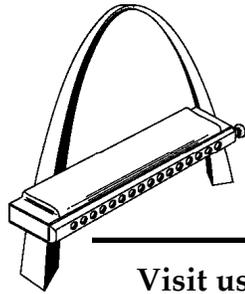


May—June 2004



# The GHC REEDER

Visit us on the Internet at [www.gatewayharmonicclub.org](http://www.gatewayharmonicclub.org)

## NEWS & VIEWS *by Mary Ann Love*

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### Health:

Welcome back to Dan Welsch after a short hiatus from surgery! Good news from Peg Davis and Lillian Krueger - they're both making a good recovery.

### Annual Club Banquet

The evening of March 27 was filled with fun, friendship, food, music and laughter at Garavelli's Restaurant where a private room had been reserved. Family and friends joined in for a wonderful evening. A special thanks to those who put time and effort into making this event a success! Guy Vaccaro for making and confirming the arrangements and hauling the equipment, Frank Davis for his usual outstanding M.C. job, Joe Fey for all the accompaniment, 'Brother Bill' Davis as sound technician, Ernie Roberts for photographing and videotaping, Buddy and Jessie Hirsch for keeping the attendance records, and thanks to everyone else who attended.

Ernie Roberts will take orders for individual photos and video tapes.

### Welcome New Members:

Gale B. Morrison (wife Ruth)  
45 Steeple Chase Dr.  
St. Peters, MO 63376  
636-970-1017

Patrick M. Stewart  
Harmonicas Across America  
P.O. Box 6027  
St. Louis, MO 63139  
314-973-0521

Gregory M. Hommert  
911 N. Taylor  
Kirkwood, MO 63122  
314-965-0928

Mile High Harmonica Club - Now has their newsletter on the internet. Those wishing to read it on-line may view it at

[www.members.aol.com/mhhclub](http://www.members.aol.com/mhhclub)

### Spring Picnic Reminder - June 12, 2004

Get together for family, friends, neighbors, anyone interested! Shady Springs Park in St. Peters. Exit Interstate 70 at Cave Springs. (West bound Exit 225)...Go west on North Service Road to first street, turn right (Ehlmann Rd). Just past U-Haul & STORAGE place...Go 2 blocks to Shady Springs...Jog left (no turn, just jog) in front of YMCA, on block turn left into park. There is presently road construction on Ehlmann Rd. but depending on how the construction is coming along, the detours are well marked.

Everyone bring their own picnic lunch. We'll start about noon. Come when you can. See you there. Bring family and guests (and Harmonica, of course!)

Bring your own soda, beer, wine, iced tea or whatever. Frank and Peg will brew some coffee.

### Shirts

With SPAH convention in August rapidly approaching, it is encouraged that the hosting St. Louis Gateway Harmonica Club be prominently represented wearing the GHC polo uniform shirts at most occasions. With that in mind we are getting together a shirt order. If you wish to order a club shirt, you will need to know the size and whether or not you prefer a pocket. Pockets run about \$1 more and the cost of shirts were around \$40+? on the last order.

Thanks to Shirley Perez for donating Dan's club shirts and vests to the club. If any member wants to purchase a size L shirt they should contact any club officer. The

*(Continued on p. 2)*

THE GHC REEDER is a bimonthly publication of the Gateway Harmonica Club, Inc. of St. Louis, Missouri, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation and advancement of the harmonica. The club meets weekly on Tuesdays at 7:00 PM at the Rock Hill Baptist Church, 9125 Manchester, Brentwood, MO.

Inquiries about membership should be directed to:

Buddy Hirsch, Treasurer  
47 Orchard Lane  
Kirkwood, MO 63122  
(314) 821-8651  
e-mail: BuddyHarmonica@aol.com

For information about club activities and performances, contact:

Charles Pratte, President  
1547 Azalea Dr.  
Webster Groves, MO 63119  
(314) 961-7764  
email: CAPJR68@aol.com

All other correspondence should be directed to:

Mary Ann Love  
Recording & Corresponding Secretary  
1162 Villa Flora Dr.  
O'Fallon, MO 63366-4443  
(636)-379-7707  
e-mail: malove@mindspring.com

Information about the club's activities is also available on the World Wide Web at:

[www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org](http://www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org)



Birthday greetings are extended to the following members of the GHC family who are celebrating birthdays in May and June:

| <u>May</u>      |      | <u>June</u>     |      |
|-----------------|------|-----------------|------|
| Sarah Muriel    | 5/1  | Carole Hackmann | 6/1  |
| Michael LaRue   | 5/3  | Jean Gerfen     | 6/6  |
| Larry Coleman   | 5/7  | Guy Vaccaro     | 6/7  |
| Robert Scurlock | 5/8  | Myra Bricker    | 6/9  |
| Sharon Davis    | 5/11 | Bob Masson      | 6/10 |
| Bob Pangilinan  | 5/13 | Wanetta Perry   | 6/17 |
| Bill Weindell   | 5/22 | Billie Birch    | 6/18 |
| Doris Rassman   | 5/27 | Doreen Scurlock | 6/25 |
| Louise Cook     | 5/28 | Mary Pangilinan | 6/25 |
|                 |      | Mike Maschek    | 6/26 |
|                 |      | Doris Michelin  | 6/26 |
|                 |      | Bill Nesslein   | 6/27 |
|                 |      | Bill Davis      | 6/29 |
|                 |      | Rose Schmidt    | 6/29 |

If we have missed a member's or spouse's birthday, please let us know so we can correct our records. Thanks.

## NEWS & VIEWS *(from p. 1)*

shirts are in good condition and it was Shirley's wish that the proceeds go into the club funds. Thanks, Shirley!

### White Elephant

The ladies auxiliary is planning to sponsor a silent auction at the SPAH convention. This is a good time to donate nonreturnable gifts or new items. Craft articles are always a good choice. The ladies put a lot of time and effort into this endeavor, so please support this project. The items are currently being gathered and collected. The ladies will meet every month on the first Tuesday for continuous planning while the club members conduct their business meetings. Bring your donations and join in.

### Harmonica Websites

Kudos to Mike LaRue for alerting club members to a couple resourceful websites for harmonica music:

[www.harmonicacountry.com](http://www.harmonicacountry.com) and [www.volcano.org](http://www.volcano.org)  
Thanks, Mike!

Jim Melchers has made available the course books for learning harmonica on our website. They are in a PDF format (which requires Adobe Acrobat Reader) and can be viewed, downloaded, and/or printed. That internet address is [www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org](http://www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org) and the course can be found under Education.

### Harmonicas For Kids

Member Pat Stewart has a history of gifting beginner harmonicas to kids in St. Louis schools (and other states) to promote interest in the young. Pat is looking for helpers at a 2004 World's Fair Celebration on May 29, 2004 at Buder Park in St. Louis County. Pat will set up a table and proposes to have harmonicas available along with the instructions for "This Land Is Your Land" and "Meet Me In St. Louis." The fair will have many other attractions and entertainment for all ages to enjoy. Events include choirs,

*(Continued on page 3)*

## NEWS &amp; VIEWS (from p. 2)

dancers, motorcycle, car & tractor shows, books, Scottish Games, World Bird Sanctuary, Story tellers, cuisine and vendors, Fashion Shows, Military ceremonies, live bands, Elvis' Show, Ragtime's, Guitar Duos, and much more. The GHC club is donating (how many?) harmonicas for this event. If anyone has the time, your participation would be very much appreciated. You can have a fun day while helping Pat spread some cheer to the kids. Contact Pat at 314-973-0521.

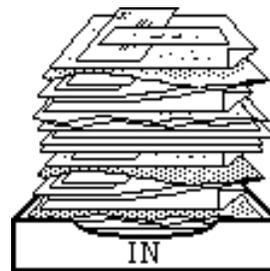
Club Photo

With SPAH fast approaching (August 17-21) it is desirable to have an updated photo of GHC club members for some of the literature and the outdated website photo. We need to have this available before the end of May. With that in mind we need to act expeditiously and the date of May 18 at 7:00 p.m. has been set for a group photo. The red vests and long sleeve white shirts make a very showy portrait. If you do not have a vest, just wear a long sleeve white shirt. Perhaps some of you with more than one vest could loan the extra to another member just for the photo.

Full Circle for the Butterflies

As you may remember about a year ago we co-ordered with another harmonica club, a shipment of Chinese Golden Butterfly Harmonicas. They were a long time getting here (on a slow boat from China) and also had import problems and added shipping expenses from the other club. Even so, they were still extraordinarily inexpensive. When we finally received them, they had a *very strange taste* and some members were unhappy with the tone. However, Richard Krueger played his and got it whistling like any other harp and offered to buy them back from anyone who

was less than satisfied; he had about half a dozen takers. Now Richard reports some members would like to rebuy them, but he has plans for them with his 10 grandchildren. Way to go Richard, pass that talent on!

**WE GET LETTERS . . .**

To Members of the Gateway Harmonica Club:

Great Show! Thank you so much for coming from hither and yon to entertain us. Your show was great, as usual, and the audience loved it – they told me so over and over as they filed out. We want you back, of course, so put us down for April 6, 2005. We can discuss the details in a few months. Have a great season.

Thanks again,

Joy Rucker  
St. Louis County Library  
Weber Road Branch

\* \* \* \* \*

A Thank You note from the Karides Family for the club's donation to St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in memory of Vi Karides was received and acknowledged.

TIME MARCHES ON: Some of the artists from the '60s are revising their hits with new lyrics to accommodate us codgers. This is good news for " those feeling a little older " and missing those great old tunes.

Herman's Hermits  
"MRS. BROWN, YOU'VE GOT A LOVELY WALKER"

The Bee Gees  
"HOW CAN YOU MEND A BROKEN HIP"

Bobby Darin  
"SPLISH, SPLASH, I WAS HAVI N' A FLASH"

Ringo Starr  
"I GET BY WI TH A LI TTLE HELP FROM DEPENDS"

Roberta Flack  
"THE FIRST TIME EVER I FORGOT YOUR FACE"

Johnny Nash  
"I CAN'T SEE CLEARLY NOW"

Paul Simon  
"FIFTY WAYS TO LOSE YOUR LIVER"

Commodores  
"ONCE, TWICE, THREE TIMES TO THE BATHROOM"

Marvin Gaye  
"I HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPE NUTS"

Procol Harem  
"A WHI TER SHADE OF HAI R"

Leo Sayer  
"YOU MAKE ME FEEL LI KE NAPPI NG"

The Temptations  
"PAPA'S GOT A KI DNEY STONE"

ABBA  
"DENTURE QUEEN"

## A BRIEF HISTORY ON THE EVOLUTION OF THE HARMONICA

*(Submitted by Mike LaRue from website [www.harmonicaguy.com](http://www.harmonicaguy.com))*

The origins of the harmonica are obscure, but it seems that the harmonica, as we know it today, appeared first in Germany, in an amazing tale, which begins in the year 1821. It was then that sixteen-year-old Christian Friedrich Buschmann registered the first European patents for his new musical invention. His so-called "aura" was a free-reed instrument consisting of a series of steel reeds arranged together horizontally in small channels. An awkward design, approximately 4 inches wide and tall, it offered only blow notes arranged chromatically. Buschmann described his new instrument to his brother as "a new instrument that is truly remarkable. In its entirety it measures but four inches in length ... but gives me twenty-one notes, and all the pianissimos and crescendos one could want without a keyboard, harmonies of six tones, and the ability to hold a note as long as one would wish to. Initial designs by Buschmann were widely imitated, leading to many modifications and advancements.

The next version of the modern harmonica came from a Bohemian immigrant Anton Richter. He created a 10-hole, diatonic harmonica called the "Vamper" with two stacked reed plates that would produce a consistent tone when blowing or drawing air over the reeds. Its size, approximate 4 inches wide but only 1 inch tall, made it an immediate improvement over its predecessors. Still, the modern harmonica was more a curiosity than a respected instrument. Richter's tuning, utilizing a diatonic scale, became the standard configuration of what Europeans referred to as the Mundharmonika or mouth organ. In 1825 Fr. Hotz began producing mouth organs in his factory in Knittlingen, Germany. Another German, Christian Messner, acquired some of Christian Buschmann's auras. He set up shop in his clock making firm in Trossingen in 1827 and began manufacturing instruments that were similar to Buschmann's 'aura.' Messner called these instruments mundaelines. During the year 1829, J. W. Glier began manufacturing mouth organs at his factory in Klingenthal, Germany. In 1855 the German, Christian Weiss, started producing mouth organs. Finally in 1857 a firm in Trossingen Germany began mass-producing harmonicas for the public.

At the head of this company was the famous Matthias Hohner who changed the history of the harmonica dramatically, when the German clock maker, turned to manufacturing harmonicas full-time. With the help of his family and a hired workman, he was able to produce 650 instruments that year. Soon after, he added local workers and developed mass production techniques. Young Hohner was an outstanding businessman and showed his marketing savvy by developing ornate cover plates bearing the producer's name.

He introduced the harmonica to North America in 1862, a move that would propel the Hohner Company to its status as the world leader in harmonicas. He sent a small supply of his harmonicas to his cousins, who had immigrated to

America a few years earlier, with the intent of establishing a market for his instruments. The tone and beauty of these simple instruments quickly won over many Americans, despite the looks of puzzlement these "immigrant salesmen" were likely given as they introduced their wares. Its portable size, quality construction, and superb tone made harmonicas a quick addition to the American landscape. Hohner almost single-handedly established the harmonica, in America, as a musical lexicon.

Hohner actually was more an entrepreneur than an inventor, as evidenced by his clever exploitation of the prestige of well-known musical figures to enhance the appeal of his instruments. The Marine Band model, which became the most popular harmonica of all time, was named after the famous band led by American bandmaster John Philip Sousa. Sousa himself was persuaded to endorse the Hohner harmonica in a statement printed on the instrument box and reproduced in advertisements across the country. "This instrument is a foundation for a musical career," Sousa said, "and many boys and girls who are now learning music on the harmonica will step into the great symphony orchestras and bands of our country some day." By 1887, Hohner was producing more than one million harmonicas annually.

When Hohner died in 1902, his name had become virtually synonymous with "harmonica." From an original staff of one in 1857, the Hohner Company grew to 3,000 employees in 1913, which produced 10 million instruments that year. By the 1920s, sales had grown to 25 million instruments a year with more than 5,000 skilled workmen. M. Hohner, and his family donated the land, and built the City Hall (which still stands today) for Trossingen in the early 1900's. It is situated straight down the street at the end of the factory, and faces Hohner's own home.

The chromatic harmonica, introduced in the 1920's and championed in the 1930's by the virtuoso player Larry Adler, was the single most significant improvement in the evolution of the instrument. There are two main types of chromatics: The solo tuned harmonicas, and accompaniment harmonicas. The first type is used for playing solos, and participating in ensemble groups. The solo tuned chromatics are able to produce half tones (sharps and flats) with the use of a slide button (located at one end of the instrument). Chromatic harmonicas have ranges that are: 2, 2 1/2, 3, and 4 chromatic octaves. The second type of chromatic harmonica is the bass harmonica; this instrument provides the fundamental bass tones used for orchestral accompaniment.

Today, Hohner produces over 90 different models of harmonica, with a variety of styles and tunings which allows the player freedom of expression in all forms of music, from Classical and Jazz to Blues, Country and Rock, to the indigenous music of people worldwide.

## HARMONICA BIOGRAPHY: BUDDY HIRSCH

I have always been interested in music. Ever since I can remember, I have taken music lessons on different instruments. I played the trombone in the Junior High School Band and later at Ladue High School where I graduated in 1963.

After several years of college, I joined the Navy and played the bass bugle in the Boot Camp Drum and Bugle Corps in San Diego. From there, I was sent to Vietnam and served on an LST ship. On one particular night watch, I was sent to check the patrol boats tied to our ship and lost my grip on the ropes and fell into one of the rivers in the Mekong Delta. My fellow watchman threw me a life preserver, which had a light attached to it, and after seeing that I was OK, notified the Captain. This happened to be at one in the morning and all personnel were directed to battle stations for man overboard. Someone from up above must have been watching over me because all of the noise made at that time in the morning I was virtually unnoticed. I remember holding onto the life preservers and thinking that the ship was really far away from me. They finally fished me out of the river by the patrol boats about an hour later. After many days of ribbing by my navy friends, things got back to normal.

After the Navy, I came back to St. Louis to help out my dad in his manufacturing firm. My Dad had started the business about the time I was born and my earliest memories are those of working there. We had a place on Broadway in St. Louis and later moved to Washington, MO. For the most part, we have turned over the daily operations to four of our five sons.

Jessie, my wife, spent most of her working career in the business too. I helped raise Jessie's five sons and today we have 15 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. It is always a music festival whenever we get together with the family. Several grandchildren play musical instruments and we have a fun time. So,

besides the music in our lives, the children/grandchildren keep us very busy.

Over the years, I continued my interest in music. About five years ago, I was struck with the idea of playing the accordion. I rented one from Mel Bay in Kirkwood and they pointed me towards an accordion teacher named Vernon Nornung. He taught music at Roosevelt High School for 40 years and has played professionally for over 50 years. I give credit to Vern for giving me some real music knowledge.

One morning I was having coffee, MINDING MY OWN BUSINESS, and got into a conversation with a fellow who I came to know as Ernie Hackmann. It all started because he noticed I was interested in music. Later, he invited me to see the Gateway Harmonica Club perform. I had noticed Henry playing the bass harmonica at the performance and was curiously interested. Ernie kept after me to join the harmonica club but I was reluctant to commit to another weekly meeting. When he said they need a bass player, I couldn't help but jump at the chance.

At the same time of joining the Harmonica Club, Jessie and I started taking piano lessons at Meramec Community College. Jessie has found that she, too, has a fondness for music and now takes Sax lessons while I take Clarinet lessons on Tuesday afternoons.

The harmonica club has been important to me and I would like to thank Ernie for pestering me to join, and all the members who had to endure my first year learning to play the bass.

My journey isn't over, the best is yet to come.

*Editors Note: At this time the GHC club would like to acknowledge the ready willingness of your participation and also Jessie's support in all club activities. Thanks for your story, Buddy.*

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### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak;  
Courage is also what it takes to sit down and  
listen. -

Anonymous

## HARMONICA LEGEND BUDDY GREENE BRINGS BLEND OF ROOTS, GOSPEL, & BLUEGRASS TO THE FOCAL POINT ON MAY 7TH.

Our buddy Buddy is coming back into town. Highly recommended!!

Buddy Greene performing with legendary Newgrass Revival guitarist Pat Flynn.

Buddy Greene brings his unique blend of roots, Gospel, and bluegrass music to the stage of The Focal Point on Friday, May 7th. Buddy Greene appears with Pat Flynn (Newgrass Revival) in a must see performance for followers of Roots and Americana music. The show will focus on music from and inspired by Buddy's latest release RUFUS which has been hailed by No Depression and The Chicago Tribune as one of the finest Bluegrass albums of the last few years.

Best known for his virtuosity on the harmonica, Buddy Greene performs a live show that is part jam session, part church house revival, and part study in the music that captured him as he grew up in Macon, GA. Greene took in the music of Doc Watson, The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, and the Allman Brothers as well as The Beatles and Stevie Wonder while performing in his own musical combos around the Southeast. A phone call in the early 1980s led Buddy to Nashville to play rhythm guitar player for country legend Jerry Reed. This experience catapulted Buddy into his own solo career and taught him the value of entertaining a crowd while performing with impeccable musical skill.

Buddy's solo career has taken him from Carnegie Hall playing alongside Paul Simon to Merlefest performing with the legendary Doc Watson. He has also emerged as a

respected songwriter penning the classic Mary Did You Know which has been recorded by artists ranging from Natalie Cole to Reba McEntire. As a musician, Buddy has found himself drawn to the acoustic strains of bluegrass and Americana music. Buddy released RUFUS in 2002 gathering friends like Sam Bush, Jerry Douglas, and Ron Block to revisit the songs that have influenced Buddy most. The album contains breakneck renditions of warhorses like Sally Goodin' and a recasting of The Beatles classic All My Loving as a ballad. Bill Monroe's Cryin' Holy receives a rafter shaking treatment as Greene attacks the tune with Holy Ghost fervor.

Guitarist Pat Flynn joins Buddy Greene at the Focal Point. Flynn is a founding member of the groundbreaking band Newgrass Revival with Sam Bush and Bela Fleck as well as an in-demand guitarist and songwriter. He has worked with and/or written songs for Garth Brooks, Rosanne Cash, Glen Campbell, and Kathy Mattea. Flynn's latest project The Nashville Acoustic Sessions is a collaboration with The Mavericks vocalist Raul Malo, Rob Ickes, and Dave Pomeroy that Billboard Magazine calls "a quiet glory."

###

Buddy Greene performs with Pat Flynn at The Focal Point Friday May 7th, 2720 Sutton Blvd. ,Maplewood (St. Louis) MO 63143. Phone: 314-781-4200

For more information visit [www.thefocalpoint.org](http://www.thefocalpoint.org) and [www.buddygreene.com](http://www.buddygreene.com).

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## TAPS

We in the United States have all heard the haunting song, "Taps." It's the song that gives us that lump in our throats and usually tears in our eyes. But do you know the story behind the song? If not, I think you will be interested to learn about its humble beginnings.

Reportedly, it all began in 1862 during the Civil War, when Union Army Captain Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harrison's Landing in Virginia. The confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land. During the night, Captain Ellicombe heard the moans of a soldier who lay severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention.

Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, the Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment. When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead.

The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son. The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial, despite his enemy status. His request was only partially granted. The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate. But, out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician. The Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform. This wish was granted. Thus that haunting melody used at military funerals which we now know as "Taps" . . . was born.

*(Continued on page 7)*

# GHC EVENTS CALENDAR

## WEEKLY EVENTS

Tuesday evening meetings at Rock Hill Baptist Church, 9125 Manchester, St. Louis, MO 63144:

- 6:30 PM - Blues Group, led by Louise Cook — Everyone welcome
- 7:00 PM - First Tuesday of month: Business Meeting — Everyone welcome
- All other Tuesdays: Band Rehearsal — Everyone welcome
- 8:15 PM - Open Mic — Everyone welcome

## GIGS AND OTHER EVENTS

- 5/6/2004 (Thu) 2:30 PM — Surrey Place: 14701 Olive Blvd., Chesterfield, MO 63017
- 5/15/2004 (Sat) 7:30 PM — First Church of God: 11532 Larimore Rd., St. Louis, MO. 63138
- 5/20/2004 (Thu) 12:15 PM — Greater St. Louis Suburban Educators: Heritage House, 2800 Olive (west of Jefferson)
- 5/24/2004 (Mon) 2:30 PM — Friendship Village South County: 12505 Village Circle Dr. --Health Center, St. Louis, MO 63127-- Going South on I - 270-- you get off on Gravois (highway 30) going West. Immediately you move to the far left lane and take Old Gravois-- the entrance to Friendship is about a half mile down the road, on your right.
- 6/5/2004 (Sat) 2:30 PM — Meridian Village Nursing Home: M101 Evergreen Lane--Glen Carbon IL. 62034
- 6/12/2004 (Sat) — GHC Picnic: Shady Springs Park, St. Peters, MO
- 6/19/2004 (Sat) 7:30 PM — The Gatesworth: The Gatesworth Living Room--No 1 Mc Knight Pl., St. Louis MO 63124. Take I-170 South- Get off at Delmar going West a short distance.--The Gatesworth is just behind that big Hotel--you need to drive behind it.
- 7/8/2004 (Thu) 1:00 PM — Columbia Senior Citizens: Turner Hall --211 E. Cherry St. Columbia IL.-- 62236 (Go over the Jefferson Barracks Bridge From St. Louis--Turn right when you reach RT. 3--Go to the first stop light.--Turn left--Follow this road until you see a Schnickel Fritz sign at City Hall.-- Turn left onto E. Cherry St. Go to 211)
- 7/18/2004 (Sun) 2:30 PM — Garden Villas South: 13457 Tesson Ferry, St. Louis, MO 63128
- 8/8/2004 (Sun) 2:00 PM — Delmar Gardens North: 4401 Parker Road, Florissant, MO (about 1/2 mile east of New Halls Ferry)
- 8/17/2004 (Tue) — SPAH 2004 -- St. Louis, MO: Sheraton Westport Lakeside Chalet (thru Sat 8/21)
- 9/16/2004 (Thu) 1:00 PM — Santa Maria Apts.: 12565 Santa Maria Court, Hazelwood MO 63042 (from I-270 take Mc Donnell Blvd. North; go 4 stoplights to Dunn Rd.; take a left and go 1-1/2 miles--it will be on your right side)
- 10/7/2004 (Thu) 7:30 PM — Golden Achievers 50+ Club: St. Matthis Church, 800 Buckley Rd., Mehlville, MO (near Lemay and Sappington Barracks)
- 12/14/2004 (Tue) 12:30 PM — Bellefontaine Neighbors Seniors: Bellefontaine Neighbors Civic Center at 9669 Bellefontaine Rd. St Louis , MO 63137 (Take I-270 East; cross over Highway 367 (the road to Alton); take the next right onto Bellefontaine Rd.; go South about 4 miles and you will cross Chambers Rd. The Civic Center is a mile further)

## TAPS (from p. 6)

The words are:

Day is done...Gone the sun...From the lakes...From the hills...From the sky  
All is well...Safely rest...God is nigh.

Fading light...Dims the sight...And a star...Gems the sky...Gleaming bright  
From afar...Drawing nigh...Falls the night.

Thanks and praise...For our days...Neath the sun...Neath the stars...Neath the sky  
As we go...This we know...God is nigh.

I, too, have felt chills while listening to "Taps", but I had never seen all the words to the song until recently. I hadn't even known there was more than one verse. I also never knew the story behind the song, and didn't know if many others did, either. So I thought I'd pass it along. I now have an even deeper respect for the song than I did before.

Remember those lost and harmed while serving their country. And remember those presently serving in the Armed Forces, and in harms way.

TAKEN FROM THE INTERNET - AUTHOR UNKNOWN

## GHC HOLDS SPAH CONVENTION PACKET PARTY

How many harmonica players does it take to collate, inspect, stuff and seal 1500 SPAH Convention registration packets? Well, on Tuesday evening March 30, thirty GHC members did it in 90 minutes. Here's some of the action . . .



Special thanks to Bill Dulin, who took a little time out to catch us in the act on his digital camera

