



HARMONICA HIGHLIGHTS

April 2023

www.milehighharmonicaclub.com

Notes from the Prez



Scott Paulding
MHHC President

THE NEWS

Just as springtime represents growth, beauty, and rejuvenation, we can apply those same descriptive words to our group. The club membership continues to grow as do the skills of everyone. The beautiful and inspirational music that everyone works so hard to provide always rejuvenates my desire to learn and practice more. Thanks to all our members.

We also want to say **thanks** to Lloyd and Vera Johnson for 20+ years of friendship, participation, and invaluable contributions to our club. The Johnsons are moving to a new home in Kansas. We hope they come back to visit and we wish them the best of luck.

Clay Kirkland, who often supports and promotes our club, along with another wonderful harmonica player and teacher, Nic Clark, are both hosting an instructional seminar at Swallow Hill Music Center on April 22nd which addresses how to play the harmonica from one end to another with 'unprecedented' fluidity and expressiveness. If you might be interested in this or anything else that Swallow Hill has to offer check out swallowhillmusic.org for more information. For Clay and Nic's class, go to "Classes" and then to "Group Music Classes."

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MEETINGS

April 9, 2023
1:30 p.m.

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

April 23, 2023
1:30 p.m.

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

2023 Officers

President.....Scott Paulding 303-810-4655 (C)
Vice PresidentGreg Coffey 303-472-6146
Secretary.....Freddy Alexander 720-298-9445
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Member-At-Large.....Lloyd Williams 303-404-2219
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More information regarding the annual summer SPAH (Society for the Preservation and Advancement of the Harmonica) convention to be held in St. Louis, Aug. 15-20 will be coming. For more details regarding this event look up spah.org. Many of our group will no doubt be attending.

Scott

Open Mic Songs 3/11/23

Freddie Alexander	"No I Won't Back Down"
Freddie, Myron Wilson	"Everybody's Talking"
Joe Cesar, Larry Kind, Freddie	"House of the Rising Sun"
Myron, Bill Kawamura	"America"
Eric Belsey	"Little Martha", "Ashoken Farewell", "Over the River", "Arkansas Traveler"
Lloyd Johnson	"Moon River"
Lou Acosta	"Fly Me to the Moon"
Dave Johnson	"Country Road", and a song from Dropkick Murphy
Wayne Diffie	"May it Be"
Vonnie C'de Baca	"Tis the Last Roads of Summer"
Dave Nielson	"Rosin the Bow"
Gayla Michelin	"Too-Ra-Loo-Ra-Loo-Ra"
Les Reitman	"Edelweiss"
John Stiles	"The Unicorn Song"
Scott Paulding	"The Wellerman"
Larry Kind	"I Won't Have to Cross Jordan Alone"
Ed Martin	"When Irish Eyes are Smiling"
Barry Staver	"Molly Malone"
Roger Bale, Tim Winkelman, Lee Taylor, Ken Moyer	"Gentle Annie", "Camptown Racers", Nellie Bly"
Tim, Eric, Ed, Vonnie C'de Baca, and Barry Staver	"Saints Go Marching"



Open Mic Songs 3/26/2023

Lee Taylor, Roger Bale, Ken Moyer, Gayla Michelin	“Charade”, “Oh What it Seemed to Be”
Ken Moyer	“I’d Rather be a Hammer than a Nail”
Roger Bale	“Traumerei”
Barry Staver	“Beseme Mucho”
Ed Martin	“Country Road”
Joshua Boege	“12 Bar Blues Jam”
Wayne Diffie	“Fields of Athenry”
Johnny Flanagan	“Blue Bayou”
John Stiles	“Louise”
Lloyd Williams	“Seven Spanish Angels”, “Feeling Good”
Scott Paulding	“Lonely Lips”
Shawn Massa	“Stairway to Heaven”
Paul Davies	“Black Mountain Air”
Freddie Alexander	“Harvest Moon”
Bill Kawamura	“He Leadeth Me”

Harmonica Musings:

What are some of the reasons that make the harmonica the best musical instrument to play?

You can’t put a piano or guitar in your pocket, but a harmonica is so compact, you can have one available all the time. Playing to entertain yourself on the go or just hanging around can become as normal as whistling or humming a tune... if you’re always carrying a harp around.

Acquiring the skills to play basic melodies in a very short time, is relatively easy, even for people who have never played any instruments. A little bit of instructions can go a long way.

Another important consideration is that most harmonicas are fairly inexpensive. Certainly, a cheap five or ten dollar harmonica can kind of get you going but at about fifty dollars you’ll be playing the same instruments as many professionals. Comparing a “toy” harmonica to the more expensive ones is like comparing an old Volkswagon bug to a nice modern Lexus. The Lexus is easier and more fun to drive, and the higher priced harp is easier and more fun to play. The cheapest harps are more difficult to play which will greatly decrease your motivation to even wanting to play. The airflow is often poor, some notes can easily be off, and if you bend- that’s much tougher to do. Although there are a lot of very good harmonicas one can buy, I always find that with Hohner Special 20’s or Lee Oskar harmonicas (available at most music stores) you can’t go wrong.

Question: What’s the range of a harmonica? **Answer:** Twenty yards if you’ve got a good arm!