

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"

The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter

An Accordion Affair

**Free Concert
Presented by
Oklahoma Accordion Club**

**EMCEE
Lucas Ross**

**Norman Depot
200 South Jones Ave.
Norman, OK**

**Sunday, Aug 10, 2014
2:30 - 4:30**

**Your opportunity to hear
international music LIVE
and in-person**

**Info: www.OKAccordions.com
or call 405.721.0564**

Reception compliments
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The Prez Sez

Barbara Duer

Hello everyone. My mind has been absorbed by the concert for the last few weeks. Everyone has been so helpful. Karen and Maggie have worked hard on putting together a performance program this year, taking care of the advertising, and reminding me of things that needed to be done. Karen and I went to the *Depot* last week, and have ideas we will try at the concert to make things run as smoothly as possible. Dick is working with Lucas, the emcee, and will probably get to play on TV and advertise for us. Roland is sponsoring us, and will be providing the wonderful confections from his store. Thanks Roland. And thanks to everyone on the Board for all the ideas and support.

We would like all musicians to sit in the spot we will mark off in the back at the *Depot*, opposite the restrooms. We are also reserving a bench on the left for performers who will be playing next. The Youth are first to play, so they will be sitting on the chairs in front at the beginning of the concert.

If possible, carry your accordions in without the case -- it will take up less space. We will have tables arranged in the back to put accordions on and underneath. There is also a closet where we can put some of the accordions.

I usually wear black pants and a white shirt for performances, but we don't have a dress code, and musicians can wear what they prefer.

Ideas for Getting Ready for a Performance

I have been singing in front of an audience since I was five years old, and know how to practice the song until I know it well, and even have a way of memorizing the words. I don't really get nervous when I sing, but I do get nervous when I play a musical instrument. I don't trust my fingers as much as my voice.

I found that to be able to perform and do OK, I must practice, practice, practice until I rarely make mistakes. I start practicing a piece three to four months before a performance and, at the time of the performance, be able to get through the piece without too much difficulty. I have songs that have taken me a year to learn to play on the piano and accordion. Sometimes I have to switch to an easier song because I know I won't be able to learn to play the song well enough for a good performance.

I know that I will be nervous when I play an instrument, but I have to know the musical piece so well I can play through the nervousness. My brain and fingers can get disconnected when I am nervous.

Try to smile at the audience. I have to remember that, too. It looks better to the audience even if we can't look away from our music.

See you at the concert,

• Barbara



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The Treasurer Sez

Milo Shedeck

- Happy Birthday to John Buchanan on August 1 and Maddie Smith on August 2.
- We were happy to have Margaret Oldham back in the Club at the last meeting.

- I have paid the rent to the Lutheran Church and bills for mailing monthly newsletters.
- We have enough money in the treasury to make it to the end of 2014 with a positive balance.



Mark Your Calendars

Dick Albreski

The Oklahoma Accordion Club will have their annual Free Concert on August 10, 2014 at the *Norman Depot*, 200 South Jones Avenue, Norman, OK from 2:30 to 4:30 pm. No reservations required, but come early because of open seating. This is your chance to hear international music performed by the OAC accordionists.

The 24th Annual Cotati Accordion Festival will be held on August 16 and 17, 2014 in Cotati, California. The *Cotati Festival* was started in 1991 to support local youth organizations. Dick Contino and Bruce Gassman will be two of the many performers. For more information, visit www.cotatifest.com.

The Chapel Creek Winery will host a weekend of wine sampling on September 6 and 7, 2014 at their winery, located at 5005 Darlington Rd. in El Reno, OK (south of El Reno on Route 81). OAC member Dick Albreski will perform from

11:30 am to 1:30 pm on Saturday and Sunday. For fun, good food, great wine, and terrific accordion music, don't miss this event.

The 67th Coupe Mondiale will be held in Salzburg, Austria from October 27 to November 2, 2014. Make your reservations early

HEADS UP! Mario Pedone and Nick Ballarini are planning an accordion camp to be held in November 2014. They are currently completing final arrangements with a hotel and with guest artists. This will be a weekend event that will be worthy of your consideration. More information will follow shortly. This would be a great event for the OAC to consider attending as a group.

Look for more accordion events in future issues of Squeezins.



How do you protect a valuable instrument?

Hide it in an accordion case.

Knock-Knock.

Who's there?

Accordion.

Accordion who?

Accordion to the TV, it's going to be cold out.

Honor Role of Lifetime Members

- Janet Haskin
- Roland Lohmann



- Tom Phillips
- Phil Scibelli



July Minutes

Maggie Abel

Oklahoma Accordion Club July 13, 2014 Meeting

President Barbara Duer welcomed 28 members and three guests, plus a reporter and photographer who were preparing an article about the Club.

A flyer is currently being sent to all members to print or post on-line, inviting others to attend OAC's free August 10 concert at *Norman Train Depot*.

The September Germanfest-themed meeting will require reservations as Past President Dick and Past Treasurer Evie will be serving up bratwurst and tasty treats. Call Historian Karen West at 614/949-0394 to make a reservation for you and one guest.

Some -- but not all -- of the performers at today's meeting were giving a sneak preview of pieces they will play at next month's public concert:

- The *Accordionaires* (director Dan Orza, along with Lois Roth, John Buchanan, Karen West, and Maggie Abel) played the "Paragon March," "La Múcura," and "La Paloma."
- Vice President Tom Phillips played "Just a Closer Walk with Thee," accompanied by Past President Dick Albreski.
- Myke Dixon played "La Donna è Mobile."

- The *Anfängers*, a group led by Tom Phillips, played "Indian Song" and "Join the Fun," in parts. Members include Myke Dixon and Maggie Abel. Two other members will join this piece at the concert.
- A sing-along medley played by Barbara Duer (on banjo), Lois Roth, and Anne Lopez consisted of "When the Saints Go Marchin' In," "You Are My Sunshine," "Home on the Range," and "She'll Be Comin' 'Round the Mountain."
- "Route 66" and "The Lady Is a Tramp" were performed by John Buchanan and Dick Albreski.
- Bob Mansfield played "Hora" and "Bulgar," followed by "Blue Bottom Button" played on a button box, along with a few extra numbers.
- Maggie Abel played "Hungarian Dance."
- Karen West played "I Wanna Be Around (to Pick Up the Pieces)."
- Roland Löhmann and Rod Murrow played "You're Sixteen."
- Guest George Secor from Illinois, whom we heard at the April convention in Plano, played a number of songs, including the "E-Major Sonata" by Dominica Scarlatti, and what he said was a typical closing "night set" medley: "Dreamsville," "In the Wee Small Hours of the Morning," and "That's All."

— Maggie Abel, Club Secretary



July Meeting

Diana Richard



Remember Septemberfest!

Dick Albreski

We are all excited about our annual free concert that will be held on August 10, 2014 at the *Norman Train Station*. BUT let's not forget that in September we will have our SEPTEMBERFEST that will be held on September 14 at the *Messiah Lutheran Church*.

This also is an annual event that preludes the spirit of the Oktoberfest celebrations around the globe. We will start the ball rolling with a meeting that includes German music and German food in a Bavarian setting. On the plate for German music will be the "Beer Barrel Polka," "The Liechtensteiner Polka," and the "Schnee Valzer," to name a few. On the culinary plate you will find brats, German potato salad, sauerkraut, and apple kuchen. Drinks will also be

provided. The German food will be served at 4:00 pm.

All members are encouraged to attend. Each member is also allowed to bring a guest. This event is not open to the public. This is our only CLOSED MEETING during the year. Reservations are a must for each member and guest. Why? Because we must know who will attend so we can prepare the required amount of food.

Now the rest is up to you. The only way to make this event a success is to participate. Please contact Dick and Evie Albreski at 405/721-0564, or e-mail them at evrick@att.net to make your reservations.

PROST!



BREAKING NEWS: Current world record smashed! Guinness has confirmed that 1,361 accordionists in China broke the existing Guinness World Record of 1,137 accordionists for the largest

accordion ensemble previously established at the *Panonika Harmonica Festival* on August 8, 2011 in Slovenia. For more information, see the pictures at [2014 Guinness](#).

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7-07



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 (snail mail)

Membership Dues

The OAC membership year runs from January through December. Membership cost is prorated quarterly for new members.

- ☐ Primary Membership is \$16.00 per year per individual.
☐ Family Membership is \$8.00 per year for each additional family member when accompanied by a Primary Membership.
☐ Lifetime Membership is a one-time fee of \$180.
☐ 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) _____

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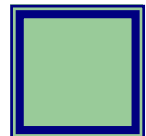
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