



NEWS & VIEWS



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

WHAT'S HAPPENING

by Mary Ann Love

SANDY WELTMAN

Sandy will visit GHC on March 9. Richard Krueger has been in contact with him and Sandy replies:

"Hi Richard - Nice talking with you the other day. I'm looking forward to coming out to the club on March 9. In the meantime, can you please pass the word that I just got my downloadable harmonica lesson videos up online this week. They're pretty inexpensive but come loaded with a lot of stuff, including tablature and backing tracks. You can check it out on my website

www.sandyweltmanmusic.com,

then hit the video lessons button or go directly to

www.onlinelessonvideos.com

and click the harmonica lessons button. I'm hoping to keep adding a new one each week for all different player levels. You can also sample a little bit of each video to make sure it's what you want.

"I appreciate you spreading the word. Thanks much.

"Sandy"

About Sandy

Harmonica virtuoso Sandy Weltman's talents are diverse to say the least. While at home in the jazz realm, he is equally skilled in blues, Celtic, Klezmer, Latin and much more. Sandy learned much of his harmonica styling while under the tutelage of harmonica wizard Howard "Flecktone" Levy. He has since gained international recognition in the World Harmonica Competitions. Sandy has won numerous awards and is equally skilled on the banjo, with which he fronted his own band called the SanDroids (see CD entitled "Escape Velocity"). Sandy currently performs his unique style of harmonica jazz in a duo, trio, & quartet setting.

Sandy has been a featured performer at several of the SPAH (Society for the Preservation and Advancement of the Harmonica) conventions.

CONDOLENCES

Sid Wolff

Sidney Wolff passed away on February 11, 2010. Sid was a founding-father of the Gateway Harmonica Club in 1987 and the first President. His life profession was in the financial business world and he helped the club in many ways with his expertise. He was a great promoter and encouraged new members. Sid's 90th birthday would have been on February 26th. We remember Sid as a great story-teller, an honorable veteran who served in WWII in the intelligence offices in England, a likeable sort of fellow, and he always played a happy tune on his harmonica. The Club extends our condolences to the family. A memorial donation was sent to the Jewish War Veterans, of which Sid was a member.

Carroll Markivee

Carroll Markivee suffered a fall that caused internal injuries from which he was unable to recover. He died on February 19, 2010. A memorial service is planned for sometime in June when the family returns from Michigan, where Carroll had been living only a short time. The GHC members will be notified when the date is known.

Carroll was a past president of the club and renewed his interest several years ago, together with his wife, Jean, whom we lost only 10 weeks earlier. He was especially involved with jazz and improvisation and had extensive musical knowledge. He thrived on making back-up accompaniments for members to play at open mike and submitted intelligent articles for this newsletter.

The club enjoyed several picnics at the Markivee home in Eureka. We will miss both Carroll and Jean.

SPAH 2010

The 2010 SPAH convention will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota in August. Planning and reservation

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THE GHC NEWS AND VIEWS 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

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:

Mary Ann Love
Recording & Corresponding Secretary
1162 Villa Flora Dr.
O'Fallon, MO 63366
(636) 379-7707

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 3/2

Glenda Warren 3/3

Elizabeth Ampleman 3/6

Sheela Joy Chittina 3/9

Simon Abcouwer 3/10

Judy Beer 3/25

Leta Provart 3/28

APRIL

Sal Miano 4/4

Henry Gerfen 4/13

Marie Roberts 4/19

Ralph Barber 4/24

Scott Campbell 4/24

Belated birthday greetings to VonRhey Ford, who celebrated Birthday #92 on Feb. 24.

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!

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information should be forthcoming in the next couple of months.

HEALTH MATTERS

We have heard from Geza Dombi and his back is doing better.

Geza is now taking tests for balance and leg problems.

Dan Welsch has renewed his membership and reports he is doing all right but his wife, Dorothy, writes that Dan has been on dialysis for the past year and a half.

Bill and Rosemary Nesslein attended a memorial for former member Bob Reynolds at the Vine Wine Bistro in St. Charles on Saturday, January 9. Many family members and cyclist friends were present.

Ernie and Marie Roberts request your continued prayers. Ernie has been recovering from a further colon surgery and Marie has sporadic back problems.

Leta Provart reports that she feels blessed to be able to take care of herself and remain in her home following cancer treatments. She wants to say 'hello' to all her friends in the club and enjoys reading the newsletter. She welcomes calls and is as sweet as ever.

Frank Muriel has attended club practice several weeks lately and seems to be doing well. He still plays his unique style the same good old way.

VonRhey Ford writes that he is still kicking at age 92, but legally blind and crippled by neuropathy (leg weakness caused by diabetes). He sends lots of good wishes to all.

Arpad de Kallos shared with us that he has been treated for skin cancer on his leg. Since then, Arpad has

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returned to the club and is always willing to play an uplifting tune.

BLUES

Kudos to Ed Cenatiempo on leading the Blues Group during the past winter months.

The Blues Group is entering an exciting month with an expected visit by Sandy Weltman on March 9. Anyone interested in blues harping should plan to attend at 6:00 p.m.

GIGS

The depressed economy has affected the scheduled bookings this year and we appreciate any efforts on your part to promote our performances.

HARMONICAS FOR HEALTH

The 'Harmonicas for Health' seminars and Breathing Therapy sessions conducted by Ron Beer with supporting GHC club members at the Memorial Belleville Hospitals in Springfield, IL and O'Fallon, IL during the past year were very much appreciated.

Shirley Schultz, Coordinator, has extended an invitation to all club members to attend a picnic at noon on May 26th in Belleville, IL, near the main hospital campus at an indoor venue. It is the hope of Shirley Schultz and staff that we may share lunch and perform for some of the patients to promote interest of new participants at a later meeting. The staff is very outgoing and they promise this to be a fun event. Please give this invitation some consideration. More details will follow in the next newsletter.

A WORD ABOUT SAM

GHC member Sam Hardy delights in lyrics! He is knowledgeable of both musical and lyrical composers. At open mike he can usually name both (composer and lyricist) of most tunes played by members. If not, he will ask. Many of the wonderful lyrics of introductory verses of songs are lost in the well-known choruses. Besides his interest in the harmonica club, Sam is also a member of the St. Louis Banjo club and enjoys the grand

old standards as well as great musical show numbers. One of the songs cited by Sam with great lyrics follows:

On The Sunny Side Of The Street

Walked with no one, and talked with no one,
And I had nothing but shadows.

Then one morning you passed,
and I brightened at last.

Now I greet the day, and complete the day,
with the sun in my heart.

All my worry blew away,

When you taught me how to say:

Grab your coat, and get your hat,

Leave your worry on the doorstep.

Just direct your feet to the sunny side of the street.

Can't you hear a pitter pat?

And that happy tune is your step.

Life can be so sweet – on the sunny side of the street.

I used to walk in the shade – with those blues on parade,

But I'm not afraid, this Rover crossed over.

If I never have a cent,

I'll be rich as Rockefeller.

Gold dust at my feet, on the sunny side of the street.

LAST REMINDER

Dues for regular membership is \$15.00 annually and become delinquent on March 1. Dues cover the cost of printing of sheet music and the newsletter plus postage. Other club expenses are covered by earning income from gigs, sales of CDs, and harmonica necklaces, etc. Some members expend much of their time and energy to promote and ensure continued success of the club. Please do your part by renewing your membership.

Make your checks payable to The Gateway Harmonica Club and deliver or mail to:

Jessie Hirsch, Treasurer,
47 Orchard Lane,
Kirkwood, MO 63122

For any regular membership not renewed in March the newsletter will be cancelled.

THAT'S NOT MY JOB *(Author Unknown; Submitted by Arpad De Kallos)*

This is a story about four people: Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

We Get Letters . . .

From Our Members

From Carroll Markivee:

I want to thank you all, for all the cards, letters, and especially the members who played at Jean's memorial service.

Since Jean's death, and especially since I am not well, I cannot stay in my big house.

My daughter Pam, whom most of you know, is caring for me - I am for some strange reason, losing control of my faculties - have much difficulty walking now, more than before. After I have some surgery on my left shoulder, in March or April, I will probably go into the Sunshine home.

This change in location and life style is very sudden for me, but not as hard as the loss of the love of my life after 60 years. Thanks again for all the happy memories and fun. I still have my harmonica with me and play it every day.

Fondly,

Carroll

Excerpt from Geza & Thelma Dombi

Here is a check for \$30.00 to cover one year membership for both of us. Many thanks for the beautiful Christmas cards and for your best wishes. We are still hanging on and we might show up after all the ice and snow melt.

Hi!

Read the newsletter with interest. Sorry about Jean Markivee - Fine Lady!

Guess this is to be expected as the club has a lot of old timers. Me included!

Will show up one of these nights when Spring breaks, if ever!

Chicken-hearted me doesn't like those single digit temperatures!!

Harmonically yours,

Leo Kluesner

Gift Acknowledgements

From: The Salvation Army

Thank you for your recent gift of \$300.00 to support the life-changing work of The Salvation Army in St. Louis.

Since 1865 - when our founder William Booth first set out to share God's love with destitute souls living in cold alleyways and broken-down shanties - The Salvation

Army has been caring for people overlooked by society. And this tradition of caring has only been possible because generous friends like you share our heart for helping those who suffer.

I could tell you story upon story of how God is working miracles in the lives of hurting neighbors right here in our community.

These are people who had given up all hope. Some are hungry, others homeless. Still others are trapped by addictions. And one by one they are discovering newfound hope, thanks to the compassion of friends like you.

Thank you for standing with us for the sake of these suffering souls. And may God bless you as you continue to bless people in need.

With gratitude,

Major Louneal Richardson

Divisional Commander

From: Shriners Hospitals for Children:

Thank you for your gift of \$300.00 to Shriners Hospitals for Children-St. Louis.

For more than 85 years, we have been providing outstanding pediatric orthopedic care, completely free of charge, because of generous friends like you. We feel very fortunate that you believe in our family centered mission that includes pediatric medical care, cutting edge research, and physician education.

On behalf of the Board of Governors, staff and patients, thank you again. If you have any questions about the hospital or would like a tour, feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Miller

Director of Development

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From: 100 Neediest Cases (Co-Sponsored by St. Louis Post-Dispatch):

Thank you for your generous gift to the 100 Neediest Cases during 2009. Your cash donation of \$300.00 is at work helping people receive life-saving medication, a warm coat, food staples, or even a toy for their child.

The 100 Neediest Cases tradition began in 1900 when the Christmas festival provided dinner and toys for the poor. Today, the United Way of Greater St. Louis and the St. Louis Post Dispatch, with the help of social service agencies, high school students, and thousands of generous readers, proudly carry on the tradition.

Each year, thousands of families in need receive help from the 100 Neediest Cases program. All administrative and fund raising costs are absorbed by United Way of Greater St. Louis, the St. Louis Post Dispatch, and more than 100 area social service agencies. Every dollar raised for the 100 Neediest Cases program goes directly to help people. An effort is made to assist every case in some way. With your help and big heart, we can make the holiday season a joyous one for thousands of people in the St. Louis region.

On behalf of all the people we have helped this year, please accept our deepest appreciation and thanks.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Wayne,
Director

From: Cardinal Glennon Children's Foundation:

From the entire Cardinal Glennon Children's Medical Center family, thank you for your recent gift of \$300.00. For your records a receipt is enclosed.

As you would expect, this is an exciting time of the year at our children's hospital. The Christmas decorations have been hung and Santa and his helpers have already made more than one visit to our young patients. It is a sad reality that over this holiday season children will be hospitalized and their families and siblings will be with them at Cardinal Glennon and not at home. Fortunately, thanks to the generosity of our many

friends, their stay will be made a little more pleasant than it might otherwise be. I know that they join me in thanking you for your generosity and efforts on their behalf.

Thank you for adding your strength to ours. You can be assured of our intent to be worthy of your continued support.

Sincerely,

Jim Orsund
Executive Vice President

Editor's Note: The Gateway Harmonica Club also donated \$300 to the Rock Baptist Church from the year end charity funds. In addition, the club makes a donation of \$450 quarterly during the year for the use of Rock Baptist Church's fine facilities. We appreciate the central location and generous sharing of this meeting venue.

From: International Chapter P.E.O. Sisterhood:

Thank you for your recent gift of \$50.00 in memory of Jean Markivee designated to P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization) Loan Fund.

P.E.O. exists to be a source of encouragement and support for women to realize their potential in whatever worthwhile endeavor they choose.

True to the mission of promoting educational opportunities for women, education continues to be the primary philanthropy of the P.E.O. Sisterhood. In fact, the P.E.O.

Sisterhood proudly sponsors no less than six international philanthropies, or projects, designed to assist women with their educational goals.

As a result, P.E.O. is clearly making a difference in the lives of women all over the world.

Sincerely,

Sharlyn L. Evans
Acknowledgements Secretary

**36th Annual World Championship
Old-Time Piano Playing Contest
May 28 – 31st, 2010
Hotel Pèrè Marquette, Peoria, Illinois**

Proudly Sponsored by the Old-time Music Preservation Association (OMPA)

Frank Davis has attended this event in the past and thoroughly enjoyed every minute. Frank is looking for a travel buddy this year. If you are interested, call Frank or see:

www.oldtimepiano.com

WORDS FROM OUR MEMBERS

Many thanks to all our members who have submitted articles. Here are the most recent contributions:

From Rich Krueger:

On Saturday, February 27, 2010 a competition titled "The Talent Among Us" event was held on the Campus of Illinois College in Jacksonville at the Rammelkamp Chapel auditorium. It was sponsored by the Jacksonville Symphony Society of Jacksonville, Illinois.

I was among the twelve finalists that were competing. The competition included Vocals, Piano, Violin, Clarinet, Harp and my Harmonica. There were eight judges, all of which were associated with the college and the Symphony Orchestra. All with admirable credentials.

The winner was a female violinist playing ' Concerto for Violin and String Orchestra in D minor, by Felix Mendelssohn. She was truly outstanding and very, very, deserving. The winning violinist will appear on a future program with the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra.

It was an extraordinary event. Doing well in the competition was not my only reason for being in it. Giving the harmonica this exposure to an astute audience and showing some of what it can do is always a major reason for me to seize an opportunity to perform.

Before each of the contestant's performance, the master of ceremonies gave a biography of the performer. My biography made mention of what a wonderful musical instrument the harmonica was and how I wished to promote its virtues at every opportunity. My bio also mentioned the Gateway Harmonica Club and its function and that I was a member.

From Christine Pondo:

Last year Kaleena Hutchins (GHC member from Arkansas) went to Houston to audition for So You Think You Have Talent TV Show. She also went to Biloxi for Mid-South Talent Competition. She was not selected but did have two great experiences traveling with her family and hearing some marvelous talents.

A DVD was made of Kaleena and her musical friends at Ozark Folk Center in Mountain View, AR where she performs as a professional harmonicist.

She is now studying at Lyon College, Batesville, on full scholarship to be a pharmacist but continues her lessons in voice and piano.

From Mike LaRue:

You might like to check out the following websites: It's all harmonica related where you can purchase harp related products, read and post a variety of subjects on a forum, listen to harpspace radio, look for and hear music other harp players from around the world plus post your own bio and music

I got this information from Howard Levy. Here is the site:

<http://www.harmonicaspace.com>.

It's totally free to sign up.

Speaking of Howard Levy I signed up for his brand new diatonic online college over the weekend. If anyone is interested they can go to this site and get more information:

<http://www.howardlevyharmonicaschool.com>.

Like I said it's for diatonic lessons. But in the advance lessons he teaches a technique (over and under blows) that allows one to play all chromatic notes on your 10-hole blues harp. It's a beautiful thing.

Mike has also taken the initiative to list the harmonica club on St. Louis Craig's list as follows:

Learn To Play The Harmonica -- Beginners or Advanced (Saint Louis, MO)

Have you ever wanted to learn to play the harmonica? Well, now you can. Classes are offered through the Gateway Harmonica Club for both beginner and more advanced levels. You'll have tons of fun learning this wonderful instrument and meet a group of the nicest people. Whether you are just getting started or already play the harmonica, contact us right away and we'll give you more information.

<http://www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org>

Our club includes groups that play a wide range of popular, folk, country and blues music. We entertain for a variety of audiences, including assisted and independent living facilities, civic and fraternal groups, conventions, religious groups, retiree organizations, reunions and variety shows.

See you on Tuesdays evenings -- and keep on harping!

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From Geza Dombi

Problems in England. I agree with the writer in the recent issue of the GHC Reeder that the English Language is silly, confusing, dumb and cumbersome.

The alphabet is used incorrectly. No wonder we have to have a dictionary when we write letters or talk on the telephone, because we might mispronounce something or someone's name. Ask a college student or a professor: how to spell language, Loughborough or Connecticut. You will be shocked. The letters of Q and W should be eliminated from the dictionary and the letter K should be used for words like kome, kold, kubik, etc.

The measuring system is also difficult to understand and it takes a long time to master it. I was lucky as a glassblower working for chemists and physicists at the Bureau of Standards in Boulder, Colorado. They brought their designs to me in metric instead of in inches. (By the way, did you know that there is no such thing as a 2X4 in any lumber yard, but you can find a 13/4 x 33/4 which is called two by four?)

For a short time I also worked as a machinist apprentice at the University of Texas. My job was to oil and clean drill presses, milling machines, etc. and sort out all washers, nuts, screws and bolts and place them in their proper drawers. I was urged to learn the use of the micrometer – which was in inches – I was trying like hell to figure out that contraption and in confusion all the nuts screwed and bolted.

At some point in time I ended up in England in 1948 because I could not go home. Thanks to Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin. I worked as a laborer in surface mining and cotton mills. Watching traffic I was in total shock seeing all the trucks, buses and cars driving on the wrong side of the road. The steering wheels were also on the wrong side of the vehicles. On a hot and steamy day you could not get a cold beer at any pub.

The drinks were served at room temperature or warmer. But if you were hungry – real hungry – there were lots of fish and chips wrapped in newspapers.

England is not known for serving very good food in restaurants. Just a few years ago the visiting French President got the flak for saying so.

England needs a change by joining the European Union. Convert to the Metric System and learn to drive on the right side of the road – and start singing: God Save the English instead of the Queen.

From Bill Dulin:

Birds of a feather flock together . . . and then crap on your car.

A penny saved is a government oversight.

The real art of conversation is not only to say the right thing at the right time, but also to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.

The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight, because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends.

The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement .

He who hesitates is probably right.

Did you ever notice: The Roman Numerals for forty (40) are 'XL.'

If you think there is good in everybody, you haven't met everybody.

If you can smile when things go wrong, you have someone in mind to blame.

The sole purpose of a child's middle name is so he can tell when he's really in trouble.

There's always a lot to be thankful for if you take time to look for it. For example I am sitting here thinking how nice it is that wrinkles don't hurt.

Did you ever notice: When you put the 2 words 'The' and 'IRS' together it spells 'Theirs.'

Aging: Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.

Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me, I want people to know 'why' I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.

When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to your youth, think of Algebra.

You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.

One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young. Ah, being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.

Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft. Today, it's called golf.

Lord, Keep your arm around my shoulder and your hand over my mouth . . . AMEN!

GHC GIGS, CLASSES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

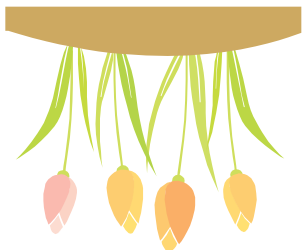
WEEKLY EVENTS

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, 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 and special events are shown in RED, classes in BLUE. 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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Florissant, MO 63034