



Tenor Guitar Foundation ----- February 2022

Our event is scheduled for June 3 and 4 in Astoria, Oregon

Here is our list of performers and instructors for 2022 -- class details to come soon!

Grant Flick, Tim May, Tyler Jackson, EZ Marc Poschman, Jean Mann, Alison Helzer, Myshkin Warbler, John Lawlor, and John Halvonic. Bassist will be Matt Weiner.



Trolley Ride is back!

Always a favorite, it is scheduled for Friday June 3.

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. It is still available to watch: [2021 Virtual Tenor Guitar Gathering](#)

Updates on performers from earlier years of Tenor Guitar Gatherings: Brian Oberlin

In our continuing series of interviews of former Tenor Guitar Gathering performers, let's visit Brian Oberlin, who performed at the 2013, 2015 and 2016 Tenor Guitar Gatherings. Brian performed solo, with mandolinist Evan Marshall and with the Oregon Mandolin Orchestra, a group he founded in 2009.



Brian moved back to his home state of Michigan after spending 13 years in Oregon. He lives near Grand Rapids and is now involved with the Michigan Mandolin Orchestra, a 12 piece group.

He joined the Full Cord Bluegrass group, which also includes another TGG favorite, Grant Flick. Full Cord plays a blend of traditional bluegrass music with jazz, western swing and rock n' roll. The group now has a record contract with Dark Shadow Recording out of Nashville.

Besides many Michigan performances, bluegrass festivals and concerts this summer, one in Colorado, they will be putting together songs for their first Dark Shadow album.

Thirteen years ago, during his Oregon years, Brian started the River of the West Mandolin Camp. This year's event will be held in Corbett, OR, just 20 miles east of Portland, June 9-12, 2022. Grant Flick will also be teaching at this camp, the week after our next Astoria Tenor Guitar Gathering. Brian has started a Great Lakes Mandolin Camp, also.

Brian has recorded 22 albums and is anticipating number 23 and more with Full Cord's new relationship with Dark Shadow Recording.

With the unexpected gift of time in the past two years, Brian is researching music new to him, and writing more music. He was asked to teach a community college class on music appreciation. This has given him the opportunity to learn more about music and musicians of the 20's, 30's and 40's, such as Irving Berlin, Cole Porter and George and Ira Gershwin. Brian has enjoyed studying the history of western music, the Romantic era music along with contemporary classical, from the Civil War to now. Besides American music, his studies have included French, Russian, German and Italian composers.

Brian has written many of the songs performed by Full Cord. When asked how he approaches song writing, he explained that for him 98 percent of the time the melody comes first. Since he spends so much time away from his home studio, he will record the melody on his phone's voice mail when he is driving, or walking. Later he will add the lyrics and then play it on the mandolin to determine if it is a keeper or not.

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When asked if on-line platforms will replace CD's in the future, Brian replied that about 70 percent of the music played is now digital -- but "our Hindsight album done with the five-piece Full Cord, including Grant Flick, was produced in a vinyl record --- and it is my favorite!" And we look forward to hearing your next record, Brian!

Brian has an excellent website, full of music, lessons and information: [Brian's website](#)

Sponsors for TGG12

We are actively searching for sponsors for our 2022 event.

Please contact us if you are interested.

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