

The Reeder



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

NEWS AND VIEWS - by *Mary Ann Love*

Election of Officers

Election of officers of the Gateway Harmonica Club for the next term (2014-2015) was scheduled to take place at the December business meeting. However, since there were no other candidates or volunteers to fill these positions, the incumbent board will continue to serve an additional two years, when term limits will require a change. Your continued support of the club is appreciated.

President:	Frank Davis
Vice President:	Bill Dulin
Treasurer:	Buddy Hirsch
Secretary:	Mary Ann Love

Dues Are Due!

Dues for regular membership are \$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 CD's 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 for dues payable to The Gateway Harmonica Club and deliver or mail to:

Buddy Hirsch
47 Orchard Lane
Kirkwood, MO 63122

To our supporting members who are unable to attend meetings for any reason or live out of town, please include a note with your check – we love to hear from everyone.

Charity Fund Distribution

Distribution of the funds earned by the club throughout the year has been sent in the amount of \$500 to each of the following charities:

Shriners' Childrens' Hospital
Cardinal Glennon Hospital for Children
St. Louis 100 Neediest Cases
Salvation Army
Rock Church (meeting venue)

The club has also made memorial donations during the past year in honor of several members who have passed on. In addition, the club offers a quarterly donation to the Rock Church, where we are privileged to hold our weekly meetings. This facility offers the space, comfort and central locality and we are fortunate to enjoy this convenient meeting place.

Some of the profits from earnings were expended in the coordination and accomplishment of a most successful 50th anniversary of SPAH. (Society for the Preservation and Advancement of the Harmonica) organization. We have heard nothing except raving reviews about the Gateway Harmonica Club hosting this event and are scheduled to host again in St. Louis August 2014.

We thank all those who have participated in the club's success: players at gigs, band leaders, equipment haulers and set-up people, salespersons, schedulers, website and article writers, officers, photographers, all members and their supportive spouses and families. Thanks also to the dedicated teachers at schools and club meetings.

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 - August 5-9, 2014
Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel***

SPAH dues are due!

**SPAH dues includes a discount for SPAH
registration.
www.spah.org**

• *The editor and officers reserve the right to edit texts received. Only substantial changes will be made in consultation with authors. The editors also reserve the right not to publish material submitted.*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

JANUARY

Mike Asbury	2 Jan
Teresa Stieven	4 Jan
Edward Heininger	8 Jan
Fred Stover	8 Jan
Pauline Guelbert	10 Jan
Betty Jean Luebbert	11 Jan
Howard Mayes	12 Jan
Charles Hudson	25 Jan
Jay Hotze	26 Jan
Joanna Sutterfield	28 Jan

FEBRUARY

Amanda Warren	8 Feb
Joan Rector	14 Feb
Ernie Roberts	21 Feb
Eunice Biermann	22 Feb
Kaleena Hutchins	22 Feb
Sandy Bonfiglio	27 Feb
Gloria Winston	28 Feb



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!

**Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass.
It's about learning to dance in the rain.**

**Some people grumble that roses have thorns
I am grateful that thorns have roses.**

BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY 2014



Joe Fey

I got my first harmonica when I was about 12. My dad wasn't a player but he apparently knew something about harmonicas and got me a Magnus 10-hole plastic chromatic. This was early post-WWII (ca 1946) and there weren't many "real" German harmonicas in the music stores. But I liked what I could play on the Magnus and before long managed to get hold of a 12-hole Hohner and then a 16-hole model.

All of my early playing was by ear, but a school friend who played accordion started answering my questions about note reading and I soon was figuring out how to read music. Another friend who lived across the street got interested in harmonica and bought a 16-hole, and we started playing current popular songs together. We heard about a harmonica club meeting at a nearby public library, so we went to a few meetings. We soon realized that the group was only interested in simple folk tunes on the diatonic, so we stopped attending — but not before we had met another visitor, Mildred Lochner, who played beautiful pop ballads on the chromatic. But she, like my friend and I, dropped out of the library group after only a few weeks and we lost contact with her.

In 1947 we, along with so many others, were captivated by the sound of a trio that called themselves The Harmonicats on their recording of Peg O' My Heart. I was particularly fascinated by what I later learned was the chord harmonica. That fascination stuck with me into my high school years. In 1951 I saw a chord harmonica in a music store, at which point the fascination became an obsession. I HAD to have one. I persuaded my dad

to cosign for me on my very first time payment purchase (\$150), and I was off to the races!!!

I joined in with a couple of high school friends to form a trio — one bought a bass, I persuaded another to learn the chord, and I reluctantly switched back to the chromatic.

After graduation I was happily stumbling through learning to play chords when a co-worker mentioned that her neighbor, a woman named Mildred, sometimes played harmonica with her brothers, who were professionals. Sure enough, this was the same Mildred I had met so many years earlier. I visited her home and was invited to start playing regularly with her and her brother Gene, who was the chord player in the professional group The Harmaniacs. Gene taught me a number of things about the chord harmonica. We had a lot of fun and actually played a few gigs together.

In the ensuing years I lost contact with my various harmonica friends, mainly because my life was full of new joys and challenges — marriage, raising two sons, pursuing new career opportunities, etc. I still played harmonica from time to time but only for my own amusement. At one point I even sold my beloved chord harmonica because I wanted to use the money for something else. (BIG MISTAKE!!!) But in the mid-80s, my wife surprised me with a very special birthday present — a new chord harmonica, which I immediately devoured and started the relearning process.

In 1987 I learned about the Gateway Harmonica Club in a neighborhood newspaper story. I promptly joined and was absorbed into the warm fellowship of the members and spouses. We have been blessed to have several bass and chord players as well as many chromatic enthusiasts. I started playing right away at the club's gigs as well as in several small ensembles. Beginning in 1988 and in almost all years since, I have also attended the annual conventions of SPAH, where I've made new friends from the U.S.A. and around the globe.

I look forward each week to our club meetings, where we rehearse and have fun at open mic. I also enjoy playing at gigs for a variety of audiences.

The above article was posted on the SPAH website.

WINTER

- *By Chris Pondo*

*Children are sledding down the hill
 Evergreens shine with falling sleet
 Woolen coats and scarves keep us warm,
 And sparrows feast on bittersweet.*

*Cardinals sing to each other'
 The fragrance of pinecones stays.
 Families and friends gather close
 To share joyful holidays.*

*Icicles decorate tall church spires
 Fluffy snow covers the ground.
 Frosty moonlight enchants the woods,
 Where rabbit and deer tracks abound.*

*Diamonds glisten in the snow
 Eagles fly high in the sky.
 Wood smoke's curling toward the heavens
 Beautiful winter is alive.*



Musial Auction Draws \$1.2 Million

Brad Choat (Twitter: @choatsnews) Nov 10, 2013



Portrait of American baseball player, Stan Musial of the St. Louis Cardinals in uniform (1960's)

CBS (KMOX) - The firm handling the auction of Stan “The Man” Musial’s personal collectibles says the sale that closed Saturday brought in more than 1.2 million dollars.

Chris Ivy with Heritage Auctions says that’s double what they had projected. Ivy says a special New York Yankee autograph fetched 53-thousand dollars, “It’s the ball that Babe Ruth signed for him. Stan got it before he was Stan Musial the legendary baseball player. He got that in 1940 when he was a minor leaguer, and kept it his whole life.”

Musial’s baseball jersey he wore in the U.S. Navy sold for \$16,000.

His St. Louis harmonica club vest and one of his favorite harmonicas sold together for \$7,700.

Musial’s World Championship ring from the 2011 Cardinals brought in a whopping \$191,200.

The Musial family decided to make the personal items available after Stan’s death, because they said they had accumulated too much stuff and wanted fans to own some of it.

The Musial family was reported to have donated the proceeds of this auction to charity.

Happy Customer

December 10, 2013

Please thank everyone with Gateway for their wonderful performance at our Christmas party this afternoon.

I received countless compliments. A few even said they weren't that crazy about my announcement that our party entertainment was going to be a harmonica group - but they were amazingly surprised at how enjoyable it turned out to be.

I was amazed at the large number in your group that performed for us. I was sort of expecting about 8. There was nearly double that. And the fact that your performances are voluntary to benefit the five charitable organizations says a lot about the dedication and good hearts of the folks in your group. God bless you all.

To Herb. . . (Scheduler and contact person)
Initially I asked a few men in your group if they were "Herb"... wanting to meet you ... but I had no luck... Then it seemed I got side-tracked. So IF you were there (he was!) I apologize for not pursuing my search for you.

Thank you again.

Deanna

South County Older Residents Computer Club

Members Health Concerns:

Charlie Pratte and **Rosemary Nesselin** continue to report health issues. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

This Day is Yours: Don't Throw it Away!

**The difference between Try and Triumph
is just a little UMPH!**

- Marvin Phillips

Semper Fi:

October 2013

Submitted by Mike Asbury

My wife, Alice, was having X-rays taken when I arrived with our kids to visit at the hospital. We were told it would be 30-40 minutes until she returned, so we went across the Rock Road to Fazoli's to get a sandwich.

As we were leaving I saw an elderly man wearing a Marine Corps ball cap, so I stopped and thanked him for his service and quickly drew my Diatonic Harp and started to play the *Marine Hymn*. Only then did I notice his right arm had been amputated and he had an old style artificial arm with the metal clamps. This may have caused me to play somewhat louder than I should have but when I finished the whole restaurant applauded and I said "Semper Fi" (always faithful) and shook his left hand.

The moral of this tale? Always carry your harp!
Never leave home without one!

Semper Fi



Alice and Mike Asbury

"To the world you might be one person,
But to one person you just might be the world."

- Author Unknown





7 Rules of Life

1. Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present.
2. What others think of you is none of your business.
3. Time heals almost everything, give it time.
4. Don't compare your life to others and don't judge them.
You have no idea what their journey is all about.
5. Stop thinking too much, it's alright not to know the answers.
They will come to you when you least expect it.
6. No one is in charge of your happiness, except you.
7. Smile. You don't own all the problems in the world.

Whispers of the Heart

WEEKLY EVENTS

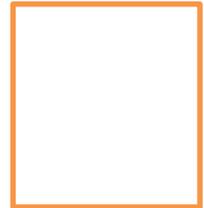
Tuesday evening meetings at The Rock Church, 9125 Manchester, St. Louis, MO 63144:
6:00 PM – Blues Group, led by Ed Cenatiempo – Everyone welcome
7:00 PM – First Tuesday of month: Business Meeting – Everyone welcome
7:00 PM – All other Tuesdays: Band Rehearsal – Everyone welcome
8:00 PM – Open Mic –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



January



February

