



# The REEDER

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

## NEWS AND VIEWS

by Mary Ann Love

### Pizza Party

On October 7 the members and spouses enjoyed a pizza party after the business meeting as an acknowledgement of the entire club pitching in to make the St. Louis hosting the SPAH Convention (August 2008) a great success. Thank you to all who brought drinks, salads, and desserts.



It was a pleasure to meet several spouses: Faye Anders, Rosemary Hardy, and Mary Carol Kluesner. We hope to see these lovely ladies again at future get-togethers.

### Christmas Party

The annual Christmas Party will be held on Tuesday, December 2, at the Rock Hill Baptist Church. Bring a delectable party food and a \$5.00 gift for exchange (if you wish). This will be the only notice so mark it on your calendar. After the December business meeting of the club members, the harmonica players will join in. This is always a fun time to meet the other ladies, and we welcome any new member spouses.



### Travelers

Sharon and Bill Davis enjoyed a long weekend in Branson, Missouri.

Mary Ann Love travelled to New York for an extended weekend.

Frank Davis visited Houston, Texas.

Buddy and Jessie hit the jackpot in Vegas.

*If anyone would like to share their travelling experiences or have visited places of interest, please submit your commentary to the editor.*

### Christine in Concert

On September 21, 2008, Christine Pondo presented a Polish music program, sponsored by the Polish American Cultural Society, at the Steinway Gallery on Dorsett Road.

Chris opened the program by playing harmonica favorites of Polish folk tunes. Chris played some polkas, cheering songs, and Polish marching tunes. Some of the numbers were accompanied by Chris' lovely soprano voice and she also encouraged audience participation. She gave a little lesson on some of the pronunciation and offered an invitation to sing-a-long.



The last four numbers were piano solos by Chris to honor Poland's greatest composer, Frederic Chopin: Minute Waltz, a Mazurka Op6, No 1, Polonaise Op 40, No 2, and Nocturne Op 9, No 1.

Chris dressed in ethnic costume and was very charming and composed. The many hours of preparation and practice were evident. Her talent and presentation were commendable.

### Wedding Bells

Congratulations to GHC members **Thelma Black** and **Geza Dombi** on their wedding on September 26. Bill Dulin and Rich Krueger serenaded them with "Here Comes The Bride" at the Pizza Party on October 7. Best Wishes are extended to the happy couple from the entire Gateway Harmonica Club.



*(continued on page 3)*

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

## Happy Birthday!!!

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



### November

Louis Drinen	11/9
Marlin Woodring	11/11
Arpad deKallos	11/12
Leo Kluesner	11/16
Dan Welsch	11/24
Faye Anders	11/25
Stan Musial	11/27
Wendy Wilbraham	11/29

### December

Bill Mann	12/8
Audria Gebhardt	12/9
Rosemary Hardy	12/9
Ed Cenatiempo	12/10
Rudy Michelin	12/11
Melba Lackey	12/13
Shirley Perez	12/17
Jean Markivee	12/21
Gloria Cochran	12/22
Joe Fey	12/24
Mary Carol Kluesner	12/26
Ernst Hackmann	12/27
Chris Pondo	12/29
Elva Bottchen	12/31

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

## KIDS' CLASS (by Ron Beer)

Due to a major upset of the rehearsal area on the extra class night, I was still moving furniture when the families began to arrive. The planned space was not ready and while I tried to check in the guests, it quickly got ahead of me. With help from Bill Dulin and Audria Gebhardt, the class did get underway and we covered the basics and went on to play a number of songs in the workbook. We had a number of puzzled students which is not different from the Wakefield sessions, and parents were super at coaching some of the younger kids. Several students who are involved in piano, brass or woodwind lessons picked up very quickly but I think had fun with the one octave harp.

I had confirmation for about 16 students, however we handed out 26 kits. Some of the names were familiar but there had been no reply to my outreach. As it turned out, I started the class without having full attendance registered so I know we did pretty good numerically but am not certain who all turned up.

Several advanced students expressed interest in advancing with a more sophisticated harp and I requested of one of the dads that he get back to me with a list of those wanting to go further. He had brought three brothers who were quite good. When I have completed this program I will get back to him. I say "completed" because a number of families were not available Tuesday evening and I checked with the church about Wed. afternoon and got a clear go ahead. Because of scheduled Community College classes I decided to hold on the final class. There are 13 kits available, and I want to give as many of the extras as possible the chance to experience this program.

The program went pretty well, but it was challenging getting the large group settled in.

*Ron would like to thank any other club members who gave a helping hand with this project.*

**NEWS AND VIEWS** (from page 1)**Condolences**

The Gateway Harmonica Club extends our condolences to Marlin Woodring on the recent loss of his wife, Carmen. Although we never had the pleasure of meeting her, due to illness, Woody Woodring was a conscientious and compassionate caregiver for the past years.

Woody sent a card with photos of Carmen to the club expressing "The family of Carmen Woodring gratefully acknowledges your kind and comforting expressions of sympathy."

May she rest in peace and may Woody find comfort in his memories and friendships at the club.

**Get-Well Wishes**

We wish the following members a successful and speedy recovery from their various confinements: Leo Kluesner – pacemaker; Bob Norton – rotator surgery; Jean Markivee – sprained ankle; Sal Miano – underwent open heart surgery at Christian North East Hospital; and Frank Muriel – congestive heart failure and several heart attacks. Frank welcomes your telephone calls.

Let us keep them in our daily devotions.

**Welcome New Members**

George R. Garrett  
2814 Hilly Haven,  
St. Louis, MO 63129  
314-846-9420  
[mooneyn6480U@aol.com](mailto:mooneyn6480U@aol.com)

Robert L. Sandefur  
585 Hilltop Townes Dr.  
Eureka, MO 63025-1059  
636-933-5310

**Web Master**

Thanks to Jim Melchers, who has updated our website: [www.GatewayHarmonicaClub.org](http://www.GatewayHarmonicaClub.org) with a resized photo of our Smilin' Faces, as well as other current information. One of the changes is the increase of annual dues, which will be raised to \$15 beginning January 1, 2009. If anyone would care to become a Lifetime Member, the

charge will be \$100 until January 1, and will then increase to \$150. These changes are necessary to keep up with the costs of postage and printing, etc. The website also gives an overview of the club's purpose and objective. Also listed are the tunes of the various volumes of recorded CD's. A few sound clips may be enjoyed.

**New Calendar**

Website: [www.GatewayHarmonicaClub.org/calendar](http://www.GatewayHarmonicaClub.org/calendar) lists the current scheduled gig performances, classes and special events. Clicking on an entry will provide a detailed description of the time, place, and directions. There is also a link to a map and other details. See page 8 for further details on how to navigate. Thanks to Joe Fey for his dedicated effort in keeping this calendar for our convenience.

**Harmonica Auction**

Leta Provart donated Bob Provart's collection of harmonicas to the club and an auction netted \$228 to be added to the general funds. Bob's harps will be a sentimental remembrance to those lucky folks who now hold them. Bob was a special person and had a special tone that was admired by all.

**You Tube**

GHC President, Bill Dulin, can be found on YouTube SCX-56 playing *The Girl From Ipanema* on his new Suzuki SCX-56 chromatic harmonica. Bill especially likes Brazilian tunes and plays them very well at open mic.

**Uniform Change:**

The uniform to be worn at gig performances as of November 1, 2008 will be long sleeved white shirt with black pants and shoes, and the club's red vest. If you would like to purchase a vest, please contact Jessie Hirsch, Treasurer, for information and ordering.

**Christmas Music:**

The Christmas season is fast approaching, and this is a reminder to bring your Christmas music to practice. Several organizations have scheduled our club's performance for parties, and we want to be practiced, proud, and perfect!

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**“Whether you think you can,  
or whether you think you can't,  
you're right.”  
Henry Ford**

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## GHC CONNECTIONS: FROM DOWN HOME . . . AND ACROSS THE WATER

### Kaleena Hutchins

Here's an excerpt from an article in the October 2 issue of the *Batsville (Arkansas) Daily Guard*, submitted by Christine Pondo.



MELBOURNE — Kaleena Hutchins, 17, of Melbourne was a runner-up in the Mid-South Fair Youth Talent Contest Sept. 21-28.

Hutchins, a senior at Melbourne High School, was one of 3,156 applicants who competed for a chance to be invited.

Of that number, 380 were accepted in the competition.

Hutchins went to Cordova, Tenn., in June and qualified. Other preliminaries were in Kentucky, Texas, Arkansas, Missouri, Mississippi and Alabama. Additional preliminaries were held at the beginning of the fair. The grand finals were held Sunday at the Mid-South Fairgrounds in Memphis.

Hutchins was one of the 20 acts advancing to the final round. She performed "Orange Blossom Special" using two harmonicas. She was named the first sweepstakes winner and as such won \$1,500.

### Patrick Gannon

A notice in the Quincy Herald Whig (IL) newspaper prompted Rich Krueger to attend a festival at Monroe City (MO) featuring PJ Gannon on October 18. Rich shares the following review:

"PJ Gannon performed with his daughter, Eileen, who played the Irish Harp and was excellent. He played diatonic, straight and well and used a tremelo harmonica. The harmonica and harp went well together. He played only Irish music, as did Eileen when she soloed. Some tunes were *When Irish Eyes are Smiling*, *Tura Lura Lura*, *Danny Boy*, etc. The audience that turned out was mainly there for the ethnic part rather than the harmonica or harp. He told some good Irish jokes and had a thick brogue, but Eileen did not. I would call it a worthwhile thing to attend and was glad that I drove the fifty miles."



Rich suggested that it would be a great idea to invite PJ Gannon to visit our club and perform at open mic. It sounds like a great idea. In fact, PJ was actually a member of GHC some years ago, having been invited by Frank Muriel, with whom he worked at St. Louis University.

## FURTHER RESEARCH ON THE ST. LOUIS IRISH ARTS SCHOOL CLASS INFORMATION

St. Louis Irish Arts School conducts weekly lessons for both children and adults of all skill levels at Immaculate Conception School located in the heart of Maplewood, Missouri. Tel # 314-646-7338

Some classes introduce students to the culture of Ireland and teach dance steps, play simple tunes on the tin whistle and sing Irish songs. After learning some basic dance steps in soft shoe, students are introduced to hard shoes. Dancers will learn basic Irish dance steps and a few traditional ceili or group dances.

St. Louis Irish Arts [www.slia.org](http://www.slia.org)

### PAULINE'S FAVORITE SAYINGS:

- ☺ **Smile – it confuses people.**
- ☺ **Laughter is contagious – Let's start an epidemic.**
- ☺ **I know you believe you understand what you think I said . . . but I'm not sure you realize that what you heard is not what I meant!**
- ☺ **Best way to get the last word is to apologize.**



## HEALING WITH THE SOUND OF MUSIC

By *Christina Ufer Knae, Music Therapist, Mayo Clinic*

Do you smile when you hear your favorite song?  
Enjoy upbeat music when you exercise?  
If so, you know a little about the power of music.

Music therapists harness this power in therapeutic settings to help others reach specific goals. They're typically board certified and trained in music, music therapy, and biological and behavioral sciences. A music therapist may have you listen to and discuss a piece of music, write a song, discuss the words to a song, or use music to help aid physical movement. Music therapy is used in many settings, including hospitals and various treatment and rehabilitation facilities.

Some scientific evidence suggests that music therapy can help manage anxiety, autism, dementia, depression,

grief, pain, Parkinson's disease and some sleep disorders. Music therapy can also help teach communication skills, increase the effectiveness of some antidepressant medications, and reduce heart rate and blood pressure.

Research conflicts on its benefit for treating Alzheimer's disease, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and cardiac conditions.

You don't have to have any musical ability to benefit from music therapy, and any style of music can be used. If you think you might benefit from music therapy, ask your doctor for a referral to a board-certified music therapist.

Not in need of music therapy for a particular ailment? You can still benefit from the powers of music. Active music making – such as drumming – and just passively listening to music can help reduce stress and increase relaxation.

**"HOWTO PLAYBACH" CD** – Music by Robert Bonfiglio, <http://www.robertbonfiglio.com>.

I have finished my CD and Music on "How to Play Bach" and this instructional material is now available for sale. The CD plus the sheet music will run \$100 and represent years of work and teaching. Included are the Bouree from the C Major Cello Suite and the Gigue from the Eb Major Cello Suite. The Sarabande from the Cello Suites as well as a Govotte in Rondeau from the E Major Violin Partita. The Last Movement of the

Solo Flute Sonata, and the Arioso from the G Minor Violin Concerto/ the F Minor Harpsichord Concerto.

Corner switches are marked, articulation, phrasing is gone over in detail as are all ornaments. A CD explains the playing and there is a CD of the actual pieces. The sheet music is just plain sheet music and the copies are not pristine, but if you need fancy printed music, you are not ready to play these pieces anyhow.

Contact me and I will arrange for payment and ship one out within about a week unless I am on tour and I will give you a date then.

## HARMONICA BIOGRAPHIES

Even though the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Memorial booklet has now been published, if anyone would still wish to submit their biography (autobiography) to share with other members in this Reeder, please feel free to do so. There have been numerous new members since, and some folks slipped through without having their story told. Take a look at the memorial booklet (displayed at the back table at every practice) to get some ideas. Another source for examples would be to look at the club website: [www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org](http://www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org) and check

older editions of the newsletter. If you would like any help, please do not hesitate to ask. Please include your first experiences with the harmonica, how you came to learn about the club, any other musical instruments that interest you, any hobbies or collections, and as much or as little personal information as you care to share. Do not be bashful to brag a little on any of your accomplishments! We have learned much about each other, and this has drawn us closer as a harmonica family. The biography articles have been a very popular feature of this newsletter.

**“There is so much good in the worst of us,  
And so much bad in the best of us  
That it ill behooves the most of us  
To talk about the rest of us!”**

*(Author unknown)*

## REPORT FROM THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN HARMONICA FESTIVAL

By *Mike Maschek*

As soon as I saw the ad for the Rocky Mountain Festival, at the SPAH in St. Louis, I hoped to go, using it as a substitute for the California SPAH convention. Both of us had interest in going to Denver. Rose wanted to do a vacation somewhere and visit her older sister near Denver. Her twin sister and brother in law also had a daughter living in Kansas City. We all left early in the same car and stayed in Kansas City for a couple days taking pictures in the Crown Center area. The three of them are avid photographers the same as I like to play harmonica. I have bought new 64's at the last two SPAH's. One is a Suzuki 64 and some of you may also like the rounded mouthpiece they have.

The festival had about 75 people registered so it was down scaled as far as number of performers, but the quality was very high. The best for me was performance by the Harp Beats. They played several songs that the Harmonicats played and some additional great tunes. The marvelous thing about it was they live in different states and had to listen to the arrangements over their phones. Only when they arrived did they get to practice together. George Miklas, the bass player was the arranger on some of the music and his contribution of sound to the trio was superb. They all sounded superb and I feel the Cats could have done no better. In fact that's who I thought was playing. Harmonica Boogie, Orange Blossom Special and the Fiddler On The Roof Medley with Phil Caltaballo narrating, were delivered with great feeling and gusto. I enjoyed tremendously all the numbers they performed but the Medley was the best for me. One person in the audience after one of their songs blurted out, "how do you all keep such perfect time together". They were baffled by the question and didn't seem to respond. Their timing is fantastic and only musicians who know each other and communicate while playing can do that. That's one of the things that makes trio and ensemble playing so great. I attended a trio workshop they presented and they pointed that out, as one of the things that must be done. In addition to that, I think Wally's moves as he plays, contributes to the overall appeal. Phil stands relatively still facing the mic, and

George turns in, then out, in a smooth rhythmic manner. Before going any further, I can't describe the virtuosity Phil displayed in his rapid, accurate play. One song they played I believe was Fantasy Impromptu. It was outstanding classic music. I hope I have that song title right as I wasn't aware that I might write about my experience at this festival. I did hope to pick up some pointers from workshops, I could use in my effort to play at the Bull Shoals Theater here. I missed two sessions at the theater and now there are only two more before closing for the year.

The Mile High Harmonica Club Band performed very well, playing some tunes the GHC plays. They have a club member now who is solely the music director and she displayed her skills in the arrangements she had them play. More parts seemed to make the full sound that they delivered. I heard Roger Bale play a couple songs at open mic and he played real well with Wally and George backing. The arrangement was communicated among them before the festival so they wouldn't have jam. The tunes were difficult alltime greats.



I bought CD's by the other top musicians. I already had Tom Stryker's latest so I got Bob McFarlane, Clay Kirkland and last but not least Jimi Lee's. They are brilliant pros. Mr. McFarlane sat at my table at the banquet and shared some tips on playing and some good jokes. Application of his great smooth vibrato is sometimes at the start of a note or phrase rather than at the end and he often is forcing the pitch below what the harp is tuned. 443 I think. I found out that Hohners are tuned to 440. I heard different opinions on what chromatics should be tuned, so now it seems to depend on how one plays. I'm for that.

Mr. Kirkland's style reminds me of deep south sound where he sings quietly with a lot of exaggeration in pronunciation of the lyrics. His playing is very good blues so I purchased a rhythm tracks CD of his which I hope to use and share here. Train Thing, I Am a Poor Wayfaring Stranger, Crawfish Pie and Heartbeat Blues are some of the tunes that would be liked here.

*(continued on page 7)*

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN HARMONICA FESTIVAL

(from page 6)

Jimi Lee is an excellent song writer and won a first place blues in Austin, Texas 2006 with "Laundromat". Another great song which he co-wrote, Pocket Full of Soul, may be used in a movie soon. He produces an excellent sound with his personally tuned diatonics. He and Wally talked a bit in a workshop about how to hammer on the reed slot so it becomes narrower and allows the reed to vibrate with much less clearance. It creates a softer powerful sound for him and since he has to use a rack in all his numbers he needs that. Some song lyrics are funny bits about life. I got the 4 CD set.

I have yet to listen to any of the CD's because of all the things I have to catch up on. I heard most and the best of the songs at the festival and they will be unforgettable.

At open mic I played The Military Medley, Finiculi and You, You, You, the German love song. Out in the hallways I had the great opportunity to play Spanish Eyes, Yellow Bird, and Begin The Beguine with the kind, great chord player Wally Peterman. A 90 year old Denver native and I shared tunes like Darktown

Strutters Ball, Turkey in the Straw and some others I can't recall. He was later invited to play on the stage with Paul Davies support before the big names. A fellow from California, David Naiditch, who I met in a workshop, could play lead for, When I'm 64, while I dusted off the third part. With a little more practice we might have been invited to play on the big stage because Dave is an excellent chromatic artist. He and Paul Davies did a number on main stage too and even though they started too fast they managed to hit the notes. It was a complicated tune and Dave will be seen and heard a lot more I'm sure. To hear some of his bluegrass try <http://cdbaby.com/cd/naiditch2>.

Paul Davies a main promoter of the festival was really struttin his stuff too. He has a nice quiet style of play that falls on my ear a lot better than the loud sound that is so often used. I didn't catch any of his chromatic play that was said to be presented but he put on a real fine display of his playing ability.

Tom Stryker was to play after the banquet too, but Paul announced that Tom and his wife left for California because they were informed that his great mentor Ray Tankersley, was not expected to live much longer and he had to see him before he passed away.

Best wishes to all,

*Mike*

## We Get Letters . . .

*From Ernie Roberts*

### John Bottchen in the History Museum

Marie and I went to the Science Center the other day with a group of "over 55" from our church. Afterwards we went to the History Museum in Forest Park.

While wandering through the Aviation exhibit, I happened to notice a video exhibit indicating some memories from local people with ties to the aviation business.

I spotted John Bottchen's picture right off and punched the button to hear him describe his work as a riveter for Curtiss Wright. Very interesting! Thought you might want to pass this along in the next newsletter in case any one else happens to be in the History Museum and would like to see the interview of John Bottchen.

The other interviews were also very interesting, but I did not know those people.

*From Elizabeth Atkison*

### To The Ladies and Spouses of GHC:

If I did not properly thank each and every one of you and all the ladies, I want to make sure I do. All the work the ladies contribute to the SPAH conventions does not go unnoticed. The ladies are such an important part in the planning stages and through-out the hosting for the conventions. The Gateway Ladies did great. THANKS!

*Elizabeth Atkison*  
SPAH Coordinator

# GHC GIGS, CLASSES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

## WEEKLY EVENTS

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

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

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

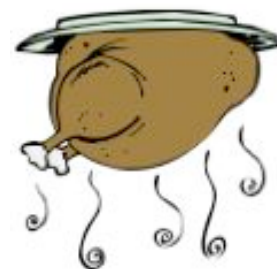
All other Tuesdays: Band Rehearsal — Everyone welcome

8:00 PM - Open Mic — Everyone welcome

## PERFORMANCES, CLASSES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

A list of the club's upcoming performances, classes and special events is distributed each month at the business meeting. For the most up-to-date calendar of all GHC performances, classes and special events, go to [www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org/calendar](http://www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org/calendar), which takes you to our **online calendar**. You can view the calendar in Week, Month or Agenda (list) format by clicking on the tab of your choice. To move the display backward or forward in any view, click ◀ or ▶ in the upper left-hand corner of the calendar.

Gigs are shown in RED, classes in BLUE and special events in GREEN. To the right of the tabs, there is a small ▼ symbol that you can click to open a drop-down checklist if you wish to display only a specific category or categories by checking selected boxes .



GATEWAY HARMONICA CLUB  
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