



NEWS & VIEWS



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

WHAT'S HAPPENING

by Mary Ann Love

ELECTION RESULTS

Election of officers of the Gateway Harmonica Club for the term of 2010-2011 took place at the GHC business meeting on December 1, 2009 with results as follows:

President	Bill Dulin
Vice President	Louise Cook
Treasurer	Jessie Hirsch
Secretary	Mary Ann Love

Your cooperation and support of these officers is encouraged and appreciated.

NEW LIFE MEMBER

Congratulations on Lifetime Membership in the GHC club:

MIKE ASBURY

2010 DUES

Dues for regular membership is \$15.00 annually and become delinquent on March 1. Dues cover the cost of printing of sheet music and the newsletter plus postage. Other club expenses are covered by earning income from gigs, sales of CDs, and harmonica necklaces, etc. Some members expend much of their time and energy to promote and ensure continued success of the club. Please do your part by renewing your membership. Make your checks payable to The Gateway Harmonica Club and deliver or mail to:

Jessie Hirsch, Treasurer,
47 Orchard Lane
Kirkwood, MO 63122

HELLO THERE

To our supporting members who are out of town or out of commission for any reason, please jot a note with your check - we love to hear from everyone.

2009 CHRISTMAS PARTY

Club members and their spouses enjoyed a Christmas party and get-together following the business meeting on December 1. Thanks to everyone who attended and a special thank you to the ladies who organized, decorated, set up, served and tidied the room.

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

Year-end charitable contributions from our treasury funds have been distributed in the amount of \$300 each to:

Shriners' Childrens Hospital
Cardinal Glennon Hospital for Children
St. Louis 100 Neediest Cases
Salvation Army
The Rock Church (meeting venue)

The economy has affected the scheduled bookings this year and the contributions are slightly below the amounts from previous years. If matters improve, it has been decided to disburse additional funds at a future date.

MEMORIAL

Jean Markivee passed on to eternal rest on December 6, 2009. The Gateway Harmonica Club was privileged to play Amazing Grace and Just A Closer Walk With Thee at the memorial service. Several eulogies by daughters, Pam and Cindy, and sister, Marilyn, recognized Jean's love of life, humor, creativity, and her generosity as well as her warm friendliness and hospitality. Teaching skills to others was high on her list of achievements. Speakers also included her Pastor; her brother-in-law, Bob; husband, Carroll; as well as several members of P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization), one of Jean's favorite charities. Its mission: Promoting Educational Opportunities for women. Jean's love of music and her

(continued on page 2)

THE GHC NEWS AND VIEWS is a bimonthly publication of the Gateway Harmonica Club, Inc. of St. Louis, Missouri, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation and advancement of the harmonica. The club meets weekly on Tuesdays at 7:00 PM at The Rock Church, 9125 Manchester, Brentwood, MO.

Inquiries about membership should be directed to:

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:

Mary Ann Love
 Recording & Corresponding Secretary
 1162 Villa Flora Dr.
 O'Fallon, MO 63366
 (636) 379-7707

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

Mike Asbury 1/02
 Frank Muriel 1/03
 Teresa Steiven 1/04
 Carol Schneider 1/04
 Alfred Perry 1/05
 Bernard Mann 1/06
 Ed Heininger 1/08
 Fred Stover 1/08
 Pauline Guelbert 1/10
 John Bottchen 1/15
 Johanna Sutterfield 1/28

FEBRUARY

Amanda Warren 2/08
 Ernie Roberts 2/22
 Kaleena Hutchins 2/22
 Paul Babb 2/24
 Sidney Wolff 2/26
 Sandy Bonfiglio 2/27
 Gloria Winston 2/28

Editor's Note: Please notify us if your or your spouse's birthday is missing or incorrect. We welcome publication of any members special highlight dates!

(from page 1)

main hobby throughout life was singing and she was a member of the Sweet Adelines for many years. Other interests were sewing, crafting, ham radio, aircraft pilot, and mischievous prankster. Jean was the recipient of the distinguished Poet Laureate award and a book of her poetry was published. Jean had served as a past officer in the harmonica club and sang along with Carroll on harp at many open mic sessions.

The Gateway Harmonica Club sent a memorial donation to the P.E.O. We offer our condolences to the family of Carroll Markivee and their many friends, and will miss Jean's positive outlook and sweet smiles.

CONDOLENCES

The Gateway Harmonica Club extends our most sincere sympathy to Richard Krueger and family on the passing

of his wife, Lillian, in December 2009, after a prolonged and difficult illness. May she rest in peace.

HARMONICAS FOR HEALTH

The 'Harmonicas for Health' seminars and Breathing Therapy sessions conducted by Ron Beer with supporting GHC club members at the Memorial Belleville Hospitals in Springfield, IL and O'Fallon, IL during the past year were very much appreciated.

Shirley Schultz, Coordinator, has extended an invitation to all club members to attend a picnic at noon on May 26th in Belleville, IL, near the main hospital campus at an indoor venue. It is the hope of Shirley Schultz and staff that we may share lunch and perform for some of the patients to promote interest of new participants at a later meeting. The staff is very outgoing and they promise this to be a fun event. Please give this invitation some consideration. More details will follow in the next newsletter.

We Get Letters . . .

To: Gateway Harmonica Club
 From: Joy C. Rucker
 St. Louis County Library
 Weber Road Branch

I am retiring and will miss you guys. It has been so much fun over the years to see and hear you play. You are a terrific group of people and I will miss you. Laura Thomas will be in charge of the Spring programs. She will do a very good job. I booked you for April before I finalized my decision, so all should go on as usual. It has been a pleasure working with you. Thanks for playing my requests; it meant a lot to me. Keep making music.

Sincerely,

Joy C. Rucker

The advantage of a bad memory is that one enjoys several times the same good things for the first time.

Some folks are wise and some otherwise.

The trouble with life is you're halfway through it before you realize it's a do-it-yourself thing.

Aiming for the least common denominator sometimes causes division by zero.

We must silence those who oppose freedom of speech.

Submitted by Carroll Markivee

We cannot do great things on this earth.
 We can only do small things with great love.

Mother Teresa

IMPROVISATION

“Improvisation” sounds like a change in a melody with the performer making it up during a performance of a piece of music. As I mentioned in a previous article in this series, improvisation was just that in classical music days, by Bach, and many other great composers. Some of the improvisations were so good they were written as a permanent music score, and have survived through the centuries.

Although it was lost for many years, improvisation was reborn in the “Jazz Age”, by many groups in the western world, each claiming to be the first to bring it back to popularity. Few of these were written down, as the original purpose was to allow the artist to make different changes, at each playing. One exception was some improvisations of George Shearing, the blind English pianist, who published excellent variations on many songs of the 30's through the early 50's. One of his best, in my opinion, is his version of “The Boy (Girl) Next Door”. The variation goes all over the place, but the melody can be heard, if you know the original.



Improvisation can, and usually does, include changing the timing, pitch, and duration of notes, even moving a part to the next or previous measure.

Jean Markivee did this when singing “Midnight Sun”, at the point in the song when the words at the end of a line were, “I still found stardust on my sleeve”, (all in one measure) by putting the last 3 words into the next measure, so it came out during a rest. The effect sounded, at first, like she made a mistake, but the listener quickly understood her emphasis, and how it made you perceive the phrase.

I sent a soft jazz version of “Ain't Misbehavin' ” to Bill Dulin to demonstrate several changes mentioned above. See if you recognize which variations are used, and where. Then, I challenge you to work through the original score 1 time, and introduce your own improvisation on the 2nd chorus, at an open mike session. I really wish I could be there when you do it. Originality in performance indicates an advanced understanding of music.

Harmonically Yours,

Carroll Markivee

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT~*Happy New Year!*

It is hard to believe that I have completed my first two-year term and have started on another. You, the members, make this job a pleasure for me. Chris Pondo has completed her second term as Secretary and I would like to personally thank her for a job well done. Mary Ann Love will be our Secretary for the next two years. She has held this position before and has also held the office of President. Thank you, Mary Ann, for all that you do and all you have done for us. Thanks also to Jessie Hirsch and Louise Cook who will continue as our Treasurer and Vice President, respectively. I also should mention the great job our instructors and leaders are doing and ask that we continue to give them our support.



2009 was a memorable year for our club. We enjoyed our usual get-togethers including our picnic at the Markivee's, Christmas in July, and our Christmas party. We also lost some members: Jean Markivee, John Meehan, Andy Cassimatis, Bill Schuessler and Louis

Drinen. Some of our other members have also had and continue to have some serious health concerns and we wish them a speedy recovery.

Again this year we continued the tradition of a strong GHC presence at the SPAH convention. It was in Sacramento and was the largest SPAH ever. Everyone had a great time. As you know, next August the SPAH will be in Bloomington, Minnesota and I am sure GHC will be there in force. It is "only" about 500 miles and Southwest Airlines will soon start service to Minneapolis. Also don't forget to renew your SPAH membership and I encourage non-members to join. It is well worth it.

Even though we were not able to contribute as much as in previous years, we were still able to support our favorite charities at the end of the year. We also purchased some new top of the line Bose sound equipment to replace our old system.

I would like to restate that if anyone has an issue to discuss, please let me know so I can include it in the business meeting agenda.

We have a great club with talented and caring members and I am proud to be your president. My goal is to make 2010 better than 2009.

*Bill Dulin***Silence**

Under all speech that is good for anything there lies a silence that is better.
Silence is deep as Eternity; speech is shallow as Time.

Thomas Carlyle

“To ease another’s heartache is to forget one’s own.”

Abraham Lincoln

“All of our dreams can come true if
we have the courage to pursue them.”

Walt Disney

I cannot do everything, but still I can do something;
And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do something that I can do.

Helen Keller

YOU THINK ENGLISH IS EASY???

You lovers of the English language might enjoy this:

- 1) The bandage was wound around the wound.
- 2) The farm was used to produce produce.
- 3) The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
- 4) We must polish the Polish furniture.
- 5) He could lead if he would get the lead out.
- 6) The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
- 7) Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
- 8) A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
- 9) When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
- 10) I did not object to the object.
- 11) The insurance was invalid for the invalid.
- 12) There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.
- 13) They were too close to the door to close it.
- 14) The buck does funny things when the does are present.
- 15) A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line...
- 16) To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.
- 17) The wind was too strong to wind the sail.
- 18) Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.
- 19) I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.
- 20) How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?

CONFUSING?

Let's face it - English is a crazy language. There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat. We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese? One index, 2 indices? Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?

If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? Sometimes I think all the English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell?

How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which, an alarm goes off by going on.

English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which, of course, is not a race at all. That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.

PS. - Why doesn't 'Buick' rhyme with 'quick'?

You have powers you never dreamed of.

You can do things you never thought you could do

There are no limitations in what you can do except the limitations of your own mind.

-

Darwin P. Kingsley

A "BIG" LITTLE WORD

There is a two-letter word that perhaps has more meanings than any other two-letter word, and that is 'UP'.

- It's easy to understand UP, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake UP?
- At a meeting, why does a topic come UP?
- Why do we speak UP and why are the officers UP for election and why is it UP to the secretary to write UP a report?
- We call UP our friends.
- And we use it to brighten UP a room, polish UP the silver; we warm UP the leftovers and clean UP the kitchen.
- We lock UP the house and some guys fix UP the old car.
- At other times the little word has real special meaning.
- People stir UP trouble, line UP for tickets, work UP an appetite, and think UP excuses.
- To be dressed is one thing, but to be dressed UP is special.
- A drain must be opened UP because it is stopped UP.
- We open UP a store in the morning but we close it UP at night.
- We seem to be pretty mixed UP about UP!
- To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of UP, look the word UP in the dictionary.
- In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes UP almost 1/4th of the page and can add UP to about thirty definitions.
- If you are UP to it, you might try building UP a list of the many ways UP is used.
- It will take UP a lot of your time, but if you don't give UP, you may wind UP with a hundred or more.
- When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding UP.
- When the sun comes out we say it is clearing UP..
- When it rains, it wets the earth and often messes things UP.
- When it doesn't rain for awhile, things dry UP.
- One could go on and on, but I'll wrap it UP, for now my time is UP, so.....it is time to shut UP!

Now it's UP to you what you do with this information.



MAYONNAISE JAR AND TWO CUPS OF COFFEE I

Submitted by Arpad de Kallos

When things in your life seem almost too much to handle, when 24 hours in a day is not enough, remember the mayonnaise jar and two cups of coffee.

A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, wordlessly, he picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full?

They agreed that it was.

The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full? Again they agreed the jar was full.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full? The students responded with a unanimous... "Yes!"

The professor then produced two cups of coffee from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar, effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed. "Now," said the professor, as the laughter subsided, "I want you to recognize that this jar



represents your life. The golf balls are the important things – God, family, health, friends, and favorite passions---things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter – like your career, your home and transportation. The sand is everything else---the small stuff.

If you put the sand into the jar first," he continued, "there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes

for life. If you spent all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you.

So pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness---stay in touch with your family and friends. Take time to get medical checkups. Take someone out to dinner. Play another game of cards. There will always be time to clean your apartment. Take care of the golf balls first – the things that really matter. Set your priorities – the rest is just sand."

One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the coffee represented? The professor smiled. "I'm glad you asked – it just goes to show that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of cups of coffee with a friend!"

The tragedy of love is indifference.

Somerset Maugham

SONGS FOR BIBLE CHARACTERS

Submitted by Arpad de Kallos

- Adam and Eve: "Strangers In Paradise"
- Noah: "Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head"
- Job: "I've Got A Right To Sing The Blues"
- Esther: "I Feel Pretty"
- Moses: "The Wanderer"
- Jezebel: "The Lady Is A Tramp"
- Samson: "Hair"
- Daniel: "The Lion Sleeps Tonight"



GHC GIGS, CLASSES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

WEEKLY EVENTS

Tuesday evening meetings at The Rock 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 and special events are shown in RED, classes in BLUE. To the right of the tabs, there is a small ▼ symbol that you can click to open a drop-down checklist if you wish to display only a specific category or categories by checking selected boxes .



GATEWAY HARMONICA CLUB
14650 Baraton Drive
Florissant, MO 63034