

# ***SQUEEZINS***

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



## **The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter**

Yes, Nick Ballarini, a Dallas, Texas accordionist extraordinaire will be performing at the June 9 *OAC* meeting. Nick will demonstrate the latest in digital accordions, plus the electronic advances on the acoustic accordion.



You will also witness his great accordion talent that has made him a legend in our accordion world. There is nothing on the accordion that Nick can't do.

In addition to his playing, he is a master accordion repairperson, plus a dealer for the Petosa, Giulietti, and Hohner accordions.

Nick is also your research person. If you have any questions concerning you and your accordion, bring those questions to the meeting.

This is truly a "Mark Your Calendar" date.

## ***May Meeting***

**The May meeting will be held on Sunday, May 12, 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.**

Before the meeting — from 2:30 to 3:30 — The *OAC Band*, directed by Barbara Duer, practices and plays easily played tunes. **All members are encouraged to participate in the fun!**



# Prez Sez

Maggie Abel

May 6 has been named *World Accordion Day*! How can we observe it?

To start with, here are the Top 10 Reasons to practice your August concert song on May 12, at the next *Oklahoma Accordion Club* meeting.

10. When I hear my song on the radio in the future, I can say, "Wow, that's the song I played in the August 2019 Summer Concert."

9. My example encourages someone else in the Club, who is also thinking about playing in the August Concert.

8. My name is printed in the Concert program to save for posterity. My Concert participation will be mentioned in my family's Christmas newsletter.

7. My loyal accordion will have renewed faith in its owner.

6. When I come across the souvenir program in the scrapbook at home, my name and song will be underlined and decorated with hearts.

5. My nine-year-old can photograph the program on my smartphone and e-mail it to the cousins.

4. I pat myself on the back every time I drive past *Yukon Czech Hall*. I casually say, "Oh yeah, I played there to a packed house."

3. In my small way, I help our unique accordion club to not only survive, but to achieve its mission in 2019.

2. My May goal to perfect my song by August honors my New Year's resolution to blossom more in the Club in 2019.

1. For the rest of my life I can say, "I played [INSERT NAME OF SONG HERE] in the 2019 Annual Concert!"

Have you marked June on your calendar as a great time to bring a friend to the *OAC* meeting? The talented and winsome Nick Ballarini will display, explain, and demo some of the newest high tech accordion products available this year.

Thanks to our dues-paying members for hosting the Pizza Party last month! What fun it was to be munching in time with the music, while listening to fellow members providing music to dine by!

Past President Barbara Duer invites all to arrive early for a "fun session," playing along with simple songs from 2:30 to 3:30 pm, right before our 3:30 meeting. She e-mails the songs in advance to those who have expressed interest, or you can pick them up the day of the meeting.

Those using social media are invited to visit the *Oklahoma Accordion Club* on Facebook.

Kudos to all the members on the roster for your part in furthering the grand goals of the *Oklahoma Accordion Club*.

• Maggie Abel, OAC President



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### Lifetime Members

- 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

**OAC Meeting June 9, 2019.** Nick Ballarini, *accordionist extraordinaire* from Dallas, will demonstrate the latest in digital accordions, plus the new electronics for acoustic accordions. Make this meeting a must for the exciting new advancements in the accordion world.

The **AMERICAN ACCORDIONISTS ASSOCIATION (AAA)** presents *FESTIVAL 2019*, July 17-21, 2019, at the *Valley Forge Casino Resort (Radisson Hotel)* in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. Guests include Peter Maric, Michael Bridge, Guest Conductor Vesna Mihonovic, Joe Natoli, Rachel Quirbach, and Dr. Robert Young McMahan. Other activities include workshops, *Junior and Senior Festival Orchestras* Carrozza Scholarship, and Youth Jazz Ensembles. For more info, visit the website at: <http://www.ameraccord.com/festival.php>.

**ACCORDIONISTS & TEACHERS GUILD INTL. (ATG)** will present its 79<sup>th</sup> meeting in Denver, Colorado, July 24-27, 2019. This Festival is the year of the DUOS. The ATG will feature some of the best accordion duos, plus workshops, competitions, and Festival orchestra. Featured artists include Jamie Maschler & Gabriel Rodrigues, Augustinas Ruakaukas & Greta

Staponkute, Kim & Dan Christian, and John & Madalynn Neu with *The Voice of the Wood Chamber Players*. For further info, visit the website: <https://www.atgaccordions.com/2019-festival>.

**2019 Coupe Mondiale** will be held August 12-18, 2019, in Shenzhen, China. Here's your chance to see and hear the most talented accordionists. China isn't that far away. For further info, visit the website: [http://www.coupemondiale.org/2019-cn\\_coupemain.html](http://www.coupemondiale.org/2019-cn_coupemain.html).

**PEDONE-BALLARINI Accordion Clinic** will be held at the *TbarM Ranch Resort* in New Braunfels, Texas, November 10-13, 2019. A great four days of group lessons, workshops, jam sessions, participants' concerts, solo performance opportunities, study groups, great guest artists/instructors, all in a beautiful learning environment. Nick Ballarini will be at the OAC June meeting to discuss in detail this awesome opportunity to advance your accordion experience.

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



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

**Tony Paulding, May 2**

**Rusty Dolton, May 2**

**Barbara Mahar, May 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](mailto:accordion_karen@yahoo.com).



# April Meeting

Anne Lopez

## OAC Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2019

•President Maggie Abel opened our meeting at 3:30 pm, following the *OAC Band's Fun Group* music session from 2:30 to 3:30 pm, led by Bob Mansfield. Thank you to Barbara Duer for getting the music out to the membership before the meeting. The session was very well attended!

•We had 18 members and 3 guests present. We officially have 2 new members, Barbara Yuill and Jean Hill, whom we would like to welcome!

•Maggie has done a wonderful job preparing interesting accordion videos for the membership to enjoy before and during the meeting. This month we were able to view more players from the March *National Accordion Association* convention.

•Party animals that we are, we commenced our Pizza Party with strains from "The Godfather," played by Anne Lopez in the background. Lois Roth and Anne played "The Woodpecker Song" and "Return to Me" to continue the Italian mood. Many thanks to Karen West and Tom Phillips for organizing and ordering the pizza. We all appreciate the faithful but often unsung members who pitch in regularly to set up an attractive food table and see to the clean up.

•Following good food and good friendships, Anne and Lois Roth played their August concert pieces for the Club:

\* "San Antonio Rose"

\* "Polka Medley," with "Just Because" and more.

•New member Jean Hill and Anne harmonized on a beautiful Irish waltz:

\* "Given's Waltz," and they also played the:

\* "Tarantella"

•Maggie introduced our guests, Carol Walker, Jacques Rap, and Carol Stickler. She reminded everyone to

turn in their concert titles to her in May, and to play their pieces in front of the Club in May to practice playing in front of others.

•Barbara Duer played her banjo with Lou Lebrun, performing the snappy tunes:

\* "Grandpa's Spells"

\* "Tierney Rag"

Lou came all the way from Springfield, Missouri to attend our meeting. So good to see you, Lou!

•Dick Albreski gave a workshop on keeping your accordion keys clean. He explained if we use powder to reduce hand sweating or lotion to soften our hands, it can gum up the keys. Dick's wife, Evie, had a humorous solution. She made a cloth cover to put over the keyboard to keep it clean. It also teaches the player not to look at the keyboard while playing. Dick felt the glissando was a bit difficult with the cloth! A composer of many songs, Dick played two original songs with the cloth cover, quite a feat!

\* "Eveline"

\* "Trattoria del Centro"

Bob asked Dick what the strangest thing he ever found while cleaning the inside of an accordion.

His response: "A quarter!" Now how did that get in there???

•T. Z. Wright entertained us, singing and playing the humorous:

\* "Whiskey Before Breakfast"

\* "A Walk in the Irish Rain"

•Bob concluded our party with a piece that he composed for part of a Tejano album he is working on:

\* "Hill Country Polka"

Then, he played the French tune:

\* "L'Amé de Poetes," followed by

\* "Besame Mucho," with Sil Lopez who surprised everyone by singing along in Spanish with Bob.

• Anne Lopez, OAC Secretary



## Advertisement

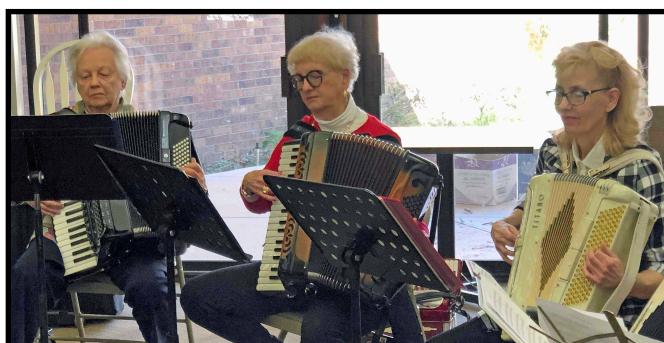
An advertisement for Frank Gesinski. It features a photo of Frank, a man wearing a hat and glasses, playing an accordion. To the right of the photo, the text reads: "FRANK GESINSKI", "Live Accordion Music & Accordion Lessons", "8035 S. Irvington Ave.", "Tulsa, OK 74136-8404", "918/492-1715", and "AccordionFrank@att.net". The background of the ad is black with blue and yellow curved lines at the bottom right.

**FRANK GESINSKI**  
Live Accordion Music & Accordion Lessons  
8035 S. Irvington Ave.  
Tulsa, OK 74136-8404  
**918/492-1715**  
AccordionFrank@att.net



# April Meeting

Maggie Abel, Diana Richard





# April Meeting

Maggie Abel, Diana Richard





EMCEE Lucas Ross  
KFOR/KAUT-TV Personality

# Oklahoma Accordion Club

7TH ANNUAL FREE CONCERT

## An Accordion Affair

Sunday, Aug 11, 2019 2:30 to 4:30 PM

YUKON CZECH HALL

205 N Czech Hall Rd (I-40 exit 137)



Previous Concert Audience →



OKaccordion.club (405) 201-7867 (phone/text)  
"LIKE" Oklahoma Accordion Club on Facebook





# *A Blessing of Music*

*May your days be filled with music*

*May your path be paved with song*

*May the sounds of forever lift you up and keep you strong*

*May your heart resound with laughter*

*May your life be tuned for praise*

*May the hymns of faith bring you hope*

*May the rhythms of your life bring your joy*

*May the harmonies of friendship bring you love*

*May the Maker bless and keep you*

*May God's music guide your ways*

*May God's gentle whisper always comfort you with grace*

*May the voices of angels bring you peace*

*Amen*





## 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) \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Oklahoma Accordion Club

Mail your membership dues TODAY to:

**Oklahoma Accordion Club  
c/o 7109 NW 102<sup>nd</sup> Street  
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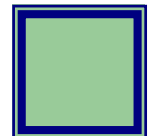


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