

# The REEDER

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

## NEW OFFICERS ELECTED

Congratulations to the newly elected officers for the term 2008—2009:



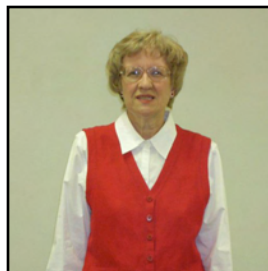
Bill Dulin,  
President



Louise Cook,  
Vice President



Jessie Hirsch,  
Treasurer



Christine Pondo,  
Secretary

### A Message From Our Retired President



It has certainly been an honor and pleasure to serve the last two years as President of the Gateway Harmonica Club. I appreciate everyone's support and contributions to the club. I was not in a position to remain in that capacity as my responsibilities and obligations at home had to take precedence and I could not be available for many of the events and functions. Please continue your valuable help and encouragement to the newly elected officers. We have one of the best harmonica clubs in the country and thanks to all who have made it so. I love the club and all the members and will try to participate as much as possible in the future. Thanks and God bless all.

*Mary Ann Love*

### WANTED: VOLUNTEERS

Request is made for any member to come forward to give a hand in directing at practice sessions and also at gigs. The same few have assumed the responsibility and have been very faithful, dependable, consistently loyal and conscientious over many years. If you would like to take a crack at waving the baton, please help.



Thanks to all members who contribute articles for this newsletter. Please keep up the good work. An appeal is also going out for editorial assistance at this time. A request has been made to include more helpful harmonica theory or hints on better playing.

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 Hill Baptist Church, 9125 Manchester, Brentwood, MO.

Inquiries about membership should be directed to:

Jessie Hirsch, Treasurer  
47 Orchard Lane  
Kirkwood, MO 63122  
(314) 821-8651  
e-mail: [lov24get@aol.com](mailto:lov24get@aol.com)

For information about club activities, contact:

Bill Dulin, President  
4985 Seibert Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63123  
(314) 752-9909  
e-mail: [imafosi@att.net](mailto:imafosi@att.net)

To schedule a club performance, contact:

Charlie Pratte  
1547 Azalea Drive  
Webster Groves, MO 63119  
(314) 961-7764  
email: [CAPJR68@aol.com](mailto:CAPJR68@aol.com)

All other correspondence should be directed to:

Chris Pondo  
Recording & Corresponding Secretary  
1166 Waldorf Dr.  
St. Louis, MO 63137  
(314) 868-9557

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

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

## Happy Birthday!!!

Birthday greetings are extended to the following members of the GHC family who are celebrating birthdays in January and February:

### January

Frank Muriel 1/03  
Carmen Woodring 1/03  
Teresa Steiven 1/04  
Alfred Perry 1/05  
Cleta Hessel 1/05  
Ed Heininger 1/08  
Pauline Guelbert 1/10  
Chuck Turner 1/12  
John Bottchen 1/15  
Glenn Hanlin 1/15  
Kaleena Hutchins 1/22  
Tom Komadina 1/24  
Johanna Sutterfield 1/28

### February

Amanda Warren 2/8  
Ernie Roberts 2/21  
Von Rhey Ford 2/24  
Sidney Wolff 2/26  
Sandy Bonfiglio 2/27

*Editor's Note: Please notify us if your or your spouse's birthday is missing or incorrect.*

## Christmas Party

Another enjoyable Christmas Party was sponsored by the ladies auxiliary and a good time was had by all! Thanks again, ladies!



## Time To Pay Your 2008 GHC Dues

Gateway Harmonica Club dues for Regular Members are \$10.00. Associate Member dues are \$5.00. Dues are due in January. Please bring your dues payment to the club meeting in January or mail it to Jessie Hirsch, Treasurer, 47 Orchard Lane, Kirkwood, MO 63122.

Whether you bring your dues to the meeting or send them by mail, please **pay by check, payable to Gateway Harmonica Club, Inc.**

**SPAH dues** are also due at this time. Current members have recently received renewal forms, but if you plan to attend the 2008 SPAH Convention to be held in St. Louis in August, it is to your advantage to send in your dues at this time.

Enclose \$40 (\$55 for Family) U.S. funds only, made payable to SPAH, Inc. (subsequent years \$35 or \$50).

**Mail to Membership Director, SPAH, Inc., P.O. Box 865, Troy, MI 48099-0865**



*Tact is the ability to describe others as they see themselves.*

## NEWS AND VIEWS

### Get Well Wishes

Marie Roberts has undergone further back surgery as well as kidney removal.

Mary Pangilinan is continuing to receive treatments and having satisfactory results.

Louise Cook has a knee surgery scheduled in January.

We wish all our members and their spouses good health and successful recovery for any health issues.

### Condolences

Our condolences go out to Pauline Guelbert on the loss of her brother, Charles Hartman.

Frank and Bill Davis have lost their sister-in-law and special friend, Marie Sawyer.

We extend our condolences to Mary Ann Love and family on the loss of her dear husband and our dear member, Francis Love.

### Commemorative Booklet

It's ready! A fine-looking 20-year remembrance booklet of the Gateway Harmonica Club has been published and is now available. The cost is \$5.00 and the club has voted to absorb any additional publishing costs. Some pages are in beautiful color. Special thanks to Joe Fey for his time, talent and computer skills of putting it together. But don't blame Joe for any member biography not turned in by yourself – I'm guilty of that. This was a project that I targeted as one of my goals as president and thanks to all for their cooperation. I hope you enjoy this lovely memory booklet for many years.

*Mary Ann Love.*

### News from Greg Hommert

Chris Pondo talked to Greg Hommert and he just completed his first semester at Belmont College in Nashville, Tenn. He transferred there from Meramec Community College. He is a Music & Arts Major with the goal of managing a large performing group like symphony, museum or theater. He is taking basic business, history and writing courses and said he changed his instrument from trumpet to guitar. He is also



teaching harmonica to fellow students. Belmont College has a huge music program and each year at Christmas they present a spectacular one hour concert on T.V. This year their featured soloist was Melinda Dolittle, American Idol finalist and graduate of Belmont. Chris heard her in person at Scott Trade Center when all the 10 finalists performed and they were all great singers. Maybe next year we will see Greg on stage! Best wishes to Greg for a wonderful, musical year at Belmont!

### News from Kaleena Hutchins

Kaleena Hutchins is on [You Tube-Kaleena Harmonica](#)



She plays "Orange Blossom Special" and "William Tell Overture." There have been over 500 viewings including Tokyo, France, Canada and Sweden and they all gave her a 5-star rating – the highest! RFD-TV is a satellite station in Branson and they filmed John Taylor's Sons of the Ozarks Christmas Music Show from Mountain View, Arkansas

where Kaleena plays harmonica, drums and sings.

Kaleena and the SPAH youth called "Young At Harp" are working on brochures, T-shirts and a possible CD to get younger people interested in playing harmonica.

Kaleena spent a few days at New Years with her church youth group in Branson supplying meals and music to the needy. Kaleena is recording her second CD this year. Kaleena celebrates her 17<sup>th</sup> birthday February 22.

Thanks, Kaleena, for sharing your love of Christ through your beautiful, inspirational, and uplifting hymns – vocals and harmonica. God Bless you always.

### News From Tony Wilbraham -

We had some good news a few days ago that I will share with you - our son phoned to say that he is now in Kuwait - out of Iraq - and out of harms way. We will leave for Texas to meet and greet Andrew stateside in a few days - so we will have a big homecoming gathering

Thinking of you and sending best wishes to all.

*Tony*



*The same letters that spell LISTEN  
Also spell the word SILENT*

## HARMONICA BIOGRAPHY:

### FRANK MURIEL

I was born in New York City on January 3<sup>rd</sup> of 1929. At the age of six I was sent to a boarding school for boys, and could have visitors on Sundays. One Sunday my Grandmother brought me a small harmonica. It was a Hohner 10-hole and I started to learn the songs of the day such as Army and Navy songs. All I had to listen to were songs from the Catholic Church I was attending.

In the year 1942 my mother took me out of the Catholic boarding school when I was 12 years old and then I started to play the harmonica on the street with some of the guys from the Hood, and also began to learn new songs.

After school I also worked at the movie house in the neighborhood and played the songs from the motion pictures showing at that time. At 14 years of age I went downtown to 47<sup>th</sup> Street to work at the Strand Movie house. They would show two movies plus a stage show. The stage shows featured harmonica players of the day. Yes, I met Johnny Puleo and Peter Pedersen. I still have the picture to prove it.

The days at the Strand Movie house were real nice, but when I heard that a harmonica player named Larry Adler was going to be at the Roxy Theatre I purchased my ticket and sat there waiting for the show to start. When this man started to play I said to myself that I wanted to play like him. He was playing a different kind of harmonica - you guessed it - a 16-hole model Deluxe Chromatic.

At 16 years old I started my new ushering job at the Roxi Theatre. Yes, Larry came again to do his act and that is when I met him. I had to bring him coffee. By this time I was the stage door usher and met all the girls and new acts and I was in heaven. I worked there for 3 years and at age 19, I joined the Army.

In the Army I made Corporal and was sent to war in Korea. I bought my first new Hohner Chromatic and it cost \$75.00. In the war I would play the songs of the day to the GIs going from tent to tent just to forget the war for a

short time. At the time my job was a radar operator and I had plenty of time to play for the troops. I did this for over 2 years.

When I came home from the war in Korea I was sent the Camp Steward Georgia as a Special Forces in the General's Headquarter where my job was to play for the troops during the stage shows that were put on at the Camp. I was playing with a guitar and bass player. In those days the songs were by Nat King Cole.



At the age of 22 I was discharged from the Army and went back home to the Hood but did not find anyone I knew. I got a job as helper in this beautiful apartment house on 86<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway and found that some of the people living there were TV people. When they found out that this kid who was picking up the garbage was a Korea Vet, they helped me get through school by tipping large sums of money.

Most of these people had been established on TV already. So for 2 years I went to school and on Saturday and Sunday evenings, I would find places to jam with my new girl friend, Sarah. That's when I started to play jazz style.

After leaving Television School I came to St. Louis to work at Channel 9 KETC. There I met Charles Guggenheim, the film director. As Charles was making movies I became the harmonica background on some of his movies. I played for the movie of "Building of the Arch," "The History of St. Louis," and many others. I played on the Finder on air with Sunny Fox. Many of his shows for kids were at Channel 9. He was the head studio engineer for 13 years.

During the next 30 years I was playing in clubs around the St. Louis area and becoming the head camera man in St. Louis doing baseball, hockey, and tennis. During this time I became friends with Ernie Hayes and started to play with him during the time before the baseball games were to start. This was how I met Richard Hayman, the harmonica player. I was the main cameraman for the Cardinals, and Blues cameraman for over 37 years. I retired from camera work in 1998.

In 1987 I had a four way heart bypass, and while I was convalescing, I saw a printing of the Gateway Harmonica Club asking for people to join. I did join and a year later became the president of the club for two years. Of course I brought into the club some friends that I had met along the way such as Stan Musial and Richard Hayman. In talking to Richard Hayman, I talked about using the GHC to play with Queeny Pops band. Awhile later, he did just that. GHC was playing with Queeny Pops under Director Richard Hayman. The same was true also for Stan Musial. GHC asked him to be part of the GHC Show we did at the Kirkwood Theater.

In 1990, while still president of GHC, we had our first mini SPAH convention. It did not cost you a penny to attend. Just come and have a good time. This Convention was a way to determine if we could host a real SPAH Convention and the mini convention was a success. As you already know, we have now done the SPAH convention several times.

In 20 years GHC has come a long way. We have about 100 members today and we now can play along with background music. We also have small groups, and on meeting nights we have open mic and band rehearsals. We play at metro areas hospitals, old age homes, churches, conventions, meeting rooms and we will go out of town if the need is there. We have done radio broadcasts and you name it - GHC has been there. I am a proud member of this club for 20 years and hope to be around a few more years to enjoy the music we all play for ourselves and for others.

Respectfully yours,

*Frank*

**BLUES.** A number of our members are participating in the Blues Jam sessions held weekly at 6:00 PM before our regular meetings. These sessions offer an opportunity for fun and learning about this widely popular musical form that fits the harmonica so well. Here is some background information on the blues, taken from an article in *Wikipedia*, the free encyclopedia published on the Internet. If enough interest is expressed, additional material from the *Wikipedia* article will be included in future *REEDER* issues.

**Blues** is a vocal and instrumental form of music based on the use of the blue notes and a repetitive pattern that most often follows a twelve-bar structure. It emerged in African-American communities of the United States from spirituals, work songs, field hollers, shouts and chants, and rhymed English and Scots-Irish narrative ballads. The blues influenced later American and Western popular music, as it became part of the genres of jazz, bluegrass, rhythm and blues, rock and roll, hip-hop, and pop songs.

The phrase *the blues* is a reference to having a fit of *the blue devils*, meaning 'down' spirits, depression and sadness. An early reference to "the blues" can be found in George Colman's farce *Blue devils, a farce in one act.* (1798). Later during the 19th century, the phrase was used as a euphemism for delirium tremens and the police.

There are few characteristics common to all blues, because the genre takes its shape from the idiosyncrasies of individual performances. However, there are some characteristics that were present long before the creation of the modern blues.

An early form of blues-like music was a call-and-response shouts, which were a "functional expression... style without accompaniment or harmony and unbounded by the formality of any particular musical structure." A form of this pre-blues was heard in slave field shouts and hollers, expanded into "simple solo songs laden with emotional content." The blues, as it is now known, can be seen as a musical style based on both European harmonic structure and the West African call-and-response



Cover of the original sheet music of the two piano version of Rhapsody in Blue

tradition, transformed into an interplay of voice and guitar.

Many blues elements, such as the call-and-response format and the use of blue notes, can be traced back to the music of Africa. The Diddley bow, a homemade one-stringed instrument found in parts of the American South in the early twentieth century, and the banjo, are African-derived instruments that may have helped in the transferral of African performance techniques into the early blues instrumental vocabulary.

Blues music later adopted elements from the "Ethiopian airs", minstrel shows and Negro spirituals, including instrumental and harmonic accompaniment. The style also was closely related to ragtime, which developed at about the same time, though the blues better preserved "the original melodic patterns of African music".

Whereas a classical musician will generally play a grace note distinctly, a blues singer or

harmonica player will glissando, "crushing" the two notes and then releasing the grace note.

Blues in jazz is much different from blues in other types of music (such as Rock, R&B, Soul, Funk, and Blues in its own category).

Blues has evolved from an unaccompanied vocal music of poor African-American laborers into a wide variety of styles and subgenres, with regional variations across the United States and, later, Europe and Africa. The musical forms and styles that are now considered the "blues" as well as modern "country music" arose in the same regions during the nineteenth century in the southern United States. Recorded blues and country can be found from as far back as the 1920s, when the popular record industry developed and created marketing categories called "race music" and "hillbilly music" to sell music by blacks for blacks and by whites for whites respectively.

At the time, there was no clear musical division between "blues" and "country," except for the race of the performer, and even that sometimes was documented incorrectly by record companies.

The social and economic reasons for the appearance of the blues are not fully known. The first appearance of the blues is not well defined and is often dated between 1870 and 1900, a period that coincides with the emancipation of the enslaved people and the transition from slavery to sharecropping and small-scale agricultural production in the southern United States.

## Letters . . .

Thanks to my many friends in the GHC club for your messages of sympathy and condolences on the loss of my dear husband, Francis. I was deeply touched by the love and compassion shown by so many. A special thank you to those who were able to attend the memorial services.

*Mary Ann Love*

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11/20/07

To: Members of the Gateway Harmonica Club:

The family of Norman C. Raeber, Sr. acknowledges with deep appreciation your kind expression of sympathy.

I know my father enjoyed playing and the music of the club, but most of all he cherished the friendships he made.

Thank you for your generous donation in Dad's honor.

*Mike Raeber*

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January 4, 2008

The Alzheimer's Association, St. Louis Chapter, has received a gift from the **Gateway Harmonica Club** given in tribute to **Mr. Francis Love**. Gifts such as these help us to fulfill our mission to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research and promotion of brain health while enhancing care and support for individuals, their families and caregivers. Thank you for designating memorials to support our chapter.

Sincerely,

Joan D'Ambrose, President

**Francis H. Love** entered eternal rest on December 15, 2007 after a year of multiple health problems. It was his wish to donate his body for medical research. Francis was a Navy Veteran of WWII and Korea. He was an instructor of National Electrical Code, member of the Electrical Board of St. Louis, Independent Electrical Contractors, and several other electrical industry organizations. Francis enjoyed attending the practice meetings, gigs, conventions and picnics of the Gateway Harmonica Club. He found the members to be very friendly and enjoyed the music. We will miss him.

Acknowledgement of the memorial gift in the name of Paul Cochran was received on 7/12/07 from the Friends of the Webster Groves Public Library. The donation was designated for the Shepard School. (Sorry to be so late, but it was misplaced for awhile.)

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**From:** vitor lopes [<mailto:vitorlopes@hotmail.com>]

**Sent:** Thursday, November 01, 2007 5:40 PM

**To:** [info@gatewayharmonicaclub.org](mailto:info@gatewayharmonicaclub.org)

**Subject:** [GHC] Hello from a brazilian harp player!!!

Hello friend from tha Gateway Harmonica Club,

My name is Vitor Lopes, I am a brazilian player specialized in playing brazilian music, like bossa nova and chorinho. I would like to present myself and my work to you. I already made seven tour in Europe, and I played with Joe Filisko, Keith Dun and Howard Levy, among many others.

So, make a visit to my websites, I am sure you will enjoy it!

Thanks for your attention!

All the best!

Vitor Lopes.

[www.umtrioviralata.com.br](http://www.umtrioviralata.com.br)

[www.myspace.com/umtrioviralata](http://www.myspace.com/umtrioviralata)

[www.myspace.com/vitorlopeschorandoaspitangas](http://www.myspace.com/vitorlopeschorandoaspitangas)

**Norman C. Raeber Sr.** passed away on November 11, 2007. Norm played the diatonic from age 5 or 6 and joined the GHC about 10 years ago. Norm loved life and participated in it fully. His many interests were as diverse as his talents. 'Do unto others' was his guiding force in his interactions with family and all he met. Throughout his 26 years as a State Farm agent, his many customers became his friends, often dropping by his office for long visits. Spontaneous by nature, endearing, loyal and intensely loved, his life was an example for all. Norman was a member of the Crestwood-Sunset Hills Kiwanis and a 4th Degree Member of the Knights of Columbus Divine Mercy Council #13823. Other hobbies were golf, and cooking for the Ronald McDonald House, which he found very rewarding. He was also active in AARP. A memorial gift from the GHC was made to the St. Louis Public School Foundation, Shepard School Playground Fund. May he rest in peace.

## GHC EVENTS CALENDAR

### WEEKLY EVENTS

Tuesday evening meetings at Rock Hill Baptist Church, 9125 Manchester, St. Louis, MO 63144:

6:00 PM - Blues Group, led by Louse Cook and Ed Cenatiempo — Everyone welcome

7:00 PM - First Tuesday of month: Business Meeting — Everyone welcome

All other Tuesdays: Band Rehearsal — Everyone welcome

8:00 PM - Open Mic — Everyone welcome

### PERFORMANCES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Listed below are the performances and special events scheduled for the current 3-month period. For the most current schedule of all events for the calendar year,, including maps and personalized driving directions, go to [www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org/calendar.pdf](http://www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org/calendar.pdf)

- 1/13/2008 (Sun) 2:30 PM — Garden Villas South, 13457 Tesson Ferry Rd., St. Louis, MO 63128: From I-270, go west (some say south) on Tesson Ferry Rd. about 3 miles. At the stop light, at Suson Hills Rd., take a right. Make another right at Butler Hill Rd. , which is a short distance away. Then follow the signs to the Villas.
- 1/18/2008 (Fri) 10:00 AM — St. Charles Seniors, St. Charles Senior Center, 1455 Fairgrounds Rd., St. Charles, MO 63301. From I-70, cross over the Missouri River and exit right on S. 5th St. Turn right and go a short distance to Boonslick Rd. Make a left and go to Fairgrounds Rd. Make another left and go to 1455 which should be the entrance to the Senior Center.
- 1/20/2008 (Sun) 2:00 PM — Brooking Park, 307 South Woods Mill Rd., Chesterfield, MO 63017. From I-270, exit Hwy 40/I-64 going west. Exit onto Hwy 141 ( Woods Mill Rd.) and go right to light. Turn left on Conway Rd. At the first stop light turn right. After you pass the Willows, proceed to the top of the hill.
- 1/27/2008 (Sun) 2:00 PM — Delmar Gardens North, 4401 Parker Rd, Florissant, MO 63033. From I-270 going east, get off a New Halls Ferry Rd. At the light, turn left (north) and go about a mile and one half. At the light at Parker Rd., turn right and follow about a mile to Delmar Gardens. We will be playing at the nursing home, which is in back of Garden Villas North.
- 2/14/2008 (Wed) 12:30 PM: Salem Seniors, Salem Lutheran Church, 8343 Gravois, Afton, MO 63123 -- From I-270, go east ( toward City) on Gravois for about 3 miles. You will pass Lindbergh Blvd, Sappington, Grant's Farm, Rock Hill Rd. and a short distance later, you will see Heege Rd. The Lutheran church is near the corner.
- 2/17/2008 (Sun) 3:00 PM (space limited to 5 or 6 players — Von Rhey Ford's Birthday Party, Kate Potterfield's home, 1680 Mason Knoll Court, Town and Country, MO 63131. From I-270 exit on Hwy 40/ I-64 and go west to the next exit, which is Mason Rd. At Mason Rd., turn left and cross over the bridge. Follow Mason Rd. south about 1-1/2 miles to Peacock Farms Rd. This is a divided street. Go left on Featherstone Rd. about 1 mile to a dead end. Turn right on Mason Knoll Court. Her home is in the cul-de sac.
- 2/24/2008 (Sun) 2:00 PM — Delmar Gardens North Nursing Home, 4401 Parker Road, Florissant, MO. 63033. From I-270 going east, exit at New Halls Ferry. At light turn left (North) and go to Parker Rd. Turn right onto Parker Rd. and go about 2 miles. Turn left into Delmar Gardens North and go beyond the Villas to the nursing area.
- 3/6/2008 (Thu) 2:45 PM — Tesson Heights Senior Living Community, 12335 West Bend Dr, St Louis, MO 63128. From I-270 going south east, exit at Tesson Ferry (Hwy 21). At the light turn right and go a block to West Bend Dr. Turn right and a short distance later turn right into their driveway. This location is very near St. Anthony Hospital.

### ATTAINABLE NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

This year, I resolve to...

- Gain weight. At least 30 pounds.
- Stop exercising. Waste of time.
- Read less. Makes you think.
- Watch more TV. I've been missing some good stuff.
- Procrastinate more. Starting tomorrow.
- Take a vacation to someplace important: like, to see the largest ball of twine.
- Not jump off a cliff just because everyone else did.
- Not have eight children at once.
- Create loose ends.
- Get further in debt.
- Not believe politicians.
- Not drive a motorized vehicle across thin ice.
- Spread out priorities beyond my ability to keep track of them.
- Wait around for opportunity.
- Focus on the faults of others.
- Mope about my faults.
- Never make New Year's resolutions again.



**THIS IS THE YEAR!!!**

**Now is the time for all good GHC members to work together for a great**

**2008 SPAH  
Convention  
in St. Louis**

**August 12—16**

**Sheraton Westport  
Chalet**

