

The Reeder



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

NEWS AND VIEWS - by *Mary Ann Love*



Congratulations to Frank Davis, GHC President!

Frank is shown accepting a plaque award from SPAH President Winslow Yerxa which reads:

“In Appreciation of Your Outstanding Dedication and Service as President 2013”

Frank writes to the club: “I have attended many SPAH conventions over the past 25 years and do believe this was the very best. The leaders of SPAH did a fantastic job this year. Over 500 people attended the Saturday night banquet and show. Hopefully we can top that next year.

I would like to thank everyone for their support over the years and especially during my term as president. I cannot express how grateful I am to all of you fellow GHC members for your cooperation and support, especially the following members. I will probably unintentionally omit someone, so I apologize before I get started.

Joe Fey has been a tremendous help to the club and especially to me. He was editor and publisher of the newsletter for many years. He has also served as band director, music arranger, booking agent and chord player.

Bill Dulin has been the contact person for SPAH for the past few years. Bill, Joe Fey and Herb Huebner promoted publicity in the St. Louis area with various media outlets for the SPAH convention.

MaryAnn Love has done a fantastic job as secretary, editor and publisher of the newsletter for 15 years, along with Joe Fey. She has also been teaching harmonica classes at the St. Charles Community College along with Ernie Roberts. Ernie has also been teaching at his church. Ernie is our professional photographer. Jim Melchers is our excellent web-master.

Buddy and Jessie Hirsh arrive early every Tuesday to teach at the club as well as at Meramec and Wildwood Colleges. Jessie and Buddy have taken turns as our treasurer for several terms.

Herb Huebner took over as booking agent from Charlie Pratte and also teaches at Parkway Junior High School and assists at other colleges.

Jay Hotze is doing a great job with most of our printing needs. And thanks for getting our new GHC shirts in time for the convention.

Pauline Guelbert is a trooper; she has been in charge of our CD and little harmonica sales at gigs. Judy Beer has joined her along with Sharon Davis helping out as required. Sharon Davis, along with Mary Ann Love has been in charge of the “Ladies Breakfast” at conventions held in St. Louis. Sharon has also been in charge of the Hospitality Room.

And I do not want to forget to thank all of the ladies who furnish the “goodies” every meeting night and also for the hospitality room: Alice Asbury, Thelma Dombi, Judy Beer, Sonia Pangilinan, Sharon Davis and to those I missed. I personally thank every member of the club for your participation in all events.”

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 2014
*Society for the Preservation and
 Advancement of the Harmonica*

*It has been announced that the SPAH
 Convention will again be held in
 St. Louis in August 2014*

Kindly submit your constructive criticisms of the 2013 SPAH convention to Bill Dulin , the St. Louis SPAH Coordinator, for the next SPAH convention to be held again in St. Louis - August 2014.

If you have any suggestions about this event, please contact Bill at imafosi@att.net

If you do not have further use for it, please bring your name tag holder from SPAH to the club meeting - Thanks, Joe Fey

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

SEPTEMBER

Greg Hommert	1 Sept.
Anita Sandefur	4 Sept.
Rosemary Nesslein	7 Sept.
Charles Pratte	9 Sept.
Terry Smith	9 Sept.
Jim Melchers	17 Sept.
Frank Davis	25 Sept.
Geza Dombi	25 Sept.
Jerry Bonfiglio	29 Sept.
Julie Melchers	29 Sept.

OCTOBER

Peggy Hudson	5 Oct
Thelma Dombi	10 Oct
Bill Dulin	30 Oct

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!

Goodbye to Sesto

Sesto Stieven passed on June 29, 2013 at age 92 and a number of GHC members played several hymns at the Kutis Funeral Home. Sesto was a long time member of the club and his wife, Teresa, was always an active participant in the Ladies Auxiliary of GHC. The Gateway Harmonica Club sent a memorial donation to the DeGreef Hospice branch of St. Anthony's Hospital. Teresa writes:

"Thank you for coming to play at Sesto's visitation. He loved playing the harmonica and we all enjoyed hearing the club perform!"

Teresa Stieven and Family

The Stieven Family enclosed a very generous donation to the Gateway Harmonica Club.

SPAH – Thrills & Chills

- by Alice Asbury 19 Aug 2013

I don't play the harp yet but hope to one day. I like to hear it played by someone who can make it talk. At this year's SPAH you could look around any corner of the hotel to get your fill. They would walk up to a group and just join in. It didn't seem to matter if you were good or not, just play along and you got better.

The first floor was always packed with people going to and fro looking for the next show to start or talking about the one they had just attended. Food was set up by vendors in the first floor hallway to let you eat on the run.

Sharon Davis always had a smile on her face and a helping hand up on the twelfth floor. This was the Hospitality floor. Sharon and I, with help from many others, Mary Ann, Judy, Pauline, Jessie, Christine, and more, provided many snacks, coffee, tea, lemonade. All with a spectacular view of the airplanes taking off and landing. We ran out of nearly everything and Sharon began rationing out things a little at a time. The Gateway Club ladies brought in more items each day. The club paid for the coffee and some of the goodies, but most of it was brought in by the ladies.

The ladies breakfast had a comedy act. Miss Margie was truly excellent and had everybody in stitches, the highlight of the morning. Then gifts were distributed by playing games and Pauline was throwing money around (chocolate money) and Judy helped. *All* the ladies went away with something to take home. Men were not allowed, probably a good idea. Who needs them, anyway, ha, ha. The bus trips went over well and were loved by all that took the tours. Thanks to Judy and Pauline.

Frank Davis received an award at the banquet, for a difficult job and well deserved. The food far exceeded expectations. Ernie seemed to be everywhere at once, taking photos, non-stop, where does he get such energy? Thanks for all that he does. I do have a comment about the breakfast, disappointing. A simple buffet would have been better, people could have chosen for themselves what they liked.

My First SPAH -_by Mark Olesnicki

I was not able to attend the SPAH convention every day, but I got a lot out of it anyhow. The Monday before the convention start about twenty of us came to the Renaissance Hotel to assemble registration packets. We didn't really need everybody, so some of us (I among them) took a lot of breaks and had more fun than we should have. Wednesday I helped with registration and then went to a seminar, "Basic Chromatic", by Phil Duncan. He wrote Mel Bay's "Complete Chromatic Harmonica Method" so he had a lot of knowledge to share. I liked his positive, easy attitude to learning and playing. During lunch I listened to the open mike performers in the lounge. There was a trio playing old tunes and I went up to talk to them on a break. The next thing I knew, I was leading them in the rarely-played verse of "Take Me Out To The Ball Game" and we all played the chorus. Chris Pondo was a witness. Wednesday afternoon I went to "Jazz Improv for Chromatic" by Jens Bunge. He is a Lutheran pastor from Germany who does amazing jazz. The class applauded during his class when he demonstrated his points by playing. I will never get anywhere close to that level, but it was a great class to take in. Thursday I took off, coming back Friday for "Classical Harmonica" by Robert Bonfiglio. This was another example of playing far above my possible level. He told some great stories, including his surprising use of a plastic-body Hohner 2016 harp for most of his playing. He frequently replaces reeds and reed plates himself. I hope to make use of some of the techniques he shared. After the seminar I went to the vendor area. I met the man from Hohner, Bart Thomas, who I communicated with earlier about Popular Mechanics magazine and Hohner. The story is in Hohners "Easy Reeding" magazine, Summer 2013. For me SPAH was: fun, learning new things, meeting interesting people and hearing great music. I'll try to do the next one full-time.



Busted at Spah 2013

- by *Mike Asbury*

Well, why not ? I've been busted everywhere else, grocery stores, doctor's offices, dentists offices, my hearing specialist - for Pete's sake how could it disturb the patients who can't hear ? However, I do have a cardiologist who likes my harmonica playing and asks me to play "just anything."

The customers at Aldi's, on Olive street road and on St. Charles Rock Road have made me glad, warm inside, even with blessings. Once in U.City one lady broke out in song like an opera singer and everyone in the store paused to listen. Her voice was so powerful and clear it gave me goose bumps. The song was "Rock of Ages."

On the other hand, Security guards, especially young ones, have to assert their importance and authority and tell me, "You can't do that in here." As I was playing quietly, gospel music, I ask "can I talk?" At this point they put their hands on their gun and glare at me. The old security guards usually come over and tell me how their uncles, grandpas and others played harp for them when they were young.

The authorities at Barnes hospital were quick to shut me up but I know that when I went to get the free flu shots it was a different story, smiles and encouragement from all directions. Above the first floor they are more important people, like first sergeants and above.

(Continued top of next column)

So when we went to St. Louis University Hospital for Alice's sister's passing I expected the worst. Alice's mom, 96, brought oil for anointing, we laid on hands, Mom prayed, loudly, in the Spirit, while I played "In The Garden," "Amazing Grace," "What a Friend," until an attendant said, "She's gone." The door opened and four Nurse/Nuns were staring at us and said it was beautiful and thank you. Not what I expected.



Health Matters

We have heard from **Mary Sue Warren** that **Glenda Warren** had a subtle stroke that resulted in short term memory problems. **Amada Warren** is seeking vocational recreation employment and **Josh** has been working at Six Flags. Our best to all!

Our thoughts and prayers go out to **Joe Fey** with an upcoming surgery. Also to **Alice Asbury** as she enters a heart correction interval.

Love to **Bob Norton**, who has been through eye, teeth, foot and toe treatments. Bob always wears a smile and has a friendly word and a jazzy tune.

Kudos to **Charlie Pratte** who has returned from eye, lung surgeries and a knee replacement. Best wishes to **Jackie Pratte**, undergoing chemo treatments.



On June 16 when the Gateway Harmonica Club played at Delmar Gardens North, they celebrated a combination of Father's Day and the 90th birthday of **Paul Pagano**, also known as "Mr. America" or "Father Time." Paul was a member of the GHC many years ago and has been seen around town at almost any patriotic function or festival. He dresses in red, white and blue, stars and stripes tie, hat, vest, and sometimes wore a sandwich board touting his love of America. Paul has enjoyed many years of promoting patriotism and cheer. After the performance the players were invited to enjoy cake and ice cream.

THE AMBASSADOR

- by Mike Asbury

My mom would give me 25 cents. The Boy Scouts on our block would walk up to the loop (still there), take the streetcar (5 cents) down to Grand Ave., transfer (free) to Dodier, get in free (Knot Hole Gang for the Scouts) buy a score card (10 cents), “You can’t tell the players without a scorecard” so after the game the man, yes, THE MAN, would sign it. He never refused. I kept them all, neatly, in my room.

Often, if I had spent my remaining dime on popcorn or crackerjacks, as several other scouts had, we would walk down Grand past the Fox Theatre to Olive and back home, get our gloves, ball and bat, then on to Heman Park (still there) and pretend we were Musial (at that time an outfielder).

It has been said that Stan Musial was actually very shy. I believe that. People who have attended his restaurant have told me it was easier to get him to play harmonica than to converse, even about baseball.

Few things are more handy to a shy person than a harmonica. If you don’t know what to say, don’t say

anything. Just get out your harp (never leave home without one) and play.

- Play:** While waiting for your honey to finish shopping
 Waiting in the doctor’s office
 At the dog park waiting for your dog to wear himself out
 Waiting at the bank
 For your car to be inspected, serviced, washed
 At yard sales
 At restaurants

Practice songs you should know by heart:

- Our National Anthem
- Happy Birthday
- Me Out to the Ball Game
- The Marine Hymn
- The Cassion Song

Enjoy!

*When I enlisted in the Army my mom cleaned out my room and threw out all the scorecards, my Stan Musial glove, Ralph Kiner baseball bat, Slingshot Sammy Baugh football, two boxes of baseball trading cards, all my Boy’s Life magazines, and Popular Mechanics.



Stuffing Packets, Chris Pondo, Sonia & Bob Pangilinan, Linda & Kaleena Hutchins & Guest, Shirley Perez and Howard Mayes, Stan Balwin & two spectators, Hermonicas Class (2), Mike & Alice Asbury and Mary Ann.Love, Open Mic players



Children at Kids Harmonicas (5), Jessie Cowan & bro, Fred Stover, Tom Wright, Joe Fey, Hotshots, Winslow Xerza, Miniature Harmonica Player, Sandy Weltman, Ruth & Herb Huebner, Ernie Roberts, Jay & Pat Hotze, Buddy Green, Beth Paszkiewicz, Hermonica players (2), Jerry Gibson



Rose Schmidt, Marie Roberts, Arpad de Kallos, Bob and Bennie Norton,
Judy Beer, Pauline Guelbert and Unidentified, Sue Fey, Charlie McCoy and guest,
Bill & Sharon Davis, Julie & Jim Melchers,
Joan & Harlan Rector, Jessie & Buddy Hirsch,
Madolyn S. & Frank Davis, Gateway Group, Audria Gebhardt & Bill Dulin

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

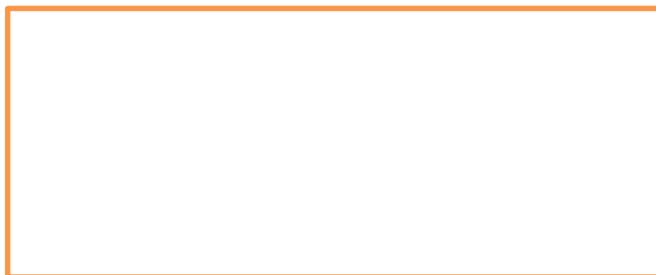
A list of the club’s upcoming performances, classes and special events is distributed each month at the business meeting. For the most up-to-date calendar of all GHC performances, classes and special events, go to www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org/calendar, which takes you to our online calendar. You can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



September



October

