

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter



February Meeting

The February meeting will be held on Sunday, February 14, at 3:30 pm. As usual, the meeting will be held at the Messiah Lutheran Church. The church is located on the southeast corner of Northwest Expressway and Portland in Oklahoma City.

Everyone is encouraged to come, and everyone is encouraged to perform. If you are

shy about playing alone, some of us will play with you.

Members are invited to bring snacks for everyone.

After the individual and group performances, we will have a jam session.

All are welcome to join in on the fun!



The Prez Sez

Barbara Duer

Hello everyone. A note about March, because many members will be at the NAA convention in Dallas, we are moving the March meeting to the third Sunday. It's also St. Patrick's month, so be ready to play Irish music.

At the February meeting, Dick Albreski and I will play three songs by Frosini. Hopefully a few other members will play "Autumn Breeze" with us.

Frosini's music is beautiful, but I've found it very difficult. It's like every musical piece he wrote is also a lesson with some very difficult techniques for the student. I'm the student in this case. I've worked on the Frosini for about six months -- I need a little more time, but will attempt to play it now.

Frosini made one of the first accordion recordings on a cylinder record for Edison in 1907, and made his first Victor recording in 1908. He traveled extensively on the Vaudeville circuit in America and abroad, and even performed for the King of England.

On the Vaudeville circuit, Frosini met and became friends with another great accordionist, Guido Deiro. After seeing the great success Deiro had with his audiences, Frosini adopted some of Deiro's methods: (1) He began playing popular music along with classical and operatic selections, and (2) He pasted a dummy piano accordion keyboard over his buttons, as audiences wanted to hear the more novel and unfamiliar piano accordion.

Frosini gave up Vaudeville in 1932, when the "talkies" closed most Vaudeville companies. He then became a staff accordionist for WOR radio in New York, a position he held until his death in 1951.

Throughout his career, he performed, taught, composed, and arranged music for the accordion. He wrote more than 200 original compositions for the instrument. Today there is a *Frosini Society* based in Sweden.

You can hear many Frosini compositions on *YouTube*.

• Barbara Duer



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Treasurer Sez

Milo Shedeck

From your Treasurer:

Dues are due for 2016! \$16.00 per member. \$8.00 for each additional family

member. Thanks to those who have already paid!

• Milo



Mark Your Calendars

Dick Albreski

National Accordion Association Convention to be held at the *Hyatt Regency Hotel* in Richardson, Texas March 10-12, 2016. This year's focus theme is "Lifelong Learning for the Accordionists." This year's activities are based on a new program described as "A Creative Learning Model for Accordionists" by Laura J. Niland. Training sessions will address the following ten categories: Know Your Accordion. Musicality, Musical Styles & Ethnic Genres, Music Theory Simplified, Effective Practice & Presentation, Strategies For Working Together w/ Group Applications, Solo Performance Strategies, Effective Use of Technology, Personal Evaluations & Critiques as well as Performance. Check the website for more information.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: The *Oklahoma Accordion Club* will reschedule its March meeting to the third Sunday, instead of the traditional second Sunday. This is only for the March meeting. We will resume the second Sunday meetings in April. See you all at the *OAC* meeting on March 20, 2016. On the second Sunday in March, we will greet all the *OAC* members at the *National Accordion Association Convention* in Dallas, Texas.

PIZZA PARTY! The *OAC* will hold its annual pizza party at the April meeting, to be held on April 10, 2016. Reservations are a must! Each member is entitled to bring one guest. Make plans to attend.

Look for more accordion events in future issues of *Squeezins*.



February Birthdays



Happy Birthday Wishes to the following OAC members:

Evelyn Albreski (2/2)

Christopher Darr (2/3)

Bob Mansfield (2/24)

Your birth date is collected from your OAC membership application, if you have chosen to include it. If your birth date is not listed on our newsletter birthday page during the year, please contact Karen West at 405/949-0394, or

accordion_karen@yahoo.com.



January Meeting

Maggie Abel

Oklahoma Accordion Club January 10, 2016 Monthly Meeting

On January 10, President Barbara Duer called to order a music-filled meeting attended by 28 members and 12 guests.

- Barbara issued a reminder about themes for future meetings: April's Pizza Party, August's concert at *Czech Hall*, the German *SeptemberFest*, and December's Christmas party.
- New members Mary and Jim Hoover were introduced.
- Members should choose their August concert music now, said Barbara, in advance of the May song-choice sign-up.
- Barbara suggested that Tulsa members pair with Board members, and attend the Oklahoma City Club Board meetings.
- A new member badge was presented to Colleen Rettman.
- The annual *National Accordion Association* convention is March 10 through 12 at the Dallas Hyatt.
- At the next meeting, all members are invited to play "Autumn Breezes." The sheet music was passed out last month.
- Member Larry Gering wants to buy a music stand.
- Today is the day to pay annual dues to Treasurer Milo Shedeck: \$16 for members, and \$8 each for additional family members.
- Colleen Rettman introduced a number of her family members as guests. Some familiar faces from the *NAA* convention

visited today: Texan Herman Huck and his daughter, Rebecca Jane.

- Bob Mansfield and George Secor played four numbers: a "Czechoslovakian Dance," the Polish polka "Krakowiak," "Czar Zebec" (a middle eastern number), and a polka composed by Igor Stravinsky and arranged for duet by Bob.
- The *Accordioneers* (director Dan Orza, Lois Roth, Karen West), along with Tulsa's Mary Hojin and Annette Zongker, played "Dixieland Rag," "San Antonio Rose," "España," "Oklahoma Medley" (including "Oh What a Beautiful Morning," "People Will Say We're in Love," and "Oklahoma"), and "Auld Lang Syne."
- Annette played: "Serenaded by Angels" in honor of her late husband, Karl Smith.
- John Buchanan played on his Roland: "Ain't She Sweet," "Five Foot Two," "Don't Get Around Much Anymore," and "Route 66," as well as "Lulu's Back in Town" (with vocals).
- T. Z. Wright played Steve Earl's "Galway Girl," Hank Williams tune, "Hey Good Lookin'" [a la Buckwheat Zydeco]; and a New Orleans street song, "Meet the Boys" [on the Battlegrounds].
- Texan Rebecca Jane Huck played: "Minor Swing," "Melancholy Waltz," and "Non Sei Tu."
- Colleen Rettman played "My Wild Irish Rose" and "Derry Down Derry."
- On his free bass accordion, George played "Turkish Rondo" ["Ronda alla Turca"] by Mozart; "Valse Lente;" and "Barcarole" by Offenbach; "Let It Snow" and "Rudolph."
- Maggie Abel



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January Meeting

Diana Richard



2016 FUN Band Music

Dick Albreski

At the February meeting, I will introduce the five arrangements that will be featured at the NAA FUN Band Camp concert in Dallas, Texas on Thursday, March 10, 2016. They include, "12th Street Rag," "National Accordion Swing," "2016 Polka Medley," "You Were Meant for Me" medley, and "Cruisin' Sown the River."

For those interested in participating in the FUN Band concert in Dallas, there will be copies of each arrangement available. There will also be a planned rehearsal prior to the Convention for the local attendees.



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Oklahoma Accordion Club Membership Form

Name _____ Date _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone (____) _____ Birthday (mm/dd) ____/____ (optional)

Newsletter

I prefer to receive the monthly newsletter, the Oklahoma Squeezins, by:

- ☐ E-mail at address (above) or at _____
☐ Conventional post (snail mail)

Membership Dues

The OAC membership year runs from January through December. Membership cost is prorated quarterly for new members.

- ☐ Primary Membership is \$16.00 per year per individual.
☐ Family Membership is \$8.00 per year for each additional family member when accompanied by a Primary Membership.
☐ Lifetime Membership is a one-time fee of \$180.
☐ Youth Membership is complimentary for accordion-playing youth through age 18.

Your Status (please check all that apply):

- ☐ Professional ☐ Semi-Professional ☐ Amateur ☐ Student
☐ Associate ☐ Hobby ☐ Teacher ☐ Repairman/Repairwoman
☐ Other (specify) _____

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