



Tenor Guitar Foundation November 30, 2021

# GIVING TUESDAY

Our on-line Tenor Guitar Gathering that we presented this year was very successful and we are still getting views, almost six months after the original presentation.

*We would like our professional videographer to capture and edit our live event of June 3-4, 2022 and present it on-line after the event. We are asking for donations on **Giving Tuesday** to make this happen! It will require about \$3,000. If you would like to help this, please donate here: [Donate to TGG12 Giving Tuesday](#) (Link available until January)*

## TGF's virtual concert is still available

Tenor Guitar Gathering's first virtual concert was well received, and our viewing numbers continue to climb -- well over a thousand from around the world. The average listening time is over 30 minutes so they have truly enjoyed it! It is still available to watch by following this: [2021 Virtual Tenor Guitar Gathering](#)

## Updates on performers from earlier years of Tenor Guitar Gatherings

### Spider Murphy

Spider Murphy, considered by many as the greatest tenor guitar player ever, appeared in the first and third Tenor Guitar Gatherings. His friendship with Mark predates TGG and they spent many hours planning and discussing the Gatherings.

Spider now makes his home in New Orleans and it was interesting to see how the Pandemic has affected life there --- and it hasn't been

pretty! And then add a few hurricanes to the mix...

The New Orleans weekend musicians (those who have Monday-Friday jobs) have been hurt the most. Spider says the full time professional musicians have been able to keep themselves employed, but not with the choice of gigs previous to the pandemic. Currently he is regularly playing in a restaurant and club. A new recording studio, Jerry Barnes Studio, has just opened in nearby Ponchatoula so there is an opportunity for more studio work. The fact that Spider plays so many instruments helps with that: piano, tenor banjo, tenor guitar and mandolin.

Mark Josephs, founder of Tenor Guitar Foundation and Gathering, said this about Spider in about 2013: "Spider Murphy certainly has more of a total command of the Tenor Guitar/Tenor banjo than anyone I know. When I think of Spider Murphy I think of Leon Redbone, Tom Waits and John Lee Hooker. In my opinion, Spider Murphy is an unknown living legend. He could be like Bela Fleck, a musician you could put in any musical situation, and he could play his way through it. There are very few people like Spider these days who just plays in bars, festivals, old folks homes, senior centers, street corners...plays and plays and plays...and drives, too, long distances to get from gig to gig. Spider is a rare, undiscovered gem of a musician and the light deserves to be shined upon him."

Spider got his name very early. His father, also a musician, got him a banjo playing gig in the orchestra pit of a play. Actors said that seeing his hands move up and down the neck of his tenor saxophone reminded them of a spider! Later his playing the saxophone would become a line in Elvis Presley's Jailhouse Rock. Covid meant Spider had more time to write and now has two albums of new material ready to edit and produce. One is with him on the tenor guitar and overdubbed with his Tenor banjo. The second album is all songs written since Covid.

Spider recently returned to Colorado, a former home, along with California, and the East Coast where he was born, and picked up fifteen to twenty unedited master tapes, which he will be turning into CD's in the coming years. Going through the master tapes was a trip down memory lane and he uncovered work that he hopes will get him included in New Orleans Preservation Hall – keep us posted, Spider! Both of Spider's parents were musicians and he started early. In 1979 he graduated from Berklee College of music in Boston with a degree in Arranging and Composition, while majoring in guitar.



## Sponsors for TGG12

**We are actively searching for sponsors for our 2022 live event.**

**Please contact us if you are interested.**

**All donations are tax deductible since Tenor Guitar Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization.**

Subscribe to our  
Newsletter!



*Visit our website! It has a lot of*

*information: videos, charts, a*

*list of our Hall of Fame  
members and much more!*

## ***Tenor Guitar Foundation***

**Astoria  
Oregon**  
Tenor Guitar Capital of the World

June 3 - 4, 2022

**12<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Tenor Guitar  
Gathering**

tenorGuitarFoundation.com TenorGuitarGathering.info Facebook @TenorGuitarGathering

**Please help!**

We are increasing our numbers on  
Instagram, Facebook and with our  
newsletter. You can help!

Please forward this newsletter to your  
musician friends and ask them to subscribe!