

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter



July Meeting

The July meeting will be held on Sunday, July 12.

It will be an on-line meeting, using *Zoom*, because of the Covit-19 pandemic.



Prez Sez

Maggie Abel

Yes, there will be another on-line *Zoom* meetup this month, on our usual meeting day, Sunday, July 12, at 3:30 pm. The computer link and phone number will remain the same as last month, and will be e-mailed to everyone again, a day or two in advance. So far, we've had several celebs also appear at our *Zoom* gathering, such as performer Cory Pesaturo; Roland Sounds Originator Richard Noel; Bernie Nowak, who founded the *Maine Accordion Club*, and out-of-townners Alex and Anna Rockwell (Bernie's grandchildren).

Heartfelt thanks to all those who help keep the home fires burning at the *Oklahoma Accordion Club*, even when the Club is not actually meeting in person.

Our newsletter editor, Frank Gesinski, as we heard at the last on-line gathering, goes through heck and high water to get our monthly news piece out, despite failed modems, electricity that goes off, and other anomalies. He even puts his reporter's cap on to seek out biographies of various members so we can get to know our fellow accordionists.

You've been enjoying articles by Past Prez Barbara Duer, who presents her "Barb's Blog" newsletter column, elaborating on music, and explaining its workings for our edification.

Club Co-Founder Dick Albreski can be counted on to keep us up-to-date on upcoming events such as conventions, workshops, etc., in both near and faraway places, and he even lets us know if they are postponed due to quarantine!

And how would we know what went on at the previous meeting (in-person or on-line) without our devoted Secretary, Lois Roth? Yes, we're always curious to see an overview of the happenings, especially those who live away from OKC, and may have to miss a meeting. Lois details the highlights such that we feel as if we were there in person!

Your loyal Board members -- Vice President Ron Shearon, Secretary Lois Roth; Historian Barbara Duer; and Treasurer Tom Phillips -- may not have met face-to-face in the past few months, but they resolve Club issues by phone, by e-mail, and more likely, in a private *Zoom* Board meeting.

Our Club website (www.okaccordion.club) is masterminded by Photographer Diana L. Richard (Lois's daughter), whom you'll see peeking at you from behind a camera at our in-person meetings.

Continued on page 5



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Mark Your Calendars

Dick Albreski

The original intent of this column in the Squeezin' newsletter was to inform the OAC members of future accordion events that they could attend. It never entered my mind that I would someday reverse my actions and advise only cancelations. I will list all the current cancelations below.

- There will be live music at the *Czech Hall* in Yukon, OK. OAC Member Milo Shedeck will lead the *Bohemian Knights* this Saturday from 8:00 to 11:30 pm.
- Unfortunately, there will be no main accordion events for the remainder of this year. I will continue to monitor any and all events, and if there happens to be a live event, you will be the first to know.

Allow me to add some accordion thoughts for your consideration:

Practicing Hints:

The very first function that a player must use in practicing music is to look with your eyes. The

second function is to think with your mind! If the eyes and mind are functioning properly, then the fingers have the best chance to play correctly. And finally, the ear can be educated correctly by hearing the right notes.

• Maestro Anthony Galla-Rini

Some additional thoughts:

1. Try to practice at the same time every day.
2. Warm up with familiar tunes.
3. Continue warm up with treble and bass exercises.
4. Start practicing at a slow tempo, increase tempo with accuracy.
5. Strive to use correct fingering at all times. Your fingers move your hand.

Remember, it is better to have mastered one section or part, then to stumble through the entire tune.

Don't waste practice time.



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Bio Sign

Thomas Scott Phillips, our current Treasurer, is the subject of this month's biography. Tom was born in Hammond, Indiana, but grew up "all over the United States." He has been an *OAC* member for eight years.

He has grown to actively participate in our Club, so much so that he is now a Board member.

Like most of our members, Tom does not play professionally, but plays the accordion because he



really enjoys it, as well as having a good time participating in our Club's activities.

Tom is one of those people whose many artistic talents are not obvious to the rest of us, because he not only plays the accordion, but he also dabbles in water color painting.

If you have not already done so, please send your annual dues to Tom, because he is planning a long vacation in Hawaii (just kidding).



Happy Birthday Wishes to the following *OAC* members:



Diana Richard, July 4
Lois Roth, July 6
Frank Gesinski, July 14
Dick Albreski, July 23
Billy 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.



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Barb's Blog

Barbara Duer

I'm presenting sheet music for the song "Blue Moon" this month (see next two pages), to show another wonderful rhythm for the left hand on the accordion. Lou LeBrun arranged this version for the newsletter. Thank you, Lou.

I'm also posting a version of "Blue Moon," arranged by Frank Marocco from *YouTube*. Notice the left-hand rhythm of mostly "1, 2, 3, 4 stomp" basses. This version might be easier for anyone who has trouble with the Lou arrangement.

"Blue Moon" is a classic popular song. It was written by Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart in 1934, and has become a standard ballad. The lyrics presumably refer to an English idiomatic expression: "Once in a blue moon" means very rarely.

Frank Marocco's version of "Blue Moon" for accordion:

[Blue Moon, Richard Rogers](#)



Dr. William Schimmel

Dr. William Schimmel, one of the principal architects in the resurgence of the accordion, holds Bachelor of Music, Master of Science, and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in composition from the Juilliard School. Schimmel's music has been featured in a number of television shows and films, perhaps most notably in "Scent of a Woman," starring Al Pacino, where Schimmel appears in the famous Tango scene.



Schimmel performs music in many genres, has commissioned and premiered hundreds of new works, has written a number of books and articles, and has made numerous recordings and videos. He has served and continues to serve as Artist in Residence of The *American Accordionist's Association (AAA)*, where he also serves as Distinguished Lecturer in Residence and member of the Governing Board.

Prez Sez

Continued from page 2

Past VP Karen West, customary bringer of all good treats to our meetings at the church, rounds up the birthday announcements so we can wish well to our maturing fellow members!

The Fourth of July parade in Bethany, Oklahoma was always a means for Club members to attend and pass out literature for the Club annual concert and meetings. This year there was no

parade to attend! But we hope to soon get back on track of normal activity such as this. In the meantime, consider signing on with us this Sunday, on your phone or computer, or visiting the home of a nearby person who is signing in that day, so we can high-five one another once more!

• Maggie Abel, OAC President



5/20/2020: Corrected
rhythm in bass clef.
6/30/2020: Fix measures
16 and 17.

0065D

BLUE MOON

Jo Stafford recorded

Moderato

Chord symbols: F, Dm, Gm, C7, C, F, Dm, Gm, C7, F, Dm, Gm, C7, F, Bbm, F, F7, Bb6, C7, F6, F7, Bb6, C7.

6/30/2020

2 Blue Moon 0065D

16

Acc.

F F7 Fm Eb7 Ab

19

Acc.

C G7 Gm C7 F Dm

22

Acc.

Gm C7 F Dm Gm C7 F Dm

26

Acc.

Gm C7 F Dm Gm C7 C

29

Acc.

Gm Bbm F F F

6/30/2020



Oklahoma Accordion Club Membership & Renewal Form

Make checks payable to: **Oklahoma Accordion Club**
Mail your membership dues to: **Oklahoma Accordion Club**
c/o 3326 NS 367 Road, Holdenville, OK 74844

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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