



# NEWS & VIEWS

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

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

*by Mary Ann Love*

### UNIFORM CHANGE

The club will change over to the summer polo shirt uniform for gigs on Thursday, May 7.

### PICNIC ON MARKIVEE'S MOUNTAIN

Carroll and Jean Markivee have again insisted on hosting a club picnic at their beautiful home in Eureka on June 20th. Carroll will furnish barbeque ribs and anyone desiring another type of food to throw on the grill is welcome to bring whatever they wish. Also please take a side dish to share and a lawn chair with legs that will not mar the vinyl deck. If you have not yet been to this gorgeous setting, try to make it this time. We have a grand ole ho-down and plenty of great vittles! Jean is improving in health and would love for everyone to attend. Directions may be yours for the asking, by e-mail [cmarkivee@hotmail.com](mailto:cmarkivee@hotmail.com) or telephone 636-938-3940.

### KUDOS

The club appreciates the generosity of the following members who have donated their salaries from teaching harmonica at the local community colleges. Thank you Ron Beer, Joe Fey, Charlie Pratte, Ernie Roberts, Buddy & Jessie Hirsch. The time, preparation, and coordination of these classes

exhibits a true sincerity of promoting and advancing the harmonica.

Other uncompensated teachers at the club or libraries are also appreciated. Thanks to all!

### SAL SINGS

Salvadore Miano invited club members to see a performance of "The Witness" a passion play featuring the Birth, Life, Death, and Resurrection of Christ. There were five venues, four in Illinois and one in St. Louis during the month of March. Sal opens the play with a prologue in which he portrays Malchus, whose ear Peter cut off; and later took on other roles, such as Caiphas, the high priest. Much of the program was delivered in song and choir format.



Sal has been a member of the Carrollton Community Chorus for 19 years near his home in Jerseyville and this type of musical is presented each year prior to the Easter holiday. Guy Vaccaro and Pauline Guelbert were honored to attend one of the performances and spoke highly of Sal's roles and his accomplishments in the choir.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Bernard A. Mann  
12434 Maret Drive  
Sunset Hills, MO 63127  
314-821-2646  
Spouse: Chris  
[Berniemann@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Berniemann@sbcglobal.net)

Mike Asbury  
6726 Vernon Ave.  
University City, MO 63130  
314-727-6806  
Spouse: Alice

Bob Winston  
8 Brookwood St.  
St. Charles, MO 63301  
636-949-9717  
Spouse: Gloria  
[RJWinston@Hotmail.com](mailto:RJWinston@Hotmail.com)

Neil Cantwell  
6578 Hoffman  
St. Louis, MO 63139  
314-941-3478  
Spouse: Norma

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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 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 May and June:

May	June
Sarah Muriel 5/1	Carole
Mike LaRue 5/3	Hackmann 6/4
Robert Scurlock 5/8	Joyce Barber 6/4
Sharon Davis 5/11	Jean Gerfen 6/6
Bob Pangilinan 5/13	Guy Vaccaro 6/7
Don Hornberger 5/12	Doris Michelin 6/9
Dan Kellermann 5/22	Alice Asbury 6/15
Doris Rassman 5/27	Mary
Louise Cook 5/28	Kellermann 6/16
Wally DeShon 5/29	Waunetta Perry 6/17
	Theon Heisserer 6/19
	Pam Hartig 6/21
	Doreen Scurlock 6/25
	Mike Maschek 6/26
	Bill Nesslein 6/27
	Laurie Hayduk 6/27
	Bob Winston 6/28
	Bill Davis 6/29
	Rose Schmidt 6/29



*Editor's Note: Please notify us if your or your spouse's birthday is missing or incorrect. We welcome publication of any members special highlight dates!*

### WHAT'S HAPPENING (from page 1)

### CONGRATULATIONS LIFE MEMBER

- Marlin (Woody) Woodring

### HEALTH REPORT

We wish the following members a successful and speedy recovery from their various confinements:

Ernie Roberts continues to recover from a colon surgery and chemotherapy.

- Geza Dombi had extensive back surgery in March and is expecting successful results.
- Jean Markivee continues her battle to improve her strength and fight against Alzheimers.
- Arpad deKallos is now able to leave the house following heart by-pass surgery.
- Simon Abcouwer has an eye surgery scheduled for sometime this spring & sends his greetings.

- Frank Muriel thanks everyone for their prayers following a successful carotid procedure.
- Sid Wolff continues to recover from a heart attack.
- Sesto Stieven is out and about again following a hip replacement.
- Ed Heining reports that he is still mending from back injuries and hopes to return to the club.
- Bill Schuessler's son has advised that Bill is now in hospice care in Albuquerque, N.M. at age 92. Bill is an honorary member. He provided many of the CDs in our library and has also donated music arrangements and instruments to the club.
- Sharon Davis had an endoscopy procedure.
- Bob Reynolds has suffered a stroke and is in rehabilitation.
- Buddy Hirsch was hospitalized for three days, but now back to his bass.

Let us keep them all in our thoughts and daily devotions.

*(continued on page 2)*

**WHAT'S HAPPENING** *(from page 2)***DIRECTORY UPDATE**

An updated GHC membership directory will soon be published. Please advise of any changes or updates, including e-mail addresses, and cell phone numbers to Jessie Hirsch by the end of May. Membership will be dropped if dues are not up-to-date. Thanks for your cooperation.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Kaleena Hutchins will be graduating from Melbourne High School on May 15 with top of the class honors. She is planning to attend Arkansas State University at Fayetteville to study pharmacology. Congratulations to Kaleena, our youngest GHC member!

**BUCKEYE HARMONICA FESTIVAL**

The Buckeye Festival, normally held in April, will be held June 11-13 this year. This will be the final year for the Buckeye Festival because Jack Ely, who has been handling many of the arrangements, is no longer able to do so because of poor health, and other members of Buckeye are not able to step into the primary leadership role for a variety of health and other personal reasons. However, they will still make every effort to make this final festival a great one.

The change to the June dates is because of hotel availability. The hotel will still be the one at Route 23 and Interstate 270 in Worthington, Ohio (suburb of Columbus), except that it is now a Holiday Inn. The room rate will be \$85 plus taxes and fees.

**CONDOLENCES**

We were saddened to hear of the passing of GHC member John Meehan. Sherry Meehan said that John passed away on June 13th, 2008 after a long illness of cancer. It was believed that he died of a blood clot (and not the cancer). John and Sherry made their home in Pensacola, Florida.

Word was also received that Andy Cassimatis died on March 18, 2009 after a long illness. Andy was a faithful member of the club for many years prior to his entering assisted care.

The Gateway Harmonica Club extends our sympathy to both families. May they find comfort in the good memories.

**We Get Letters . . .**

*Laurie Hayduk enclosed the following note with her dues renewal:*

Although I'm unable to attend meetings, I'm proud to be included as a member, and hope to come back. Please say hi to Ernie Roberts – he gave me my lessons and tell him I'm still fumbling along, having fun.

Best to everyone,

*Laurie Hayduk*

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*Joy Rucker of the Weber Road Library Branch sent the following note:*

*Dear Mr. Charlie Pratte,*

Please tell the members of your Club how sorry I am to have missed their performance. I looked forward to enjoying their music all year and I was told you filled the room to overflowing 85+ and that everyone had a great time. Please come back next year!

In my defense our little cocker spaniel had been ill for over a year and we had a crisis Tuesday night which led to our having to make an appointment to have her put

to sleep Wednesday. My husband and I were both basket cases. We had to have her sister put to sleep last Sept. So we are really grieving at our house.

*Joy Rucker*

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**Christmas In July**

*By Sharon Davis*

A bit early for Christmas, but this is the last newsletter to get out the word prior to the Christmas-In-July GHC get-together on July 7. Mark your calendars for this date. We always have a great turn-out for the spouses to get together and chat and have fun. Bring a dish to share and a \$5 gift for exchange, if you wish. The ladies usually play games while the club members have their business meeting. New members and spouses are cordially invited. Any questions, call Sharon Davis, 636-896-0701, who has graciously volunteered to head this committee.

Thanks

*Sharon*

## PLAY DATE

A truly enjoyable evening of an “expanded open mic” occurred on April 14. Rich Krueger had promoted the event and had promised a surprise mystery tune which turned out to be “Rhapsody in Blue” written by George Gershwin. Rich had heard it performed by Larry Adler at one time. Rich had admired Larry Adler’s role in the

h a r m o n i c a world and it was Rich’s ambition of 50 years to be able to play that song. Rich was excellent and received a s t a n d i n g ovation. He told some stories about Adler and some other f a m o u s players, as well as some of his own family funnies. Two young girl

student harmonica players, Melati (Ti) 11, and Mentari (Ri) 9 Havard, were also present and played several tunes. Many in the club had prepared and played special songs during the evening. It was very good to see some members present who we had not seen for awhile. The event was well attended and appreciated. Thanks to everyone who made this occasion a success.

Rich’s words: “I heard Larry Adler play "Rhapsody in Blue" at the Studebaker Theater in Chicago's downtown



*Rich Krueger playing “Rhapsody In Blue”*

about 1958. It was a Sunday afternoon concert. Adler performed with a piano accompanist. “Rhapsody in Blue” was the most ambitious number that he performed. It may have been his final song before encore. I had a 78 rpm recording of Adler playing “Rhapsody” and was hoping, hoping, hoping that he would play it at the concert. He did.

“At that time, I felt that my playing that song would never be a possibility. Two years ago, I still felt that way. It was my involvement in the Gateway Harmonica Club that gave me motivation to dare attempt that song. I still have that 78rpm recording, and I also still have a 78 rpm recording of the Harmonicats playing “Peg O’ My Heart” on the Universal label.

“In playing “Rhapsody” I had to play not only Larry’s part, but also had to play many parts that were played by Larry’s accompanist, since I was performing solo. Even though I had to work a little harder than Larry, I still am not in his ‘ballpark’ as a harmonica player. The man had a gift. I have never spoken to Larry Adler, but did sit at a dinner table with Larry’s brother, Jerry Adler, at a SPAH convention. Jerry spoke very little.

“My son Rick, the oldest of the children, played one song on stage with the Harmonicats. Rick played “Twilight Time” and played Jerry Murad’s part perfectly. Rick did not have a harmonica with him and played Jerry Murad’s harmonica. Jerry Murad stood to the side and observed. After Rick played, Jerry remarked “Did you have to steal every note?”

“Daughter Robin, played “In My Merry Oldsmobile” for the Harmonicats backstage at one of their performances in Omaha, Nebraska. I played a chord/bass harmonica along with her. Stagg McMann, who was filling in for Al Fiore at that time, remarked, “Wow, she played that in F,” knowing she was using a C harmonica.”

*Rich*

*Brother Act: Bill and Frank Davis get their act together at our Extended Mic Session on April 14. Despite Frank’s expression, a good time was truly had by all!*





## HOME-SCHOOLED HARPERS

by Ron Beer

The student girls mentioned in the Play Date article, Melati (Ti, nickname), and Mentari (Ri, nickname) Havard, both attended the SPAH free program where they started on the one octave harmonica. They each study piano, and had a special feel for the harmonica.



*Melati and Mentari Havard with Dad, Jerry Havard*

Dad is Jerry Havard. Jerry phoned me in the Fall to say that after the SPAH introduction the girls spent half an hour each day going over songs. Jerry was so pleased that he purchased ten-hole harps for them, and they worked out a routine including songs they enjoyed performing. Jerry also inquired about the possibility of a class that would be a little more advanced for them both. As a result, he agreed to help us complete our commitment to the extra hopeful wanna bees whose desire for the SPAH free class came too late. There were about 40 over the limit. We did one class of 25, and then Jerry helped to contact others to complete our basic class.

This having been done, Jerry then advertised our regular class within the Home School community and it filled quickly. He had planned for his girls to take the class, but held back in favor of others. The girls and their mother, Ida (Eeda) came to the class, handed out name tags and took the receipts for the books and harps. This was repeated twice more.

We had them play at the class, and when Frank Davis heard them he requested that they be invited to the Club to perform. The Play Date described above seemed to be an appropriate time.

They have been very helpful, and have a good grasp of the instrument. I hope that we can engage them in a chromatic class, but will likely do the diatonic first. They are fun to work with, and I appreciated their willingness to come for our special night.



*Ron Beer Teaching harmonica to home schooled students at St. Charles Co. Library*

## CREATIVE PUNS FOR EDUCATED MINDS

The roundest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.

I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.

She was only a whiskey maker, but he loved her still.

A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class, because it was a weapon of math disruption.

The butcher backed into the meat grinder and got a little behind in his work.

No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.

A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.

A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.

Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.

Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.

A hole has been found in the nudist camp wall. The police are looking into it.

## JAZZ IMPROVISATION FOR THE HARMONICA – PART 3

by Carroll Markivee

Here is an example of what I call “soft jazz” – wandering from the melody and changing timing that Bing Crosby often did - anyone can figure out where they are in the song as it does not stray too far from the original and you can still recognize where the melody is, although there are only a few places where the original notes and timing are used. I just did 16 bars. Maybe a chord player and a melody player could demonstrate this for the club since I can't be there right now.

Other types of jazz are using alternate chords, and a free form which does not use original melody, timing, or chords – it is more advanced, and requires a skill I don't have.

I hope you enjoyed this little series of articles on jazz for the harmonica.

*Carroll*

Up A Lazy River soft jazz 5/2/09[G]

Jazz Quintet Hoagy Carmichael

9

930

## LOUIE DRINEN TRIBUTE

– by Peggy Scott News Editor of the Jefferson County Leader (April 2009)

A standing-room crowd filled the Jefferson Baptist Association hall Saturday (March 28, 2009) to pay tribute to Louie Drinen, a longtime musician, evangelist and car enthusiast in Jefferson County.

Jerry Hart, one of the organizers of the tribute, said it was hard to count how many people attended because people literally couldn't find a spot to park or a place to sit down.

“It was really a tribute to Louie. It was just unreal,” Hart said.

People packed the hall for a chance to say hello to Drinen, who is battling cancer.

“We have 251 signatures in the register,” Hart said. “But not everyone knew there was a book or could get over to sign it.”

He and Drinen's son, Keith, estimated more than 350 people attended.

Among highlights was a proclamation from State Rep. Ron Casey, D-Crystal City, a surprise visit from an insurance agent Drinen trained 30 years ago and a song titled “Louie,” written for Drinen by fellow musician and friend Kenny Talley.

Keith Drinen said his father was thrilled by the outpouring of affection.

“My dad was really surprised. He was overwhelmed,” Keigh Drinen said. “It was just a celebration. He saw so many friends, and everyone wanted to take his picture.”

Throughout the day, musicians, including Drinen, took turns performing.

However, sometimes it was tough to hear the music over the din of friends and family talking. “We'd like to give a gig, huge thank you to everyone for all the food, the cards, the letters and the people who showed up,” Hart said. “It was great.”

*Editors' Note: Louie Drinen is a long-time member of the GHC and we all extend our best wishes.*

## HOWARD LEVY AND TRIO GLOBO

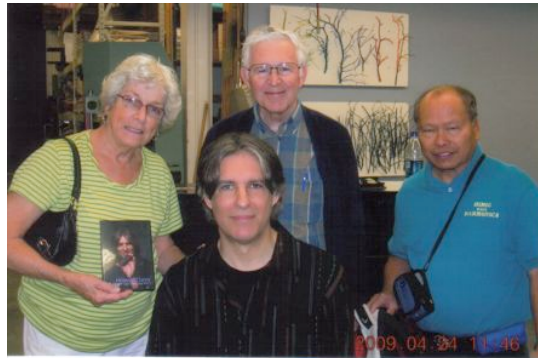
*St. Louis Community College at Meramec invited Trio Globo to St. Louis for special performances on April 23rd and 24th. GHC members were among the appreciative members of the audience. Here are enthusiastic comments from two of them:*

\* \* \* \* \*

“In my opinion, this was primarily an event to expose their choir and orchestra to some professional "avant garde/improvisational" musicians. Included in the schedule were workshops designed to familiarize people with the capabilities and possibilities of the primary instruments played by the three professionals: Howard Levy on harmonica and piano, Eugene Friesen on cello and Glen Velez on percussion. Each of the three were very articulate instructors and were able to convey their love for their instrument to members of the audience. Some of the tunes/melodies/songs which they played were their own compositions, which displayed another level of their talents. For some of us musical simpletons, the music was way beyond our understanding and comprehension. Howard's workshop on the harmonica provided some good insight into why Howard is the most advanced diatonic hamonica player around today.

“The performance Friday night was spectacular in that each performer demonstrated his mastery of his instrument and then their ability to bring the school musicians into the act as well.”

*Ernie Roberts*



*Howard Levy with GHC members Louise Cook, Ernie Roberts and Bob Pangilinan.*

“About a dozen of the GHC members attended the Trio Globo Concert on April 23 and 24th.

“Howard Levy gave a harmonica workshop. He can play every key on the diatonic. He is acknowledged as the worlds most advanced harmonica player. He is equally at home in Jazz, pop, rock, world music, Latin Classical, folk, blues and country. He was the winner of a Grammy Award in 1997 for pop music instrumental. He composed the first concerto for diatonic harmonica in 2000. Howard has performed many times on "The Tonight Show". He is equally as great on the piano.

“Eugene Friesen, one of the trio, gave a fabulous solo on the chelo. Glen Velez, the other trio player, has these unique drums and plays them amazingly well. He and Howard gave a workshop with some of the music students at Meramec.

“The students each made a musical instrument and demonstrated what it could do, later joined in with Howard playing on piano and diatonic (at the same time) and Glen on his drums. They gave a great little improvisation concert. The

students' instruments were made of anything from stove pipes to bottles to bicycle wheels to wood. There were about 10 different rhythmic instruments, each in their own unique form.

“Howard and Glen joined in playing for the improv and movement. That was relaxing.

“I am sure the Friday night concert was wonderful. We had a GIG, so didn't get to attend that.”

*Louise Cook*

## HARMONICA CLASSES

Currently scheduled class sessions are as follows (please note that some classes are already in progress):

- 5/4/2009 (Mon) 2:00 PM — Beginner Diatonic Class, St. Charles City-County Library Spencer Road Branch, 427 Spencer Rd. Saint Peters, MO 63376
- 5/11/2009 (Mon) 2:00 PM — Beginner Diatonic Class, St. Charles City-County Library Kisker Road Branch, Kisker Road Branch, 1000 Kisker Rd, Saint Charles, MO 63304
- 5/18/2009 (Mon) 2:00 PM — Beginner Diatonic Class, St. Charles City-County Library McClay Road Branch, 2760 McClay Rd. Saint Charles, MO 63303
- 6/3, 10 and 17/2009 (Wed) 7:00 PM — Beginner Diatonic Class, Meramec Community College, 11333 Big Bend Blvd., Kirkwood, MO 63122

For information about these or other classes, please contact Ron Beer at (636) 394-1776 or [judyandron@att.net](mailto:judyandron@att.net), or Joe Fey at (314) 839-0605 or [joe Fey@att.net](mailto:joe Fey@att.net)

## GHC GIGS, CLASSES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

### WEEKLY EVENTS

Tuesday evening meetings at The Rock 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 .

