



The REEDER

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

NEWS AND VIEWS

by Mary Ann Love

Christmas Party

The annual Christmas Party was held on Tuesday, December 2, at the Rock Hill Baptist Church. It was probably our largest gathering to date and the festive food and cheer was spread everywhere. Thanks to all our ladies and everyone who make this occasion special.

Charity Contributions

Club profit funds have been distributed to the following charitable organizations:

- *Cardinal Glennon Hospital for Children*
- *Sbriners Hospitals for Children*
- *St. Louis 100 Neediest Cases*
- *The Salvation Army*
- *Rock Hill Baptist Church*

Each organization was sent \$400.00 as it is our goal to reach local and deserving groups.

All club members are to be congratulated on their contributions to the club. Your attendance at gigs makes these donations possible. Also to be commended are the officers, the equipment haulers and set up people, the directors, the dependable rhythm sections, sales people, and all who participate in club activities. Your membership makes our club a success. Thank you!

Dues Reminder

Like everything else in this day and age, the rising costs of printing and publication of this newsletter has forced our club to raise the annual dues. Annual membership for GHC will be \$15.00 or \$150.00 for lifetime membership. Auxiliary membership is no longer available. Besides receiving the Reeder, members share the convenience of a centrally-located and comfortable meeting facility and sheet music is



included. The club comes with free lessons and practice sessions with knowledgeable maestro directors! You get 52 weeks of fun and friendship for such a small charge! We appreciate your membership and participation.

SPAH Membership

SPAH has sent out membership renewal forms for the year 2009. It is important that we support this organization to continue the preservation and advancement of the harmonica world. Dues include a subscription to *Harmonica Happenings*, their quarterly magazine. A discount is also included for registration of the 2009 convention in Sacramento, California in August 2009. If you need a form check website: www.spah.org or contact any officer of this club.

Harmonica Happenings

The official SPAH publication issued the latest quarterly issue magazine to its international audience and only had complimentary things to report about the August 2008 convention hosted by the St. Louis Gateway Harmonica Club. Included were many pages of great color photos and snapshots. Yes, it was a lot of effort and coordination, but the results and comments were all very positive. Chauffeur Buddy Hirsch was

(continued on page 3)

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

For information about club activities, contact:

Bill Dulin, President
4985 Seibert Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63123
(314) 752-9909
e-mail: 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

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

Happy Birthday!!!

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



January

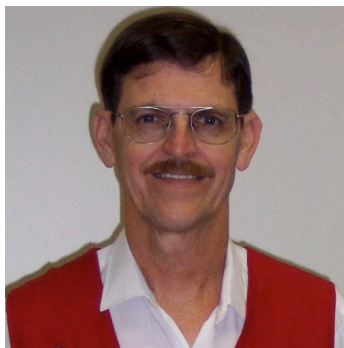
Frank Muriel 1/3
Teresa Steiven 1/4
Cleta Hessel 1/5
Alfred Perry 1/5
Ed Heining 1/8
Pauline Guelbert 1/10
John Bottchen 1/15
Johanna Sutterfield 1/28

February

Amanda Warren 2/8
Ernie Roberts 2/21
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.

FROM THE PRESIDENT - BILL DULIN



New Years Greetings!

2008 has been a memorable year for our club. We have completed 45 performances. Thank you Charlie Pratte for continuing as our "booking agent".

We hosted the SPAH convention for the fourth time and did it with style. This was one of the best conventions ever—thanks to all of you who worked so hard. Please consider joining or renewing your membership in SPAH. (Society for the Preservation and Advancement of the Harmonica)

Thanks also goes to everyone who made our picnic, Christmas in July, the pizza party, and the Christmas party so successful.

Thanks to Ron Beer, Ernie Roberts, Arpad de Kallos, Joe Fey and the others for making our education program this year the best since I have been a member. I believe that our continued coaching after the initial classes has been a real plus.

We have also had our down side too. The loss of Bob Provart was especially difficult as was the loss of other family members in our group.

I would also like to thank the music leaders and the other officers. They have done a great job and I have enjoyed being a part of this group.

Now that my first year as president has been completed I believe, with everyone's help, we can make 2009 even better.

NEWS AND VIEWS (from page 1)

cited as a wonderful ambassador for the club and his fine city. His gift of humor and story telling earned him the label as 'quite a character.'

During the SPAH convention days, Kaleena Hutchins went along for a spot on the radio show "Smash" and perfectly played the "Orange Blossom Special." Kaleena wrote her own article for Young at Harp section and her sweetness and expertise in the harmonica world and literary abilities shine through.

Joe Fey and Bill Dulin were complimented on the huge roles they played, but too many were not specifically named. Thanks to all who make our convention such a great memorable success!

Leo Goes Solo

Leo Kluesner and his friend, Frank Zahner, visited Columbia Nursing Home to visit Mr. Ray Emke. Taking a page from the Harmonica Club, Leo brought along his trusty harmonica and played a few tunes: *Alexander's Rag Time Band*, *Oh Shenandoah*, *I Only Have Eyes For You*, and *Dream*. Much to their delight and surprise, Leo and friends heard clapping from the next rooms and down the hall. An unexpected audience in the convalescent home was very appreciative. Leo said the patients were eager to hear music and it made them happy! Thanks, Leo, for sharing your story and spreading some cheer.

Congratulations and Welcome to New Lifetime Members:

- Ria Meagher
- Ralph Barber
- Glenda Warren

Harmonica Classes

If you know of anyone interested in learning to play the harmonica, the next scheduled classes are at Meramec Community College on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM on February 25, March 4 and March 11. See Ron Beer for details.

Ron is also talking to a home school parent who is trying to set up a one-session beginner class for children who could not be accommodated at the SPAH Convention in August. Possibilities are also being investigated for a children's chromatic class aimed at

home school students who are already involved with band instruments.

You Tube

Jim Melchers must have fished this from a very deep river - Jim loaded one of our videos on YouTube (who are those youngsters?)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YcIkG_bEDoM

Health Report

We wish the following members a successful and speedy recovery from their various confinements:

- **Frank Muriel** has returned to the club following heart by-pass and is looking stronger each week.
- **Ed Heininger** fell from a ladder and is slowly recovering from back injuries.
- **Frank Davis** and **Carroll Markivee** have had carpal tunnel surgery.
- **Arpad deKallos** has had heart by-pass surgery and has returned from a rehabilitation facility.
- **Glenda Warren** had a back disk surgery, but has been spotted returning to her harp lessons.
- **Sidney Wolff** has had a heart valve replacement procedure.
- **Jean Markivee** sprained her ankle and it is healing slowly.
- **Jackie Pratte** suffered a fall and broke her pelvis and spent some weeks in a rehab facility. Jackie sends her thanks to all who sent cards and made calls and promises we will see her again shortly.
- It was great to see **Sal Miano** and **Woody Woodring** (the Jerseyville Boys) return to club meetings. Sal had been hospitalized with a heart condition.

Let us keep them all in our thoughts and daily devotions.

Condolences

We extend our sincere sympathies to Joe and Sue Fey on the loss of their grandson, Jeff Fey, age 26, on December 19. May his family be consoled in their grief and may he rest in peace.

We have received word that former member, Robert (Bob) Carmody, deceased on December 22, 2008.

CHICAGO'S WINDY CITY HARMONICA CLUB

by Richard Krueger

On Saturday, November 8th, 2008 I attended the 24th Annual Holiday Party of the Windy City Harmonica Club at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Willow Brook, Illinois, outside of Chicago. It was certainly a gala event with a light and joyous atmosphere. A banquet room was filled by about 80 attendees. Dinner was great as was the cash bar.



I already knew that harmonica people are good people and this was certainly confirmed. Everybody was friendly and ready for fun. The show was put on by many talented harmonica players. It was during the show that I became aware that the GHC was not the

only harmonica club to have a lady bass harmonica player. There were many harmonica ensemble groups in the show. All were from within the club except for when I played with Bud. As far as I know, I was the only member there from another club.

Bud Boblink was the master of ceremonies and did a wonderful job with his comedy and harmonica playing. He kept the evening moving, along with keeping smiles on everyone's faces. Bud and I had played as a duo around 1958 when we found ourselves taking college courses at the same school. He played lead and taught me how to play the chord harmonica that I owned but didn't know how to play. He is a great teacher.

Bud and I played a song together on the show as a 50 year reunion of our duo. It was moving for me and perhaps for him also. This time I played lead. I hope that next year I can play chord for him.

Many people at the Chicago club remarked to me about the wonderful time they had at St. Louis SPAH and what a fine job the GHC did in putting it on.

As always, members are invited to submit articles of interest to our harmonica family.

BABY FACE

Most of us recognize this old favorite, but how many would know the lyrics other than the chorus? When it was played at open mic, Sam Hardy asked if we would like to see the words of the verses. And here's the way it goes:

Rosy cheeks and turn'd up nose and curly hair
I'm raving 'bout my baby now
Pretty little dimples here and dimples there
Don't want to live without her
I love her goodness knows
I wrote a song about her
And here's the way it goes:

When you were a baby not so long ago
You must have been the cutest thing
I can picture you at ev'ry baby show
Just winnin' ev'ry ribbon with
Your sweet baby way
Say honest I ain't fibbin'
You'd win 'em all today.

Chorus:

BABY FACE. . . You've got the cutest little BABY FACE. .
There's not another one could take your place. . BABY FACE. .
My poor heart is jump-in'; You sure have started somethin'
BABY FACE . . . I'm up in heaven when I'm in your fond embrace,
I didn't need a shove 'Cause I just fell in love
With your pretty BABY FACE.

JAZZ IMPROVISATION FOR THE HARMONICA — PART 1

by Carroll Markivee

(After watching a series of 10 DVD's on the history of jazz in the U.S., here is the first part of a summary of how jazz started and some related information. More later.. — Carroll)

Why Jazz? Exactly what is it and why do people like it?

Jazz is a form of improvisation, and has been a part of music for centuries.

Improvisation has been a very important element in Western Classical music for most of the past 1000 years. Original score notations for Mediaeval organ music included instructions for improvisation and embellishments. The same improvisation principles now used in Jazz were heard during the Baroque - (1600 - 1750), Classical - (1750 - 1830), and Romantic - Periods (1830 - 1900). J.S.Bach, Handel, Mozart, Beethoven, and Liszt used jazz notation.

At the beginning of the 20th Century improvisation mysteriously disappeared from classical performances and ever since, classical music has been restricted to the written score.

This had a detrimental effect on the knowledge and understanding of fundamental music principles. Improvisation skill relies on understanding the written score. The demise of good improvisation has also had a bad effect on the teaching of classical harmony.

Jazz emerged from hiding during the early 1920's. A style called "ragged tempo", later called ragtime, became popular. It changed the tempo (speed) and phrasing of the music.

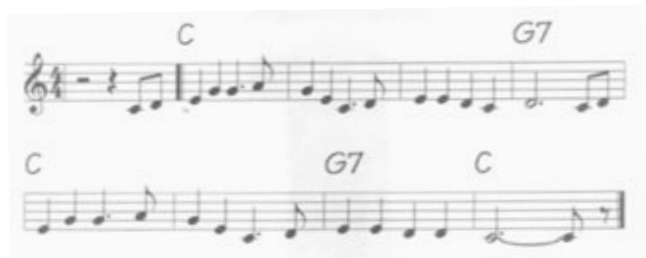
Charles Spranklin in the Fall 2007 issue of Harmonica Happenings explains that phrasing is the regrouping of notes to personalize the song into your own expression of the song. Here on part 1, see "Oh Susanna", a Stephen

Foster classic, and two easy improvisations on it with phrasing.

First the straight score: only quarter notes and half notes with no improvisation.



Second, the most common type of phrasing for this song, each word has a beat, some shorter or longer than the straight score.



Third, a little more improvisation with a little jazz phrasing: (you have to look hard to find it).



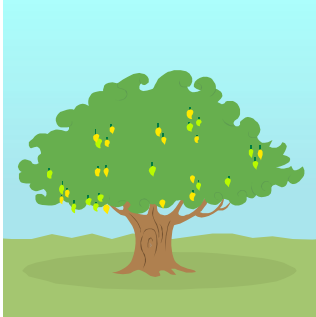
(Editor's note: Carroll will follow up on this subject in subsequent issues of the REEDER.)

"Snowflakes are one of nature's most fragile things,
but just look what they can do when they stick together."

- Vista M. Kelly



Trees



In the closing days of Fall, Chris Pondo treated us at open mic to hear her lovely soprano voice sing the following song, with her own piano accompaniment.

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.

HOW COME . . . ?

How come we choose from just two people to run for president and over fifty for Miss America ?

Wouldn't it be nice if whenever we messed up our life we could simply press 'Ctrl Alt Delete' and start all over? AMEN, AMEN !!

Why is it that our children can't read a Bible in school, but they can in prison?

Wouldn't you know it....Brain cells come and brain cells go, but FAT cells live forever.

Why do I have to swear on the Bible in court when the Ten Commandments cannot be displayed outside?

Bumper sticker of the year: 'If you can read this, thank a teacher – and, since it's in English, thank a soldier.'

And remember: life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes.

Now that food has replaced sex in my life, I can't even get into my own pants.

Don't argue with an idiot; people watching may not be able to tell the difference.

I saw a woman wearing a sweat shirt with 'Guess' on it. So I said 'Implants?' She hit me.

I signed up for an exercise class and was told to wear loose fitting clothing. If I HAD any loose fitting clothing, I wouldn't have signed up in the first place!

When I was young we used to go 'skinny dipping,' now I just 'chunky dunk.'

Sooner or later, a man, if he is wise, discovers that life is a mixture of good days and bad, victory and defeat, give and take.

Editor's Note: Speaking of Seasons, I have never been very fond of Winter. Brrr, dark and gloomy was my opinion. My late husband, Francis, took me for an outing one winter day and encouraged me to appreciate the beauty of a bare, frosted and iced tree, and grasp the potential of the naked and stripped fields, where I only wanted to envision green and golden lush planting abundance. On that day I re-evaluated my perceptions to anticipate the contrast of the



springtime bursting with the promise of new life. The soft falling snowflakes have a special, peaceful remembrance. As life flies forward, I truly welcome each day, whatever the weather or season. As the years escalate, the seasons come around much faster. Enjoy your Wintertime!

P.S. I still prefer the other three seasons.
Keep warm and safe and loved. -

Mary Ann Love

MAKE SOME NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

The pursuit of happiness is the chase of a lifetime! It is never too late to become what you might have been..

Life is too short to wake up with regrets. So love the people who treat you right. Forget about the ones who don't. Believe everything happens for a reason. If you get a second chance, grab it with both hands. If it changes your life, let it. Nobody said life would be easy, they just promised it would be worth it.

Friends are like balloons; once you let them go, you might not get them back. Sometimes we get so busy with our own lives and problems that we may not even notice that we've let them fly away. Sometimes we are so caught up in who's right and who's wrong that we forget what's right and wrong. Sometimes we just don't realize what real friendship means until it is too late. I don't want to let that happen so I'm gonna tie you to my heart so I never lose you.

CAN I QUOTE YOU?

Suppose you were an idiot.

And suppose you *were a member of Congress...But then I repeat myself.*

Mark Twain.

I contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle.

Winston Churchill

PAULINE'S QUIPS

A Day without laughter is a day wasted.

Properly trained, a man can be dog's best friend.

He who goes in circles is known as a big wheel.

You can choose to soar with the eagles
Or scratch with the chickens

Ideas won't work unless ' You' do.

Does the thought you are now thinking
Take you where you want to go?
If not, what thought would?

If I look for answers, my answers increase.
If I look at my problems, my problems increase

"TATERS"

There are those who say they will help, but somehow just never get around to actually doing the promised help.

They are called "**Hezzie Taters.**"

Some people never seem motivated to participate, but are just content to watch while others do the work.

They are called "**Spec Taters.**"

Some people never do anything to help, but are gifted at finding fault with the way others do the work.

They are called "**Comment Taters.**"

Some people can put up a front and pretend to be someone they are not.

They are called "**Emma Taters.**"

Some people are very bossy and like to tell others what to do, but don't want to soil their own hands.

They are called "**Dick Taters.**"

Some people are always looking to cause problems by asking others to agree with them. It is too hot or too cold, too sour or too sweet.

They are called "**Agie Taters.**"



Then there are those who love others and do what they say they will. They are always prepared to stop whatever they are doing and lend a helping hand. They bring real sunshine into the lives of others.

They are called "**Sweet Taters.**"

GHC GIGS, CLASSES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

WEEKLY EVENTS

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

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

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

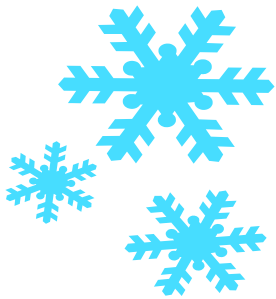
All other Tuesdays: Band Rehearsal — Everyone welcome

8:00 PM - Open Mic — Everyone welcome

PERFORMANCES, CLASSES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

A list of the club's upcoming performances, classes and special events is distributed each month at the business meeting. For the most up-to-date calendar of all GHC performances, classes and special events, go to www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org/calendar, which takes you to our **online calendar**. You can view the calendar in Week, Month or Agenda (list) format by clicking on the tab of your choice. To move the display backward or forward in any view, click ◀ or ▶ in the upper left-hand corner of the calendar.

Gigs are shown in RED, classes in BLUE and special events in GREEN. 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 .



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