

# The Reeder



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

NEWS AND VIEWS - by *Mary Ann Love*

## SPAH CONVENTION 2014 Report

*Society for the Preservation and  
Advancement of the Harmonica*

Another successful SPAH Convention was held August 5-9, 2014 at the Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel. Many GHC club members participated in the performances, workshops, lectures, displays and seminars while they visited with 'old' harmonica friends and made new.

The Gateway Harmonica Club opened the event on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings with the St. Louis band playing a much-appreciated program. The SPAH Convention is scheduled for 2015 in Denver, CO at the Crowne Plaza during the second week of August.

## Acknowledgements:

Many members of the Gateway Harmonica Club worked very diligently and deserve credit for the SPAH convention hosted in St. Louis in 2014.

Thanks to all those who attended, stuffed packets, volunteered at various assignments. Special commendations to Bill Dulin (SPAH coordinator), Jay Hotze (Printing and Store), Mark Olesnicki, (publicity liaison with TV, radio, and newspaper media), Alice Asbury & Sharon Davis (Hospitality Room), Pauline Guelbert (Girl Friday), Sue Fey & Shirley Perez (club table reps), Judy Beer (tour coordinator), Ernie Roberts and Mike LaRue (Photographers), Buddy & Jessie Hirsch (anything they could), our fine Ladies Auxiliary (Ladies Breakfast), and last but not least - Frank Davis (GHC President). Now I'm going to get myself in trouble for missing some important names! - We appreciate everyone's efforts!

Music is what feelings sound like 

## HARMONICA HEALTH

To Harmonica Players and those who suffer from any form of COPD or other breathing difficulty:

The Thursday edition of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch (08/14/2014) has an article on pages B1 and B2 of the Health section concerning the recent SPAH (Society for the Preservation and Advancement of the Harmonica) convention held here in St. Louis last week. For several years SPAH has been promoting the use of the harmonica to aid in improving lung capacity and breathing properly. Three of the people who are especially involved in this process were interviewed for the article, which describes their work and the special features of the harmonica which make it so well suited to addressing the aforementioned problems.

For those of you who have had surgery and anesthesia, you know that after the surgery, you are given a plastic instrument to suck on (inhale) to wake up your lungs and get them to functioning

properly again. The instrument tastes like old plastic and it is very inconvenient and uncomfortable to do those exercises. Blowing and drawing on the harmonica can do the same thing -- and it's more fun and can be very entertaining once you learn how to make actual music with the thing.

You can probably view the article at the online web site for the Post-Dispatch - [STLTODAY.COM](http://www.stltoday.com/news/multimedia/videos/harmonicas-for-health/htmI_0310bb02-8f35-5a1d-bad5-50c60504db47.html).  
[http://www.stltoday.com/news/multimedia/videos/harmonicas-for-health/htmI\\_0310bb02-8f35-5a1d-bad5-50c60504db47.html](http://www.stltoday.com/news/multimedia/videos/harmonicas-for-health/htmI_0310bb02-8f35-5a1d-bad5-50c60504db47.html)

If you have questions or would like more information you may contact me or check out these web sites:

<http://www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org>  
<http://www.spah.org>

- Submitted by Ernie Roberts

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](mailto: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](mailto:fdavis0354@charter.net)

To schedule a club performance, contact:

Herb Huebner  
 (314) 873-6633  
 e-mail: [info@gatewayharmonicaclub.org](mailto: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](mailto:malove123@msn.com)

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

[www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org](http://www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org)

***One of the hardest decisions you'll ever face in life is choosing whether to walk away or try harder.***

• *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.*

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**“If a cluttered desk is a sign of a cluttered mind, of what, then, is an empty desk a sign?”**

**- Albert Einstein**

Quite a bit of information regarding club updates are communicated to members via e-mail. If you would like to be on the distribution list, send in your address, and any changes thereafter, to Frank Davis (address above) [fdavis0354@charter.net](mailto:fdavis0354@charter.net)

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

**SEPTEMBER**

Greg Hommert	1-Sep
Anita Sandefur	4-Sep
Rosemary Nesslein	7-Sep
Charles Pratte	9-Sep
Terry A. Smith	9-Sep
Roger Lemons	12-Sep
Jim Melchers	17-Sep
Frank Davis	25-Sep
Geza Dombi	25-Sep
Jerry Bonfiglio	29-Sep
Julie Melchers	29-Sep

**OCTOBER**

Peggy Hudson	5-Oct
Thelma Dombi	10-Oct
Sharon Rothnel	18-Oct
Bill Dulin	30-Oct



**Happy Birthday & Congratulations to all!**

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*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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**New Members:**

Welcome to **Tim O'Connell**, **Richard Leslie**, and **Margaret Gustafson** who also plays piano. Welcome Back to **Peter Trustman**. **Kiersi Wisecarver** is a young prodigy from Bowling Green, MO, who impressed everyone the opening evening of SPAH. Chris Pondo is sponsoring her membership,

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A BIT OF HISTORY

This bit of trivia was found on a game show (Sale of the Century). The question was "What 'H' did Mr. Lincoln bring to the Lincoln/Douglas debate?"

Preceding the Lincoln-Douglas debates in 1858 Stephen Douglas brought along a parade of brass bands, but Abe Lincoln said "A **harmonica** will do for me."

More History -

Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas were as different as night and day in appearance. Douglas, known as the 'Little Giant,' was only 5'4" and Lincoln a good twelve inches taller. Douglas arrived at each debate in his private railroad car with his

fashionable and social second wife, Adele. He was wealthy and dressed to perfection and confidence and had an eloquent and aggressive manner. Accompanying him was a flatbed railroad car with a shiny, brass cannon attended by soldiers who fired the cannon whenever they arrived in a new town. Lincoln had to pay for a seat on a passenger train car like other people and so by the time he arrived, he was covered with dust. Lincoln wore a dusty black coat with sleeves too short, a wrinkled shirt and tie that never seemed to be straight. He carried an old gray shawl and bulging umbrella. His wife mostly had to stay at home to take care of their sons and make ends meet while Lincoln campaigned.

*Sidebar: The site of the Lincoln/Douglas debate was one of the stopping points on the Alton/Great River Road tour during the SPAH convention.*

**Beer Barrel Polka**, also known as **Roll Out the Barrel**, is a song which became popular worldwide during World War II. The music was composed by the Czech musician Jaromír Vejvoda in 1927. The Czech title is "Skoda Lasky", meaning "Unrequited Love." The German version is known as Rosamunde. Everyone seems to know the chorus "Roll out the Barrel," but here is the rest of the story . . .

There's a garden, what a garden  
Only happy faces bloom there  
And there's never any room there  
For a worry or a gloom there

Oh there's music and there's dancing  
And a lot of sweet romancing  
When they play the polka  
They all get in the swing

Every time they hear that oom paa paa  
Everybody feels so tra-la-la  
They want to throw their cares away  
They all go lah dee ahh, dee ayy

Then they hear a rumble on the floor,  
It's a big surprise they're waiting for  
And all the couples form a ring  
For miles around you'll hear them sing

**Roll out the barrel, we'll have a barrel of fun**  
**Roll out the barrel, we've got the blues on the run**  
**Zing boom tararel, ring out a song of good cheer**  
**Now's the time to roll the barrel, for the gang's all here**

Daa daa daa, daa daa daa, daa daa daa

Then they hear a rumble on the floor  
It's a big surprise they're waiting for  
And all the couples they form a ring  
For miles around you'll hear them sing

Zing doo daa, doo ding doo, daa doo doo day

Roll it out, roll it out, roll out the barrel, dump dump,  
daa daa daa  
Sing a song of good cheer  
'Cause the whole gang is here  
Roll it out, roll it out, let's do the beer barrel polka

Due to health conditions, this will be my final issue as Editor of the Reeder. It has been my privilege to participate in the Gateway Harmonica Club and enjoy the friendship of all the members for many years.

*Mary Ann Love*



Jennifer Aniston with Herb







**Listed below are some websites to check out some of the convention interviews:**

[http://www.stltoday.com/news/multimedia/videos/harmonica-convention-comes-to-st-louis/html\\_aa9980d8-181b-5739-8e09-8906dd43c592.html](http://www.stltoday.com/news/multimedia/videos/harmonica-convention-comes-to-st-louis/html_aa9980d8-181b-5739-8e09-8906dd43c592.html)

Video by Cristina Fletes-Boutté, cfletes-boutte@post-dispatch.com

<https://cbsstlouis.files.wordpress.com/2014/08/harmonica-convention.mp3>

<http://news.stlpublicradio.org/post/if-car-talk-guys-played-harmonica-they-might->

*Thanks to Mark Olesnicki for arranging the Phil and Tony Sardo interviews.*

**WEEKLY EVENTS**

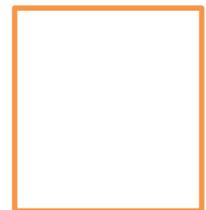
Tuesday evening meetings at The Rock Church, 9125 Manchester, St. Louis, MO 63144:  
6:00 PM – Blues Group, led by Ed Cenatiempo – Everyone welcome  
7:00 PM – First Tuesday of month: Business Meeting – Everyone welcome  
7:00 PM – All other Tuesdays: Band Rehearsal – Everyone welcome  
8:00 PM – Open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

