405/201-7867.

• 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

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



Mark Your Calendars

Dick Albreski

Heads up! Yours truly will again conduct the FUN BAND and YOUTH BAND at the *National Accordion Convention* to be held at the *Hilton Gardens*, 785 State Highway 121, Lewisville, Texas, from March 20-24, 2024. <http://www.accordions.com/naa/cComingConvention.html>. There will be significant changes to this convention. Plans are now being made to make it the best. I would strongly urge all accordionists and accordion-lovers to attend this annual event. For more information download **2024NAA-Schedule.pdf**. Wednesday evening will be a relaxed "meet and greet" for those early folks. Thursday evening will be open mic night for those who want to perform. Friday evening is Party Night, and Saturday evening after the banquet will feature a professional performance. Both the FUN BAND and the YOUTH BAND are currently scheduled

to perform on Saturday, March 23, 2024. During the day, there will be dealer rooms for all your accordion needs and individual classroom activities.

The convention is carefully planned, but only your attendance can make it happen. See you there!

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.



There's More than Music in Accordion Lessons

Dick Albreski



Last New Year's Day I had the pleasure of reuniting with a previous student. This reunion was special, because I taught this student some 62 years ago.

What a pleasure for me to see, greet, and listen to this gentleman play on the same accordion that he acquired those many years ago. His name is Louis and – hopefully -- you all may see him on an *OAC Zoom* meeting because he resides in Phoenix, Arizona. Louis, now retired, truly enjoys his accordion, and looks for new tunes and methods to keep occupied.



The accordion has always been good to me, and this meeting was another reward. There's more than music in Accordion Lessons.



December Meeting Minutes

Lois Roth

The *Oklahoma Accordion Club* held its Christmas party/meeting on Sunday, December 10, 2023. Twenty-four people attended: Eighteen members and six guests.

President Maggie Abel called the meeting to order.
· VP and Treasurer Ron Shearon led the "Pledge of Allegiance."

· Maggie introduced all the attendees.

· The accordion music began with Elias Lansford performing "Silent Night".

· Asher Elliott had our toes tapping with "Frosty The Snowman" and "Dance the Polka".

· Laz Elliott performed "La Mari Posita" by Frosini. He said it is one of Frosini's less popular compositions.

· Dick Albreski and Laz teamed up for a swing style version of "Skater's Waltz". They followed with "The Gypsy Polka".

· Barbara Yuill and Dick played "Marching In March" -- one of the *Fun Band* songs for the 2024 Accordion Convention.

· Dick soloed with "Let It Snow".

· Laz performed a Frosini waltz titled "Alpine Festival".

· Karen West played "Happy Holidays" and "Santa Baby". Karen couldn't play for us since last May. It was good to hear her again.

· Then it was sing along time. With Karen and Lois Roth providing the music, we enjoyed singing several holiday favorites: "Silver Bells," "Jingle Bells" (with Maggie jingling the bells); "Silent Night." and "O Christmas Tree".

· Karen and Lois concluded the music program with "Frosty, The Snowman".

· The meeting was adjourned.

· Myke Dixon had his camera equipment set up, and he took photos of anyone who asked.

· After the meeting John Warren and Lois got together for a jam session.

Our first meeting of the new year will be Sunday, January 14.

Join us for a good time and some good music!

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Roth, OAC Secretary



Happy Birthday Wishes to the following OAC members:

Jack Schillo, January 4

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



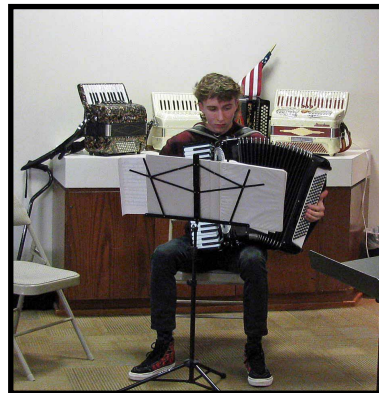
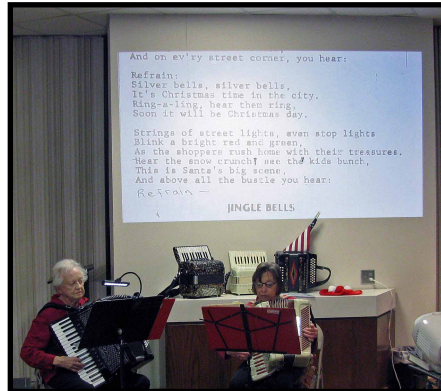
December Hybrid Meeting

Diana Richard



December Hybrid Meeting

Diana Richard



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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

Semi-Professional Associate Hobby Amateur Other

Oklahoma Accordion Club

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