



# THE REEDER

“Have harmonica, will travel.”

January/February 2023

## Celebrating the Life of Dave Sorenson

By Linda Jacobs

Dave Sorenson, harmonica player, mentor and friend, died suddenly on Thursday, December 1, 2022, at age 73. Born in Beatrice, Nebraska, he moved to St. Louis in 1977, where he contributed time and talent to many community organizations, including the Gateway Harmonica Club.

Dave joined the club in 2018 and, soon after, his passion for music, especially the blues, was a highlight of GHC’s weekly hour-long session called “the blues group”. Due to his talent, experience and willingness to teach other musicians, Dave grew to be the leader of the blues group. He shared soulful backing tracks, suggested tablature for blues riffs, and gave tips on diatonic harmonica playing techniques. Dave could always be counted on for quite a few laughs, helping everyone to feel like a valued member of the group.

Dave’s final enjoyment of the blues was while on a trip to New Orleans with Barb, his wife of more than 50 years. He loved the “Big Easy” and visited frequently over the years.

Dave worked in finance and banking, becoming an independent financial advisor in 1989 and the owner of Sorenson Financial in Ellisville. In fact, during the pandemic, he invited the GHC blues group members to meet on the outside patio of his office in order to

reduce potential exposure to COVID-19.

An enthusiastic music lover with an encyclopedic knowledge of all things



**Dave Sorenson**  
February 6, 1949 - December 1, 2022

blues, he was a fixture of the St. Louis blues scene who especially loved blues history and had a reputation of being an authority on the subject.

Dave played an integral part in the creation of the Washmo Blues Society, a non-profit organization in Washington, Missouri, dedicated to promoting blues music within the area-wide community. Also, he spearheaded fund-raising efforts for the Killer Blues organization’s headstone project, which provides headstones for blues musicians in unmarked graves. In addition, Dave was known to contribute

a riff or two on the harmonica as he served as a judge for the International Blues Competition in Memphis.

Dave loved to travel the country to blues events. A great musician and person, he will be missed by many, including members of GHC. He leaves behind four children and nine grandchildren.

His funeral was held at the Living Word United Methodist Church on December 10, where singer-songwriter Amanda Fish, a representative of the Washmo Blues Society, played Dave’s favorite blues standards. According to his son Austin, even while in the casket Dave had a harmonica in his hand.

On behalf of the Gateway Harmonica Club, a donation was made to the Washmo Blues Society in memory of Dave Sorenson. Also, individuals made a combined contribution on behalf of the GHC Blues Group to the Killer Blues’ Headstone Project. (More about Dave on p. 14)

## News & Views / Bulletin Board

By Linda Jacobs

### GHC Meetings Resume

After a 2-week vacation during the holiday season, GHC’s weekly meetings resumed on Tuesday, January 3. Details about weekly meetings are on the back cover. (More “News & Views / Bulletin Board” on p. 2)

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# News & Views / Bulletin Board

(continued from p. 1)

## 2022 Charitable Contributions

During the December business meeting, Treasurer **Mark Olesnicki** presented transmittal letters and checks for GHC's 2022 charitable contributions to the following: Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital, Shriner's Children's Hospital, St. Louis Children's Hospital, St. Louis Post-Dispatch's 100 Neediest Cases, Salvation Army, and the Rock Church, our meeting place.

## Congratulations, Ernie Roberts!

Congratulations to GHC photographer **Ernie Roberts**, whose photos were featured in a 13-page spread in the Fall 2022 issue of SPAH's quarterly international publication, *Harmonica Happenings*. Through a wide variety of shots taken during the SPAH Convention 2022, Ernie accomplished very interesting and nearly complete coverage of the 5-day event in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Well done, Ernie!



## 2022 Newsletter Contributors

GHC members and supporters, listed below, are recognized for their 2022 contributions to the club's newsletter, *The Reeder*. Well done! Thank you!! (Omission? Please let us know.)

Ed Albers	Louise Georgia	John McNamara	Bob Ripley
Helen Allen	John Grindon	Jim Melchers	Ernie Roberts
Bud Anders	Margaret Gustafson	Joyce Melchers	Marie Roberts
Scott Aschinger	Theon Heisserer	Julie Melchers	Alice Russell
Sandy Bonfiglio	Henry Heppermann	Shirley Merckling	Ann Samuels
Jerry Chapman	Tim Heppermann	Diane Neely	Clara Schuh
Pierre Dacquain	BW Honeycutt	Bennie Norton	Dave Seehra
Bill Davis	Ruth Huebner	Bob Norton	Joe Stenger
Rick Davis	Mike Ives	Tim O'Connell	Fred Stover
Sharon Davis	Linda Jacobs	Jennie Ojeda	Jan Studer
Reed DeLaet	Don Johnson	Mark Olesnicki	Scott Studer
Bill Dulin	Kathy Kelly	Dan O'Neal	Johanna Sutterfield
Ruth Eggers	Debbie Kinard	Shirley Perez	Leonor Trustman
Sue Fey	Michael LaRue	Chris Pondo	Peter Trustman
Audria Gebhardt	Shelly Lee	Jan Rambaum	Lucy Wilson

## Annual Dues

Payable after January 3rd and delinquent on March 1st, annual dues are \$15 and will be collected by **Mark Olesnicki**. Folks with a Regular membership will be contacted by email or phone. No action is needed from Lifetime and Honorary members.

## SPAH Convention 2023 Volunteers

Plans are taking shape for GHC to host the next SPAH convention, August 15-20. If you would like to volunteer, please contact a GHC officer, **Linda Jacobs**, **Jim Melchers**, **Tom Sutterfield**, or **Mark Olesnicki**.



**THE REEDER** is a bimonthly publication of the Gateway Harmonica Club, Inc., of St. Louis, Missouri, a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and advancement of the harmonica.

Send **corrections, additions, articles and ideas** to [editor@gatewayharmonicaclub.org](mailto:editor@gatewayharmonicaclub.org) or call (314) 325-6819.

## Happy Birthday

### January

- 2 John Clark
- 4 Kathy Kelly
- 8 Mike Ives
- 8 Fred Stover
- 11 Louise Georgia
- 11 Robert Samuels
- 26 Jay Hotze
- 26 Scott Studer
- 28 Patti Stenger
- 28 Johanna Sutterfield

### February

- 8 Amanda Keith
- 17 Don Phillips
- 21 Ernie Roberts
- 26 Henry Heppermann
- 27 Sandy Bonfiglio

## Happy GHC Anniversary

### 35 Years

- Bud Anders
- Jim Melchers

### 30 Years

- Bill Nesslein
- Peter Trustman

### 10 Years

- Donna Hall
- Mark Olesnicki

### 5 Years

- Margie Kindt
- Don Johnson
- Janice Rambaum
- Sunny Sickel

## Condolences

Deep sorrow is shared with the Sorenson family and friends after the passing of GHC member, **Dave Sorenson**.

Sympathy is extended to **Bob Norton** and his wife **Bennie** on the passing of **Bennie's** brother, **Lloyd Decker**, 86 years old, Nashville, Illinois.

## GHC Leaders 2023

### OFFICERS

- President** Linda Jacobs
- Vice President** Jim Melchers
- Secretary** Tom Sutterfield
- Treasurer** Mark Olesnicki

### CHAIRPERSONS

- Archives Librarian** Ernie Roberts
- Beginners Class** Linda Jacobs
- Blues Group Leader** Mark Olesnicki
- Booking Agent** Jim Melchers
- College Class Instructors** Linda Jacobs  
Don Johnson  
Jim Melchers  
Mark Olesnicki  
Ernie Roberts
- Health & Wellness** Audria Gebhardt
- Meeting Site Liaison** Tom Sutterfield
- Membership Director** Linda Jacobs
- Music Director** Bill Dulin
- Music Librarian** Clara Schuh
- Newsletter Editor** Linda Jacobs
- Photographer** Ernie Roberts
- Sales Manager** Tim O'Connell
- Van/Sound Equipment** Jim Melchers
- Webmaster** Jim Melchers
- Zoom Facilitator** Linda Jacobs

## We Get Letters



### Holiday Greetings

May everyone have a wonderful Christmas holiday as we celebrate the gifts we have been given in our lives from our Heavenly Father. Blessings to all of you.

*Sandy Bonfiglio*

### Donations in Memory of Dave Sorenson

Thank you to the Gateway Harmonica Club of St. Louis for your recent donation in memory of Dave Sorenson. Your support will help us continue our mission of providing headstones for blues artists lying in unmarked graves. As you know, Dave was a huge supporter of our organization and would be pleased with your donation in his name.

*Steven A. Salter*, President, Killer Blues

Editor's Note: *A donation to the Killer Blue's Headstone Project, one of Dave's favorite causes, was made by combined contributions from individual members of GHC, many who were from the blues group. Also, on behalf of the Gateway Harmonica Club, \$50 was donated to the Washmo Blues Society, a charity designated in Dave's obituary.*

### Special Birthday Card

This card is what my great-granddaughter made me for my birthday!

*Bud Anders*

Editor's Note: *For the rest of the story, see p. 11.*



### GHC Newsletter - November/December

You guys have a great newsletter, and it was very nice of you to include me. Also thanks for being so welcoming in October when I visited. See you later in St. Louis (certainly at SPAH).

*Scott Paulding*, President, Mile High Harmonica Club

Your newsletter, "The Reeder", is very interesting and well done! The principle of the open microphone is a good idea; information about the life of GHC expresses a friendly brotherhood of the impressive number of members. There is a very good atmosphere.

*Pierre Dacquain*

All the contributors did a wonderful job on the newsletter.

*Joyce Melchers*

This newsletter is truly a publication masterpiece. There is so much very interesting and appropriate content in it. It's also laid out so well. I have some idea of how much work went into producing this and I'm truly awestruck. Thank you.

*Ruth Huebner*

Bill and I are really enjoying the newsletter. It's so entertaining!!

*Sharon Davis*

Fantastic newsletter! Lots of news, information and great photos. Cover page with members' photos is amazing. Thank you!

*John Grindon*

Wow! This is one great newsletter!

*Jim Melchers*

The newsletter is absolutely the best I've ever seen.

*Helen Allen*

Good newsletter cover. Nice variety of shirts!

*Chris Pondo*

Congratulations and sincere thanks for all the wonderful news and photos in the newsletter!! What a dynamite issue!!!! Also, it can serve as a wonderful talking point when we meet with potential members. May our editor and the contributors continue with journalistic excellence!

*Jennie Ojeda*

This issue of "The Reeder" looks great, especially all the members on the front page.

*Audria Gebhardt*



# What's Happened & Happening

By Linda Jacobs

## Holidays, Family, Friends & Fun!



**Tim O'Connell**  
Santa Claus



**Mark Olesnicki** with Lou Heymann, dreidels & chocolate coins, 12/13



**John Friedrich & Charley**  
Family of Linda Jacobs  
At a gig, 12/19



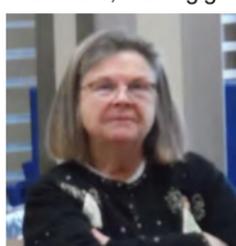
Seen by **Julie Melchers**, 12/16 gig



4-year-old **Charley** plays a carol, 12/19



**Reed DeLaet**  
Harmonica & jingle bells, 12/19



**Johanna Sutterfield**  
At a gig, 12/19



**Jay Hotze & Clara Schuh**  
1904 World's Fair Society



**Tom & Johanna Sutterfield**  
At a gig, 12/17



**Ed Cenatiempo**  
At a gig, 12/17



**Patti & Joe Stenger**  
At a gig, 12/13



**Chris Pondo** shares Christmas carols on a tremolo, 12/19



**GHC & jingle bell ringers**, 12/19

## GHC 2022

By Bill Dulin

In our 35th year, 2022 started out with a new president, **Linda Jacobs**, new vice president, **Jim Melchers**, and new treasurer, **Mark Olesnicki**. **Audria Gebhardt** continued as secretary. We were back to in-person meetings but retained our Zoom connections for those who couldn't attend.

In May we had the 35th anniversary party at Miss Sheri's. It was well attended and everyone had a good time. The same can be said about our Christmas-in-July party, annual picnic in Love Park, and the Christmas party. Also, in early October **Tom Sutterfield** was elected as secretary after **Audria** resigned in late September.

Our new membership directory was compiled and edited by **Linda Jacobs**. It not only lists all of our members but also has a lot of history of the club. It is quite an accomplishment.

The SPAH convention was held in Tulsa in August. It was the first time we had met in person since the pandemic started. It was good to see our friends again; however, the attendance was only about half our usual. I was surprised that I was given the Stan Harper Award of Special Merit. What an honor to be on the list with Joe Fey and Frank Davis.

The down side was losing Buddy Hirsch and recently Dave Sorenson and Theon Heisserer. They will be remembered and missed by all who knew them.

With the loss of Buddy and Jessie, our rhythm section was gone. **Linda Jacobs** stepped in and has done a remarkable job of playing the bass. Likewise, **Jim Melchers** has taken up playing the chord and has become an excellent player. He even makes the solo part of Peg O' My Heart look easy. Without them we would not have a band. Also, **Jim** is now driving the van and storing the sound equipment.

We did 34 performances (gigs) in 2022 and we are booking for 2023. A special thanks to all of our members that make the gigs. Look for new music for our 2023 performances.

## GHC Performances

### SCDC at St. Catherine Laboure

During the evening of October 27th, in the cafeteria of the grade school of St. Catherine Laboure Catholic Church in Sunset Hills, nine club members gathered to entertain members of the single/widowed/divorced support group, referred to as SCDC.

### Addington Place

Shiloh, Illinois, was the destination as 12 members of the Gateway Harmonica Club traveled over 30 miles to entertain at a senior living facility, Addington Place of Shiloh, on Sunday, October 30th.



**Addington Place, 10/30** (L-R) Linda Jacobs, Mark Olesnicki, Jim Melchers and Music Director Bill Dulin (photo by Ernie Roberts)



**Westchester House, 12/1** (L-R) Music director Bill Dulin, Tom Sutterfield, Julie Melchers, Herb Huebner, Jim Melchers, Joe Stenger and Clara Schuh (photo by Ernie Roberts)

### Westchester House

Early on a Wednesday morning, December 1st, we gathered at the Westchester House, a nursing and rehabilitation facility in Chesterfield. Ten club members played to a good crowd.

### 1904 World's Fair Society

Ten GHC members played the club's holiday program followed by a singalong of "Meet Me in St. Louis" during an event held by the 1904 World's Fair Society at the Forest Park Golf Course clubhouse.



**1904 World's Fair, 12/31** (L-R) Ernie Roberts, Mark Olesnicki, Herb Huebner, Jay Hotze, Clara Schuh, Julie Melchers, Jim Melchers, Audria Gebhardt, Linda Jacobs and Bill Dulin

### Nazareth Living Center

Entertaining the residents of the independent living facility at the Nazareth Living Center on the afternoon of December 8 in south St. Louis County was a pleasure.

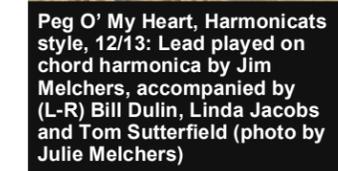


**Nazareth Living Center - Independent Living**



### Brookdale Senior Living

An afternoon performance at Brookdale Creve Coeur on December 13th was a delight as 10 musicians, along with the residents, celebrated the coming of Hanukkah.



### O'Fallon Senior Center

On Friday, December 16th, 10 AM, Jim Melchers directed seven band members while playing the Christmas program at the O'Fallon Senior Center in O'Fallon, Missouri.

### Bethesda Orchard

It was a pleasant evening in Webster Groves on December 17th as 10 harmonica players entertained a packed house.



**Bethesda Orchard, 12/17** (L-R) Julie Melchers, Herb Huebner, Tom Sutterfield, Linda Jacobs, Jim Melchers, Mark Olesnicki, Audria Gebhardt and Music Director Bill Dulin (photo by Ernie Roberts)

### Atonement Lutheran

A fun time was had by 10 musicians and the audience at the Lutheran Church of the Atonement on the afternoon of December 19th, a joyful final gig prior to the club's holiday vacation.



**Atonement Lutheran, 12/19** (L-R) Herb Huebner, Linda Jacobs, Julie Melchers, Jim Melchers, Chris Pondo, Bill Dulin, Mark Olesnicki, and Tom Sutterfield (photo by Ernie Roberts)

# Just for Fun

## The Traveling Harmonica

By Louise Georgia

In the past year, I went to Paris to pretend I lived there. My harmonica and sheet music came along. I had an apartment there which overlooked the Seine, Notre Dame (under its reconstruction), and the Eiffel Tower. It is important to know that the owner lived in the apartment below me.



A Frenchman playing his guitar in a small square

The summer solstice came upon me and in Paris anyone and everyone is encouraged to play music anywhere. That meant that the subway stayed open all night, street corners were occupied by guitar playing/singing individuals, and even groups of seven or eight band members were playing music all night on the streets.

I wanted to join in but those of you that know me well realize I had three things against me: I am much too shy to play music on the streets, being out at night by myself didn't seem like something my kids would be happy about, and I am not a very good harmonica player. That did not stop me from joining in. At my 7th floor open window, I sat and softly played a few of the songs from my class book. I didn't want to play too loud as I didn't want the owner to hear me, but I did play music on the summer solstice in Paris.



The window where I played the harmonica on the summer solstice in Paris

Later in

the year I went to Nepal and Bhutan with a girlfriend from work. Yes, my trusty harmonica came along, too. Bhutan is a tiny country located between China and India. They had festivals going on at the time, and there was lots of dancing, singing, and musical instruments being played. I got up my nerve and brought my harmonica to one of the festivals and ever so softly joined in.

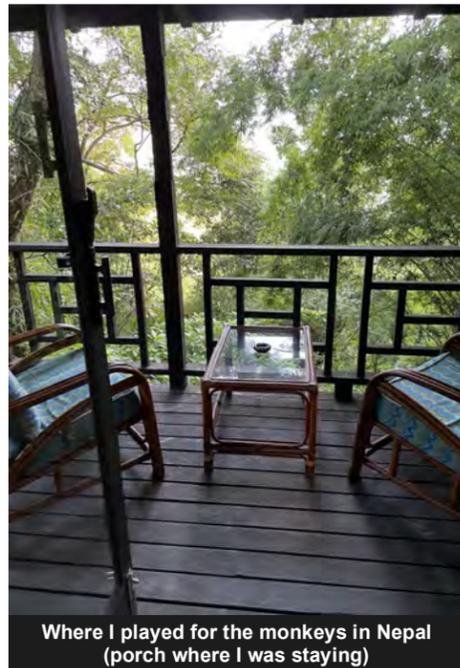


Riding halfway up to the "Dragon's Nest" in Bhutan

In Nepal, there are the beautiful Himalayas and, when Wendy went for a walk with a local guide, I played on our front porch for the enjoyment of the monkeys that were bouncing from one branch to another. They seemed to clap when I finished, much to my delight.

Where to next? I'm not sure, but I do know my harmonica will join me.

I'm so glad I don't play the tuba.



Where I played for the monkeys in Nepal (porch where I was staying)



Festival in Bhutan



A view of "Fish Tail" mountain in the Himalayas, north-central Nepal

## "Season's Greetings"

Known for his quiet demeanor, creativity, and dry sense of humor, Bob Ripley invents and sends an electronic holiday card each year.

Bob joined GHC in 2021 and regularly participates in the beginners class through Zoom and occasionally remains online for band practice or a business meeting.

Here's the content of his fun and interesting electronic Christmas card of 2022.

\* \* \* \* \*

"CLOVES, OREGANO, CINNAMON, ALLSPICE AND LEMON ZEST ALL SEND GREETINGS!" was the subject of the email sent by Bob Ripley.

"I, too, say 'Season's Greetings!'", he wrote in the content of the email and included the following photo, adding even more thought-provoking fun!



Bob Ripley



Herb Huebner



Tom Sutterfield



Kathy Kelly



Dan O'Neal

## Open Mic & Practice

(photos by Ernie Roberts, exceptions noted)

"Be persistent and just keep going to open mics no matter what, even if just to watch and not perform. You'll find that, although you may make mistakes, you're on the way to improving."

~ Anonymous (shared by Linda Jacobs)



Ernie Roberts (photo by Linda Jacobs)



Joe Stenger (L), Linda Jacobs & Jim Melchers



Mark Olesnicki



Linda Jacobs



Audria Gebhardt



Reed DeLaet



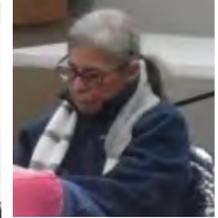
Stan Baldwin



Julie Melchers



Tim O'Connell



Jennie Ojeda



Louise Georgia



Don Johnson



Joe Stenger



Jim Melchers (photo by Louise Georgia)



Tim Heppermann



Jan Studer



Bill Dulin



Scott Ashchinger



Mark Olesnicki (L), Jim Melchers & Linda Jacobs

# Christmas Party

## Beginning to Look Like Christmas

By Jennie Ojeda

What a fun time everyone at the Gateway Harmonica Club holiday dinner appeared to have on Tuesday, the 13th! Dinner chairperson **Ruth Huebner** organized a truly enjoyable event. Thanks to the club for providing the roast beef with gravy and turkey with cranberry sauce and to all who contributed the delicious side dishes and desserts...no one went home hungry!

One of the evening's highlights was the game of trivia, which Ruth created for each table to complete as a team. The top prize was truly a mystery. It was one with no one guessing correctly what the top prize was! Well, that is how the whole evening went: one laugh after another, followed by new laughter somewhere else in the room.

Open mic harmonica players filled the room with quite a repertoire of music after the entire room finished playing and singing "It's Beginning to Look A Lot Like Christmas" and "Jingle Bells".

Three recipes for you adventurous cooks are from **Mark Olesnicki**, whose homemade bread was indeed a treat; **Kanwal Seehra**, who shared a hearty lemon rice dish; and **Kristen Aschinger**, who baked her famous Mile-High Apple Pie!

Huge thanks to **Ruth** and her team of elves: **Jan Studer**, **Helen Allen**, **Linda Jacobs**, **Jennie Ojeda**, **Tom Sutterfield**, **John Clark**, **Dave Seehra**, and **Herb Huebner** for not only setting up but also for the clean-up of another fun and musical club event.

## Holiday Spirit

By Linda Jacobs

Warm hearts filled the fellowship hall, in spite of the rainy and chilly weather outside. GHC members, friends and family gathered at the Rock Church on Tuesday, December 13th, to celebrate the holiday season together. In all, 31 people enjoyed delicious food and desserts. Party chairperson **Ruth Huebner** thought of everything; extras included helpful signs above the serving tables, hot coffee, festive decorations with chocolates on the tables, and a trivia game! Thanks to all who shared their special dishes! As Ruth said, "A good potluck takes a village." What a feast!!

During the event, we paused to remember those who were unable to be there this time and members who have gone before us. Also, we recognized a few of the club members who made significant contributions to the success of GHC during 2022: **Helen Allen**, **Julie Melchers**, **Tim O'Connell**, **Jennie Ojeda**, **Ernie Roberts**, and **Joe Stenger**, more about this on p. 13.

Christmas songs were enjoyed by all, on harmonica, through jingling bells, and by singing. Music director **Bill Dulin** led a play-a-long / sing-a-long of songs from the beginners class, followed by selections from the GHC band's Christmas program. The evening concluded with open mic, featuring the musical artistry of quite a few talented harmoniconists!

In addition to appreciation of Ruth's leadership, thanks to **Jennie Ojeda**, **Jan Studer**, and **Helen Allen** for amazing efforts during the event setup. Also, thanks to **Tom Sutterfield**, **Johanna Sutterfield**, and **Dan O'Neal** for creating the tables and chairs layout, and to **Jim Melchers** for setting up the sound system.

After a group effort for the final clean up, the memorable evening came to an end. Wonderful time shared with friends! Happy and peaceful new year!



**Ruth Huebner**  
Event Chairperson  
(photo by Ernie Roberts)

**Kanwal Seehra's Lemon Rice**

 <p>1 1/2 cups short grain rice 2 tablespoons cooking oil (peanut, sesame or sunflower) 3/4 teaspoon mustard seeds 1 pinch asafoetida (an powder derived from <i>Ferula</i>, an herb) 1 sprig fresh curry leaves 1/2 tablespoon chopped ginger root</p>	<p>2 red chili peppers (halved or chopped) 1 1/2 teaspoon chana dal (a lentil) 1 teaspoon urad dal (a lentil) 4 tablespoons raw peanuts 1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon turmeric 2-3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice 1/2 teaspoon salt</p>
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Wash rice, drain and cook in large covered pot with 3 cups water over low flame. Cook rice until grainy and not mushy. With a fork fluff rice gently and allow to cool completely. Set aside.

To make Tempering Oil: Heat oil in a frying pan with mustard seeds, until oil sputters. Add asafoetida, curry leaves, ginger, red chili peppers, chana dal, and urad dal; sauté well. When the mustard seeds begin to sputter, add peanuts, turmeric followed by rice. Stir to thoroughly mix. Add salt and lemon juice and mix well. Adjust lemon to taste. (I prefer to double it, or even more, to increase the lemon taste.) Serve hot or room temperature.

Sources of special ingredients: International foods & produce sections at your local grocer, Global Foods Market (Kirkwood), or Indian grocers throughout St. Louis area



**Jennie Ojeda (L)**, recognized for club support, selects a pencil, a token of the club's appreciation (photo by Ernie Roberts)



**Louise Georgia (L), Joe Stenger and Reed DeLaet**  
(photo by Linda Jacobs)



**Herb Huebner, (L-R) Ruth Huebner, Helen Allen, Audria Gebhardt and Linda Jacobs**



Recognized for significant impact on GHC during 2022 (L-R) **Helen Allen, Ernie Roberts, Jennie Ojeda, Julie Melchers, and Joe Stenger**, Tim O'Connell not pictured details on p. 13 (photo by Jim Melchers)



Interested in the trivia game are **Jan Studer and Scott Studer**  
(photo by Ernie Roberts)



**Don Johnson**  
(photo by Linda Jacobs)



**Ernie Roberts entertains** with fun facts about Christmas songs  
(photo by Jim Melchers)



**Herman Johnson (L-R), Rod Davis and Don Johnson**  
(photo by Linda Jacobs)



**Helen Allen and Jim Melchers** catching up (photo by Julie Melchers)



**Marie Roberts**  
(photo by Ernie Roberts)



**Ruth Huebner** shares answers to trivia questions  
(photo by Jim Melchers)



**Scott Studer (L-R), Jan Studer, Tim Heppmann, Kathy Kelly, Jennie Ojeda and John Ojeda** (photo by L.Jacobs)

**Mark Olesnicki's BREAD**

<p>2 1/4 teaspoons (1 packet) yeast 1 cup water 1 1/2 tablespoons sugar 1 teaspoon salt</p>	<p>1/8 cup oil (olive, canola, vegetable, etc.) 3 1/4 cups flour (white bread flour, unbleached white flour, or substitute 1/3 to 1/2 cup of wheat flour)</p>
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Put warm (100°) water in bowl, add yeast, and stir lightly. Let stand 5 to 10 minutes until foamy. Add sugar, salt and oil; stir to mix. Slowly add flour and mix thoroughly.

Use a mixer or knead dough (vinyl gloves) on a flat surface for 6 to 8 minutes. Flatten dough with heel of hand, turning 1/4 turn, make a ball, repeat. If dough is too dry, add a little water; if too sticky, add a little flour. End with a smooth ball. Place dough ball in an oiled bowl, cover with cloth; let rise for 1 hour.

Oil or spray 8.5 x 4.5 pan. Place the dough on a floured board; flatten and roll 3 or 4 times, ending with a tube a little shorter than the baking pan. Tuck ends of tube 1 to 2 inches under and put tube in pan with tucks down. Cover with a cloth, let rise 1 hour.

Pre-heat oven to 400°. Bake on lower/middle rack for 30 minutes, turn off heat, leave loaf in the oven for 5 minutes. If checking with a thermometer, interior of bread should be at least 195°. If less, bake 5 or 10 minutes more. Remove pan from oven, let cool for 10 minutes. Turn pan over, loaf should slide out. Let cool 15 minutes more on a rack or metal tray. Put the loaf in a paper bag for a few hours or overnight.





**Audria Gebhardt and Bill Dulin**  
(photo by Herb Huebner)



**Dan O'Neal**  
(photo by Ernie Roberts)



**Ruth Huebner** shares answers to trivia questions  
(photo by Jim Melchers)



**Dave Seehra (L), Kanwal Seehra, Scott Aschinger and Kristen Aschinger** (photo by Linda Jacobs)



**Marie Roberts and Ernie Roberts** (photo by Linda Jacobs)

**Kristen Aschinger's MILE-HIGH APPLE PIE**

<p>2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour 4 teaspoons sugar 1/4 teaspoon fine salt</p>	<p>14 tablespoons <u>cold</u> butter, sliced 1 egg, lightly beaten with 1 tablespoon cold water</p>
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In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, sugar and salt. Using your fingers, work the butter into the dry ingredients until dough resembles corn meal mixed with bean-sized bits of butter. (If the flour/butter mixture gets warm, refrigerate for 10 minutes before working.) Add egg/water mixture and mix by hand. Refrigerate for 1 hour. Then add a little flour, split into 2 equal parts, and roll out each slightly larger than the pie pan. Fit a crust into the pie pan. Pinch dough along top edge of the pie pan.

<p>5 - 7 apples, cored and peeled (Fuji, Pink Lady, Gala, Red Delicious, or Honey Crisp; Granny Smith not so tasty with this recipe)</p>	<p>5 pieces of butter Cinnamon sugar</p>
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Preheat oven to 350°. Slice apples into medium size (not thin or thick) and layer in pie pan as high as desired. Place the butter pieces on top and along the sides of the apple tower and sprinkle generously with cinnamon sugar. Cover with the other pie round and pinch the crust edges together. Bake for 1 hour.

Serve plain or with whipped cream or favorite ice cream.





**Jim Melchers (L), Julie Melchers, Mike Ives and Tom Sutterfield** (photo by Linda Jacobs)



**Mark Olesnicki (L), Dan O'Neal, Nancy O'Neal and Shawn O'Neal** (photo by Ernie Roberts)



**Mark Olesnicki**  
(photo by Linda Jacobs)



**Dave Seehra**  
(photo by Ernie Roberts)



**Herb Huebner**  
(photo by Ernie Roberts)

Legacy

# Boots Lackey

Glennon "Boots" Lackey was a charter member of the Gateway Harmonica Club, joining in 1987. Decades prior, he was in the musicians' union and the chord player for the Harmonichords trio, and a few other groups, that played at many top spots in St. Louis. With a reputation as a quiet man with a ready smile, he was always willing to help or support other harmonica players.

In addition to being a talented chord and chromatic harmonica player, he mastered the bass harmonica, debuting at a gig in 1988. Also, he served GHC as chairman of the membership committee. As the club grew and was taking shape, Boots advocated for those who played by ear in addition to members who read music.

His 24-year career was as a Brinks guard and hobbies included his "Harmonica World" business and hunting and fishing. Boots and his wife, Melba, had two children and four grandchildren. Boots passed away in 2002.

# Patti Stenger

Irish tunes on harmonica and fiddle, played by her grandpa, were recalled by Patti while sharing memories of growing up near Farmington, Missouri. During those years, she took piano lessons and played the flute, which she still enjoys.

After completing a degree in Speech Pathology at Cape, Patti worked in Springfield, where she met her future husband, Joe, who was a hunting buddy of her cousin's. Together, Patti and Joe have two children, Emily and Ethan.

According to Patti, Joe's harmonica playing is a wonderful use of his time and mind, giving him a chance to do something for himself. The harmonica provides a solitary activity while he's at home, and his membership in the harmonica club brings opportunities to interact with others, taking his talent and the joy of music to those who often aren't able to get out.

Support



Boots Lackey, 1999

# Tom Sutterfield

A St. Louis native, Tom started playing the harmonica in 1985. In 1991, he saw GHC play at the St. Louis County Library. Much to his surprise, Tom's fellow church member Bob Provart was in the band. Shortly after, Tom became a GHC member, too, and eventually a Lifetime member.

Tom is the GHC Secretary and enjoys being a club member because it gives him a chance to play the harmonica in front of an audience and prepared him to play occasionally at his church. As GHC grew, Tom became a harmony player, after noticing that was a likely way to get a mic at gigs.



By Linda Jacobs

After 42 years in computer programming for the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, Tom retired in 2021. His hobbies include harmonica, guitar, and mandolin. Also, he is a member of two rock and fossil clubs. Along with Johanna, his wife of 40 years, he enjoys spending time with their three grandchildren.

# Jan Studer

After the course description sparked her interest, "Play dozens of campfire songs before you leave", Jan completed the in-person beginners harmonica class at the Meramec campus in 2019 and then joined GHC.

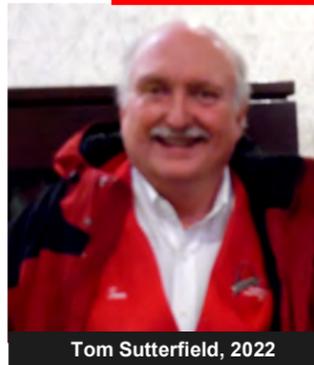
Since then, Jan consistently practices the harmonica, participates in the weekly beginners class, and supports GHC events. When the beginners class members wished for faster backing tracks, Jan stepped up to make it happen, learning how to edit the tempo of mp3 files.

Born in Rockford, in northern Illinois, Jan moved to St. Louis in 1968. Her hobbies include gardening (including hydroponic lettuce in the winter), beekeeping in southern Illinois, reading books, baking, and keeping four chickens for their eggs.

After meeting Scott 26 years ago, they married in 2006. They have 4 kids, 2 dogs, 11 grandchildren, and 3 greats.

Jan's next harmonica goal is to play at GHC gigs!

Featured



Tom Sutterfield, 2022



Jan Studer, 2022

New Member

# A Frenchman, Italian Musicians, and Friends

By Pierre Dacquin

The anecdote of a Frenchman, Italian musicians, and friends, shown in the photo below, occurred in early September 2021 in southwestern France in the city where I live, when the temperature was still hot, around 80°F.

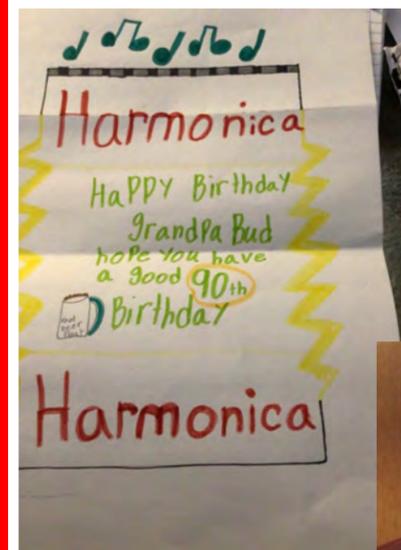
Each year we have a "Twinning Committee" with our Italian friends from Bagnaria-Arsas, a town in the province of Udine in the Friuli-Venezia Giulia in the northeastern region of Italy.

First, the Italians come to spend three weeks in our village, (which we call "The Italian Village"), bringing an orchestra and products from their country.

They know me well and appreciate my harmonica in their orchestra to play Italian music!!!! When they saw me coming they said, "Maestro Pietro, come and play with us." I told them, "Don't call me 'Maestro', I'm not a conductor", and everyone laughed!!!!

Then, off we went for an hour of Italian music of many varieties and above all Tarentellas! And, in November, we spend three days with them, bringing the products of our village of Sainte-Livrade sur Lot!

# Spotlight on Members



**Harmonica Repair**  
Well known for his harmonica repair skills and his willingness to lend a hand, **Bill Dulin** carries a specialized tool box in his car. He's always ready to free a stuck wind saver, fix a malfunctioning slide, or test a suspected "bad" note. Bill's expertise and generous spirit keep many harmonica players in business no matter what repair is needed.

# Bud Anders' 90th

**Bud Anders** received a beautiful surprise for his 90th birthday...a very creative, tri-fold handmade card (at left) from his 9-year-old great-granddaughter, Aubrey, who likes to paint and draw. Quite a fancy gift, the card features



Bud Anders at 90, 2022

two of Bud's favorites: harmonica music and root beer floats, both of which he shares with Aubrey! (Card's front cover is on p. 3.)

# Holiday Travelers

A few GHC members headed south for the holidays, luckily avoiding the wind, frigid temperatures, and light snow in St. Louis.

**Herb Huebner** and **Ruth** enjoyed seeing the Everglades with their son!

**Tim O'Connell** headed south, too, vacationing with his family in Palm Beach.



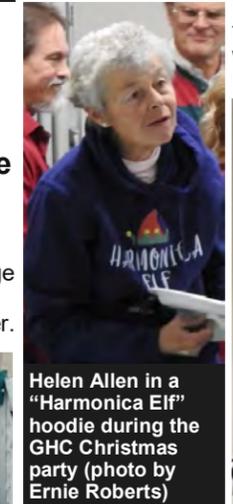
Bill Dulin, with his tool box open, studies a 16-hole harmonica (photo by Louise Georgia)



Jim Melchers, Retired 2022

# GHC's Newest Retiree

Congratulations to **Jim Melchers** who retired after over 30 years with Cambridge Air Solutions as an applications engineer.



Helen Allen in a "Harmonica Elf" hoodie during the GHC Christmas party (photo by Ernie Roberts)

**Tom Sutterfield** and **Johanna** traveled to Key West for the wedding of their son, John, on December 28th.



Joe Stenger (photo by Louise Georgia)

# A Musical Juggler

While playing the guitar and moving from harmonica to vocals, **Joe Stenger** keeps open mic very interesting and entertaining.



Pierre Dacquin (center) with his Italian friends, 9/2021, who gather twice each year to share music and fun

# So What's New With You?

Members are always invited to share items of interest for this newsletter.

# Bob Norton at 94

By Linda Jacobs

Bob sat down with me and shared many stories of his life. Here are some harmonica highlights.

## The Fighter

"I went to Baden School and I was getting into fights all the time. I'd get sent home for fighting. My mom would say 'You got a chip on your shoulder. You better straighten up.' She said 'You need to get your mind off of fighting all the time. Play harmonica or something.' I didn't know nothing about it. I told my dad I never played a diatonic.", remembered Bob.

## The Music Maker

"I came home with a slide trombone one time, and I was getting ready to take lessons. My dad, who worked nights, said 'Get that thing out of here.' So, he buys me a brand new Hohner 64 chromatic with a black box.

When my dad got me the harmonica, he said, 'Go out in the garage.', 'cause he had to sleep, you know, those crazy hours he had to work. And we had a radio there. That's how I learned, playing with the radio. Wasn't very good at the time, it took me a long time to get on that slide."

## The Moneymaker

Bob continued, "Well, I had that harmonica for a few years. When I got into high school, there were two other guys who played, and me; one guy played a bass harp. None of us read music. We'd get in the back of the Broadway street car and ride it all the way until it ends, ride for nothing on the school pass. We'd play music. People would ask for certain songs, and we'd try to play it. They'd flip us a nickel or a dime. When we'd get done playing all day long, we'd split the

# Harmonicist in the Spotlight

money up and take the girls to the movies. We'd live it up and get the big bag of popcorn. We thought we were hot stuff. That's how it started, just playing music on the street car."

## The Military & Family Man

"I played very little while I was in the service. I got overseas and kept busy all the time. Then, I met Bennie, we got married, and things were different. I sold my harmonica for 50 bucks onboard ship, then I never touched one again for almost 40 years."

## Musician Again at 78

"When Bennie's sister was in a nursing home, I got to talking to the activity director, Sandy Bonfiglio, about music, and she said her husband, Jerry, was in the harmonica club. I got to meet him and he said 'Do you play any more?' I said, 'No, Sir, I don't.' He said, 'Then buy a harmonica.' and gave me the address to the church.

I went down there and, along with my cassette tape, played Barbra Streisand's song "The Way We Were" and went to sit back down, and Jessie [Hirsch] said, 'Give me 15 bucks. You're in, brother, you're in.' And that's how I got in. If you got anything on the ball, you can get in the club real easy. Bennie kept saying, 'You're too old for something like that.' But I wasn't. I was close to 80 when I got in."

Not long after, Bob became a Lifetime member of the club and a soloist during gigs, most recently performing "La Vie En Rose" to pleased crowds throughout the St. Louis area.



Bob Norton, member since 2006, relaxes at home after a gig, 12/8/22 (photo by Linda Jacobs)



Bob and Bennie Norton celebrate 70 years of marriage, January 2021 (photo by Linda Jacobs)



Norton, 94, plays "La Vie En Rose"



Private Bob Norton, 6/21/1946, member of the United States Cavalry - Infantry Division, US Army, Fort Riley, Kansas, the last unit of soldiers on horseback due to the advent of mechanization and motorization. Then, in 1947, Bob enlisted in the US Air Force, where he was trained as a supply clerk, promoted to Noncommissioned Officer in Charge, and served for 3 1/2 years in Japan followed by a tour in Biloxi, Mississippi, with a total of 6 1/2 years service.

## Share a Harmonica History

We'd love to hear about your experience or that of a friend. Please share the story for a GHC newsletter.

# President's Message

## Greetings & Gratitude



Happy new year!! Wishing you peace, love, good health, happiness and beautiful music!

Thank you for all you've done for the good of our club this last year. With everyone pitching in and giving it their best, including members, family and friends, our club is well on the way to recovery after the pandemic. From recruiting new members to teaching people how to play the harmonica, practicing together weekly, organizing and supporting special events, and performing at gigs, interest in the harmonica is flourishing, our club is strong, and friendships are blossoming and growing!

## 2022 GHC Awards

A few GHC members were recognized for significant contributions to the club during the year. A token of appreciation, a mechanical pencil, was presented to each award recipient.

Congratulations to our 2022 award winners:

- **Helen Allen** for faithful participation and dedicated club support through Zoom
- **Julie Melchers** for exemplary attendance of meetings, practices and performances
- **Tim O'Connell** for innovative improvements while managing the sales program
- **Jennie Ojeda** for outstanding special events/parties support and leadership
- **Ernie Roberts** for awesome coverage of GHC events through his photography
- **Joe Stenger** for music support in setup at practices/gigs plus learning to play the chord

## Looking Ahead into 2023

As 2023 begins, we're excited about your continued membership, support and participation in the Gateway Harmonica Club. Joining together, we create an outstanding club with an abundant capacity for sharing the harmonica with a wide variety of people. Can't wait to see what we accomplish this year!!

We are honored to host the SPAH convention in August during the organization's 60th anniversary. We'll have a wide variety of projects to work on, so there's sure to be something of interest to members and their family and friends. Please watch for requests for volunteers. Your participation is important.

Again this year, we are identifying GHC's goals and working toward meeting or surpassing them. If you have a suggestion, please let me or another club officer know.

Thank you for all you do. Because of you, and those who came before us, we have an incredible harmonica club!

All the best to you,

*Linda Jacobs*



2022 GHC award recipients honored during the Christmas party (L-R) Helen Allen, Ernie Roberts, Jennie Ojeda, Julie Melchers, and Joe Stenger (photo by Jim Melchers)



2022 GHC award recipient Tim O'Connell proudly displays his pencil, a token of appreciation from the club (photo by Ernie Roberts)

# GHC Business Meeting Procedures Q & A

Comments, questions and suggestions are always welcome!

We recently received a few questions from **Audria Gebhardt** about business meeting procedures. Because additional club members may be interested in these same topics, here are the questions with responses from **Linda Jacobs**, GHC President.

**Question:** Regarding the GHC minutes for the November 1, 2022, meeting -- on page two, "Donations to Charity", Bill Dulin made a motion to accept Mark's recommendation. There was no second to this motion (when a motion is made there is usually a second). Was there a second, was it not made, or was it made and not recorded in the minutes?

**Answer:** A second must be made prior to voting on a motion. Meeting minutes include the name of the member making a motion but not the name of the person who seconded, as is recommended in "Robert's Rules of Order", our club's authority on parliamentary procedures.

**Q:** Will Tom Sutterfield be reading the minutes at the meeting in the future (in addition to members receiving a copy via email) or will comments, corrections, etc., to the minutes only be done via email as opposed to during the meeting?

**A:** We don't plan to read the minutes during future meetings; however, we will continue to email the minutes prior to the next meeting (suggesting they be read prior to the meeting), and also we will continue to bring a few copies of the minutes to business meetings for members who do not have email. Corrections to the minutes may be emailed to the President prior to the meeting or brought up prior to or during the meeting.

**Q:** For all the years I have been a member, the reading of the birthdays at the monthly meeting has always been right before the meeting was adjourned. Can we reinstate this tradition? It just felt right to acknowledge the birthdays at the end of the meeting.

**A:** There's been no change as to when the vice president reads the list of birthdays during the monthly business meeting. We continue to celebrate the birthdays right before the meeting is adjourned. I agree... celebrating birthdays and playing music together is a wonderful way to end the business meeting.

# Origin of Do Re Mi

By Helen Allen

Have you ever wondered how music notes were named?

The first person who wrote a musical notation book was a Roman philosopher – Boethius, back in the 6th century. He recorded the use of letters for notes, using 15 letters of the alphabet to represent the musical notes, possibly linking the note names to the alphabet letters from Greek musical notation.

A simpler system was gradually introduced, repeating letters A to G for the chromatic notes, and flats, sharps and naturals.

At the end of the 12th century, a Benedictine monk, Guido D'Arezzo, added the concept of the staff and placed the letters on lines to indicate their pitch.

D'Arrezzo also invented the solfège system, an alternative to learning musical letter names. It was made up of the first syllables of a Gregorian chant melody and gave musicians a sense of the relationship between notes in a scale. Solfège has a moveable "Do", corresponding to the first note of a scale, no matter the key signature. This evolved into the familiar Do-Re-Mi-Fa-Sol-La-Ti.

# Harp Corner

Dave Sorenson

By Dan O'Neal

What a fun loving, talented guy. Dave was a great harmonica player and was always looking for opportunities to bring people up to his level. Everyone in the blues group can attest to this. He made everyone better and his enthusiasm for blues harmonica was magic. Thank you, Dave.



Dave Sorenson (center) listens as 12-bar blues are played by Mark Olesnicki (left) and Jim Melchers, 4/12/2022 (photo by Ernie Roberts)

## Remembering Dave

By Jennie Ojeda

The passing of Dave Sorenson is indeed a loss for the club. Dave was always a warm and motivating harmonica player, and I am so glad I had the opportunity to exchange personal greetings and laughter with him.

## Memories of Dave

By Mark Olesnicki

For the last few years, except for the Covid pandemic, I spent most Tuesdays from 6 to 7 PM with Dave Sorenson in the GHC blues group.

From the beginning, I was impressed by his blues playing and knowledge. Soon, I also became grateful for his patience and humor as he taught me and the other members new techniques and approaches to the blues.

His selection of songs introduced us to new sounds and interpretations. But, above all, Dave was fun to be with. I will miss him and will honor him by trying to play as he taught us.



Dave Sorenson after s GHC blues group session, 10/23/2022 (photo by Linda Jacobs)

## Dave's Play-Along Favorite

By Jim Melchers

One of Dave's favorite play-along songs was "Low Rider" by War. He'd usually have us do it at every blues class. It's a simple song and lots of fun. The original recording featured

### Harmonica Riff from "Low Rider"

-3 -3 -3 -3 -3 +4 -4  
 -2 -3 +4 -3 -2  
 -3 -3 -3 -3 -3 +4 -4  
 -2 -3 +4 -3 -2  
 -2' -2' -2' -2' -2'  
 -2' -2' -2' -2' -2'  
 -2' -2'

Lee Oskar on harmonica. It's a song about a guy who loves his customized classic car.



"Low Rider"

Pull out a C diatonic harmonica (a Lee Oskar model is recommended) and think of Dave with a big smile on his face!

If you'd like to give the song a try, here are the tabs and an audio track to play along with. After every verse is sung, play the riff. NOTE: It does require a draw bend on hole 2 in the last lines to match the original, if you're able. Otherwise, a 1 draw will also sound OK.

# Red River Valley

Traditional, circa 1870s - 1890s

Arrangement: John R. Grindon



From this val - ley they say you are go - ing,  
 sit by my side if you love me,  
 think of this val - ley if you're leav - ing,  
 sit by my side if you love me,



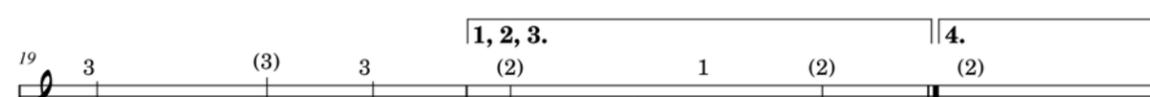
I will miss - your bright eyes and sweet smile,  
 do not has - ten to bid me ad - ieu.  
 and how lone - ly and sad it will be,  
 do not has - ten to bid me ad - ieu.



for they say you are tak - ing the  
 Just re - mem - ber of the Red Riv - er  
 and think of the the heart that you're  
 Just re - mem - ber the Red Riv - er



sun - shine that has bright - ened our  
 Val - ley, and the girl/boy that has  
 break - ing, and the grief that you  
 Val - ley, and the girl/boy that has



path - way a - while. Come and you  
 loved you so true. Won't you  
 are caus - ing me. Come and  
 loved you so true.

### Diatonic Tablature

4 -5 -6 -6 -6 -6 6 -6 6 -5      7 7 -6 -6 6 -5 6 -6 7 -6  
 From this val - ley they say you are go - ing,      For they say you are tak - ing the sun - shine,  
 Come and sit by my side if you love me,      Just re - mem - ber the Red Riv - er Val - ley,  
 4 -5 -6 -5 -6 7 7 -6 6      -4 -4 4 5 -5 6 -6 6 -5  
 I will miss your bright eyes and sweet smile,      That has bright - ened our path - way a - while.  
 Do not has - ten to bid me ad - ieu.      And the girl/boy that has loved you so true.  
 [Repeat]



### Song History

To read about the surprising origin of this folk song, scan or click the QR code above.



Play-A-Long



Backing Track



Open Mic

### Backing Tracks

Three backing tracks, each unique, are provided for "Red River Valley". To access from a computer, click the QR code. If a smart phone is available, use the camera to scan the QR code. ("How to Scan a QR Code" is on the back cover.)

# GATEWAY HARMONICA CLUB

11828 DOVERHILL DR  
SUNSET HILLS MO 63128

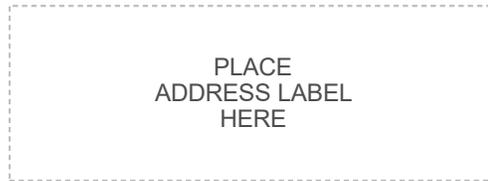
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE



GHC Website



YouTube



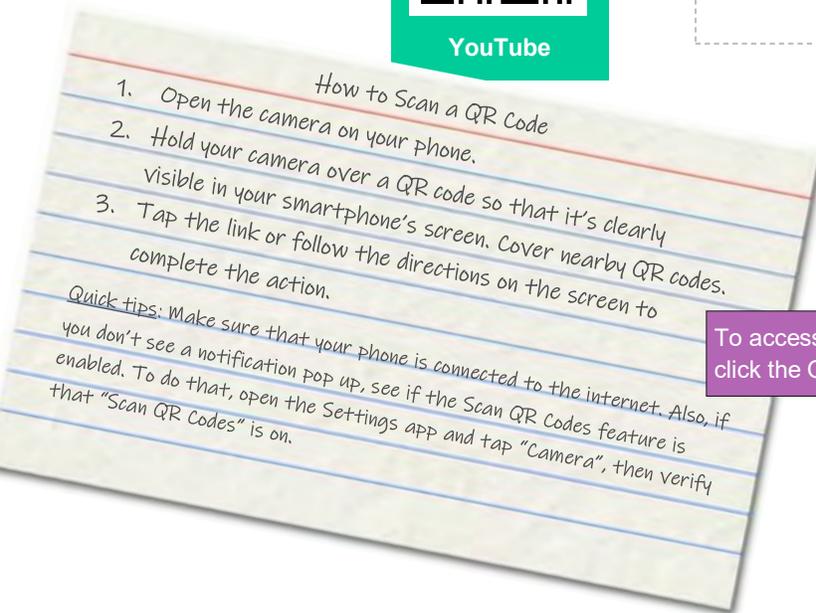
PLACE  
ADDRESS LABEL  
HERE



Facebook



Calendar



To access from a computer,  
click the QR code.

## GHC Calendar

### Events

- Aug 15 - 20** SPAH Convention 2023, Sheraton-Westport Chalet, St. Louis  
**Sep** (date TBD) Annual Picnic  
**Dec 12 7 PM** Christmas Party, Rock Church, St. Louis

### Performances

- Jan 13 2:30 PM** Lansdowne Place, 4624 Lansdowne Ave, St. Louis 63116  
**Jan 20 10 AM** St. Charles Sr Center, 1455 Fairgrounds Rd, St. Charles 63301  
**Feb 7 12:30 PM** St. Joseph's Church, 567 St. Joseph's Ln, Ballwin 63021  
**Feb 16 10 AM** St. Peter's Senior Ctr, 108 McMenamy Rd, St. Peters 63376  
**Feb 24 2 PM** Bentwood Nursing/Rehab, 1501 Charbonier, Florissant 63031

### College Classes

- Feb 1, 8 & 15** St. Louis Community College - Meramec campus  
**Feb 2, 9 & 16** St. Louis Community College - Forest Park campus

### Weekly Meeting - Everyone's welcome!

Meetings are held every Tuesday at The Rock Church, 9125 Manchester Rd.  
For on-line streaming, join Zoom, Meeting ID 523 574 2860 / Passcode 201826.

- 6 PM** Beginners class & Blues Group  
**7 PM** Band Practice (Business meeting, 1st Tuesday of the month)  
**8 PM** Open mic

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

## Contact Us

Give us a call or send an email for more information about our club, performances, and classes.

### Club / Classes

(314) 325-6819  
info@gatewayharmonicaclub.org

### Performances

(314) 329-4553  
booking@gatewayharmonicaclub.org

### Correspondence

secretary@gatewayharmonicaclub.org