



HARMONICA HIGHLIGHTS

July 2024

www.milehighharmonicaclub.com

Notes from the Prez



Scott Paulding
MHHC President

THE NEWS FROM SCOTT

Tis the season for backyard barbecues, summer family gatherings and the yearly fireworks displays. It's a busy but fun time of the year for many of us. I always suggest avoiding the warmest time of these summer days and sitting out on your porch or patio in the early evening while playing whatever sweet harmonica melodies you can.

With the days zooming by, it was suggested that sometime this month you try to find a song for open mic that mentions one of the days of the week (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday...?). You might just look at different songs referencing days of the week on YouTube. I'll bet you can find something fun.

There are a couple of other things to note. I've been trying to keep on reminding you about the **SPAH** (Society for the Preservation and Advancement of the Harmonica) convention in **Tulsa**. I continue to mention it because it is a fantastically fun experience. You will listen and learn from world class harmonica musicians. It's a great time. See spah.org for more information.

More details will be forthcoming but there are plans in the works to again meet at Shawn and Lois's house in the Lone Tree area in September for our "Welcome to Fall" harmonica club gathering. Let's thank them now in advance and then we'll thank them again later.



July 2024

MEETINGS

July 14, 2024
1:30 p.m.

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

June 28, 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 Performers 6/9/24

Lee Taylor, Tim Winkelman, Ken Moyer,
Gayla Michelin, Roger Bale

“Faraway Places”, “Lemon Tree”

Barry Staver

“When the Saints Go Marching In”

Forest Ernst

“Bill Baily”, “Somewhere over the Rainbow”, “I Left
My Heart in San Francisco”

Shawn Massa

“Sweet Georgia Brown”, “Theme to The Godfather”

LeRoy DeVries

“When the Roll is Called Up Yonder”

Wayne Diffie

“The First Leaves of Autumn”

Roger Bale

“Since I Fell For You”

Ed Martin

“Cara Mia”

Ken Moyer

“Over the Waves”

Lloyd Williams

“Happy Wanderer”

Les Reitman

“Father and Son”

Gayla Michelin

“Lean on Me”

Bill and Gail Kawamura with Gayla

“Somewhere Over the Rainbow”

Bill Kawamura

“Oh Solo Mio”, “Danny Boy”, “When You Wish Upon
a Star”

Scott Paulding

“Jaybird Died of a Whooping Cough”

Open-Mic Performers 6/23/24

Roger Bale, Ken Moyer, Lee Taylor,
Tim Winkelman, Gayla Michelin

“I’m Sitting on Top of the World”, “Bei Mir Bist Du
Schon”

Ken Moyer

“Lola”

Lee Taylor

“Nellie Bly”

Roger Bale

“At Last”

Shawn Massa

“From the West”, “Improv in B minor”

Lou Acosta

“Blue Bayou”

LeRoy DeVries

“How Beautiful Heaven Must Be”

Ed Martin

“Autumn Leaves”

Richard Keller	“In the Good old Summertime”
Les Reitman	“Scale Improvisation”
Scott Paulding	“Listen to the Mockingbird”
Forest Ernst	“Twinkle Twinkle”
Lloyd Williams	“The Green Green grass of Home”
Barry Staver	“Besame Mucho”, “Moon River”
Dave Nielsen	“When You Wish Upon a Star”

Harmonica Musings by Scott, “Expand Your Musical Interests”

In the “Hee Haw” days of television my mother taught me that that type of music was hillbillyish and clearly low class. I blindly agreed with her because at this time I really hadn’t cultivated any musical interests, and these types of banjo/fiddle/guitar songs were not on my listening charts anyway. A lot of years later I started to listen to musicians like Roy Clark, Earl Scruggs, Doc Watson, Billy Strings (a young and great contemporary bluegrass musician) and a bunch of others. I started to appreciate that this wonderful music was made up of intricate and complicated musical harmonies and rhythms. It seems like my mother may have been a little judgmental.

I am not saying that bluegrass is the end-all and greatest of musical styles but whether you’re into slow melodies, jazz, big band, Irish tunes or whatever... keep your mind open and listen to things that you wouldn’t ordinarily gravitate to. You’ll find that with every different type of music you learn a little bit about, these new skills and techniques can enrich your playing.

Musings From the Early Days of the Harmonica Club from Lee Taylor

OK, we have a club! Now what do we do with it? Paul Davies takes the reins as President pro term, I continue as treasurer, Bill Goldenstein and Mark Manning contribute their ideas and enthusiasm. Geoff Chance takes the initiative to apply for Fed 401 (c) 3 and Colorado non-profit status papers. A new president is elected but has trouble learning the reins, soon bows out and a new prexy, Geoff Chance, is elected. We continue having monthly meetings at Swallow Hill. Mark Horowitch approached us with the suggestion of starting a newsletter and his business equipment easily adapts to print and mail it. He and I team up to produce it.

In 1998 Geoff approached me saying "If I take over the newsletter, will you run for president?" Under his leadership and that of succeeding leaders our membership has approached 60 members many times.

Early on in my first year as president I decided to check with SPAH to see "what needs to take place to have a convention in Denver?" They never even came close to answering my question! Instead the message was "We'll be there in the year 2000." Early inquiries to hotels, etc. gave us the advice to have at least a three year lead time, so we settled on 2001 with myself as convention director. It all went well. We had many hard working volunteers and a very fine ladies group was formed who put on a fashion show for the member's spouses. About the time I was starting to get stressed setting up the table assignments for the banquet, a new member, Roger Bale came to my rescue with his computer skills and took over the job.

In one of the crannies in our house I came across one of the posters saved from 2001 which I will bring to the next meeting. Look for it.