

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter

Don't Forget

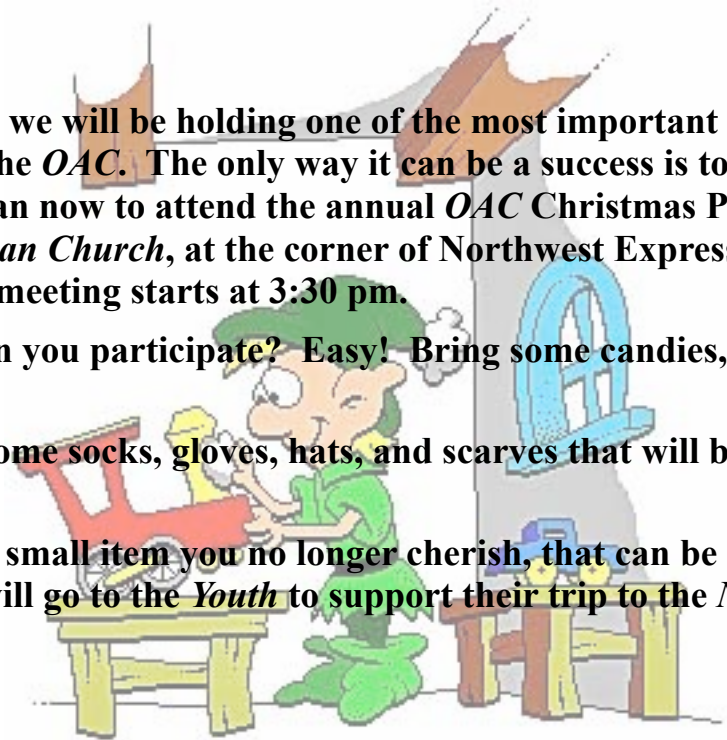
Dick Albreski

This Sunday, we will be holding one of the most important "traditional meetings" for the *OAC*. The only way it can be a success is to have **YOU** participate. Plan now to attend the annual *OAC* Christmas Party at the *Messiah Lutheran Church*, at the corner of Northwest Expressway and Portland. The meeting starts at 3:30 pm.

Now, how can you participate? Easy! Bring some candies, cookies, and cokes to share.

Also, bring some socks, gloves, hats, and scarves that will be donated to the homeless.

Last, bring a small item you no longer cherish, that can be auctioned off. The proceeds will go to the *Youth* to support their trip to the *NAA* convention



December Meeting

The December meeting will be held on Sunday, December 8, 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.

Before the meeting — from 2:30 to 3:30 — The *OAC Band*, directed by Barbara Duer, practices and plays easily played tunes. **All members are encouraged to participate in the fun!**



Prez Sez

Maggie Abel

This year must have gone by at a hundred miles-an-hour, for suddenly the last month is here! Fortunately, that means our best meeting of the year is this Sunday! It has all the elements we have grown to love: live accordion music in all registers, sweet Christmas treats brought by members, a great raffle -- it's so much fun to put the little tickets into the paper sacks by each item you'd like to win. Don't forget, we are the ones bringing items that can be raffled, as the funds generated go toward helping our youth travel to attend the March convention.

Charity begins at OAC's Christmas meeting, as we also bring warm socks, gloves, mufflers, knit caps, etc., to put in the large box for the needy.

On Sunday, December 8, young people, led by Dick Albreski, will perform for our delight, along with our other trios and duets and singles. A digital duet will be presented by two members who recently began playing *Rolands*. No doubt, many holiday tunes will be played Sunday, but all genres of music are welcome!

This Christmas meeting at 3:30 pm will be the last meeting for several board members (Vice President Karen West and Historian Beth Henson), as we vote Sunday to bring in the new for 2020. Milo will sell the strips of raffle tickets. Photos from the August concert, shot by Clifford Weems, are available for a pittance.

Note our meeting room for this month is the Multi-Purpose Room, 45-E. It is best entered through the *Messiah Lutheran School* entrance on the east side of the church. Never fear, ample signage will assist you! *Messiah Lutheran Church* is our meeting room host. The Church stipulates that outside doors remain locked during the meeting, but a cell phone number will be posted on the door. Call it, and an eager helper will answer and rush to help you with your instrument -- and with the many small-to-medium size household, useful, or amusing items, you are donating to the raffle!

Early comers are welcome Sunday to help arrange treats, organize raffle items, decorate tables -- or serenade those who are doing so! Setting up starts at 2:00.

I'm back from the International *Digital Electronic Accordion Symposium* (aka *GR8 IDEAS*) in Ohio for electronic accordions. I'll bring materials to the meeting from that November event to show you what was taught there between its morning and evening concerts! We jammed in the late evenings with the likes of Cory Pesaturo, Nick Ballarini, Jerry Jacoby, Michael Soloway, Mitchell White, Joe Natoli, Rebecca Huck, and people from Australia, Germany, Ireland, Russia, and others. Every attendee received a free, one-on-one accordion lesson from Cory Pesaturo himself!

A great feature of the *National Accordion Association* annual convention is always the *Fun Band*, which will practice here in Oklahoma, and then join in with many others to perform those same pieces in Dallas in March 2020. Led by Dick Albreski, this Band is accessible to many levels of players, as each song is arranged with a number of parts. Check with Dick, who is arranging the music, to join local practices as they up.

Reminder: December is the month to renew your optional annual OAC membership for you and your family members. Your \$20 will cover the accordionist, along with \$10 for a family member or friend.

Continued on next page

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

Tom Phillips

Holdenville, OK 74844

tomsoph@aol.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
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Mark Your Calendars

Dick Albreski

OAC CHRISTMAS PARTY, December 8, 2019, will be held at the *Messiah Lutheran Church*, Northwest Expressway and Portland, from 3:30 to 5:30 pm. We need your candy and cookies to share. We need socks, scarves, gloves, and hats to donate to the homeless, and a small gift that can be auctioned off. This is the time to give. We need your support to continue our tradition of giving to the needy, and supporting the *Youth* going to the *National Accordion Association* Convention in Dallas, Texas. Please plan to attend.

LIVE MUSIC in OKC. The *Bohemian Knights*, under the direction of OAC member Milo Shedeck, will be performing at the *Royal Bavarian Restaurant* during the month of January. The restaurant is located at 3401 S. Sooner Road, in Moore, Oklahoma. The *Knights* will be playing every Friday and Saturday evening from 5:30 to 9:00 pm. Reservations are a must. Call 405/799-7666 to make reservations. Here's your chance to enjoy a fun-filled evening of really good German food, house-brewed beer, live traditional German music, and the opportunity to win some tremendous prizes. The ultimate prize is a round-

trip to Germany during their 2020 Oktoberfest celebration. Don't hesitate. Make plans to be there now! Yes, there will be a live accordion player in the band!

NATIONAL ACCORDION ASSOCIATION CONVENTION will be held at the *Hyatt Regency Hotel* in Richardson, Texas, March 18-21, 2020. This is one event you don't want to miss. This is the time to make your hotel reservations at the *Hyatt*, plus send in your reservations for the *NAA* convention. The accordion is KING, and the attendees are all royalty. The *Fun Band* will once again be part of the program. I will conduct the *Fun Band* in 2020, and ask that that the Oklahoma members who plan to attend let me know, so I can get the arrangements to them at an earlier date. The *OAC Youth* will also attend and perform their concert on Saturday, March 21, 2020, at 1:30 pm. More info to follow at a later date.

Look for more accordion events in future issues of Squeezins.



Prez Sez

Continued from page 2

Proceeds make possible our meeting room rental, various special meetings such as the pizza party in April, the *Club's* annual August concert at *Czech Hall*, the German fare during *Septemberfest*, and our festive Christmas party.

A high profile was kept by Karen West (vice president for one more month), Past President Barbara Duer, Acting Secretary Lois Roth, members and park employees Jimmie Woolly and Mike Clark, and me, as we played Sunday night among a dozen instrumentalists at the *Ed Lyan Conservatory* on the occasion of *Will Rogers Park's* tree-lighting ceremony. Lois's daughter, Diana Richard, toted gear and took

photos. Even Santa Claus showed up! (See pix of this event, including the jolly personage himself, elsewhere in this newsletter.)

Let the accordion information flow! To this end, Facebookers are invited to "like/join/follow" *Oklahoma Accordion Club's* page, the *National Accordion Association's* page and group, and the "GR8 IDEAS" group.

- Merry Christmas To All!
Maggie Abel, OAC President



The Bohemian Knights

Featuring Master Accordionist Dick Albreski



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**Happy Birthday Wishes to
the following OAC members:**
Lucy Shedeck, December 13
Maggie Abel, December 21
Larry Gering, December 29
Alex Knight, December 29



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.



**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

October Meeting

Lois Roth

OAC Meeting Minutes October 13, 2019

The OAC Meeting was held on October 13, 2019. President Maggie Abel called the meeting to order. Eight members and two guests were present.

- Before the meeting, there was a jam session of German music. Also, Toni Paulding played a solo: "Moon River."
- Maggie will not be at the November meeting. She will be in Ohio, attending a digital accordion seminar.
- Because our next meeting is on Veterans Day weekend, patriotic music is the theme.
- Sunday, December 8 will be our Christmas party. Members are asked to bring items for the raffle. Proceeds will go to the *Youth Group* for convention expenses. Members are also asked to bring winter clothing accessories — hats, gloves, socks, etc. -- to be donated to charity.
- Al Giuntoli (guest) gave us a summary of his accordion-playing history. He learned to play around age 8, played for several years, and then stopped. He has now started again. He played

two German songs on his *Excelsior* accordion: "Already Is The Love in The Harbor," and "Snow Waltz/River Seine Medley."

- Barbara Duer gave a brief OAC history to acquaint the guests with the Club.
- Karen West and Barbara performed a Yiddish song — "My Little Girl."
- Maggie announced that the terms of three officers are ending soon: vice president, historian, and secretary. Nominations for new officers will be taken at the December meeting.
- The meeting ended with a jam session of German songs, including "Hoffbrauhaus," "Wooden Heart," and several polkas.

The jammers were Barbara Duer, Al Giuntoli, Toni Paulding, Lois Roth, and Karen West.

Our next meeting will be Sunday, November 10, at 3:30 pm. There will be a jam session before the meeting, starting at 2:30. Come and join in the fun!

- Respectfully submitted,
Lois Roth, OAC Acting Secretary

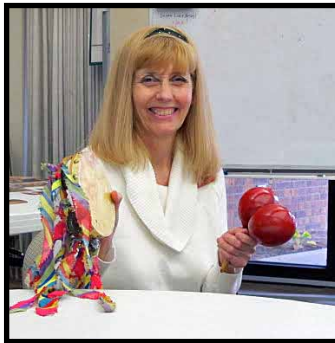


Advertisement

An advertisement for Frank Gesinski. On the left is a photo of Frank, a man wearing a hat and glasses, playing an accordion. To the right of the photo, the text reads: "FRANK GESINSKI", "Live Accordion Music & Accordion Lessons", "8035 S. Irvington Ave.", "Tulsa, OK 74136-8404", "918/492-1715", and "AccordionFrank@att.net". The background of the ad is black with blue and yellow curved lines at the bottom right.

November Meeting

Diana Richard



November Meeting

Lois Roth

OAC Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2019

The November 10, 2019, the meeting was called to order by Vice President Karen West at 3:30 pm. There were 14 members and one guest attending. The guest brought an accordion for evaluation.

- Nominations for Club officers were opened:
 - Tom Phillips nominated Maggie Abel for President. Seconded by Barbara Duer.
 - Ron Shearon volunteered to run for Vice President.
 - Historian position is vacant.
 - Lois Roth volunteered to be Acting Secretary for the present.
 - Tom Phillips is Treasurer for one more year.
 - Officers will be elected at the December meeting.
- Dick Albreski suggested we ask for new officer volunteers (for historian and secretary) with an email message to all members.
- Our December 8 meeting will be our Christmas party. **It will be held in the Church multi-purpose room -- not in our usual room.** We will begin setting up the room at 2:00 pm.
- Here are three reminders for Club members:
 1. Bring small items for the raffle.
 2. Bring winter accessories (hats, socks, gloves, etc.) for charity. Dick said he knows for certain that these items reach people who need them.
 3. Bring food treats to be shared.

- Milo will sell tickets for the raffle.
- Dick said that four members of the *Youth Group* will be attending the *NACC* in March 2020. Dick is working on the music for the *Fun Band*. This is always a Big Event at the convention.
- Karen said that small concert pictures, taken by Chester Weems, are available for 25 cents each.
- Music followed the business meeting:
 - Dick played a musette, "Il Mio Primo," and then "wowed" the audience with his own arrangement of "Granada."
 - Barbara Duer soloed with Sousa's "Washington Post March," followed by a lively "Czardas."
 - The *Trio* (Barbara, Karen, and Lois) performed "The Old Piano Roll Blues," "Autumn Leaves Tango," and "Raggedy Rag."
 - Barbara Yuill and Dick played "Let's Dance the Polka."
 - Toni Paulding ended the music with "Fly Me to the Moon."

AN IMPORTANT FINAL ANNOUNCEMENT:

The church door must be kept locked during our meetings. This is a strict church rule. A method for letting latecomers in is under consideration by the Board.

Our next meeting is Sunday, December 8. Come to the Christmas party -- there will be music and fun for all!

- Respectfully submitted,
Lois Roth, OAC Acting Secretary



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Tree Lighting Ceremony

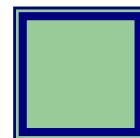
Will Rogers Park's Ed Lycan Conservatory celebrates tree-lighting ceremony, featuring six OAC members (Jimmie not shown), December 1, 2019



Oklahoma Accordion Club

7109 NW 102 Street

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