

Dear Friends of the Accordion,

Spring is here; the Leavenworth International Accordion Celebration will be here in a matter of weeks. The 26th annual accordion celebration has a great line up. The success of the accordion music festival depends upon people that love the accordion who **participate, donate, and volunteer.**

There are many opportunities for your participation. First, the **competition and accordion artistry performance** portion of the event is close to my heart. Our adjudicators are set to make that meaningful for all participants. The amateur categories have been changed. The information about the categories, requirements, youth bursaries, and schedules is on the official LIAC website, www.accordioncelebration.org. The cash prizes for each category are listed on the web site also. The new Accordion Artistry Performance is noncompetitive and qualifies a young player for a bursary. Plan to participate in the competition/evaluation. The deadline for entry forms and for bursary letters is **June 10, 2019.**

Another area for your participation is performing at the gazebo and the grange. The gazebo/grange schedule is posted on the LIAC web site. Players cannot sign up there but can see available performance slots. Contact Doris Osgood for scheduling. (dorisosgood@frontier.com 503-357-0417) There will be a mass ensemble open to all at the gazebo Friday and Saturday at 4 PM. The music is also found at the web site. You will find the music including the old time music that Rick Hatley provided along with some pieces from Jim O'Brien. An ensemble rehearsal workshop will be held. A few updated performance binders will be available on Thursday and you can print your own music directly from the web site. On the web site (www.accordioncelebration.org), at the top of the home page you will find "**Performances**", scroll down to the "**gazebo schedule**" and you will find the music link. **Of course, don't forget the parade on Saturday! Everyone is invited to join the group led by Rod Miller.**

Our workshop schedule is outstanding. Participate in this opportunity to learn from master teachers; there are always important helps to improve your technique on the accordion and to improve your musicality. The workshops are worth the trip to the accordion celebration, in my opinion.

The concert schedule has been set. Master musicians, showcasing a variety of music styles, will provide nightly concerts at the festhalle. Besides being entertaining, it's another opportunity to see and learn from the best.

Participate by volunteering! Kathleen Falco schedules our volunteers. (kathleen.falco@yahoo.com 208-610-8426) There are many opportunities for your help to ensure a successful accordion celebration. We hope that young people will consider taking up the banner of volunteering too.

A music festival of this size requires substantial funding. We are so grateful for the support we've already received from many individuals, clubs, accordion businesses, and the Leavenworth community and from Projekt Bayren particularly. Thank you. Donations are still needed. **We encourage you to donate what you can to help fund our competition and bursary program.** On the site: www.accordioncelebration.org you will find that PayPal is available or you may send a check to *Northwest Accordion Society – LIAC* 5102 NE 121st Ave. Unit 12 Vancouver, WA 98682-6164.

Thank you for your support. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at **the Leavenworth International Accordion Celebration June 20 - 23, 2019.**

Sincerely,
Doris Osgood

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Rick and Eileen Webber - Promotion/Mailings/Tickets - rick.eileenw@comcast.net
Doris Osgood – Communication; NWAS magazine - dorisosgood@frontier.com
Rod Miller – Competition Chairman; Parade Chairman - rodmillers55@hotmail.com
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