



The REEDER

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www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org

NEWS & VIEWS by Mary Ann Love

OUR CONDOLENCES

Word was received from Gloria Cochran that **Paul Cochran** passed away on May 27, 2007. He was 83 and suffered from cancer for 14 years. The notice was not published in the city newspaper by Paul's choice. He was an administrator in the Maplewood School district during his working years.

Paul joined the club in '95 after seeing a "Help Yourself Ad" in the Post Dispatch. Paul was a loyal and faithful member and attended club practice regularly as long as he was able. He had also enjoyed gardening, walking, fishing, traveling, golfing and tennis. We extend our condolences to his family. A memorial donation from the club was made to "Friends of the Webster Groves Library."

May he rest in peace.

MARKIVEE'S MOUNTAIN DECK PARTY

Anyone who did not show up for the Markivee Mountain Deck party on June 16, 2007 missed a great time. It was a warm day but the huge shade trees covering the 1400 square foot deck provided comfort and the view from the mountain top in Eureka was gorgeous. **Frank Davis** volunteered to be the BBQ chef and everyone else brought pot luck dishes to share. Colorful tablecloths and lighting created a festive and cheerful atmosphere and electric fans were also used to help cool. Carroll showed those interested his ham radio set-up with an antenna of such strength that he said could reach around the world twice. (Really?)

The Markivees enjoy a beautiful spacious home and are very gracious hosts. **Paul Davies** from Denver was in town checking out venues for the SPAH convention to be held in St. Louis in 2008 and it was an added pleasure to have him join the party. He outlined some of the coming attractions



for the 2007 convention in Milwaukee and played some tunes and several harps (at the same time).

Other members took turns at open mic and it was

a delight to see some of the spouses again. It was a most enjoyable get-together and we thank all those who helped set-up tables and equipment and especially **Carroll and Jean Markivee** for their generous hospitality.

SPAH UPDATE

The St. Louis Gateway Harmonica Club has been selected to host the 2008 SPAH International Convention. The Sheraton-Westport Chalet, the same hotel selected for SPAH 2004, will again be the site in 2008. The hotel was selected after the GHC steering committee reviewed nine proposals and conducted site inspections of two 'finalist' hotels. We then reported our findings to the SPAH officers. **Paul Davies** came to St. Louis over the June 15-17 weekend for final inspections and negotiations. Although both hotels under consideration offered excellent facilities, the GHC committee recommended the Sheraton. Paul concurred and, following consultation with SPAH President Tom Stryker, was authorized to sign the contract.

There is plenty of work to do for GHC members in the year ahead. We'll be convening a meeting sometime soon to review specific tasks and to enlist volunteers.

A VERY SPECIAL HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Helenè Pratte Blake (mother of **Charles Pratte**) was honored on her 105th birthday at the Nazareth Living Center by a gathering of many friends

and relations. The Gateway Harmonica Club had the pleasure of playing our program, along with a Happy Birthday sing-along. Charlie gave a short biography of his mother's life and introduced his family and special guests. The caretakers and other residents at the Nazareth Living Center said it was a joy to know and have Helene in their home. Three beautifully decorated sheet cakes and punch were available for all to enjoy at the celebration! When asked the secret to her long life and positive attitude, she said, "Day to day do the best you can and don't worry – worry gets you old!" Congratulations, Helenè!



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, contact:

Mary Ann Love, President
1162 Villa Flora Dr.
O'Fallon, MO 63366-4443
(636)-379-7707
e-mail: maryannlove@charter.net

To schedule a club performance, contact:

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

All other correspondence should be directed to:

Chris Pondo
Recording & Corresponding Secretary
1166 Waldorf Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63137
(314) 868-9557

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

www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org

WELCOME "OLD" MEMBERS . . . AND NEW FRIENDS

It was great to see **Tony Wilbraham's** smiling face when he joined the group on May 8. Tony has a chronic throat problem but was able to play *La Vie en Rose* and enjoyed seeing all his friends again.

Tony writes "It was good to be back at the GHC - and try my skill at the open mike session - and a sing-along with Charlie! I'll see if I can make it to GHC on a more regular basis (blowing on a harp with a constantly dry mouth, however, doesn't jive) and I will check on me pal Jerry. It was great to see all the olde faces - and I was amazed at the number of 'new folk'. It's a fun club to be associated with. Cheers!"

Tony again attended on June 12 and played *Anniversary Waltz* with **Jerry Bonfiglio**. Tony had sent out several e-mail articles about his son, Andrew's, role in the Iraq war. We appreciate Andrew's service to his country and pray for his safe return, as well as all the young men overseas.

Scott Paulding from Denver, Colorado, and his dad, **Virgil**, who lives in St. Louis, visited the club practice on June 26. It is always a treat to hear Scott play as he takes our breath away!

Some other visitors lately were GHC member **Von Rhey Ford**, whom we see occasionally; and **Doris Hanlon** and **Jane Marrow**, friends of **Rosemary** and **Bill Nessler**.

Happy Birthday!!!

Birthday greetings are extended to the following members of the GHC family who are celebrating birthdays in January and February.

JULY

Dorothy Welsch 7/05
Francis Love 7/15
Kathleen Cenatiempo 7/16
Debbie Campbell 7/16
Mike Patzius 7/21
Tom Sutterfield 7/24
Mary Heininger 7/24
Buddy Hirsch 7/25
Tony Wilbraham 7/26
Bernice Norton 7/27
Mary Ann Love 7/28
Carroll Markivee 7/30
Jessie Hirsch 7/31

AUGUST

Bob Norton 8/03
L.J. Atkison 8/12
Betty J. Ford 8/13
Bob Davis 8/13
Rich Krueger 8/15
Andy Cassimatis 8/16
Jackie Pratte 8/18
Ria Meagher 8/20
Sue Fey 8/25
Lillian Krueger 8/27
Jack Cook 8/30

Editors Note: Please notify us if you or your spouse's birthday is missed or incorrect.

These ladies both play the piano and were interested to hear our band practice.

Marilyn and Bob Perkins, Jean Markivee's sister and brother-in-law, from Florida, visited our June 12 meeting and also helped with the picnic on June 16. Jean and Marilyn sang a duet during the picnic's open mic time.

A family from Bardda, India, visited on June 12. They had found our website and attended the practice and participated in the open mic session. They are **Mr. D. Lahiri, Dr. Surolshi Lahiri, Dr. Vikas Kumar,** and **Mrs. Gaya-try Lahiri.**

They are involved in a research program at Washington University. Mr. Lahiri



played "Akele Hain Chale Aao", a Hindi song and "Lara's Theme" (also called "Somewhere My Love") from the movie *Dr. Zhivago*. The family was quite friendly and spoke with many of our group. They seemed appreciative to find the harmonica club and shared interests.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

GHC extends a warm welcome to the following new members:

Proceso Arenos, Jr.
 510 Bitterfield Dr.
 Ballwin, MO 63011
 636-394-7924
 Spouse: Linda
parenos@cbnstl.com

Donn Hornberger
 5814 Minnesota
 St. Louis, MO 63111
 314-832-1241
 Spouse Charline
tipleddan@aol.com

Bryan D. Johnson
 4604 Meramec Blvd.
 Eureka, MO 63025
 Phone: 636-399-3879
bryandouglasjohnson@charter.net

Dan Kellermann
 325 W. Springfield Ave.
 Union, MO 63084
 636-583-3987
 Spouse: Mary

NEW ROSTER

An updated club roster has been made available. These can be picked up at any meeting or practice.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO US!!!

A 20th Year Anniversary booklet is in the works for the Gateway Harmonica Club and the target date for publication of this remembrance item is the end of the year. Members photos taken at the club meetings a year or so ago will be used, but anyone who has joined since that time should have a new photograph taken by Ernie Roberts. Also, it had been previously expressed that the biographies printed in past newsletters would be accumulated and reprinted all together in the same booklet. However, due to volume, this idea would not be feasible.

Please use a format similar to that shown below to organize your information for the booklet. Please include anything about yourself you would like to share, but limit to 10 lines (approximately 100 words.) If you do not return the form, we will ‘make up’ something for you. You may prefer to write your own!

Snapshots, photos and any pictures related to club events over the past 10 years are now being collected. Bring in any that you have. If media is on a disk (preferred) send to Joe Fey. Thanks for your cooperation. It will be a great remembrance to share.

Name
Family
Career/working/retired from
Harmonica beginnings and type you play
How you found out about the club
Other interests and hobbies/accomplishments

THE YEAR’S BEST (ACTUAL) HEADLINES OF 2004

Submitted by Carroll Markivee

Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says (imagine that!)

Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers (now that’s taking things a bit far!)

Panda Mating Fails, Veterinarian Takes Over (what a guy!)

Miners Refuse to Work after Death (no-good-for-nothin’ lazy so-and sos!)

Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant (see if that works any better than a fair trial)

War Dims Hope for Peace (I can see where it might have that effect!)

If Strike Isn’t Settled Quickly It May Last Awhile (you think?)

(continued on p .8)

SO WHAT’S NEW WITH YOU?

Members are always invited to submit articles of interest for this newsletter.

GATEWAY HARMONICA CLUB MEETS THE CIVIL WAR

By Ron Beer

John Maurath, director of library services for the Missouri Civil War Museum, has played harp at our rehearsal a time or two. A friend of Henry Gerfen, John had inquired about the club supplying a few harpers to interact at their annual Living History Civil War class for 2000 8th graders from the Rockwood School District.

The previous three years were presented at Babler State Park, but this year, for the first time ever, they were allowed to use Jefferson Barracks. This site is current with the military so there were some constraints, but nothing troublesome.

Our contingent included Buddy and Jessie Hirsch, Guy Vaccaro, Bill Dulin, Bob Norton, Ernie Roberts and myself (Ron Beer). The seven of us shared time, and made a hit with some of the students and especially some school staff.

Due to a short preparation time we worked from a list of 22 pre-1865 songs, some of which were identified as Civil War favorites.

The official program involved six units, each handling 1/16th of the daily 500 students on a rotation basis. We were asked to play as the students moved from one venue to another. Outside for day one, we did not make much noise,

but fanned out and played during the shifts. Due to rain the program was set up in an enormous mess hall which had a sound system. Here we played as the busses unloaded, and during their lunch (not the busses but the students). We received some appreciative remarks from staff, and at least one student. Because most of the pieces were short on bars and not too interesting without verse, we quickly went through our list and started over at the beginning.

The programs given were excellent. Areas of coverage included the Barracks, Artillery, Cavalry, Camp Life, Flag History and Medical challenges. All speakers were well informed and interesting. A pleasant extra was the presence of a 95+ year old son of a Civil War veteran. Daddy ran away from Kentucky to Missouri at age 15, unsympathetic to the southern concerns. He was retrieved by his father but snuck away again, joined the Army and survived. He fathered George at age 65. Mr. Williams was interesting to chat with, came all four days and seemed to enjoy the activity.

We may be included next year, in which case an expanded repertoire would be helpful. I have three CD's to listen to, and am aware of two print versions I hope to borrow. It was fun! Thanks to all who got involved.

WHERE'S ERNIE???

What has Ernie Roberts been doing since his retirement? One thing is teaching harmonica at the St. Louis Community Colleges and at the Gateway Harmonica Club pre-sessions. Thank you, Ernie.

Ernie, Ron Beer and Charlie Pratte have been donating their teachers' salary to the club. Thanks so much and a salute to these generous gents! In his spare time Ernie has been wondering what else to do so he has prepared his resume – read on . . .

Subject: My Resume...

1. My first job was working in an Orange Juice factory, but I got canned. I just couldn't concentrate!
2. Then I worked in the woods as a Lumberjack, but I just couldn't hack it, so I got the axe.
3. After that, I tried to be a Tailor, but I just wasn't suited for it -- mainly, because it was just a sew-sew job!
4. Next, I tried working in a Muffler Factory, but that was too exhausting.
5. Then, I tried to be a Chef - I figured it would add a little spice to my life, but I just didn't have the thyme!
6. I attempted to be a Deli Worker, but any way I sliced it, I couldn't cut the mustard!
7. My best job was as a Musician, but eventually I found I wasn't noteworthy.
8. I studied a long time to become a Doctor, but I didn't have any patience.
9. Next, was a job in a Shoe Factory. I tried but I just didn't fit.
10. I became a Professional Fisherman, but discovered that I couldn't live on the net income.
11. I managed to get a good job working for a Pool Maintenance Company, but the work became just too draining.
12. After many years of trying to find steady work, I finally got a job as a Historian - until I realized there was no future in it.
13. My last job was working in Starbucks, but I had to quit because it was always the same old grind.
14. SO, I TRIED RETIREMENT - AND FOUND THAT I'M PERFECT FOR THE JOB. Man, do I enjoy it !!!

Happy Trails to You!

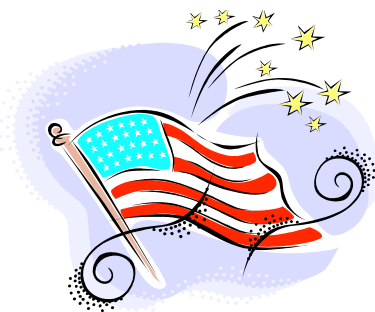
Ernie Roberts

LONG MAY IT WAVE!

Searching for a patriotic tune to commemorate the 4th of July, **Rich Krueger** came across the following song. He played along with a CD and was surprised to hear so many men singing the words. Rich said he had never heard the song before. It was one of the country's most popular war songs of 1942 and hit over three million sales in records and sheet music sales. The song was recorded by several 'country' artists, including Hank Snow and Elton Britt.

Country Music's Biggest Hit During The World War II Era

One of the most popular war songs... is Paul Roberts and Shelby Darnell's (Bob Miller) "There's a Star-Spangled Banner Waving Somewhere" (1942). The "somewhere" of the title appears to have a couple of references: it seems to signify heaven, for, as the lyrics state, only the great heroes of Uncle Sam get to go there. The narrator states he'll see Lincoln, Custer, Washington, Perry, "Nathan Hale and Colin Kelley [a recent air ace] too!" This nicely unites the sense of transcendence with the sacrifice of the patriots. Later we discover that the narrator is "crippled," but he wants to "bring the Axis down a peg" and be a hero. If that happens, he will be assured a place in "that heaven" where



the Star-Spangled Banner is waving. The somewhere could also signify the country itself or any part of the free world. In the second stanza, he talks of the "mad schemes of destruction" unleashed on "sweet liberty" by dictators. He adds that he is willing to die to "be a free American" and wherever that Star-Spangled Banner is waving is where he wants to be living when his time to die is at hand.

With Bob Miller, it's either hillbilly or it isn't, and no compromises. He tries to confine his offerings to authentic outlets, and this has caused him some embarrassment. When 'There's A Star-Spangled Banner Waving Somewhere' hit its third million in record and sheet music sales, Miller inserted an ad in Variety asking big-name band leaders 'not' to play it, please. And when the song made the Hit Parade he threatened to sue if it was played. He explains that his reputation as a writer and publisher was at stake. This music, he insists, must have the common touch. It is violated unless done by a true son of the soil, one to the manner born.... To streamline such a number is, says Miller, to break faith with his clientele.

* Text compiled from various internet sources.

"There's a Star-Spangled Banner Waving Somewhere" (1942)

Paul Roberts and Shelby Darnell's (Bob Miller)

*There's a Star-Spangled Banner waving somewhere
In a distant land so many miles away.
Only Uncle Sam's great heroes get to go there
Where I wish that I could also live some day.
I'd see Lincoln, Custer, Washington and Perry,
And Nathan Hale and Colin Kelly, too.
There's a Star-Spangled Banner waving somewhere,
Waving o'er the land of heroes brave and true.
In this war with its mad schemes of destruction
Of our country fair and our sweet liberty,
By the mad dictators, leaders of corruption,
Can't the U. S. use a mountain boy like me?*

*God gave me the right to be a free American,
And for that precious right I'd gladly die.
There's a Star-Spangled Banner waving somewhere,
That is where I want to live when I die.
Though I realize I'm crippled, that is true, sir,
Please don't judge my courage by my twisted leg.
Let me show my Uncle Sam what I can do, sir,
Let me help to bring the Axis down a peg.
If I do some great deed I will be a hero,
And a hero brave is what I want to be.
There's a Star-Spangled Banner waving somewhere,
In that heaven there should be a place for me.*

REMEMBER: FREEDOM IS NOT FREE

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

Nothing worthwhile comes easily. Half effort does not produce half results, it produces no results. Work, continuous and hard work, is the only way to accomplish results that last. — Hamilton Holt

People who are really failures are the people who set their standards so low, keep the bar at such a safe level, that they never run the risk of failure. —Robert Schuller

We must all wage an intense, lifelong battle against the constant downward pull. If we relax, the bugs and weeds of negativity will move into the garden (of our lives) and take away everything of value. —Jim Rohn

We Get Letters . . .

Hi Fellow GHC members:

Our son Andrew returned to Iraq on May 8 after a 2-week break in Harker Heights, TX, during which time his youngest daughter Catherine celebrated her 1st birthday - and we also flew to TX to see him and family for a few days. Back in Iraq - May was a bad month for the US troops - and two days before Andrew was due to return to Iraq he learned that his Staff Sergeant had been killed. But very recently - as in last week - there has been a turnround in tactics - at least in the town of Amariyah where Andrew is deployed. Basically, the 'basic' Iraqis are fed up with the insurgents and want to get a life. This interview with Andrew - appeared in a TX paper at the following web address - explains what is what. But, as he clearly points out - it is difficult to tell an Iraqi from an Iraqi!

<http://www.star-telegram.com/news/story/127007.html>

and this article appeared in the Washington Post:

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/19103676/>

Hope you find these articles interesting - and please keep Andrew and his family in your prayers.

Cheers.

Tony

To the Gateway Harmonica Club:

On behalf of the Filipino-American Society, Inc. I would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to Gateway Harmonica Club for providing the music at Dinner time at the Banquet last May 19, 2007 which was held at Kirkwood Community Center.

Many attendees and members of the organization enjoyed the harmonica music. Many of them were surprised to see the many different shapes and sizes of harmonicas.

Personally, I thank you for accommodating the Banquet in the club's schedule.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Pangilinan

Robert Pangilinan, President

To the Gateway Harmonica Club:

Acknowledgement of your memorial gift in memory of Peg Davis was directed to the Building Fund and is gratefully accepted by Cornerstone United Methodist Church.

From: D B. Lahiri [mailto:d_lahiri@rediffmail.com]

To: Jim

Subject: Tuesday meeting

Dear Mr. Jim Melchers,

Looks like I will not be able to make it to the Tuesday evening meeting. The good news is that, my daughter presented me with an M. Hohner, Piedmont Blues Harmonica Set of 7 Harmonicas on Father's Day!

At the church, last Tuesday, I had received a list of members. Today, I had hoped to arrive with my camera and take some pictures. Since that's not likely to be, I wondered whether you have a group photo wherefrom I can fit in the faces, that I recollect, against their names on the list, perhaps from a previous Newsletter.

I wish you all Goodbye with the Best wishes for a happy and fruitful continuance of your association, The Gateway Harmonica Club -

Three Cheers ! I will keep in touch through your mail address and your website.

Thanks for everything!

D.Lahiri

We Send Letters . . .

From: "Jim Melchers" <jmelchers@cambridge-eng.com>

To: "D B. Lahiri" <d_lahiri@rediffmail.com>

Subject: RE: Gateway Harmonica Club

Dear Mr. D.B.Lahiri,

I'm sorry that you were not able to visit again before you left, I was looking forward to hearing another of your songs from home.

I'm glad to hear that you were able to get your blues harmonicas. We'll expect some tunes in the blues style on your next visit. There are some good internet instruction sites for basic blues techniques. If you think that would be helpful let me know and I can send you some links.

Here is a link to a picture that we have posted on our website:

<http://gatewayharmonicaclub.org/picture.htm>

I have also attached a copy that is a higher resolution. If you need some help tying names to faces let me know.

You also may find it interesting to look through our old newsletters online for pictures and biographies of members:

<http://gatewayharmonicaclub.org/newsletter.htm>

You may want to come back and check that out later, I wouldn't be surprised to see your own smiling faces in the next issue. I'll see if Joe Fey will add you to the list of people notified when a new edition is posted.

Hope you had a safe trip back home. Maybe you can start your own association and pass along a similar experience in your own country. If there's anything we can do for you let us know.

Hope to see you again sometime,

Jim

GHC Events Calendar

WEEKLY EVENTS

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

6:00 PM - Blues Group, led by Louse Cook and Ed Cenatiempo — Everyone welcome

7:00 PM - First Tuesday of month: Business Meeting — Everyone welcome

All other Tuesdays: Band Rehearsal — Everyone welcome

8:00 PM - Open Mic — Everyone welcome

PERFORMANCES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

A schedule of upcoming Gateway Harmonica Club performances and special events is distributed monthly at our business meeting. For the most current schedule, including maps and customized driving directions, go to www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org/calendar

June 16, 2007

A Day To Remember on Markivee's Mountain



HEADLINES *(from p. 4)*

- Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures (who would have thought!)
- Enfield (London) Couple Slain; Police Suspect Homicide (they may be on to something)
- Red Tape Holds up New Bridges (you mean there's something stronger than duct tape?)
- Man Struck By Lightning, Faces Battery Charge (he probably IS the battery charge!)
- New Study of Obesity Looks for Larger Test Group (weren't they fat enough?)
- Astronaut Takes Blame for Gas in Spacecraft (that's what he gets for eating those beans!)
- Kids Make Nutritious Snacks (tastes like chicken?)
- Local High School Dropouts Cut in Half (chainsaw massacre all over again)
- Hospitals are Sued by Seven Foot Doctors (boy, are they tall!)

STARTING YOUNG

Three-year old Elizabeth Wilbraham, eldest daughter of CPT Andrew and Jennifer Wilbraham of Texas, enjoys an impromptu harmonica session with her Granddad



(Tony Wilbraham). She holds the instrument with such graceful poise! Elizabeth really liked the sound of the Echo Harp but she also tried her hand (or rather her mouth) at the chromatic and diatonic models from her Granddad's

collection. Elizabeth is now the proud owner of a Blues Band Harmonica from the world famous Cracker Barrel Collection which she sometimes blows when she speaks to us on the telephone."

Submitted by A. C. Wilbraham

(Tony's friends interpret his initials as Alternating Current – sorry, couldn't resist!)

