



The REEDER

Please visit us on the Internet at www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org

NEWS AND VIEWS

by Mary Ann Love

SPAH '08 Convention Planning

On February 12, 2008, Elizabeth Atkison (SPAH Secretary, Convention Coordinator) and LJ Atkison (Chairman of SPAH Advisory Committee and 2nd Vice President of SPAH) from the Harmonica Club of Greater Kansas City (MO) met with several of the SPAH planning committee from the Gateway Harmonica Club (Bill Dulin, Joe Fey, Frank Davis, Bill & Sharon Davis, Mary Ann Love) along with Mendi Zellner (Convention Services Manager, Sheraton Westport Hotels) to review, discuss and finalize some of the August '08 SPAH convention plans and arrangements. The committee toured the convention and seminar rooms and spaces, facilities, and other function areas.



Elizabeth and LJ joined the GHC practice meeting that same evening and shared their knowledge of preparations and duties and elaborated on the reorganization of SPAH. SPAH is becoming even more multi-faceted with adding "Young At Harp" (Kaleena Hutchins, Chairman); "Harmonicas and Health" (Dr. Victor SungHee Yun, Public Health Specialist); a new Harmonica Happenings editor (JP Pagán); new webmaster (Bob

Cohen); and other appointments including Joe Fey joining the SPAH Hotel Liaison Committee. They explained that a template guide is being developed for assignments of future SPAH conventions so that the "wheel does not have to be reinvented" each time.

The Atkisons were excellent communicators and advised the St. Louis group of our specific roles and were very gracious in answering any questions. They also joined in the open mic session and visited with club members.

Commemorative Booklet

We have received many compliments on the 20-year anniversary booklet. If you have not had the opportunity to purchase one, we are offering to mail them out. The cost is \$5.00 plus \$1.50 each for envelope and postage. Make your check out to The Gateway Harmonica Club and *(Continued on page 2)*

From the President



I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for electing me to be your president for the next two years. Mary Ann Love will indeed be a hard act to follow. She did a superb job. This will be a learning experience for me and I will rely on other members for help. Hosting SPAH this year will be a big challenge (among others) and with your help I believe we can meet all of these challenges successfully. If anyone has anything to discuss at the business meetings please let me know and I will include them in the agenda. We have one of the best harmonica clubs in the United States and it is my goal to maintain that position.

Bill Dulin



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:

Jessie Hirsch, Treasurer
47 Orchard Lane
Kirkwood, MO 63122
(314) 821-8651
e-mail: lov24get@aol.com

For information about club activities, contact:

Bill Dulin, President
4985 Seibert Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63123
(314) 752-9909
e-mail: imafosi@att.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

Happy Birthday!!!

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

March

Sesto Steiven 3/02
Glenda Warren 3/03
Elizabeth
Ampleman 3/06
Simon Abcouwer 3/10
Bob Provart 3/15
Judy Beer 3/25
Leta Provart 3/28

April

Sal Miano 4/04
Larry Radford 4/10
Henry Gerfen 4/13
Marie Roberts 4/19
Ralph Barber 4/24
Scott Campbell 4/24
Elizabeth Atkison 4/30

Editor's Note: Please notify us if your or your spouse's birthday is missing or incorrect.

NEWS AND VIEWS *(from page 1)*

mail to Jessie Hirsch, Treasurer, 47 Orchard Lane, Kirkwood, MO 63122.

Banquet Cancellation

At the February business meeting it was voted to forego the annual GHC banquet due to cost, restrictions, and available timeframe. It was decided to concentrate on a spring picnic and the upcoming SPAH convention in August in addition to all of the regular practice meetings and gigs.

Dues Reminder

Now is the time to get current with your GHC dues. Regular Members are \$10.00. Your dues helps to cover the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter. Checks preferred but we will not refuse cash. Please bring your dues payment to any club meeting or mail to Jessie Hirsch, Treasurer, 47 Orchard Lane, Kirkwood, MO 63122.

Get Well Wishes are extended for successful recovering of Marie Roberts, Mary Pangilinan, and Betty Ford, who broke her toe. Geza Dombi is suffering from an aggravating case of shingles. The Gateway Harmonica Club sends greetings to all.

Condolences are extended to Louise Cook and family on the loss of Darlene Snyder, Louise's Sister-In-Law and companion on their usual winter excursions to Florida.

Congratulations to Bob Norton and Sal Miano who recently became GHC Lifetime Members!

Welcome to our newest member . . .

Samuel W. Hardy
7603 Maryland Ave.
Clayton, MO 63105
314-863-5122
Email: HardySW@AOL.com

Musings from Melbourne

Kaleena Hutchins lives in the small town of Melbourne, Arkansas. Here are some of her reflections on her home town.

“My town is a great place to live, but I wouldn’t want to visit there.

My town is so small they held a marathon and everyone had to run in place.

Third Street is on the edge of town.

When you dial a wrong number, you go ahead and talk for fifteen minutes anyway.

The policeman, principal and barber are the same man.

We don’t use turn signals because everyone knows where you are going.

When a baby is born on June 13 it receives gifts from merchants for being the first baby of the year.

Be careful making love in the country because corn has ears, potatoes have eyes, and the beans stalk.”

Other nearby towns: Calico Rock, Evening Shade, Horseshoe Bend, Ozarka, Violet Hill, Mount Pleasant: all in Izard County.”

GHC Calendar Updates

We have resumed listing calendar events in the REEDER, although only the current three- or four-months are included as space permits. (See pages 7 and 8 of this issue.) A printed calendar update will be distributed each month at the business meetings

For those members with Internet access, a complete up-to-the minute calendar is available online. This online calendar has been accessible for some time but is now even easier to get through the GHC website. Just go to www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org/calendar.pdf and you will be linked to the new calendar, displayed in a conventional month-by-month calendar format. You can navigate from month to month by clicking on the Last Month and Next Month arrows at the top. When you click on an individual event, a window opens to show a full description of the event name, address and driving directions.

For those who have email and like street maps to the gig locations, check your in-box for messages that will also give you a Google map link for upcoming events.

Recent Gigs

Happy Birthday to Von Rhey Ford

On Sunday, February 17, 2008 five members of the Gateway Harmonica Club, Frank Davis, Joe Fey, Buddy Hirsch, Ron Beer and Bill Dulin, went to the home of Von Rhey Ford’s daughter to help celebrate his



90th birthday. Von Rhey is a long-time member of the Gateway Harmonica Club but is unable to attend meetings regularly since he has given up driving. The birthday party

included many of Von Rhey’s family. A full performance was given by the club members and was enjoyed by everyone. After the performance the club members were invited to stay for a late lunch.

Delmar Gardens North

Sunday, February 24 found GHC back for an appearance at Delmar Gardens North, one of twelve sites in the St. Louis area’s Delmar Gardens/Garden Villas family of senior care facilities. Our performance seemed well appreciated by the residents and guests, as well as one small dog, who scampered merrily around the room and added his voice to the concert. In addition to the applause, we were treated to ice cream afterward.



No man thinks there is much ado about nothing when the ado is about himself.

- Anthony Trollope – Novelist

Background/Accompaniment CD's for Solo Harmonica Players

by *Carroll Markivee*

I don't know how each harmonica player wants his/her open mike number to sound – some enjoy the sound of just the harmonica itself – that beautiful, almost wistful, tone that can only be created by this wonderful instrument – and maybe they feel it is better by itself without accompaniment.

Some want a chord player and/or bass player to accompany them with a number.

Although the chord and bass players always try to accommodate a soloist, there are times when the result is a compromise, sometimes with several gaps causing the player to start the song over, or skip a portion of the song. I can't play a chord harmonica, but if I could, I'm sure that I wouldn't always know what chords to play for any given song on short notice.

Of course, the good fellowship of the members always appreciates anything, anybody does.

I am offering to make background CD's for any harmonica player in the club who wants to use one at open mike. I can probably do one or two per week, so if the response is big, there may be a waiting list – but the price is right (free) – and I am willing to make one modification if the first one needs improvement.

All I need from you to start with is the sheet music, or a reasonable facsimile – and if you don't have it, I have lots

of sheet music going back a few years (like 70) and a collection of 'fake' books with a melody line and accompanying chord names. From these it may be possible

to make a CD that sounds good to you. I can change tempo & key – and besides the CD, I will give you a written sheet of music with chord names above each line.

In some situations I may want to play it for you over the phone before I record it on a CD, so you can see if you like it. You'll get 2 versions of the song – one with the melody and one without, and you can use either version at your open mike session.



There are several advantages to you:

- 1) Having a custom made CD gives you a chance to practice with a band to good steady rhythm and with solid chords behind you.
- 2) This will increase your confidence and help to make you an even better player .
- 3) You will get a better music 'fix' that week, as one member put it.

So if you would like a CD accompaniment, let me know what music you want and how you want it. Maybe something good will come of it.

Carroll Markivee.

Editors Note: Thanks, Carroll, this is a very generous offer and I'm sure some of the members will keep you busy

Buckeye Harmonica Festival 2008

Our 32nd Anniversary 1976 - 2008

April 2 - 5, 2008

University Plaza Hotel

3110 Olentangy River Road, Columbus, Ohio 43202

614-267-7461 • www.universityplazaosu.com

Special Festival Room Rate: \$92 per night (+ Tax)

Festival Registration Fee: \$120

To download complete information including Schedule and list of entertainers, go to our website:

www.buckeyeharmonica.org

WHAT IS SPAH?

SPAH is an organization whose objective is to preserve and respect the colorful past of the harmonica, while advancing its acceptance, in all its many forms, as a bona fide musical instrument. Among the membership are individuals and entire families, accomplished musicians as well as beginners, and people of all ages. Many members have played or do play the harmonica professionally. Their music styles, ranging through Country, Blues, Popular and Classical, can be enjoyed via recordings or live performances.



The many benefits of SPAH will be available to you as a member. You are welcome to join SPAH regardless of playing ability or style. SPAH also welcomes members who just like to listen to harmonica music. You will be joining people from around the world to preserve and advance the harmonica. For more information on SPAH, visit our website at www.spah.org.

Join SPAH - The Society for the Preservation and Advancement of the Harmonica

What SPAH does:

- * Sponsors an annual International Harmonica Convention featuring classes, entertainment by professional harmonica players, and camaraderie
- * Distributes information on harmonicas and harmonica playing
- * Recognizes and honors those who preserve and advance the harmonica
- * Encourages the formation of local harmonica clubs
- * Supports groups organizing harmonica conventions
- * Maintains a website at www.spah.org
- * Sponsors an online harmonica discussion group and an online harmonica club news service

Member benefits:

- * Subscription to Harmonica Happenings, quarterly magazines with harmonica news from around the world including seminar and convention listings, articles on playing techniques, repairs, harmonica clubs and famous harmonica players and groups, and information on recently released recordings and harmonica products.
- * Discounts on SPAH's annual International Harmonica Convention.

So now that you know, WHY NOT BECOME A MEMBER TODAY?

NEW MEMBER SPAH APPLICATION

NAME _____ BIRTH DATE _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE (____) _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ E-MAIL _____

COUNTRY (if other than USA) _____

CLUB NAME _____ CITY _____ ST _____

I Play These Harmonicas: Other Harmonica-Related Activities:

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diatonic | <input type="checkbox"/> Chromatic | <input type="checkbox"/> Chord | <input type="checkbox"/> Compose | <input type="checkbox"/> Arrange |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bass | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Teach | <input type="checkbox"/> Collect Harmonicas | |

Enclose \$35 for individual membership or \$50 for Family. U.S. funds only, made payable to SPAH, Inc. Mail to: Membership Director, SPAH, Inc., P.O. Box 865, Troy, MI 48099-0865. If you prefer, you can fill out the membership form and pay your membership fee using a credit card by logging onto the SPAH website: www.spah.org.

Letters . . .

To: Gateway Harmonica Club

From: 100 Neediest Cases

(Co-Sponsored by St. Louis Post-Dispatch and the United Way of Greater St. Louis)

Dear Friends at Gateway Harmonica Club,

Thank you for the generous gift of \$400 contributed to our 100 *Neediest Cases* 2007 campaign. For 85 years, our program has collected cash and gifts-in-kind to help make the December holidays happier for those in need.

Each year more than 10,000 families in need receive help from the *100 Neediest Cases* program. Your generous contribution will help make the holiday season a joyous one for thousands of people in the St. Louis region.

The *100 Neediest Cases* is special for many reasons, including our all-volunteer staff who works hard to implement this worthy program. But the foremost reason is you. Thank you for helping make a positive impact on families in need.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Wayne, Director

To: Gateway Harmonica Club

From: Cardinal Glennon Children's Foundation

The entire Cardinal Glennon Children's Medical Center family joins me in thanking you for your recent gift of \$400.00. For your records a receipt is enclosed.

Your gift, combined with that of others, helps assure that Glennon will enter its 52nd year a strong vibrant organization committed to its mission of serving all children without regard to family circumstances and with the compassion that has been the Glennon hallmark for over five decades. By year end, Cardinal Glennon will have touched the lives of over 250,000 children. On their behalf, thank you again for adding your strength to ours. Be assured of our intent to be worthy of your continued support.

Sincerely,

Jim Orsund, Executive Vice President

To: Gateway Harmonica Club

From: Shriners Hospitals for Children

Dear Friends:

For over 80 years, we have been providing outstanding orthopedic care, completely free of charge, because of generous friends, nationwide, like you. We feel very fortunate that you share in our concern for treating and rehabilitating children with special orthopedic needs. On behalf of the Board of Governors, staff and patients of Shriners Hospitals for Children-St. Louis, we would like to

express our sincere appreciation for your generous contribution of \$400.00. Be assured that your donation will make a big difference in the lives of our children.

Our records indicate that the total amount contributed to your account entitles you to a Gold Book Certificate, enclosed with this letter, and a place in our Gold Book, located in the hospital lobby.

Sincerely,

John O'Shaughnessy, Administrator

To: Gateway Harmonica Club

From: The Salvation Army

Thank you for your generous donation of \$400 to The Salvation Army 2007 Tree of Lights Campaign. Please accept my thanks for making a difference in the lives of our neighbors and friends this season.

You could have chosen to use your money in a variety of other ways but you chose to help others through The Salvation Army. Your act of compassion will not be forgotten. Our families and all of us at The Salvation Army thank you for joining us in "Doing The Most Good."

May God bless you,

Lonnel Richardson, Major
St. Louis City Commander

The above letters were received to acknowledge the contributions from the Gateway Harmonica Club year-end donations. This is what the Gateway Harmonica Club is all about. First of all, enjoyment of playing the harmonica, entertaining at various events and spreading the joy of music to shut-ins; and, also, the benevolent sharing of the proceeds. Thank you, everyone, for making these donations possible and for your involvement in the Gateway Harmonica Club. We try to send the contributions to worthy St. Louis charities and they are truly appreciated.



IRISH BLESSING

May the road rise to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face.
And rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the hollow of His hand.

May you live as long as you want,
And never want as long as you live.
Always remember to forget
The things that made you sad.
But never forget to remember
The things that made you glad.

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

Listed below are the performances and special events scheduled for the current 4-month period. For the most up-to-date calendar of all GHC events, go to www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org/calendar.pdf. Links to Google maps will be sent via email as the individual dates approach.

- 3/6/2008 (Thu) 2:45 PM — Tesson Heights Senior Living Community, 12335 West Bend Dr, St Louis, MO 63128. From I-270 going south east, exit at Tesson Ferry (Hwy 21). At the light turn right and go a block to West Bend Dr. Turn right and a short distance later turn right into their driveway. This location is very near St. Anthony Hospital.
- 3/12/2008 (Wed) 2:00 PM — Mary Culvert Home for Visually Impaired, 221 W. Washington Ave., Kirkwood, MO 63122. One way to get there is from I-270. Exit on Manchester Rd. going east. Follow to Lindbergh Blvd (Kirkwood Rd.) and turn right (south). Go about 1-1/2 miles to W. Washinton Ave. Turn right and follow to 221.
- 3/29/2008 (Sat) 10:00 AM — Children's beginner class: Brentwood Parks and Recreation, 2505 South Brentwood Blvd., Brentwood, MO 63144.
- 4/3/2008 (Thu) 2:30 PM — Garden Villas South, 13457 Tesson Ferry Rd., St. Louis, MO 63128: From I-270, go west (some say south) on Tesson Ferry Rd. about 3 miles. At the stop light, at Suson Hills Rd., take a right. Make another right at Butler Hill Rd. , which is a short distance away. Then follow the signs to the Villas.
- 4/5/2008 (Sat) 10:00 AM — Children's beginner class, Brentwood Parks and Recreation, 2505 South Brentwood Blvd., Brentwood, MO 63144.
- 4/9/2008 (Wed) 1:30 PM: Weber Rd. Branch, St. Louis County Library, 4444 Weber Rd., Afton, MO 63123 -- From I-270 go east on Hwy 30 (Gravois Rd.), pass Sappington Rd., pass South Rock Hill Rd. (Tesson Fery Rd) to Weber Rd. Take a right and travel about a mile. The Library is on the right.
- 4/12/2008 (Sat) 10:00 AM — Children's beginner class, Brentwood Parks and Recreation, 2505 South Brentwood Blvd., Brentwood, MO 63144.
- 4/28/2008 (Mon) 10:30 AM — Lafayette Older Adult Party, Ballwin Country Club, 333 Holloway Rd., Ballwin, MO 63031. From Woods Mill Rd. exit onto Manchester Rd. going west for a couple of miles. Holloway road is on the right. Follow Holloway Rd for a couple of miles to the entrance to Ballwin Country Club on the left.
- 5/3/2008 (Sat) 11:00 AM — St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 406 Hillsboro Ave., Edwardsville, IL 62025. From I-270 going east, cross over the bridge to Illinois. Get on I-255 going North. At the next exit get off on Poag Rd. Go North about 5 miles. You will pass two stop lights and at the third light (N. Buchanan St.) turn left. You will see St. Boniface Catholic Church on the corner. Continue to the end of the block to St. Andrew's. where you make a left turn off Vandalia (the third light) onto N. Buchanan, is St. Boniface and not St. Barnabus - close - but no cigar. At the end of the block is Hillsboro Ave - and St Andrew's Church is on the right at that junction.

(Continued on page 8)

GHC EVENTS CALENDAR *(continued from page 7)*

- 5/7/2008 (Wed) 2:00 PM — Our Lady of the Snows Apartment Community, 726 Community Drive, Bellville, IL 62223-- One way to get there is to take I-270 over the Jefferson Barracks Bridge to Illinois I-255 going north. Stay on I-255 for about 5 miles.and exit on Hwy 15 going east. Go about 1/2 mile to the entrance to Our Lady of the Snows. Turn right and at the fork in the road, bear left and go to the top of the hill. We will be playing in the auditorium.
- 5/22/2008 (Thu) 2:30 PM — Garden Villas North, 4505 Parker Rd., Florissant, MO 63033: From I-270 going east, exit onto New Halls Ferry Rd. At the light, at the end of ramp, turn left (north) and follow about 1-1/2 miles to Parker Rd. Turn right on Parker and follow about one mile. Garden Villa is on the left.
- 6/13/2008 (Fri) 2:00 PM — St. John's Skilled Nursing Center, 12120 Conway Rd.--St. Louis, MO 63141. Because Hwy. 40 will be closed for a year beginning January, 2 2008, I'm not sure just how to get there at this time. I'm thinking that if you take I-270 and get off at Olive Blvd. going east, you can turn south on Ballas Rd and go to Conway Rd. The nursing home is across the street from the hospital.
- 6/18/2008 (Wed) 9:30 AM — Midwest Bank Centre Horizon Club, 2191 Lemay Ferry Rd., St. Louis, MO 63125 (corner of Lemay Ferry and Reavis Barracks Roads)

'Time is a great storyteller' - Irish Proverb



GATEWAY HARMONICA CLUB
14650 Baraton Drive
Florissant, MO 63034