



HARMONICA HIGHLIGHTS

July 2020

www.milehighharmonicaclub.com

Notes from the Prez



Dick Paige
MHHC President

And Now.....

THE NEWS

Hi,

Well, here is what little there is to say.

Grant St is still closed but plans are being made to reopen. Picnic is postponed until September and then it will not be potluck. Bring your own food, club will furnish drinks, paper plates and utensils.

BE SAFE! See you sometime!

Dick



NO MEETINGS

SPAH Convention has been cancelled for this year.

(SPAH members and those who have signed up should have received an email from SPAH president Michael D'Eath)

Change of address

NOTE: New email addresses for Roger & Nancy Bale

rgbale@comcast.net
nancybale@comcast.net

Keep us up-to-date

PLEASE CHECK YOUR ENTRY IN THE LATEST MHHC CLUB ROSTER

If you have a new address, email of phone number, please notify Roger Bale:
rgbale@comcast.net

2020 Officers

President.....Dick Paige 720-220-1931

gwabi2@hotmail.com

Vice PresidentScott Paulding 303-237-8774

Secretary.....Freddy Alexander 720-298-9445

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nancybale@comcast.net

LETTER FROM SPAH PRESIDENT MICHAEL D'EATH REGARD THE 2020 SPAH CONVENTION -

In a copyrighted letter to SPAH members and others who had registered for the 2020 SPAH Convention, Michael conveyed the sad news that the convention which would have been held in St. Louis, MO, in August, has been cancelled.



SPAH has informed the Sheraton Westport Chalet of the cancellation and instructed them to cancel all the room reservations made at the special SPAH rate. Michael says that it would be good to follow up with the hotel to confirm that your reservation had been cancelled.

There is a bright light though. Keep August 11-15 open for "SPAH Week!" for online seminars, performances and some "general sessions" where we can all join together for a few moments. SPAH will cover any administrative costs, and also be dedicating funds to pay a small honorarium to each teacher and performer to help them during this difficult time. [Go to www.SPAH.org](http://www.SPAH.org) and SPAH Facebook site for details.

In addition, SPAH will be giving you the opportunity to join them for all of these activities at no cost to you. Also, the Awards Ceremony on Saturday, August 15 will be available to everyone. Coming soon will be an Awards section of the website where you will find how to nominate the winner of each of the three annual SPAH Awards.

On Saturday, at 3:30 p.m. US Central Time, there will be the online SPAH Annual General Meeting. There will be an online schedule of seminars, performances and other events and access details by the end of July.

SPAH is offering to refund your 2020 registration fee in a check if you have paid that already **OR** you can apply it to the 2021 Convention, guaranteeing no price increase.

The third option is to donate your refund to the performers and teachers appearing online during SPAH Week.

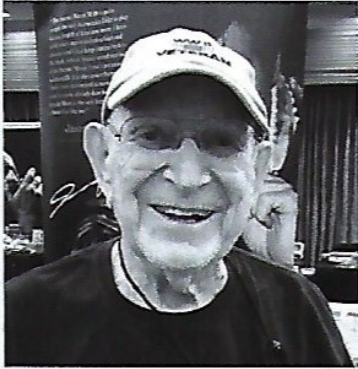
Go to the [SPAH.com](http://www.SPAH.com) for more information

Michael extended the invitation to attend the 2021 SPAH Convention at the Charlotte Sheraton, in Charlotte, NC, from August 10-14, 2021.

So while there will be no impromptu gatherings in the halls playing with our friends this year, we will be enjoying the programs, safe at home and thinking about 2021 in Charlotte, NC.



The following obituary appeared in the Spring issue of "Harmonica Happenings"



Jack Hopkins

1920 - 2020

by TIM NOONE

GEORGE JAY "JACK" HOPKINS, JR., 99, of Woodbridge, Virginia, passed away peacefully on March 7, 2020. Mr. Hopkins is survived by six children and seven grandchildren. Jack was born on April 20, 1920 in Chicago and grew up in Kendallville, IN. While attending Purdue University, he met his loving wife of 57 years, Beth, who passed on March 4, 2002. The couple married on July 29, 1944. Mr. Hopkins served in Patton's 3rd Army in WW II. After the war, he returned home to a lengthy career as a civil servant of the US Army. Receiving a harmonica at age 6, Jack played with talent and joy until just days before his death.

Jack was a person committed to advancing the harmonica, thereby living out one of the ideals of SPAH. Back in the 1980s, he was a founding member and until his death the president of the Capitol Harmonica Club, the largest harmonica club in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. In terms of his participation in the national organization of SPAH, he was regularly asked and gladly served as one of the photographers for the annual SPAH meetings where he started attending back in the 1970s.

On a personal note, I and others (such as the current president of the Capitol Harmonica Club, Frank Jamison) can attest that our entire involvement in SPAH as a national body came at the insistence of Jack Hopkins. When I showed up at the Capitol Club back in the early 2000s, Jack Hopkins, himself mainly a dedicated chromatic player, remarked, after he heard some of my blues and bluegrass stuff, "you've gotta to go to SPAH! You could learn a lot more there than you could anywhere else."

How true those words were and we all shall miss Jack's kindness, his playing on chromatic, diatonic, and chord, and his enthusiasm for the humble instrument which we all love. ❤️