

## **2025 LIAC Workshop Descriptions:**

**Workshops are \$15 if paid by June 9 or \$20 at Leavenworth**

**#1 Louisiana Comes to Leavenworth  
With Mark Myking  
Fri 10:00-11:30am Grange/Upper**

All levels welcome!

Bring your Piano Key Accordion or your "C" Diatonic Cajun Button Box .... We'll do both!

In this workshop we will learn two songs; one Cajun Two Step and also a Cajun waltz. We'll do this by ear from recordings and Mark will help break it down for you with tips and tools you can use to get the FEEL for this music. Mark will demo the tunes on both types of accordion so you will hear how these songs sound and you will start to incorporate the sound, groove and feel on whatever instrument you use!

**#2 The Accordion's Humble Beginnings  
With Thomas Tilton  
Fri 12:30-1:30pm Grange/Upper**

Present in the Grange Hall is an expansive accordion exhibit consisting of a selection of instruments, primarily diatonic button-style accordions, from the collection of Thomas Tilton. The selection includes some of the oldest instruments in the accordion family, and the exhibit nicely lays out the history and evolution of the accordion, from inception to present.

Thomas takes great pleasure in demonstrating the instruments and talking about their place in accordion history. Join us at the Grange Hall on Friday, June 27th, 12:30, as Thomas explores the evolution of the accordion.

**#3 The World Of Polkas  
With Hank Thunander  
Fri 2:00-3:00pm Grange/Upper**

The average person can name four different styles of polka but there are many more than that. The polka conquered the world in the 19th Century and dozens of ethnic groups adopted it and made it their own. In this workshop, participants will learn about the various different styles of polkas, complete with demonstrations of elements of the different styles of playing. Hank Thunander has played all different kinds of polkas throughout his career and can guide players from Finland to Mexico through their various styles of polkas.

**#4 Tango Articulation and Phrasing on the Accordion  
With Ben Thomas  
Sat 1:30-2:30pm Grange/Upper**

Have you wondered about how to get that “tango” sound on your accordion? Come explore how to apply some of the techniques used on bandoneon for tango to your own instrument. We’ll examine some general approaches to the articulations and phrasing used in tango and ways to produce them on the accordion.

The workshop will cover both melodic ideas and comping.

Come put some bandoneon in your accordion!

Open to all levels.

**#5 The Accordion in Ragtime, Hot Jazz, and Early Swing  
with Matt Tolentino  
Sat 3:00-4:00pm Grange/Upper**

This workshop will focus on the accordion and its importance in popular music of the 1910s, 1920s, and 1930s. It will take an in-depth look at the artists and bands who employed the accordion during this time, along with sheet music, interviews, and historic recordings of the era.

**#6 The Accordion in Ragtime, Hot Jazz, and Early Swing  
with Matt Tolentino  
Sat 4:30-5:30pm Grange/Upper**

This is a repeat of workshop #6. This will give people more choices to attend Matt's very informative workshop

Be sure to attend our **FREE** Sessions!

**Playing in a group; performing at the gazebo**

**with Toby Hanson and Jakob Bean**

**Thurs 3:00 – 4:30pm Grange/Upper**

**Gazebo gig book is available via email or via LIAC website**

**Workshop:** Participants will be accordionists who want to perform in an organized jam environment such as the ones held at the Gazebo on Fri and Sat afternoons.

**Requirements:** Accordionists will bring their instruments and a music stand to this workshop. Prior to LIAC, workshop participants should obtain a copy of workshop music. This may be done by going to the LIAC website to obtain the music.

**Music on the website:** [www.accordioncelebration.org/gazebo.html](http://www.accordioncelebration.org/gazebo.html) .

**Music by email, contact Jakob Bean:** trombone29@icloud.com .

**Content:** The workshop content will focus on performance practice and rehearsal techniques for ensemble playing. Topics will include selecting appropriate reed combinations on right and left hand, balancing the parts, watching the director for performance cues, listening to others and improving stage presentation.

The LIAC Gazebo Jam presents a performance opportunity for all accordionists. To rehearse for the Gazebo Jam, performers will be provided a playlist of new music in addition to the well-known selections in the “gig” book.

**The Button Box Across the Centuries**

**with Tom Tilton**

**Fri 12:30 – 1:15pm Festhalle by Button Box display**