

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter

Who's Who for the 2017 National Accordion Convention



**MARCH MEETING ON THIRD SUNDAY
MARCH 19**

March Meeting

The March meeting will be held on Sunday, March 19, 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.

I'm packing for the *National Accordion Association* convention today. This is the first year I've been able to arrive on Wednesday, so I'll get to practice more with the *Fun Band*. I enjoy the accordion music and all the workshops, but most of all I look forward to seeing the friends I've made through the years.

I'm covering Frankie Yankovic this month:

Frank John "Frankie" Yankovic (July 28, 1915 - October 14, 1998) was a [Grammy Award](#)-winning [polka](#) musician. Known as "America's Polka King," Yankovic was considered the premier artist to play in the [Slovenian style](#) during his long career.

Yankovic acquired an accordion at age 9, and received a few lessons. By the late 1920s, in his early teenage years, he was a working musician, playing for community events. In the 1930s, he formed a business relationship with Joe Trolli, and began making radio appearances on stations such as WJAY and WGAR.

Yankovic hit the national scene when he earned two platinum singles for "Just Because" (1947) and "Blue Skirt Waltz," which sold over 4 million records total in 1949. It was the second Cleveland-style song to sell over one million recordings. At his peak, Yankovic traveled extensively, and performed 325 shows a year. He sold 30 million records during his lifetime.

Just Because: https://youtu.be/uA6S1KNfW_o

Blue Skirt Waltz: <https://youtu.be/we13AEaw6rQ>

See you at our St. Patrick's Day Meeting on the third Sunday of March.

• Barbara



Q: What's the difference between an accordion and a macaw?

A: One is loud, obnoxious, and noisy; the other is a bird.

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Mark Your Calendars

Dick Albreski

The **National Accordion Association** will hold its annual convention March 8-11, 2017, at the *Hyatt Regency Hotel* in Richardson, Texas. This is their 30th anniversary meeting. As accordionists, you cannot afford to miss this one. Tony Lovello will be one of the many headliners, plus the amazing Gary Blair from Scotland. Mark your calendars for this must-go event. You can view this event plus register on-line at www.nationalaccordion.org, and link into the *Convention Information Center*. OAC member Dick Albreski will conduct the NAA *Fun Band*, and the children's accordion ensemble.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: The *Oklahoma Accordion Club* will reschedule the March meeting to the third Sunday (March 19, 2017) instead of the traditional second Sunday. **This is for the March meeting only.** The reason is that most members will be at the *NAA*. Are you one of the members going to Dallas?

PIZZA PARTY! The *OAC* will hold its annual pizza party meeting on April 9, 2017, at the *Messiah Lutheran Church* starting at 3:30 pm. Each member can bring one guest. **Reservations are a must.** Pizza relates to Italian music being played on your accordion. Sounds good to me.

World Accordion Day will be held on May 6, 2017. This day was initiated by the *Confederation International des Accordeonistes (CIA)*, and commemorates the day -- May 6, 1829 -- that the accordion was patented in Vienna, Austria, by Cyrillius Demien. *World Accordion Day* was started in 2009, and it has definitely increased the popularity of the accordion. What will you be doing on May 6, 2017, to continue this trend?

American Accordion Association (AAA) Festival will be held at the *Westin Princeton Hotel* at Forrester Village, New Jersey, July 12-16, 2017. Accordion star performers, exhibits, banquets, competitions, plus workshops are planned. Mark your calendars.

Accordion Teachers Guild (ATG) will hold its annual meeting in Lisle, Illinois, July 19-23, 2017. Concerts, banquets, exhibits, workshops, and competitions will be featured. Mark your calendars.

Look for more accordion events in future issues of Squeezins.



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

Ted Shadid, March 1

Janet Haskin, March 8

Jim Whitten, March 13

Becky Rickard, March 25

Dan Hanson, March 28

Barbara Duer, March 30



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.



February Meeting

Maggie Abel

Oklahoma Accordion Club Valentine's Day Meeting February 12, 2017

President Barbara Duer welcomed 17 members and three guests to the Valentine's Day meeting of the *Oklahoma Accordion Club* on February 12, 2017.

- Barbara made announcements: *Club* dues should be paid to our new treasurer, Sil Lopez, or to his wife Anne. It is time to sign up to play in the annual concert this August. The order of play in this year's concert will be rearranged to mix advanced players with beginners. The concert will be 90 minutes long instead of the previous two hours.
- Bob Mansfield opened the music segment by playing his arrangement from Dvorak's "New World Symphony," followed by Bob's arrangement of a Russian waltz.
- Lois and Anne played three Elvis Presley songs: "Love Me Tender," "Are You Lonesome Tonight?" and "Blue Hawaii."

- *Fun Band* director and Past President Dick Albreski directed the *Fun Band* (Barbara Duer, Lois Roth, Karen West, Maggie Abel, and Toni Paulding) in playing "Play a Simple Melody," "Give Me My Heart Back," and "Eviva España."
- The trio of Lois Roth, Anne Lopez, and Karen West played three songs: "Second Waltz" by Shostakovich, "Blue Moon," and a unique arrangement of "When the Saints Go Marching In."
- Jimmie Woolley and a few other jammers played "Your Cheatin' Heart" and "I Saw the Light."
- Dressed in South American garb, Karen played "South America, Take It Away" and "Fever."
- Wayne Turgeon played "Praise to the Lord the Almighty the King of Creation" and "Que Sera" ("Whatever Will Be Will Be").

The March meeting will be held on the third Sunday instead of the second Sunday, as members will still be heading home from the *National Accordion Association* convention (March 3-12) on the second Sunday.

- Maggie



Q: What do you call a beautiful woman on an accordion players arm?

A: A tattoo.

Q: What's an accordion good for

A: Learning how to fold a map.

Q: What do you call twenty accordions at the bottom of the ocean?

A: A good start.

Q: What's the definition of an optimist?

A: An accordion player with a mortgage.

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Frank Gesinski
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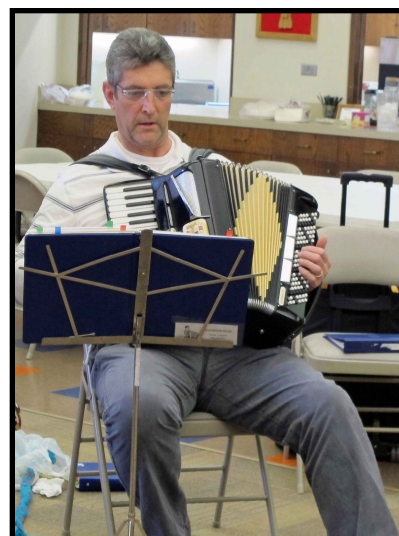
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918/492-1715
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A black and white illustration of a man, Frank Gesinski, sitting and playing an accordion. He is wearing a suit and a hat. The background of the illustration is red.

February Meeting

Diana Richard



February Meeting

Diana Richard





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

Membership Dues

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

☐ Primary Membership is \$20.00 per year per individual.

☐ Family Membership is \$10.00 per year for each additional family member when accompanied by a Primary Membership.

☐ Lifetime Membership is a one-time fee of \$300.00.

☐ 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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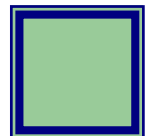
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