

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter



If you would like a large copy of the 2016 Concert poster (see page 7), please contact Karen West at 405/949-0394 or accordion_karen@yahoo.com.

Cost: 12"x18" shiny: \$0.75 each, 12"x18" card stock: \$1.00. They will be available at the July meeting.

They are AWESOME!!!

July Meeting

The July meeting will be held on Sunday, July 10, 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

Hi everyone,

It's July and we have about six weeks to get everything ready for the Concert in August, including the musical pieces we will be playing. We will have to limit groups and soloists to five minutes of playing to complete the concert in two hours.

Karen and Maggie are busy getting the posters and advertisements out to the community for the Concert. Karen and Maggie do great work, and it's thanks to them that we had such a successful turnout for last summer's Concert. I want to end the concert again with "God Bless America," and have everyone who plays in the Concert come up on the stage or stand just below the stage and lead the playing and singing of "God Bless America." Then, we can all take a final bow.

I heard Charles Nunzio play on *YouTube* one day, and decided to write about him and post videos of his playing for the next couple months.

Charles Nunzio

Born in Sicily, he came to the U.S. at the age of eight, and his parents settled in Newark. He became a world-famous accordionist, teacher, composer, and arranger. He had a music studio in Newark and later in Nutley, where he trained many champion accordionists who became successful professional artists.

He made his debut in a recital at *Town Hall* in 1933, and an appearance in *Carnegie Hall* the following year. In 1938 Charles Nunzio became a founding Board member of the *American Accordionists Association*, along with Pietro Frosini, Abe Goldman, Sydney Dawson, Anthony Galla-Rini, Charles Magnante, Pietro Deiro, Gene Von Hallberg, Joe Biviano, John Gart, Sam Roland, and Byron Streep.

Charles Nunzio, 97, passed away on October 19, 2010.

http://www.accordionusa.com/fe_06_03.htm

To be continued

Enjoy,

• Barbara



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Mark Your Calendars

Dick Albreski

Accordion Teachers Guild (ATG) will hold their *76th Anniversary Festival* in Lisle, Illinois. (Chicago) from July 22 to July 26. This year they will feature Grayson Masefield from New Zealand. He is a five-time world accordion champion. Check the website for more information.

American Accordionists Association (AAA) will hold their annual 2016 Festival in Buffalo, New York at the *Adams Mark Hotel* from July 6 to July 10. This year's event will include an excursion to Niagara Falls, workshops, and hands-on sessions, plus spectacular concerts. Check the website for more information.

Las Vegas International Accordion Convention will be August 8 to August 11 at the *Gold Coast Hotel* in Las Vegas, Nevada. Joan Sommers will direct the *International Accordion Orchestra*. Also performing will be Joey Miskulin, 2007 *Coupe Mondiale* Champion Alexander Sevastian, Honorary Conductor Mario Pedone, virtuoso accordion duet Kim and Dan Christian, and world-traveling artist Mary Tokarski. This is only a partial list

of the many artists who will perform. For more information and special pricing go to their website AccordionStars.com.

Annual OAC Free Concert will be held on August 14, 2016, at the *Czech Hall* on Czech Hall Road in Yukon, Oklahoma, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm. The talented *OAC* members will perform for your listening pleasure.

Yukon Czech Days will be held on October 1, 2016, in downtown Yukon, Oklahoma. Festivities start at 11:00 am with a massive parade, followed by traditional Czech music and dancing throughout the day. *OAC* member Milo Shedeck will direct the *Bohemian Knights Orchestra* in performing familiar polkas, waltzes, and schottisches. Milo will also lead the *Bohemian Knights* in the Grand Ball to be held at the *Czech Hall* from 6:00 pm to midnight. Make plans to attend this great event.

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



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

Diana Richard, July 4

Lois Roth, July 6

Frank Gesinski, July 14

Becca Smith, July 18

Dick Albreski, July 23

Bill Henson, July 31

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.



June Meeting

Maggie Abel

Oklahoma Accordion Club

June 12, 2016 Meeting

OAC President Barbara opened the meeting, attended by 21 members and one introduced guest.

- Barbara explained the popular "flashmob" concept, examples of which can be seen on YouTube.com. In a public place, one person begins playing or singing a song, and other people trickle in until a "mob" is playing or singing together, surprising the bystanders. Member Larry Gering is organizing a flashmob to play several simple numbers in the August 14 Annual Concert. Flashmob rehearsals are currently being held Wednesdays from 4:00 to 6:00 pm for all skill levels. Contact Larry at dktrgl@hotmail.com or 808/443-8883 to participate.
- Historian Karen West displayed the concert poster she created with Secretary Maggie Abel. Newsletter editor Frank Gesinski e-mailed the poster to the membership, including a photo version, which can be posted on *Facebook* or attached to e-mails.
- Barbara offered a sign-up sheet for Concert performers to name the songs they will perform, limited to five minutes per performer.
- Former Vice-President Tom Phillips was voted in as acting vice president while Dan Orza is on a leave of absence.
- Tom reported that he had arranged for several accordions donated to the Club to be placed in a Wisconsin museum with a placard crediting OAC as the donor.

- Club members voted to raise annual dues to \$20 per member, \$10 per additional family member, and raised the lifetime membership to \$300. The new rates are effective July 16.
- Music began with "Beer Barrel Polka" played by Chuck Vodicka.
- T. Z. Wright performed Bob Dylan's "Man Gave Names to All the Animals," and a "semi-Irish" tune, "Handsome Molly."
- Barbara discussed, with member input, the possibility of videoing this year's concert.
- Karen played "I Gotta Be Me."
- Bob Mansfield and George Secor played as a duet: Bach's "Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring," and Igor Stravinsky's "Polka," with an interlude by Bob.
- George then performed Handel's "The Harmonious Blacksmith." Bach's "Ave Maria" was presented by Bob, and French composer Gounod's "Ave Maria" was presented by George.
- Barbara played "Polka Musette," which was sent by Lou LeBrun, and then the first three lines of a number by Magnante "La Bella Theresa," which she is learning.
- Anne Lopez and Lois Roth played "Where Is My Heart" from "Moulin Rouge," plus "La Vie en Rose."
- Larry, accompanied by T. Z., Karen, Lois, Barbara, Maggie, Steven Scott, and Toni Paulding, played several numbers proposed for the flashmob.

The next meeting will be July 10.

• Maggie Abel
OAC Secretary



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June Meeting

Diana Richard



June Meeting

Diana Richard





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KFOR/KAUT-TV Personality

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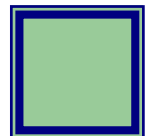
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