



HARMONICA HIGHLIGHTS

March 2024

www.milehighharmonicaclub.com

Notes from the Prez



Scott Paulding
MHHC President

THE NEWS FROM SCOTT

“A cloud brings breezes loud and shrill, stirs the dancing daffodil.” That’s a nice quote by Sara Coleridge about the month of March and it also sounds like it relates somewhat to music. None of us aim to produce anything loud and shrill on the harmonica but if our music is even slightly melodic or danceable, we’ve achieved a lot. This past month Paul Davies played for open mic a very pretty song called the “Westphalia Waltz”. This was a reminder to me that this genre of music is often neglected. **Try to find a waltz to play sometime this month.** If you’re stumped, look on you tube and ask for traditional waltzes, country waltzes, bluegrass waltzes... You are sure to find something you like (and probably even danceable).

Remember for our Mar. 10th meeting to “spring forward” and set your clocks appropriately. We hope you’re all doing well and certainly want to see you on time at our next gathering.



MEETINGS

March 10, 2024
1:30 p.m.

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

March 24, 2024
1:30 p.m.

Club Meeting
Historic Grant Avenue

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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Be sure to take a look at the final article in this newsletter. This is a reprint from 2000 about the Mile High Harmonica Club origins (written by Paul Davies). This is our 30th year hanging around and having fun together!

One last thing... a new calendar year has begun and if you've forgotten- dues for the club are due. **Thanks so much.**

Open Mic Performances 2/11/24

Barry Staver	"One Love"
Lloyd Williams	"You Are My Sunshine"
Ed Martin	"Danny Boy"
Freddie Alexander	"People Get ready"
Scott Paulding	"Let me Tell You About the Birds and the Bees"
Lee Taylor, Roger Bale, Ken Moyer, Tim Winkelman, Gayla Michelin	"Hot Toddy"
Ken Moyer	"Tuff"
Roger Bale	"Do You Know What It Means to Miss New Orleans"
Richard and Barb Keller	"Someone Like You"
Gayla Michelin	"If"
Paul Davies	"Westphalia Waltz"
Bill Kawamura	"You Are My Sunshine', 'Yes, Jesus Loves Me"
Bill and Paul	"Never on a Sunday"
Scott and Paul	"Boil Dem Cabbage Down"
Lloyd and Paul	"The Wooley Waltz" (very reminiscent of "Mary Had a Little Lamb")

Open Mic Performances 2/25/24

Jim Bartlett	"Love Me Do"
Freddie Alexander	"Don't Think Twice"
Jackson Campbell	"Blackbird", "Oh Susanah"
Lee Taylor	"How Great Thou Art"
Gayla Michelin	"Put Your Hand in the Hand"
Roger Bale	"The Shadow of Your Smile"
Richard Keller	"Love Me Tender"
Les Reitman	"Forever Young"
Paul Davies	"Granny in the Corner"
Lloyd Williams	"Love Me Tender"
Lloyd and Paul	"The Bunny Hop"
Ed Martin	"Annie's Song"
Barry Staver	"Girl From Ipanema"
Shawn Massa	"Stairway to Heaven", "Sweet Child of Mine"
Leroy DeVries	"Blessed Assurance"
Scott Paulding	"Shove that Pig's Foot a Little Closer to the Fire"
Bill Kawamura	"There's a Star Spangled Banner Flying Somewhere", "Yellowbird"

Mile High Harmonica Club Origins

How MHHC got started

By Paul Davies

The beginning of the club started back in 1987 when I was approached by Swallow Hill Music Association to join the faculty, starting a harmonica program at their new location on South Pearl Street. The word got out that harmonica lessons were available, which caught the eyes of two seniors in town.

The first was Cliff Mitchell who asked me to come over to see his harmonica collection. He was in his seventies then and had a collection of stories and harps from the vaudeville years in the theatres of Kansas City. He had won harmonica contests when he was in his teens.

He later went on to become a sign painter for the Lawrence Welk show, painting Plymouth dealership windows with advertisements of upcoming shows. He had been a member in the KC club and told me that I needed to start one in Denver. Cliff doesn't get to meetings much any more but he's a great guy and may even show you his harps.

The second to call was Stan Pierce. We met in a park in Aurora with my little kids one summer day. We played swapped stories and visited. Stan was founding father of the Knick Knack Band. It was a theatre act of senior citizens from Aurora playing homemade instruments.

Stan wanted to get the harmonica players in town together and start a club. This was the beginning of my friendship with Stan and his wife Betty, who have always been there for the club.

I want to thank Cliff and Stan for being the seeds of this great club. They helped and supported me with ideas, knowledge and wisdom, which I treasure today.

The *Harmonica Madness* group was foundation of the young club



Never too serious: 'Harmonica Madness' (Summer 1995)
From left: Lee Taylor, Bill Goldenstein, Mark Manning and Paul Davies

Mark Manning is an Associate Member and lives in Kansas City. Lee Taylor is club president. Paul Davies heads up Open Stage and special club events. Bill Goldenstein passed away in 1996.