

# **SQUEEZINS**

**“Our squeezin’...is pleasin’”**

**The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter**

***Bring your  
Mother,  
your  
accordion,  
or just  
yourself!***



***Join in on  
Oklahoma  
Accordion Club’s  
joyous monthly  
get-together  
at  
Messiah  
Lutheran  
Church!***

## ***Meetup Info for Sunday, May 12, 2024 — 3:30 p.m.***

Oklahoma Accordion Club will meet in person on Sunday, May 12th at 3:30 pm, at Messiah Lutheran Church, on the SE corner of Portland Avenue and NW Expressway in Oklahoma City. The south entrance to the church (there’s a portico at that doorway in case of rain!), takes you into the foyer, where the accordion music you hear will lead you to where we await you in the room on your right.

Snacks are welcome! Bring your accordion, or just come sit down with us and drink in the sweet sounds!

Out-of-town members, or anyone who cannot attend the live 3:30 pm meeting in person, may wish to experience it via *Zoom* (the same way you did in previous months). Choose method (1) or (2).

(1) On computer, tablet, or smartphone, to join us with both audio and video, go to:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5236709799>

OR

(2) On your landline or non-smart phone, to join us by audio only, call this number: 346/248-7799. If you are asked for a meeting ID, press 523-670-9799.



# PREZ SEZ

Maggie Abel

## ACCORDION SIGHTINGS!

Two weeks ago, Frank and I drove to the tulip festival at Botanica gardens in Wichita, KS. And who should appear to greet us amongst the flora and the fauna? Beside a fountain on the lush acreage were posted two staunch, bearded fellows from a medieval society, dressed in gossamer wings and playing accordion! They were self-professed fairies who, as we recall from our childhood stories, are routinely found to inhabit gardens. The one holding the squeezebox played several tunes for us, including "Under Paris Skies." Close-up of his interesting instrument!



A second accordion sighting occurred the following week. We were browsing in a store, and were called by name by the clerk. It was Jack, Dick's cordial young student, who was waiting on us! I jokingly asked him if he had his accordion with him, and he said, yes, actually, he did! He pulled it out of the back room and posed at my request in the laminated tile samples aisle!

I like to be alert for accordion sightings. As they say, "See something, say something!" It's easy to work accordions into a conversation, even without leaving your home. Simply display your squeezebox in a prominent place, such as right there in your living room, and the chat will start itself! ~ Maggie



Our May meeting will be held  
Sunday, May 12, at 3:30 pm at Messiah Lutheran Church.

## Board of Directors

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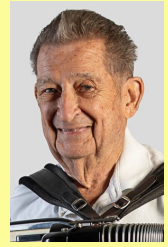
<http://www.okaccordion.club/>

## Lifetime Members

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

# Mark Your Calendars

Dick Albreski



**MAY 6<sup>TH</sup> IS THE 195<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY OF THE ACCORDION!** On May 6<sup>th</sup>, 1829, Cyrill Demian, an organ and piano maker of Armenian origin, with his two sons, Karl, and Guido, filed a patent in Vienna, Austria, for the accordion. Patent No. 1433 listed a new type of portable instrument having metal plates, close to a reed configuration, and bellows. Since the first accordion, many changes and improvements have been made to the instrument we all call our main squeeze. What are you doing to improve and advertise the accordion at this time?

**HERE'S A NEW WORKSHOP!** CNIMA will hold a workshop in New Orleans from May 20-25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 for piano and button accordions for beginner, intermediate, and advanced students. They are a renowned French accordion school. With over 60 years of experience, Jacques Monet and Nathalie Boucheix have trained hundreds of professionals, world champions, and amateurs of all ages. The classes and recommended hotel rooms will be at the Maison St. Charles Hotel. The cost for the workshop is \$750, and the early bird registration is \$650. The rooms are from \$119 per night and on Friday and Saturday they are \$109. For more information and registration, go to [cnima.com/usa](http://cnima.com/usa).

**The ACCORDION TEACHERS GUILD (ATG)** 2024 Accordion Festival will be held at the Kansas City Marriott Country Club in Kansas City Missouri, from July 23 to the 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024. There will be a special Accordion World Cup event that will be held on July 26 & 27<sup>th</sup>. To compete you must be 32 years of age or younger. The first prize is \$5000 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> prize is \$3000. More to follow on this special event. The fees for attending the festival are: Single day Early Bird for members is \$120. Nonmember Early Bird single day is \$130. The full package fee for members is \$475 and nonmembers \$520. There are other

fees to suit your attendance. The current lineup of performers includes Gorka Hermosa, the ATG Festival Orchestra under the direction of Joan C. Sommers, Grayson Mansfield, Bridge & Wolak, Nicolay Bine, UMKC Community Accordion Ensemble, Mirco Patarini, Stas Venglevski, and Das Kollektiv Duo. For best results go to the ATG web-site for the 2024 Festival information.

**The AMERICAN ACCORDION ASSOCIATION** has announced that it will hold its annual convention from July 12-14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in West Conshohocken (Philadelphia area), PA. They ask that you hold the date and visit ([www.ameraccord.com](http://www.ameraccord.com)) for news releases concerning this event.

Joe Natoli, Hanzhi Wang, and Dallas Vietty will be some of the featured artists! There will be a festival concert directed by Frank Busso Sr. There will be performance opportunities for all attendees, three festival orchestras, vendors, exhibits, plus several food functions with live music. More data to follow as released.

As future events happen, hopefully we will see them in advance, so you can make plans to attend. Keep checkin' this article!

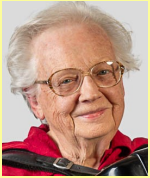
## Free Accordion Music Websites

For new and free accordion music, check out the following sites:

**[Donquattrocchi.com](http://Donquattrocchi.com)**

**[8notes.com/accordion](http://8notes.com/accordion)**

Try 'em! You'll like 'em!



# March Meeting Minutes

Lois Roth

The Oklahoma Accordion Club met on Sunday, April 14, 2024. We gathered in the large room at Messiah Lutheran Church. Before the meeting we watched a video of Alex Meixner's workshop from the March NAA convention.

President Maggie Abel called us to order at 3:30 pm. There were fourteen members and six guests present. Ron Shearon led us in reciting The Pledge of Allegiance. We sang the first verse of "America The Beautiful," accompanied by Anne Lopez and Secretary Lois Roth on their accordions.

Then we sang "Happy Birthday" to Milo Shedeck. He and Lucy brought a tray of cupcakes for everyone to enjoy.

Maggie told us that Anne and Lois had provided accordion music before Member Larry Gering's

funeral service last Sunday. It took place at Life Church in Shawnee, Oklahoma. Larry's 70-year-old accordion was on display in the church lobby.

Our monthly sing-along came first, with the traditional "April Showers," and "Carolina in The Morning."

Anne and Lois performed "Maria Elena," "Springtime in the Rockies" (as a waltz and then a polka), and "Harbor Lights."

Myke Dixon played "Hurray For Love" on his white and gold accordion. He told us how much he enjoyed the March convention — his first one. He took many pictures and videos, joined in the jam sessions, and attended a workshop on accordion repair.

The next accordionist was Elias Lansford, a student of Bob Mansfield. He played an origi-

nal composition: "Japanese in F Sharp." Then he and Bob played a duet: "Russian Improv."

Elias performed two more solos: "Exercises in Boogie Woogie," and "Minka in D Minor."

VP/Treasurer Ron Shearon played "Amazing Grace" on his folk-tuned accordion. He repeated it several times, using a different reed each time (violin, musette, etc.).

John Warren, Anne, and Lois ended the meeting with a short jam session.

The meeting was adjourned.

Anne, Lois, and Myke jammed together while the clean-up group worked.

Our next meeting will be Sunday, May 12 at 3:30 pm.

Come and celebrate Mother's Day with us. There will be fun, food, and Music, Music, Music!

Respectfully submitted by  
OAC Secretary, Lois Roth

## Birthday Greetings to OAC Members!



**Rusty Dolton, May 2**

**Sharon Bish, May 16**



*Your birthdate is collected from your OAC membership application, if you have chosen to include it.*

*If your birthdate isn't listed on our newsletter birthday page during the year, please contact Karen West at 405-949-0394, or at [accordion\\_karen@yahoo.com](mailto:accordion_karen@yahoo.com)*



**OAC Meetup**  
**April 14, 2024**  
Pix by Diana L. Richard





April 14, 2024 Meetup  
Pix by Diana L. Richard



**Myke and Lauren**  
went to Tulsa  
to enjoy their  
excellent  
**Germanfest!**



## JUST ACCORDIONS

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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 2<sup>nd</sup>; 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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**FIRST CLASS MAIL**