



HARMONICA HIGHLIGHTS

May 2024

www.milehighharmonicaclub.com

Notes from the Prez



Scott Paulding
MHHC President

THE NEWS FROM SCOTT

Alright everybody, spring has formally sprung! If your family regularly gripes at you when you're practicing indoors, now you can play harmonica in your backyard while enjoying the beautiful weather. The following is some informational news and reminders for you.

*Last month Kirsten Collins and her husband Tim interviewed a number of members and took photos during our meeting. She writes for a number of local news publications including the Washington Park Profile. We thank them both for what should be a nice promotional human-interest story and we will inform you of future publication times.

*On a sad note, Greg Coffey has passed away due to complications related to Parkinson's Disease. Greg was a very well-liked club member for many years. We'll all miss his music and easy-going ways.

*Don't wait until the last moment to register for the SPAH convention if you're planning on attending. August 13th – 17th in Tulsa... it will be a blast.



MEETINGS

May 12, 2024
1:30 p.m.

Club Meeting
Historic Grant Avenue
216 S. Grant Street, Denver

May 26, 2024
1:30 p.m.

Club Meeting
Historic Grant Avenue
216 S. Grant Street, Denver

2024 Officers

President.....Scott Paulding 303-810-4655 (C)
Vice PresidentRichard Keller 720-701-8315
Secretary.....Dave Nielson 303-935-9345
Treasurer.....Ed Martin 303-770-2587
Member-At-Large.....Lloyd Williams 303-404-2219
Newsletter Editor.....Nancy Bale 303-829-6465
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*I wanted to acknowledge an unsung job that Richard Keller has taken upon himself the last several years. I'll call him our official club videographer. At most of our meetings you can see him recording the performances. So, at a yet to be determined time in the future, Richard plans on releasing some of these video memories to us all.

See you all soon! Scott

Open Mic 4/14/2024

Scott Paulding	"The Girl I Left Behind Me"
Wayne Diffie	"Elk River Blues"
Lloyd Williams	"Cajun Melodies"
Les Reitman	"Suzanne"
Gayla Michelin, Roger Bale, Lee Taylor, Tim Winkelman	"Somewhere Over the Rainbow", "Charmaine"
Jackson Campbell	"Jackson's Jig"
Shawn Massa	"Stairway to Heaven"
Richard Keller	"April Showers"
Ed Martin	"Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head"
Lou Acosta	"Against All Odds"
Gayla Michelin	"If"
Joshua Boege	"Rhythm Blues", "Oh When the Saints"
Mayra Pena DeLeon	"Amazing Grace"
Freddie Alexander	"You Should Probably Leave"
Bill Kawamura	"Round and Round", "Tumbling Tumbleweeds"
Myron Wilson	"What Kind of Fool Am I", "America the Beautiful"

Open Mic Performances 3/24/24

Tim Winkelman, Ken Moyer, Roger Bale, Lee Taylor, Gayla Michelin	"Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen" and "Margie"
Roger Bale	"Nancy" (Nancy Bale's birthday is the 17th)
Lou Acosta	"Granada"
Richard Keller	"The Old Rugged Cross"
Jackson Campbell	"Hesitation Blues"
Wayne Diffie	"Eleanor of Usan"
Vonnie C'de Baca	"Ashoken Farewell"
Wayne Diffie	"Eleanor of Usan"
LeRoy DeVries	"Love Lifted Me"
Ed Martin	"King of the Road"
Scott Paulding	"Port Lairge"
Freddie Alexander	"Tennessee Whiskey"
Paul Davies	"Gentle on My Mind"
Ken Moyer and Paul	"Muskrat Ramble"
Bill Kawamura	"The Holy City", "Lullaby in Birdland"

Harmonica Musings by Scott- "Try Not to Be an Idiot"

I was recently looking over "**The Complete Idiots Guide to Playing the Harmonica**". The book is very informative and provides a lot of valuable direction for beginner or even experienced harmonica players, but it's important to note that if you were a real idiot, you'd probably never seek out an instructional book like this in the first place.

I picked up my first harmonica when I was 16 (more than 50 years ago). Being the complete teenage idiot that I was, I figured that it wouldn't be long before I had mastered the instrument and was the star of some big-time band.

Fast forward to almost 25 years later. In that time, I had almost mastered most nursery rhyme and children's songs. I'd discovered that I sounded really good (to myself) playing on my front porch while drinking a lot of beer. Why as good as I was, I still didn't need to reference any harmonica guides or even to listen to real humans playing.

In late 1994 a friend of mine told me about a new group called the **Mile High Harmonica Club**. Upon listening to some of these really good harmonica players for the first time, I discovered that ignorance really isn't bliss. My resistance to any musical guidance had just been ignorant. At my first open-mic I played "Oh Susannah" and if Susannah had been a real person, she would have told me to stop mangling up the tune.