

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter



EMCEE Lucas Ross
KFOR/KAUT-TV Personality

Oklahoma Accordion Club

6TH ANNUAL FREE CONCERT

An Accordion Affair

Sunday, Aug 12, 2018 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

No August Meeting

There will be NO Club meeting this month because of our Annual Concert.



Prez Sez

Maggie Abel

August is one of the most exciting months for *Oklahoma Accordion Club* members. It's when we wrap up months of preparation for our annual FREE concert. This sixth year, it will again be held in Yukon's historic *Czech Hall* -- August 12, from 2:30-4:30 pm.

Members are encouraged to wear their name badges to this event, which will no doubt be helpful when enthused audience members seek information about our one-of-a-kind club!

Welcome to our newest member, Nita Wallinger. She came to our meeting last month bearing an accordion to rehome, and departed as "kinfolk"! We'll be seeing her in the concert audience, too.

Whether or not you're performing Sunday, bring a friend or neighbor along to sit back and reap the harvest of the Club's musical labor! Lucas Ross's goofy humor, the sing-alongs, young people's band, octogenarian strolling accordionist, father-son duet, grandma-grandson duet, and patriotic finale -- all these unforgettables await you and your guests! Doors open at 2:00 pm, so you can occupy the choicest seats!

If you arrive early and feel energetic, seek out one of our badge-wearing members and offer your services as door usher or chair unfolder!

On July 28, half a dozen Club members carpooled to see accordionist Joey Miskulin appear with the *Riders in the Sky* band, which played at the *Tower Theater* in its great new west annex. What cutups those colorful cowboys were! Joey even recognized our *OAC* from the stage, and asked us to stand! Let's keep our eyes peeled for more such accordion-related local events we can share.

Mark your calendar for our September 9 Oktoberfest meeting! We present our German music and German food then, so reservations (through Vice-Prez Karen West) will be needed to accommodate the hearty appetites that result from vigorous polka playing! Each member may bring one guest at no charge, or offer a donation if bringing extra guests! A formal announcement flyer will be sent as the date draws near.

You can see by now that editor Frank Gesinski's newsletter "Squeezins," if read cover to cover, keeps your finger on the pulse of the Oklahoma accordion world!

• Maggie Abel, Prez



Advertisement



FRANK GESINSKI
Live Accordion Music & Accordion Lessons

8035 S. Irvington Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74136-8404

918/492-1715

AccordionFrank@att.net

Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Maggie Abel

Oklahoma City, OK 73107

405-201-7867

magster@aol.com

VICE-PRESIDENT

Karen West

Oklahoma City, OK 73112

405/949-0394

accordion_karen@yahoo.com

TREASURER

Sil Lopez

Edmond, OK 73013

405/285-9145

sil.lopez68@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Anne Lopez

Edmond, OK 73013

405/285-9145

danz4545@hotmail.com

HISTORIAN/LIBRARIAN

Beth Henson

Mustang, OK 73064

405/376-4407

bhenson1@cox.net

PAST PRESIDENT

Barbara Duer

Oklahoma City, OK 73162

405-721-9657

bduer@sbcglobal.net

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Frank Gesinski

Tulsa, OK 74136

918/492-1715

OKAccordionClub@sbcglobal.net

WEBMASTER

Diana Richard

Diana.I.richard@gmail.com

WEBSITE

<http://www.okaccordion.club/>

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 Annual Free Concert will be held on August 12, 2018 at the *Czech Hall* on Czech Hall Road in Yukon, Oklahoma, from 2:20 to 4:30 pm. The talented members of the *OAC* will perform. If you performing at this event, we encourage you to practice your selections routinely and, if possible, play for friends and family. Performing to an audience is very rewarding and it encourages you to play more frequently. There will be limited seating at the concert so we ask that you tell your friends and family to come early. The best advertisement for our concert is 'word of mouth'. Go; tell the world about this event and make it the success it deserves.

OAC Septemberfest 2018 will be held at the *Messiah Lutheran Church* on our scheduled September 9, 2018 meeting. This is a prelude to the spirit of the Oktoberfest parties held in October. This German tradition requires good folks, good food, and good music. The *OAC* has all three. For good folks, none better than the members and guests of the *OAC*. For food, there will be brats, hot dogs, German potato salad, red cabbage, sauerkraut, rolls, soft drinks; and for dessert, the very tasty "German Kuchen Strudel". The food will be served starting at 4:00 pm. That's two of the requirements. For the third, we have a

great bunch of accordion players who will fill the hall with polkas, waltzes, and other traditional German tunes. Now here is what you must do: You must make a reservation. Each member can bring one guest. This is the only event that is closed to the public, and only members and guests who have made reservations can attend. Why reservations? We have to know who is coming so we can order the correct amount of food. Call Karen West at 405/949-0394 to make your reservation. See you all at the *Septemberfest* party! DAS IST GOD!

Yukon Czech Days will be held on Saturday, October 6, 2018, in downtown Yukon, Oklahoma. Festivities begin 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. There will be many culinary and merchandise vendors available to satisfy all your wants and desires. In the evening, there will be a grand ball at the *Czech Hall* on Czech Hall road. Plan today for a day in Yukon, Oklahoma.

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



Oklahoma Accordion Club Membership & Renewal Form

Make checks payable to: **Oklahoma Accordion Club**
Mail your membership dues to: **Oklahoma Accordion Club**
c/o 7109 NW 102nd Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73162

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



Bio Sign

This month's featured bio is of our 2018 OAC president, Maggie Abel, who has been a Club member since 2011.

Maggie was born in the home of Elvis, Memphis, Tennessee. When she was 9-years-old, her family moved to North Little Rock, Arkansas. Two years later, her family moved again, to Oklahoma City.

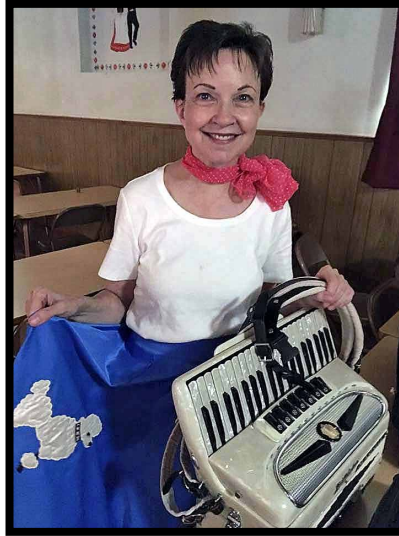
After high school, Maggie decided to study "English & Literature" at the University of Little Rock (formerly LRU), and at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro.

After her college years, Maggie lived in Columbus, Ohio for 23 years, she then moved back to Oklahoma City. Maggie's son, Henry, and his wife Amy along with their beloved cats, live in Oregon.

Maggie came late to the accordion when, as a senior, she began "dabbling" in the instrument. Now, she has two accordions – one for each hand. She is also very active in all kinds of dancing, including ballroom, tango, swing, polka, and tap. And she is now learning to play the musical saw.

Maggie has been and is a very active member in addition to her officer duties. She played in the *OAC Fun Band* at the *National Accordion Association* conventions for the past several years. She also played in the *OAC Accordionaires* band when it was active. That band performed at assisted living facilities, veterans' events, and Oktoberfest dinners.

She has also played harmonica and sung backup for eight years in the five-piece band, *Tango Posse*,



that has its own Facebook page. *Tango Posse* performs on the last Thursday night every month at *Sauced on Paseo* in the *Paseo Arts District*. This band plays '60's and '70's cover songs.

As if all the above weren't enough, a couple of years ago Maggie founded the *Oklahoma Theremin Society* (that also has its own Facebook page). It meets monthly at the *Trolley Stop Record Shop*.

If you're not familiar with the theremin, it was invented in 1919 and patented in 1928 by Russian scientist Leon Theremin. It is the first electronic instrument ever invented. The instrument's controlling section usually consists of two metal

[antennas](#) that sense the relative position of the thereminist's hands, and control [oscillators](#) for [frequency](#) with one hand, and [amplitude \(volume\)](#) with the other. The electric [signals](#) from the theremin are [amplified](#) and sent to a [loudspeaker](#).

The theremin was used in [movie soundtracks](#) such as [Miklós Rózsa's](#) "[Spellbound](#)," "[The Lost Weekend](#)," and [Bernard Herrmann's](#) "[The Day the Earth Stood Still](#)." It has also been used in [theme songs](#) for [television shows](#) such as the ITV and PBS drama "[Midsomer Murders](#)." This has led to its association with [eerie](#) situations. Theremins are also used in concert music (especially [avant-garde](#) and 20th- and 21st-century [new music](#)), and in popular music genres such as [rock](#).

Whew! I wonder what Maggie does with all that spare time she has.



Happy Birthday Wishes to the following OAC member:

John Buchanan, August 1

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.



July Meeting

Anne Lopez

Oklahoma Accordion Club Meeting

Minutes July 7, 2018

President Maggie Abel opened the meeting at 3:30 pm. We had 15 members and one guest, Nita Wallinger, who joined the Club today. Welcome, Nita!

When a member asked about the Club's founding, Dick Albreski, one of the founding fathers, confirmed that the Club started in 2000.

Dick led a workshop on "Accordion Secrets." He covered the following skills:

- Physiology of basses
- Study on knowing thy switches
- Variation of touch
- Finger exercises for staccato and legato
- Parallel vs. contrary motion
- Scale practices increase technical proficiency in specialized skills including velocity, strength of muscles, coordination of hands, etc.
- Thanks for the informative lesson, Dick!

Details of our upcoming concert were discussed. A list of volunteer duties was passed out, as well as e-mailed to all members for signup. Even you didn't have a chance to sign up, feel free to pitch in and help, especially with setup of chairs or cleanup duties. Many hands make little work! Volunteers

with pre-concert duties need to arrive 1:15-1:30 pm. All performers need to arrive no later than 2:00 pm.

We had quite a lineup of players, many wanting to rehearse their concert pieces:

- Dick Albreski serenaded us with "Siempre en Mi Corazon," and a great rendition of "Granada."
- Toni Paulding played "Waltz Theme," a difficult piece requiring much practice. Thanks for the extra work, Toni. You inspire us!
- Mike Clark performed "This Land Is Your Land."
- Tom Phillips played "When the Saints Go Marching In" and "Amazing Grace."
- Ron Shearon played an old favorite, "Drink to Me Only with Thine Eyes."
- Bob Mansfield entertained us with "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" on the piano accordion, and a Yiddish folksong, "Tum Balalaika," on the free bass accordion.
- The trio -- Barb Duer, Lois Roth, and Karen West -- stirred our patriotism with the spirited tunes "You're a Grand Old Flag," "Yankee Doodle Dandy," and "This Land Is Your Land."
- Lastly, Anne Lopez and Lois Roth played their arrangements of "Tell Me a Story," "Lover Tell Me Why," and "Give Me My Heart Back."

A good time was had by all. Keep bringing those refreshments!

Anne Lopez, Secretary

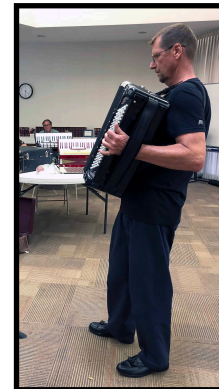
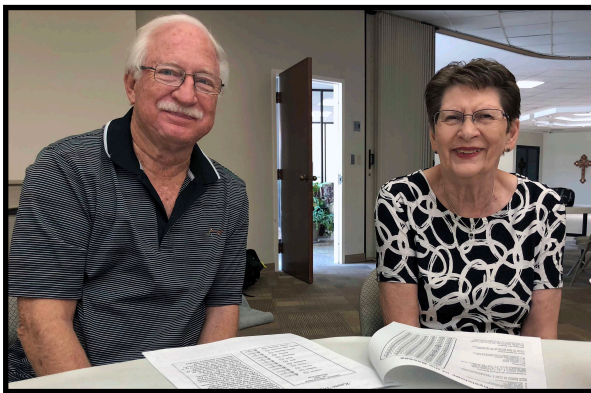


Advertisement

**JUST ACCORDIONS**
Sales • Repairs • Instruction
Dick Albreski
(405) 721-0564
7109 N.W. 102nd St., OKC, OK 73162
juaccord@hotmail.com
7-07

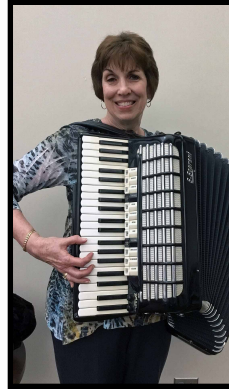
July Meeting

Maggie Abel



July Meeting

Maggie Abel



Six OACers attended the *Riders in the Sky* concert at *Tower Theatre* on July 28



The Bohemian Knights
Featuring Master Accordionist Dick Albreski



Music for your Party or Special Occasion
Polkas, Waltzes, Pop Tunes & Folk Dances

Contact: MILO SHEDECK
405-748-5376
miloshedeck@cox.net
Playing at the Czech Hall in Yukon, Ok.
www.czechhall.com for dates

Oklahoma Accordion Club

**7109 NW 102 Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73162**



FIRST CLASS MAIL