

The Reeder



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

NEWS AND VIEWS - by *Mary Ann Love*

Celebrating Stan the Man

On Monday, April 8, the Gateway Harmonica Club was honored to play the “Star Spangled Banner” at the Home Opening game of the St. Louis Cardinals in Busch Stadium. Seven members, wearing red Cardinal jerseys with Musial’s #6 on the back, stood at home plate amidst the 47,000+ fans and played in 5-part harmony with the ending notes drowned by applause and a B-25 fly-over from the Missouri Wing of the National Commemorative Air Force to commemorate Musial’s wartime military service. It was an awesome experience!

On Friday, April 12, about 30 members of the Gateway Harmonica Club of St. Louis played for fans at every entrance gate of the ballpark, where all ticket holders received a memorial Stan Musial harmonica. Fans were asked to join in playing “Take Me Out to the Ballgame” on their harmonicas in the middle of the 6th inning as part of the night-long tribute to Stan the Man.

Friday's game was dedicated to honor the life and legacy of Stan "the Man" Musial. The Musial Family took part in a pre-game ceremony which included ceremonial pitches and the dedication of a plaque in Stan's honor. Stan was a lifetime member of the Gateway Harmonica Club.

Frank Davis, president of the GHC, along with 3 other members (Bill Davis, Joe Fey, and Mary Ann Love) were invited to an impromptu telecast on Newschannel 5 at 4 on their way to the ballpark.



Springtime Picnic

Plan to attend the Gateway Harmonica Club picnic on Saturday, June 8, at Shady Springs Park in St. Peters. We have had several picnics there and it is a lovely private setting with great accommodations including pavilion and barbeque pits. Bring your own picnic lunch and drinks along with family and friends. Everyone is welcome. We always have a good time and play our harmonicas as a group and individually. Anyone who wants to play additional instruments – this is your opportunity. Starts at 12 noon. Come for awhile or all day. Rain or shine!

Directions: Take Hwy 70 West to Cave Springs Exit 225, continue west on I-70 North Outer Service Road until you pass Baue Funeral Home and turn right after U-Haul on Shady Springs Rd. Continue several blocks until you reach the park. See you there! *Remember to bring your harmonica!*

Christmas In July

The ladies of GHC invite everyone to attend the first Tuesday in July (2nd) for the annual Christmas in July celebration after the business meeting. Early notice, but the last chance to get out the notice in writing. Plan to attend and meet old and new friends. No gift exchange.

Change of Uniform

As of May 1 the club has changed over to the summer polo shirt uniform for gigs and other public performances.

Welcome New Members

- ★ Howard Mayes Spouse: Karen
- ★ Tom A. Wright

Let’s give them a warm and friendly welcome!

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

For information about club activities, contact:
 Frank Davis, President
 125 Braewood Circle
 St. Charles, MO 63301
 (636) 477-0354
 e-mail: fdavis0354@charter.net

To schedule a club performance, contact:
 Herb Huebner
 (314) 873-6633
 e-mail: info@gatewayharmonicaclub.org

All other correspondence should be directed to:
 MaryAnn Love
 Recording & Corresponding Secretary
 1162 Villa Flora Dr.
 O'Fallon, MO 63366
 (636) 379-7707
 e-mail: malove123@msn.com

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

SPAH CONVENTION 2013
*Society for the Preservation and
 Advancement of the Harmonica*
August 13-17, 2013
 Renaissance Airport Hotel
 St. Louis, MO
www.spah.org

SPAH dues are due! Renew or apply on-line or request application from one of the officers. SPAH dues includes a discount for SPAH registration.

Bill Dulin has been appointed SPAH Coordinator for the SPAH convention to be held in St. Louis in August 2013. If you have any questions or suggestions about this event, please contact Bill at imafosi@att.net

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

MAY

Michael LaRue	5/3
Robert Scurlock	5/8
Sharon Davis	5/11
Doris Rassman	5/27
Louise Cook	5/28

JUNE

Carole Hackmann	6/1
Joyce Barber	6/4
Jean Gerfen	6/6
Doris Michelin	6/9
Alice Asbury	6/15
Theon Heisserer	6/19
Pamela Hartig	6/21
Mike Maschek	6/26
Bill Nesslein	6/27
Laurie Hayduk	6/27
Bob Winston	6/28
Bill Davis	6/29
Rose Schmidt	6/29



Happy Birthday & Congratulations to all!

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!

**You've got to take the Good with the bad,
 Smile with the sad, Love what you've got,
 and Remember what you had.
 Always Forgive, but never forget.
 Learn from mistakes, but never regret.
 - Author Unknown**

Proposed Changes to Gateway

Harmonica Club By-Laws - Submitted by
Frank Davis at the stated meeting on March 5, 2013

ARTICLE 7 Elections

“B” Election of officers will be held at the first meeting in December or as otherwise required to fill vacancies. Officers will serve upon election for (2) two years. The offices of President and Vice-President shall not serve more than two consecutive terms. In filling vacancies or unexpired terms, an officer who has served more than one half (1/2) of a term is considered to have served a full term in that office.

Statement of Purpose:

The Secretary and Treasurer are important positions and if they are willing, it is good to keep them in their respective office.

Now reads:

Election of officers will be held on the first meeting in December or as otherwise required to fill vacancies. Officers will serve upon election for two years. No officer shall be eligible for more than two consecutive terms in the same office. In filling vacancies or unexpired terms, an officer who has served more than half (1/2) of a term is considered to have served a full term in that office.

By-law proposed changes require notice be sent in writing to all voting members prior to the next business meeting. This vote will be taken at the meeting of June 4, 2013.

Health Matters

Get Well Wishes go out to Woody Woodring on his hip replacement. We miss you, Woody!
Good news from Frank Davis – two eye surgeries and no complications!

Tribute to Richard Hayman

St. Louis Symphony is giving a tribute concert to Richard Hayman on May 19, 2013 at the Powell Symphony Hall with Mike Runyan invited to play the harmonica part as Richard Hayman is unable to attend.

Notes Received

From: Teresa & Sesto Stieven

All is well here and hope the same for everyone. Enclosed is Sesto's dues. I'm glad I read the "Reeder" so I could pay Sesto's dues. Hello to everyone.

Hope to see you soon.

Love, *Teresa*

From: Doris Michelin
Royal Oak, MI

Can't wait to see everyone in August '13.

Bet you guys are all busy – busy.

Doris

From: Laurie Hayduk

I think about all the wonderful members in the club, and feel honored to be a member, although not a regular attendee. I keep up with the newsletter, and enjoy the updates.

With good thoughts,
Laurie Hayduk

From: Bob Sandefur

Still Alive! Cat scan on 4-1-13 for my ascending aorta aneurysm. See you all when I can. *Bob*

From: Afton Senior Center

Hi! Everyone enjoyed your performance! I didn't know you gave to hospitals. Great! Maybe we can have you again. *Marie Bolte*

From: Newtown, Connecticut

On behalf of the people of Newtown, thank you for reaching out to our community. Your voice has been heard and your caring is deeply appreciated. Thank you for your condolences. It is comforting to know others care at this difficult time. Your compassion means so much. *Donna Wildman*

From: Kirkwood United Methodists

Thank you and your band so much for a wonderful evening and performance. The audience was thrilled! I am certain we will invite you to play again if your group is willing and able.

Please share with the band members our gratitude for using their talents to entertain our group. Good luck at the upcoming Cardinal games and lets hope they win. Blessings to each of you! *Dee*

Mike Tells It Like He Saw It- *by Mike Asbury*

Stan Musial Appreciation Day happened to tie the record for the coldest on record. We should have worn gloves. Cold feet and cold fingers were somehow compensated by the many smiles from the fans that passed by, almost all of whom were smart enough to be heavily dressed.

Ed Paszkiewicz and I were greatly supported by our wives who dropped us off near the Cardinal Administration Office, then left to search for a parking place. This saved us a long walk. The Cardinal office had a small couch (and we brought two chairs plus a table). It was warm and allowed access to restrooms, which were still another long walk and they had seats colder than an outhouse in Canada. The office personnel seemed to enjoy our impromptu practice session and hinted they could get us a shuttle to take us to our gate when the time came (1½ hours later). It wasn't necessary. Members of Gateway walking by saw us and came in to join us and get warm. Audria Gebhardt looked well prepared, bundled up head to boots. Our Red club vests were hidden by the large warm coats most people wore. Jay Hotze graciously & timely arrived with the hand-outs extolling the virtues of our club at its finest; i.e. Tuesday Nights.

Once we got to our assigned Gate (4) we attempted to set up a couple of times but the Souvenir vendors kept objecting and forcing us to move. We finally had to settle for a position where many patrons came through the gate without really noticing us. But all was not lost as we played our hearts out, pausing to rub our fingers.

The souvenir vendors didn't do so good but the food courts were doing great business. "Cold beer here, nine bucks," in a paper cup.

Christine Pondo came by and played with us for a time. She knew all the songs on our prepared play list of 32 and was a welcome addition. But the best way to stay warm in such weather is to keep moving! Christine was having a great time, going all over the stadium and this fact wasn't missed by Alice, who when finished giving out our Gateway cards (we ran out) left to take it all in. She came

back to tell us where the best Food courts were (the other side of the stadium), that Herb Huebner was a good soldier, the last man standing at his post doing his duty. The place was huge (and opulent considering the Luxury Rooms with personal waiters, bars, couches, other accouterments.) There were two levels of these glassed-in apartments offering the max in comfort (heaters, air-conditioning.) Dream on!

Alice and Beth were amazed by how many fans wanted them to show them right then and there how to play "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," and were especially impressed with the word "free" in regards to meetings at the Rock Church.

One niece saw us and came over and said, "Uncle Mike, Do you remember me?" Thankfully Alice did. I had last seen her at the family reunion in 2006. We wondered if we should have rented an amp, but it would have been a long way to carry such a heavy item and we had no certain source of electricity. Most fans went directly to the concession stands before going to their seats. And a fun time was had by all!!! Alice & Beth had the most fun "by talking to the fans." Fan, the root of **Fantastic!**

Blue Star Memorial Dedication

On April 27 the Gateway Harmonica Club was honored to participate in a Blue Star Memorial Dedication at the Weldon Springs Interpretive Center. Blue Star is an organization for mothers of children who are serving or have served in the U.S. Military. The patriotic program included Boy Scout Troop 724, the only special needs BSA Color Guard troop in the U.S.A. along with other troops. The program was sponsored by the Lewis & Clark Garden Club. The museum and refreshments were available afterward.

Kudos

Gratis goes out to **Jay Hotze**, who designed and published information index cards about GHC club to hand out at 'the ballgame' or anywhere thereafter. Thanks, Jay! Thanks to **Jessie Hirsch** for all the coordinations with ballgame events.

Never Again - by Richard Krueger

On February 16th, 2013, I participated in a talent contest entitled "The Talent Among Us" held in Jacksonville, Illinois, being put on by the Jacksonville Symphony Society, an attachment of the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra at Illinois College.

This would be the fifth time that I would be participating in this annual event, never being a winner.

Each time in the past, I was advised to try again with an accompanist. Each time that I heard this, I became more determined to try the contest once again, and using only my harmonica with no accompaniment. I wanted to show this musical group that the harmonica is a great instrument capable of producing beautiful and meaningful music. Definitely a goal that became stronger each year.

This year I thought hard about what might be a piece of music that could very well be suitable for solo playing without accompaniment. Then a thought came to me.

At the end of World War 2, I was a boy of eight years old. The happenings of the European holocaust and the associated horror were appearing in the newspapers. As a very innocent and impressionable boy of eight years old, I could hardly believe that humans could do these things to another human.

Being of German heritage, I have since carried guilt of these happenings, even though my parents were born in the US and that all of my grandparents immigrated to America long before the holocaust in Europe began. I wanted to be proud of my German heritage, and the holocaust was a scar upon it.

With this thought in mind, it came to me that a person confined in a Jewish ghetto in Warsaw or Cracow, Poland, would quite naturally play music using a harmonica only. Thoughts of the John William's piece, "Schindler's List" came to mind. Not only would it be suitable for the talent contest, but it would serve as a reminder to anyone hearing my performance, of the horror of the Holocaust and how such things should never occur again.

I mulled this idea over for quite some time, until one day Jim Melchers of our club came up to me and said, "I think that the song "Schindler's List" would be a good song for you to play for the club." It was then that I knew what my next selection would be for the talent contest. The theme from the great movie "Schindler's List" done by Stephen Spielberg.

I began to work on the song. The contest piece has a limit of six minutes and "The Theme From Schindler's List" came up quite short. This is when I got the idea of combining a song that I remembered from a very old Larry Adler harmonica recording that I always liked and often played. A Yiddish folk tune entitled "Mein Shtetele Belz," "My Little Town Belz." I combined the two songs, using "Mein Shtetele Belz" as an introduction to "The Theme from Schindler's List."

I wanted my audience to know and feel that I was portraying myself as a resident of a Jewish ghetto, playing my harmonica. The folk tune representing my prior life and the Schindler's theme representing the most horrible happenings thereafter. I wanted my playing to display the feelings of family and home, as well as disbelief, pain, suffering, and finally, peace. All of which might have happened to a Jewish person at that time.

To further represent this person, I dressed in clothing that might have been appropriate at the time. Ruffled, well-worn shirt and trousers, a Kippah (skull cap), and a Tzitzith (a male praying garment).

I performed this at the contest in February and was very satisfied with my playing. I was not a winner, but it really didn't seem to matter to me. I felt that I had showed symphony people what just a harmonica could do on a very important piece of music. It also gave a reminder of what had happened in history and should never occur again.

I also felt like I had contributed something to the memory of people that suffered during this past time.

In the program for the contest, I had them entitle my performance as "Never Again."



Stan Musial Memorial Day April 12, 2013 at Busch Stadium



We were dressed to prominently display our GHC red vest uniforms, but cold temps required bundling up!



Thanks to all who participated and made this a fun, unforgettable experience in the history of GHC!



Photo credits: Michael LaRue, Ernie Roberts, Bill Dulin, Ed Paszkiewicz, and everyone else for faithfully providing photos in many issues of the Reeder. Thanks to all!

WEEKLY EVENTS

Tuesday evening meetings at The Rock Church, 9125 Manchester, St. Louis, MO 63144:
 6:00 PM – Blues Group, led by Ed Cenatiempo – Everyone welcome
 7:00 PM – First Tuesday of month: Business Meeting – Everyone welcome
 7:00 PM – All other Tuesdays: Band Rehearsal – Everyone welcome
 8:00 PM – Open Mic – Everyone Welcome

PERFORMANCES, CLASSES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

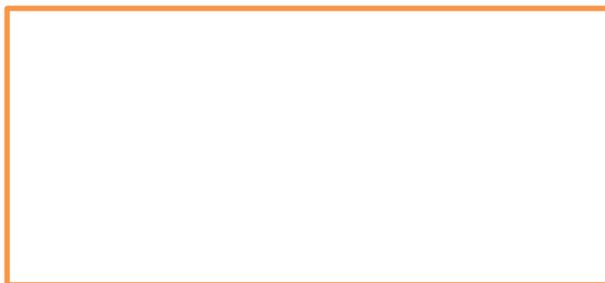
A list of the club’s upcoming performances, classes and special events is distributed each month at the business meeting. For the most up-to-date calendar of all GHC performances, classes and special events, go to www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org/calendar, which takes you to our online calendar. You can 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
47 Orchard Lane
Kirkwood, MO 63122



May



June

