



HARMONICA HIGHLIGHTS

April 2024

www.milehighharmonicaclub.com

Notes from the Prez



Scott Paulding
MHHC President

THE NEWS FROM SCOTT

I like thinking that we always carry around our own sunshine with that with that little harmonica in our pocket. Just as the nicer weather of springtime improves my mood and makes me happier so does playing and listening to any kind of harmonica music. I always look forward to the new tunes and melodies played by our members at each meeting. I know that this is a pretty vague/broad suggestion for our next open mic... but let's try to choose a song to play that makes you happy- for whatever reason.

*Please note Lee Taylor's thoughts and recollections at the end of the newsletter regarding the early history of our club. Wow- thirty years of playing!

*Looking forward to seeing and hearing you all soon.

Scott



MEETINGS

April 14, 2024
1:30 p.m.

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

April 24, 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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Open Mic Performances 3/10/24

Ed Martin	"My Wild Irish Rose"
Gayla Michelin, Roger Bale, Tim Winkelman, Lee Taylor, and Ken Moyer	"Skater's Waltz", "Where is Your Heart"
Roger Bale	"Sugar Blues"
Lee Taylor	"Star of County Down"
Wayne Diffie	"Buttercup Waltz", "Gabriel's Oboe", "May it Be"
Shawn Massa	"Parisian Walkway"
Lou Acosta	"Georgia"
Paul Davies	"Loch Lomond"
Lloyd Williams	"Blue Skirt Waltz"
Jackson Campbell	"Rank Strangers"
Les Reitman	"Times are a Changing"
Freddie Alexander	"Stand by Me"
Ken Moyer and Paul	"Sweet Irish Nell"
Dave Neilsen	"Missouri Waltz"
Scott Paulding	"Lover's Waltz"
Richard Keller	"Paddy O' Neal"
Jim Bartlett	"Popeye", "Red River Valley"
Bill Kawamura	"Dance Across Texas", "Tennessee Waltz"

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 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"

MHHC History 4/5/2024

Dana Lee Taylor

In the last newsletter the reprint of Paul's article mentioning Cliff Mitchel and Stan Pierce being interested in forming a club but neither one was very vocal when a group of us were together.

With Paul being close to Swallow Hill and being aware that few functions were scheduled on Sundays, he started having a once a month gathering of harmonica players. We would sit in a circle going around playing our version of the same song (Stan would say “lets pay Jes or each playing a song of our choice. (Stan would say “let’s play JES!” which was his version of “Just Because”) or we would play our song of choice. We were all enjoying each other's company and playing together but if someone suggested forming a club, they wouldn't exactly scoff but show no interest.

Paul has told the club about Bill Goldenstein, himself and me going to our first SPAH (the Society for the Preservation and the Advancement of the Harmonica) national convention in Chicago in 1991 and the story about Blue Corn Pancakes. Paul had never before known another chord player and was amazed at the potential of the instrument.

A vaudeville act by a husband and wife that played various harmonicas, joked and danced named Harmonica Hot Shots also taught classes. Bill and I attended but never had close contact with them. Paul, with his unique talent to network with them gave them his phone number.

In the Spring of 1994 Paul got a call from them saying they were in Texas touring assisted living homes and could detour their trip back to Ohio and come through Denver and give a two-day class topped off with a Sunday evening show. Bill, Paul, and I decided we should do so. Their fee would be \$3,000.00, so the three of us pledged \$1,000.00 each. Swallow Hill had Sunday night open but no room Saturday. Paul had connections with a yarn shop less than two blocks from Swallow Hill which had classrooms but too few chairs, so we had to shag folding chairs on our personal cars.

We charged tuition for the classes and sold tickets to the show but still had a deficit in our budget. Paul had hired a sound man for the show. He was also our “*saving grace*” by making a master tape of the show. We made tapes and sold them and finally ended up in the black at \$87.00. The bonus was the enthusiasm for the immediate forming MHHC.