

THE OKLAHOMA SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"

The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter

***June days
have come,
a time for
delight
and a
sweeter
union
with your
accordion!***



Meetup Info for Sunday, June 8, 2025 — 3:30 PM

Oklahoma Accordion Club (founded in 2000) meets in person once again Sunday, June 8, 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!

Snacks are welcome & pizza is served on June 8! 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 live 3:30 PM meetup in person, you can experience it via *Zoom* — using the same codes (see **red type** below) you may have used in previous years. Zoom's musical sound quality is nothing to write home about, but feel free to tune us in anyway!

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

**[https://
us02web.zoom.us/
j/5236709799](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5236709799)**



PREZ SEZ

Maggie Abel

Greetings, Squeezeboxers!

Accordions, pizza, friendship, musicality—all found in one place—that's Oklahoma Accordion Club, active since 2000!

Mark your calendar for the **JUNE 8th PIZZA PARTY**, an annual funfest we've enjoyed for years. See **page 7** to reserve a spot and order your pizza type! You are requested to bring your own pop!

Accordion USA News says June is **National Accordion Awareness Month** (est. 1989). How to celebrate it? They say:

1. Buy an accordion. What better way to honor this instrument than to permanently bring one into your life? Research the best and most affordable accordions and treat yourself to a wonderful instrument. Send a little music/joy out into the world.
2. Take accordion lessons in person or online. Accordion teachers are available all over the world. You can learn from the comfort of your own homhome. Look for ac-

cordion clubs to join and meet nearby accordion enthusiasts!

3. Support accordion players. Honor those who have put in the work. Attend their concerts/festivals in person, or watch them perform online. Purchase their music/albums from online platforms, etc. Share your discovery with the world and help spread awareness about the accordion.

Interesting fact: A renewed interest in grassroots regional musical styles, such as Zydeco, Cajun, and Tejano, have resulted in the rediscovery and recent rise in popularity of the accordion in the USA.

It is very true that the accordion is the perfect way to meet new people, make friends, and expand your musical horizons.

*Awareness Info thanks to
Ritabelll@aol.com*

May I add, if you aren't near an accordion club, start one yourself! Other squeezeboxers will rush out of the woodwork, so happy that someone is out there waiting for them to join.

*Hey, there's a **pizza** in your future! See page 7! ~ Maggie*

Board of Directors

PRESIDENT/NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Maggie Abel
Oklahoma City, OK 73159
405-201-7867
magster@aol.com

VICE-PRESIDENT/TREASURER

Ron Shearon
209 South 2nd
Bison, OK 73720
580-603-0078
rlshearon@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Lois Roth
Edmond, OK 73013
405-340-6454
roth6454@gmail.com

PROOFER/SNACKS/BIRTHDAYS

Karen West
Oklahoma City, OK
H: 405-949-0394
C: 405-830-1058
accordion_karen@yahoo.com

HISTORIAN/LIBRARIAN **Open**

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Barbara Duer, Dick Albreski

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Diana.l.richard@gmail.com

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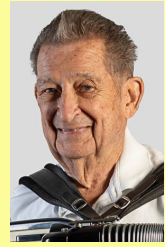
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**Our next Oklahoma Accordion Club meetup is Sunday,
June 8 at 3:30 PM at Messiah Lutheran Church, OKC.**

Mark Your Calendars

Dick Albreski



WHAT DATES are important to the accordion? In May we celebrated the WORLD ACCORDION DAY on May 6th. Now why is that important? It is because on May 6th, 1829, Cyril Demian (1772-1849), an organ and piano maker, accompanied by his two sons Karl and Guido, filed a patent in Vienna, Austria, for the accordion. This was the start of something big. From the start of the World Accordion Day, we jump into June and that is the National Accordion Awareness Month.

What does that mean to us? Well, without US promoting the accordion, how else will it continue? We can start by playing some Italian tunes at the OAC Pizza party June 8th. Pizza and Italian music go so well together! In July we have the 4th of July and a chance to play some patriotic tunes. In August and September, you will have to create the need for accordion music, but in October, we have Oktoberfest and a chance to really make some polka and waltz music.

Now I have given you some reasons to put on that accordion and prepare for what the accordion can do best. Are you with me, and will you prepare?

AMERICAN ACCORDIONISTS ASSOCIATION (AAA) Festival will be held July 11th to 13th, 2025, in Conshohocken (Philadelphia area), PA. The event will feature Concerts, Workshops, Competitions, Orchestras, Exhibits, Food Functions, and Guest Artists. Watch this article or ameraccord.com for more hotel discount codes and other Festival announcements.

ACCORDIONISTS & TEACHERS GUILD (ATG) 83rd FESTIVAL will be held July 16th to 20th, 2025 in Lisle, IL, featuring: Radu Ratoi, Bridge & Wolak, Duo TWO accordions, Peter Soave & String Quintet, UMKC Community Accordion Ensemble, Festival Member Orchestra conducted by Joan Sommers, Workshops, Master classes, Competitions, Luncheons and a Dinner Banquet. For more information watch this article or visit: atgaccordions.com

A Future Venture: The National Accordion Association is currently revamping its convention protocol to be more in tune with today's requirements. The previous convention held in March 2025 was a success but also showed conventions must change. Stay tuned to this column as new information is released on future events!

~ Dick

JUST ACCORDIONS
7109 N.W. 102nd Street
OKC, OK 73162
juaccord@hotmail.com

Dick Albreski
Sales - Repairs - Instruction
(405) 721-0564

Free Accordion Music Websites

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

- Donquattrocchi.com
- 8notes.com/accordion

Try em! You'll like em!



Report of May Meeting

Secretary Lois Roth

The Oklahoma Accordion Club met on Sunday, May 11, 2025. Before the meeting we watched a projected video from the 2025 National Accordion Convention, featuring Jim Rommel, Bob Bisciglia, Lorin Brooke, and other professional players.

President Maggie Abel called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm. Nine members were present (eight in person and one on Zoom). VP and Treasurer Ron Shearon led us in reciting The Pledge of Allegiance. Maggie thanked the workers, including Proofreader and Snack Leader Karen West, and member Frank Boyd, who sets up projection equipment and helps as needed.

The Garage Band, where Maggie plays accordion, will entertain at Messiah Lutheran Church Friday, May 16, performing for a monthly seniors class led by Pastor Myron Harms.

Photo at right —>

Our club was delighted to receive the donation of a Monarch midi ac-

cordion from member John Buchanan! A silent auction was held, and Dick Albreski was the highest bidder. Proceeds go to support the OAC's youth members.

The afternoon's music started with Ron playing "Margarita" on his 120-bass accordion. He said he has been experiencing health issues, but he now has a pacemaker and is doing much better.

Dick played "Fascination" on the for-auction accordion. Then he changed to his 48-bass to perform songs composed by Myron Floren: "The Golden Gate," "Scampering," and "Senorita Polka."

Lois Roth joined Dick for a few duets. They first played "The Anniversary Song" to celebrate Maggie and Frank's second

anniversary. The celebrants enjoyed a waltz together.

Lois and Dick continued the music with "Sentimental Journey," "Just Because," and "Missouri Waltz."

Lois played a few "golden oldies": "Let The Rest of The World Go By," "When You and I were Young, Maggie," and "When I Grow Too Old To Dream." Karen performed the Rod Stewart hit "Have I Told You Lately."

The meeting was adjourned. Our next meeting is Sunday, June 8. Come and join in the Pizza Party Day fun!

*Respectfully submitted,
Lois Roth, OAC Secretary*



Birthday Greetings to Members!



John Warren

June 29

Lauren Disabella

June 30



*Your birthdate is collected from your OAC membership application, if you have 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*



Alert OAC Secretary Lois scribbles down everyone's song titles whenever she's not playing!



"Close your bellows at the end of the song!"



Known for her wit and the many OAC hats she wears—that's Karen!

**OAC Meetup
May 11, 2025**
Pix: Maggie Abel
(Diana was away on a mission...)



Milo of The Bohemian Knights, and his wife Lucy. He says she's quite a decent player!



Lights, camera, action, Zoom!





OAC Encounters

Pix: Maggie Abel

FLASHBACK to when OAC members played under the trees at Stars and Stripes Park for a charity fundraising event. Karen, John (donor of the silent auction accordion), Lois, and I were there and received green t-shirts for our efforts!



Ran into our talented OAC friend from years of yore, Jimmie Woolly, at Will Rogers Senior Center last week, as he is taking a class there.

EL RENO ADVENTURE! Members Earl Folk, Susan Hause, yours truly, and friends went on an outing to El Reno last week. We photographed ourselves in front of El Reno landmarks, ate at the excellent Pecina's Mexican Café, then attended the Backwoods Country Music Show at the Centre Theatre, featuring guitarist Steve Corbin. You recall Steve came to our OAC meeting a few months ago to sell a decorative, 120-bass Francini accordion (I snagged it!), and before he left, he ended up handing out tickets to his show to OAC attendees.

SUNDAY JUNE 8 **IS OUR OAC** ***PIZZA PARTY***

You and your guests are invited to
Oklahoma Accordion Club's
fabulous **Annual Pizza Party!**



Nothing could be finer than to bite into a piece of **supreme, pepperoni, cheese, or veggie pizza** -- accompanied by spirit-lifting accordion music provided by our Club members.

So that the pizza may be plentiful, **RESERVATIONS BY NOON, SATURDAY JUNE 7** are requested for this **June 8** event. Each member is **free to invite one guest**. (But for a **donation, you may invite additional guests**.) Our reservations mistress, Karen West, would like to be emailed at **accordion_karen@yahoo.com**. If email is not convenient, leave a **voice message on 405/949-0394, Karen's home phone**. Or a **text message on 405/830-1058, her cell phone**. *In your message, state the number of attendees and your preference among the 4 types of pizza mentioned above!*



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)

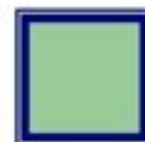
I prefer to receive the monthly newsletter, the *Oklahoma Squeezins*, by: ☐ E-mail ☐ Conventional Mail

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

Oklahoma Accordion Club
7109 NW 102 Street
Oklahoma City OK 73162



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