



The Reeder



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

NEWS AND VIEWS – *by Jay Hotze*

We are sorry to have to report that the Gateway Harmonica Club, and the World in general, has lost a truly fantastic individual. Ralph Barber passed away on February 14, 2019. Our dear friend was almost 90 years old. There is little question that he was a very good musician and he will be missed at club meetings, practices, gigs and open mics. The Club was requested to play at Ralph's funeral. His obituary follows:

Ralph A. Barber

Barber, Ralph A. died on February 14, 2019 in St. Louis County. He was preceded in death by his wife of 62 years Joyce H. Barber (nee Haggard) and survived by his daughter Anne (Michael Patrick) Murphy of Webster Groves.

Ralph graduated from Christian Brothers College High School in Memphis, TN and the University of Mississippi in Oxford, MS.

He enjoyed a fulfilling career as an aeronautical engineer focused on the design and development of military aircraft. He retired from both General Dynamics-Ft. Worth Division and the McDonnell Douglas Corporation of St. Louis (now Boeing). During his career, he worked on such projects as B-58, F-15, F-16, and F-18a along with a few "top secret" projects.

In addition to his passion for aircraft, Ralph loved classic vintage cars and enjoyed working on them. He liked making things, watching football, and reading about history, philosophy, and science. In retirement, Ralph volunteered as a math tutor in the Parkway School District Adult Education Program, served on the Town and Country Public Works and Storm Water Commission, and was a participating member of the Saint Louis Classical Guitar Society and the Gateway Harmonica Club.

After the death of his wife Joyce in 2013, he moved from his home in Town and Country to the Ashford Condominium in Webster Groves, where neighbors enjoyed his harmonica playing during weekly Happy Hours. Ralph will be remembered for his gentleness, kindness, quiet sense of humor, curiosity, intellect, and ability to fix anything.

His family thanks the doctors, nurses and other medical professionals at St. Luke's Hospital who cared for him.

Visitation Thursday, Feb. 21, 4:30-6:30 pm, followed by a Memorial Service at Bopp Chapel, 10610 Manchester Rd., Kirkwood, MO. In lieu of flowers, he asks that you enjoy the beauty of nature of which we are all a part, and celebrate the genius of humankind through its art, music, and literature.



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 Rd., Brentwood, MO.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org



Happy Birthday and 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 member's special highlight dates!



A from Helen – March 2019

Greetings to all. It's hard to believe that the holidays have come and gone and Spring, hopefully, will soon be here. I think we have all enjoyed our share of Winter so it's time to welcome warmer days. GHC continues to meet on Tuesday evenings and Buddy's sessions continue to grow and prosper with many new members who hopefully will soon join us in the group practice sessions to learn our new program music: Tic Toc Polka, Brazil, Carolina in the Morning, Peg of My Heart, Irish Medley, Hava Nagila, Cohan Medley, Let Me Call You Sweetheart, Train Medley, Just Because, Beer Barrel Polka, Bei mir bist du Schon, Quando, Quando, Quando, Alexander's Ragtime Band, Never on Sunday, St Louis Blues, and Saints Go Marching In.

GHC continues to book gigs and Jim Melchers is now our booking agent. We have quite a few upcoming performances. Did you know we now have a wedding music repertoire that was recently played when Jay Hotze's daughter got married?

Just a reminder membership dues of \$15.00 for 2019 can be sent to our treasurer, Jessie Hirsch, 47 Orchard Lane, St Louis, MO 63122.

There is a strong possibility that SPAH will hold the annual convention in St. Louis, back at the Sheraton Westport Chalet, in the near future. For those who did not attend last year you missed a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a week of outstanding sessions and music. Dues for SPAH can be completed on their website.



SHORT'NIN' BREAD • BY JULIE MELCHERS

“Chestnuts roasting on an open fire” were some of the Christmas season comfort foods of times past, as evidenced in the song. Who hasn't wished for more time at Christmas to gather with loved ones to sit around a table or fire and reminisce? What with our busy lives, the nostalgia, ambience, the hopes and dreams evoked and captured in books and movies are almost lost to us now except in parks where you can “hear those sleigh bells ringing...” and take the tour-probably all by yourself. Our family never roasted chestnuts but we had something better: Christmas. As children, we dreaded and looked forward to the Christmas Eve service and our participation in it: the sack of fruit and goodies prepared by the elders for everyone to have a gift, the candlelight service, Christmas Day with “presents under the tree,” the feast at Grandma's house when we were young and mom's Christmas cookies afterward! She made so many different kinds we weren't allowed to sample them all at one sitting! We were taught the real meaning of Christmas and the cookies were a bonus!

This year, because of the way our lives have been swept and the busy scheduling of the club, I baked cookies AFTER Christmas. I've received cards after Christmas from some and have even had to do that myself once or twice because of the way things are. I'm sure you all know there are difficulties. Betty Crocker's shortbread cookies having become a yearly favorite of ours (since my sugar cookies never turned out quite as good as my mom and dad used to make and I still wanted to include a sugar-like cookie, because someone where we both worked once used to give Jim a box of shortbread cookies during the holidays which were a great addition and I once saw Martha Stewart do shortbread on television and wanted to give it a try myself and never did, not being able to find the shortbread pan when I had the money to buy one.) This year I found her recipe for her delectable and delicate pecan shortbread

cookies and was not disappointed in the least! I had a little bit of extra time, hurried to mix up the cookies and in my haste forgot the vanilla. I was up till all hours of the morning baking them a few nights later but didn't care because they were so delicious anyway. Those in the club who sampled them when I got them done thought they were great also. We were hoping to reprint her recipe also. “In the bleak midwinter” while drab and darkness abound, especially this year, slaving over a hot oven when the outcome is a delicate, delectable shortbread cookie isn't much of a chore. For your enjoyment, we're including the Scotch shortbread cookies recipe by Betty Crocker reprinted by permission as follows with the score for Shortnin' Bread submitted by Jim Melchers with the tablatures by Jay Hotze so you can cook up a little music on your harmonica.-- Julie Melchers

From Betty Crocker's Picture Cook Book,
c. 1950 p. 203:

SCOTCH SHORTBREAD

Old-time delicacy from Scotland...crisp, thick, buttery.

Mix together thoroughly:

1 cup soft butter

5/8 cup sugar (1/3 cup plus 2 Tbsp.)

Stir in:

2½ cups sifted GOLD MEDAL flour

Mix thoroughly with hands. Chill dough. Roll out 1/3" to 1/2" thick. Cut into fancy shapes (small leaves, ovals, squares, etc.). Flute edges if desired by pinching between fingers as for pie crust. Place on ungreased baking sheet. Bake. (The tops do not brown during baking...nor does shape of the cookies change.)

Temperature: 300° (slow oven).

Time: Bake 20 to 25 minutes.

Amount: About 2 dozen 1" x 1½" cookies

Short'nin' Bread

Three lit-tle chil-dren, ly - in' in bed, Two were sick and the
 Put on the skil - let, slip on the lid, Mama's gonna make a lit - tle
 When those child-ren, sick_ in bed, Heard that talk a- bout.

oth - er al - most dead. Sent for the doc - tor and the
 short - 'nin'__ bread. That ain't__ all__ she's__
 short - 'nin'__ bread. Popped up__ well__ to__

doc - tor said, "Give those chil-dern some short - 'nin' bread."
 gon - na do, Mamas gonna make a little cof - fee, too.
 dance and sing, Skipped a - round and cut the pi - geon wing.

Ma - ma's lit - tle ba - by loves short - 'nin', short - 'nin',

Ma-mas' lit-tle ba-by loves short- 'nin' bread, Ma-ma's lit-tle ba-by loves

short- 'nin', short- 'nin', Ma-mas' lit - tle ba - by loves short - 'nin' bread.

HAVE YOU EVER PONDERED THESE SALIENT THOUGHTS?

I used to eat a lot of natural foods until I learned that most people die of natural causes.

Can you cry under water?

How important does a person have to be before they are considered assassinated instead of just murdered?

Why do you have to “put your two cents in”... but it’s only a “penny for your thoughts”?
Where’s that extra penny going? (taxes)

Once you’re in heaven, do you get stuck wearing the clothes you were buried in for eternity?

What disease did cured ham actually have?

How is it that we put man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?

Why is it that people say they “slept like a baby” when babies wake up like every two hours?

If a deaf person has to go to court, is it still called a hearing?

Why are you IN a movie, but you’re ON TV?

Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?

Why do doctors leave the room while you change? They’re going to see you naked anyway.

Why is “bra” singular and “panties” plural?

Why do toasters always have a setting that burns the toast to a horrible crisp, which no decent human being would eat?

Can a hearse carrying a corpse drive in the carpool lane?

If the professor on Gilligan’s Island can make a radio out of a coconut, why can’t he fix a hole in a boat?

If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, what is baby oil made from?

If electricity comes from electrons, does morality come from morons?

Why do the Alphabet song and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star have the same tune?

Why did you just try singing the two songs above?

Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog’s face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him for a car ride, he sticks his head out the window?

HOW DID THE MAN WHO MADE THE FIRST CLOCK KNOW WHAT TIME IT WAS?



HAPPY BIRTHDAY PAULINE



WEEKLY EVENTS

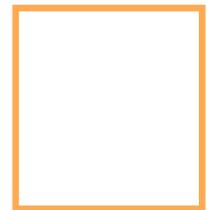
- Tuesday evening meetings at The Rock Church, 9125 Manchester Rd., St. Louis, MO 63144:
- 6:00 PM – Blues Group, led by Ed Cenatiempo and Audria Gebhardt – Everyone welcome
- 6:00 PM – Beginner/Intermediate Practice, led by Buddy Hirsch – Open to anyone
- 7:00 PM – First Tuesday of month: Business Meeting – Everyone welcome
- 7:00 PM – All other Tuesdays: Band Rehearsal – Everyone welcome
- 8:00 PM – Open Mic – Everyone Welcome

PERFORMANCES, CLASSES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

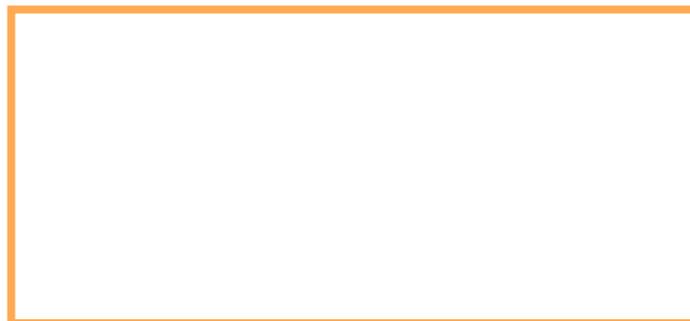
A list of the club’s upcoming performances, classes and special events is distributed each month at the business meeting. For the most up-to-date calendar of all GHC performances, classes and special events, go to www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org/calendar.htm, which takes you to our online calendar. You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



MARCH



APRIL

