

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter

Tony Retires

Tony Lovello Announces His Retirement

by Rita Barnea



[Editor's Note: Tony played at our OAC Dinner Dance in 2002]

84-year-old accordionist, Tony Lovello, has announced his retirement. Tony has delighted and inspired all with his enthusiastic personality and virtuoso performances over the years. We will miss his workshops and exciting shows.

Tony says, "Well folks, I think 'It is Time.' After my upcoming appearance at the *New England Accordion Museum* on April 29-30, 2017, I will no longer perform live or give live seminars. However, I will, of course, continue with my *Skype*

lessons, and will continue to record new videos and post them on *YouTube*.

The soundtrack of my life has been very interesting, and I like to think of my legacy as not how I lived my life, but how many lives I have touched with my music."

To contact Tony:
Phone 859/223-1778
Cell: 859/227-1932
E-mail: tlovello@windstream.net

April Meeting

The April meeting will be held on Sunday, April 9, 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.

Our annual pizza party will be held at this meeting.

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,

April is the month for our annual Pizza Party. Call Karen West at 405/949-0394 or e-mail at accordion_karen@yahoo.com to make reservations. Give Karen your pizza choice: cheese, pepperoni, supreme, or veggie.

Remember, we will be signing up for the August concert at the May meeting, so have your music selected by then. Participants in the concert are required to play their musical selection at the June or July meeting. Because of time constraints, members will probably be limited to one musical number. We ran 45 minutes over the planned two-hour concert last year. It will depend on how many people sign up.

I recently started Argentine tango lessons. I didn't know there was a difference in tango dance and music. The Argentine tango is a walking tango, and not as difficult as the tango dancing I've seen. Here are examples of the Argentine tango. Enjoy!

https://youtu.be/VTAP_Oz5cnU

<https://youtu.be/3z90I14wKx8>

• Barbara



Many Thanks

My sincere **Thank You** to all the *OAC* members who supported the recent *NAA Fun Band* and the *Youth Band*. Barbara Duer, Maggie Abel, Lois Roth, Lou LeBrun, Sharon Fox, Janet Haskin, Barbara Mahar, Toni Paulding, and Annette Zongker made the *Fun Band* a success. The students: Matthew Medley, and Lazarus and Job Elliott were perfect accordionists, both in band participation and individual solos. They made my job as conductor a thrill.

• Dick



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Mark Your Calendars

Dick Albreski

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?

Leavenworth International Accordion Celebration will be held June 15 to 18, 2017 in Leavenworth, Washington. Stas Venglevski, Kim and Dan Christian, and the *Northwest Accordionaires* will be some of the many great performers. This event includes accordion competitions, concerts in the *Festhalle*, free accordion lessons, and an accordion parade. For more info, go to <http://>

www.AccordionCelebration.org, or call 206/622-4786.

American Accordion Association (AAA) Festival will be held at the *Westin Princeton Hotel* at Forrestal Village, New Jersey, July 12 to 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 to 23, 2017. Concerts, banquets, exhibits, workshops, and competitions will be featured. Mark your calendars.

Las Vegas International Accordion Convention, October 23 to 26, 2017, at the *Gold Coast Hotel & Casino*, Las Vegas, Nevada. They will feature Joey Miskulin, Stas Vengleski, Mary Tokarski, and Pete Barbutti, just some of the many featured accordionists. There will be workshops, concerts, and a youth competition. For more information, go to <http://www.AccordionStars.com>.

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



Happy Birthday Wishes to
the following OAC members:

Milo Shedeck, April 14

Roland Lohmann, April 14

Annette Zongker, April 18

Beth Henson, April 25

Ophelia Woody, April 27

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.



March Meeting

Maggie Abel

Oklahoma Accordion Club

March 19, 2017

Secretary's Report

The St. Patrick's Day celebration meeting of the *Oklahoma Accordion Club* was also the first Club meeting after the 30th annual *National Accordion Association* convention in Richardson (Dallas), Texas. The Club, therefore, met on the third Sunday of the month instead of its normal second Sunday.

President Barbara Duer opened the meeting attended by a dozen members.

- Dick directed *Fun Band* members Barbara, Karen, Toni Paulding, Beth Henson, and Secretary Maggie Abel in playing a few of the five songs that the complete *Fun Band* performed at the convention: "Blue Skies Medley," "Polkatime in Texas," and "Viva España."

- The trio of Karen, Barbara, and Lois Roth entertained with "Londonderry Air," "MacNamera's Band," and "Fiddle Medley."
- "O'Malley's Song" was performed by Karen and Barbara.
- Past president Dick Albreski and Barbara played "Harvest Home."
- "Jigtime Polka" and "Magic Fingers" were the treat provided by Dick's solos.

As the upcoming April meeting is the club's annual pizza party, those details were ironed out. Members are to contact club historian Karen West at (405) 949-0394 with reservations for themselves and up to one guest per member, specifying the type of pizza: cheese, pepperoni, supreme or veggie.

- Maggie



We Recommend

Dick Albreski

There is still time for you to see one of the most enjoyable plays of the year, with an included accordion. Evie and I had the pleasure of sitting through the play "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels," starring our own *OAC* member Lucas Ross. The play is cute, very entertaining, and somewhat adult, and portrays a fact of life. Two con men, a

beautiful woman, and the elite French Riviera collide in this sexy and irreverent farce. Lucas will again perform at the *Sooner Theatre*, 101 E. Main Street, Norman, OK, next Thursday, Friday, and Saturday (April 7-9) at 8:00 pm. Lucas supports the *OAC* -- please support him. Trust us, you will like it!

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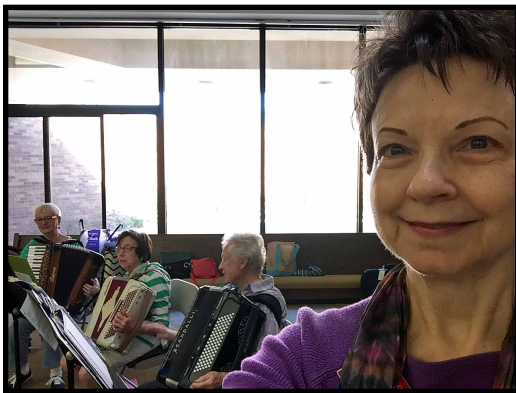
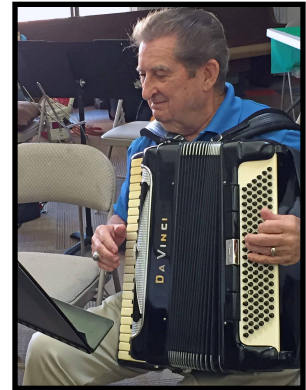
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March Meeting

Maggie Abel



NAA Convention

Maggie Abel





Oklahoma Accordion Club Membership Form

Name _____ Date _____

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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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