



HARMONICA HIGHLIGHTS

May 2022

www.milehighharmonicaclub.com

Notes from the Prez



***Scott Paulding
MHHC President***

THE NEWS

I heard once that every blade of grass is a musical note. With everything greening up all around us this time of year it means that if you pay close attention to the wonders of springtime, you can probably hear a symphony. Playing a single note on your harmonica may not be very impressive but it's almost magical when, upon stringing the right notes together, such unique and beautiful music can be produced from such a simple instrument. Hey, I'm just thinking about odd things.

Reminder... our next meeting on Sunday the 8th is also Mother's Day. If there are any songs that commemorate mothers that you can think of, feel free to play them for open-mic. Also, we're going to be welcoming harmonica performer and teacher Clay Kirkland to our May club meetings. This should be fun because I know he'll be sharing a little of his music and harmonica expertise with all of us.

Scott



MEETINGS

**May 8, 2022
1:30 p.m.**

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

**May 22, 2022
1:30 p.m.**

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

2022 Officers

President.....Scott Paulding 303-810-4655 (C)
Vice PresidentGreg Coffey 303-472-6146
Secretary.....Dave Nielsen 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 04/10/22

Freddie Alexander, David Friend

Blues jamming on guitar and harmonica

Freddie Alexander

Poetry Dedication to Mom

Dave Nielson

"Red River Valley"

Steve Rothenberg

"No Place Like Home"

Lou Acosta

"My Way"

Ed Martin

"America the Beautiful"

Lloyd Johnson

"I've Been Working on the Railroad"

Lloyd Williams

"Listen to the Mockingbird"

Scott Paulding

"Come Back Katie"

Richard and Barbara Keller

"Springtime in the Rockies"

Wayne Diffie

"Scotland the Brave", "The Flower of Scotland"

Les Reitman

"Take Me Out to the Ballgame"

Shawn Massa

"Feeling Good"

Bill Kawamura

"Cherry Pink and Apple Blossom White"

Lee Taylor

"April Showers"

Lee and Steve

"Ain't Misbehaving"



Open Mic 04/24/22

Shawn Massa

"Stairway to Heaven"

Lloyd Johnson

"My Irish Eyes are Smiling"

David Friend and (son) Keoni

Blues Jamming

Lou Acosta

"I Left My Heart in San Francisco"

Steve Rothenberg

"You are My Sunshine"

Lee Taylor, Tim Winkelman,
Roger Bale, Gayla Michelin

"Blowing in the Wind", "Now is the Hour"

Lee Taylor

"Lovers Come Back to Me"

Richard and Barb Keller

"April Showers"



Ed Martin	"Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head"
Lloyd Williams	"Alexander's Ragtime Band", "MacNamaras Band"
Wayne Diffie	"Hector the Hero"
LeRoy DeVries	"My Tribute"
Ken Moyer	"The Impossible Dream"
Scott Paulding	"Let Me Tell You About the Birds and the Bees"
Les Reitman	"Swing Low"
Roger Bale	"My Prayer"
Barry Staver	"Deep River Blues"
Bill Kawamura	"Maria Elaina"



INTERVIEW WITH BARRY STAVER

Attached are two photos. The first one was taken at the edge of a cornfield in Nebraska, on return trip from our first SPAH in Tulsa, 2017. We stopped to watch that total solar eclipse, played harmonicas while we waited. The second photo was taken on a hike in the mountains near Frisco, CO.

Music has played an important role in my life, although I sure didn't realize how much until I picked up a harmonica six years ago. Now I "get it".

My parents seldom put LP's on the turntable of the stereo in our living room so I blasted away with the 60's rock & roll 45's I managed to buy with allowance money. "Turn the volume down. That isn't music, it's just screaming loud noise", were often heard. Despite that I was next given a small transistor radio a few years later and carried in with me while delivering newspapers on my bike.

An older cousin played Clarinet, so that encouraged me to try, playing in the junior high school band until I was kicked out for poor attitude and bad behavior.

Next came a shiny red electric guitar complete with a small amp. I wanted to play rock & roll, but my parents signed me up with a classical guitar teacher. You can imagine how that went over. I also had an interest in photography and was able to trade the guitar and amp for a photo enlarger and other darkroom equipment. That helped launch my one and only lifelong career as a Professional Photographer. Still doing that to this day.

My harmonica journey began six years ago when I dusted off a Hohner Marine Band C harp that was sitting on a closet shelf. It was a gift some 25 years ago that included a Mel Bay instruction book which I couldn't figure out. The library had a copy of Winslow Yerxa's book, "Harmonica for Dummies", that I checked out



and kept for months. It got me started and even suggested that there might be a local harmonica club in my hometown. Sure enough!

I joined the MHHC after that first meeting, and began taking lessons from Paul Davies right away. Those lessons continue and are a prime factor in my progress. Paul is patiently pushing me to play more by ear, and despite its challenges, I'm getting better at it.

Must admit that I don't practice nearly enough and one goal is to establish a regular practice routine. Another goal is to master good bending so I can expand my playing repertoire to blues and being comfortable in jam sessions.

Advice for myself and other newer players: Play something at Open Mic sessions at the club. No better audience anywhere. If you miss a note or two, do not stop playing and apologize, keep playing!



BARRY STAYER PHOTOGRAPHY LLC

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