

THE OKLAHOMA SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"

The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter



***You're invited to
listen, play, & eat,
at the best
PIZZA PAR-TAY
Oklahoma
Accordion Club
ever had!***

Meetup Info for Sunday, April 12, 2026 — 3:30 PM

Oklahoma Accordion Club (founded in 2000) meets in person once again Sunday, April 12, 2025, at 3:30 PM at Messiah Lutheran Church, on the SE corner of Portland Ave. & NW Expressway in Oklahoma City. The south entrance to the church (there's a portico at that doorway in case of rain!) takes you to the foyer, where the sound of music (or the sight of signage) directs you to us and our accordions!

Pizza served today, but snacks are welcome! Bring your accordion, or just come as you are and sit down with us to drink in the sweet sounds!

If you can't attend the 3:30 PM meetup in person, you can experience some of it via *Zoom* — using the same codes (see **red type** below) you may have used in previous years. **I'm told Zoom's musical sound quality has recently improved!** So feel free to tune us in! Here's how:

On computer, tablet, or smartphone, to join us with both audio and video, go to

**[https://
us02web.zoom.us/](https://us02web.zoom.us/)**



PREZ SEZ

Maggie Abel



Well, this Sunday's meeting (April 12 @ 3:30) will bring nourishment galore with several kinds of pizza, and NO reservations required this year. Just show up, bring a guest, set down your accordion, and browse the selection!



While you're munching, Vice Prez Ron Shearon and I are eager to tell you about the convention we just returned from — aka the National Accordion Association Conference in Forney, Texas. We have plenty of "celeb snapshots" and fascinating videos to play for you — of performances from people whose fingers move faster than your eyeballs! Also news about Dick's successful Fun Band performance and its new practice plans for the coming year.
— Maggie & Ron

**Our next Oklahoma Accordion Club meetup is Sunday,
April 12 at 3:30 PM @ Messiah Lutheran Church, OKC**

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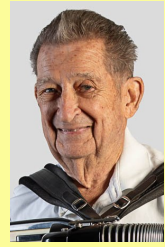
<http://www.okaccordion.club/>

Lifetime Members

Maggie Abel
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William "Rusty" Dolton
Frank Gesinski†
Janet Haskin
Roland Lohmann
Frankie Martinez
Bob Mansfield
Tom Phillips
Phil Scibelli
Ophelia Woody
Put YOUR name here!!

Mark Those Calendars!

by Dick Albreski



Friends, May 6th, 2026, will be the 197th birthday of the accordion. On May 6th, 1829, Cyril Demian, an organ, and piano maker of Armenian descent, with his two sons, Karl and Guido, filed a patent in Vienna, Austria, for the accordion. Patent #1433 listed a new type of portable instrument having metal plates for reeds and bellows for air. Since 1829 there have been many, many changes to the accordion. Yet the original intent carries on thanks to the accordion players of today and hopefully tomorrow. We have seen the accordion grow from an acoustic instrument to digital. We now can choose our preferred accordion, bellows or digital. Only our love and dedication for the accordion will allow it to continue. My challenge for you is to keep it going! Keep on SQUEEZIN!!!!

I heard rumors that the APRIL OAC meeting is special and those attending will be served a favorite Italian delicacy, **PIZZA!** I'm sure as you read this Newsletter will find more info on how you can partake of this Italian delight along with accordion music. By the way, bring your accordions and your friend. Without your accordion, there can be no accordion music. Ciao!

SQUEEZE PLAY is an invitation to join the Dan Diego Accordion Extravaganza & Band Camp from May 13th to the 16th, 2026, at the Wyndham Days Inn, San Diego, California. It is being presented by Kim and Dan Christian. There will be 3 days of intensive practice and an evening concert on Saturday, May 16th. Once registered you will receive all the music plus a Zoom schedule and video lessons prior to the meeting. Room reservations with free parking cost \$119.00. Registration for the event is now closed but I believe if you should contact Kim and Dan at 719-459-2061 you still could attend.

HEADS UP! Great Ideas Symposium 5. for Digital accordions will be held on June 21-24, 2026, at the Grand Resort in Warren, OH. This will be a live symposium event on the Kong Fist Supreme, Roland FR-4X and the FR-8X, and the Bugari Evo. Paid members cost will be \$650, Non-members \$695 and Spouse or plus 1 \$395. There will be workshops, concerts and jams. To register to attend both the event and lodgings, go the website gr8ideas.org.

The ATG (Accordion Teachers Guild) will hold its 84th Annual Festival in Salt Lake City, UT at the Salt Lake City Marriott University Park Hotel from July 8th to the 12th, 2026. This event will host many terrific accordionists plus concerts, competitions, jamming, and all-around accordion fun. More information to follow on the next Newsletter. So Mark Your Calendars!

The American Accordion Association (A.A.A.) will hold its annual convention on August 13-16th, 2026, at the Marriott Philadelphia West, in Conshohocken, PA. This event will include various educational and entertaining events plus foster camaraderie among accordion enthusiasts. For updates and registration, visit the American Accordionists Association festival page. More to follow in the next Newsletter. Mark Your calendars!

Free Accordion Music

Check out the following sites for new and free accordion music:

- Donquattrocchi.com
- 8notes.com/accordion

Try em! You'll like em!

~ Dick



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Looking Back on March's Meeting

Secretary Lois Roth

The Oklahoma Accordion Club held a meeting on Sunday, March 8, 2026, starting at 3:30 pm. Early arrivals were treated to some lively Irish tunes.

President Maggie Abel called the meeting to order. She welcomed everyone to The Saint Patrick's Day party.

There were eighteen members and three guests present. We recited the Pledge of Allegiance and sang "America the Beautiful."

Accordion performers were Anne Lopez, Lois Roth, Maggie Abel, Shayla Chavis-Smith, Tom Phillips, Dick Albreski, Barbara Yuill, and John Warren.

Tom said he is recovering from a stroke and his accordion is a challenge.

Milo Shedeck played his clarinet with Dick and Barbara, including an old German song once played by his grandfather.

We enjoyed a sing-along — "You Are My Sunshine," "My Wild

Irish Rose," "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling," and "When The Saints Go Marching In."

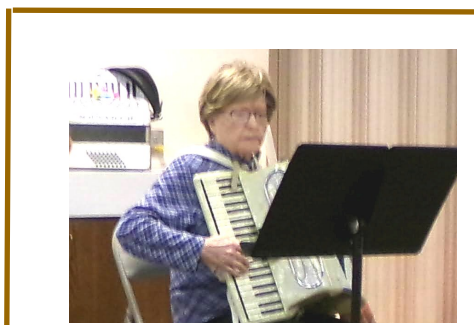
Ron Shearon demonstrated various reeds on his Giuletti accordion, on which he has done some complicated repair work. He told us that every accordion has a serial number.

The meeting was adjourned. There was jamming afterward.

Karen West was in charge of a delightful snack table.

We'll meet next on Sunday, April 12. Themes are Spring, Easter, and whatever you want to play for us. See you then!

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Roth, OAC Secretary



*Sadly, we received word that recent member **Shirley Irene Hammack** has passed on. Featured in a previous newsletter, Shirley won a prize for her accordion skill at age 10. A computer programmer at Duncan Regional Hospital, she and three of her musically-inclined family drove to OKC so she could take up accordion again after an absence. Her playing of Blue Tango (see left) impressed several teachers in attendance. Shirley and Wilber were married 57 years. Her service took place the second Sunday in March.*

Accordion Birthday Greetings!



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've 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



OAC Meetup
Mar. 8, 2026
Pix: Diana L. Richard





OAC Meetup

Mar. 8, 2026

Pix: Diana L. Richard





OAC Meetup

Mar. 8, 2026

Pix: Diana L. Richard





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 73720

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

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

