



# The Reeder



Please visit us on the Internet at [www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org](http://www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org)

## NEWS AND VIEWS -by Mary Ann Love

### Charity Fund Distribution

Distribution of the charity funds earned by the club throughout the year has been sent 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 club has also made memorial donations during the past year for several members who have passed on. In addition, the club offers a quarterly donation to the Rock Church, where we are privileged to hold our weekly meetings. This facility offers the space, comfort and central locality and we are fortunate to enjoy this convenient meeting place.

At this time we would like to recognize all those who help to make the club a success: players at gigs, band leaders, equipment haulers and set-up people, salespersons, schedulers, website and article writers, photographers, all members, their supportive spouses and families, and all who contribute in any way.

### Dues Are Due!

Dues for regular membership are \$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 CD, 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 for dues payable to The Gateway Harmonica Club and deliver or mail to:

Buddy Hirsch  
47 Orchard Lane  
Kirkwood, MO 63122

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.

### Members Health Concerns

**Sal Miano** and **Eunice Biermann** were reported to have visited California and came back with bronchitis and both were very sick.

**Charlie Pratte** has suffered side effects from chemo but is determined to keep strong by visiting the Y for exercise.

Frank Davis told us about his daughter, **Vicki**, who had breast removal and reconstruction. Vicki also had the same breast surgery for cancer plus hysterectomy 20 years ago on the other side. She is 57 years of age.

Joe Fey has a mutual friend of **Jerry Bonfiglio** who said Jerry has ongoing heart problems and had been at Barnes Hospital. We should keep all of the above in our prayers.

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Laugh when you can,  
apologize when you should,  
and let go of what you can't change.  
Life's too short to be anything...  
but happy.



Best wishes for 2013

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

Inquiries about membership should be directed to:

Buddy Hirsch, Treasurer

47 Orchard Lane

Kirkwood, MO 63122

(314) 821-8651

e-mail: [buddyharmonica@aol.com](mailto:buddyharmonica@aol.com)

For information about club activities, contact:

Frank Davis, President

125 Braewood Circle

St. Charles, MO 63301

(636) 477-0354

e-mail: [fdavis0354@charter.net](mailto:fdavis0354@charter.net)

To schedule a club performance, contact:

Herb Huebner

(314) 873-6633

e-mail: [info@gatewayharmonicaclub.org](mailto:info@gatewayharmonicaclub.org)

All other correspondence should be directed to:

MaryAnn Love

Recording & Corresponding Secretary

1162 Villa Flora Dr.

O'Fallon, MO 63366

(636) 379-7707

e-mail: [malove123@msn.com](mailto:malove123@msn.com)

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

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

## SPAH CONVENTION 2013

*Society for the Preservation and  
Advancement of the Harmonica*

**August 13-17, 2013**

Renaissance Airport Hotel

St. Louis, MO

**[www.spah.org](http://www.spah.org)**

**SPAH dues are due! Renew or apply on-line or request application from one of the officers. SPAH dues includes a discount for SPAH registration.**

**Bill Dulin has been appointed SPAH Coordinator for the SPAH convention to be held in St. Louis in August 2013.**

**If you have any questions or suggestions about this event, please contact Bill at [imafosi@att.net](mailto:imafosi@att.net)**

## Happy Birthday!

### JANUARY

|                     |      |
|---------------------|------|
| Mike Asbury         | 1/2  |
| Teresa Steiven      | 1/4  |
| Ed Heininger        | 1/8  |
| Fred Stover         | 1/8  |
| Andrew Reagan       | 1/10 |
| Pauline Guelbert    | 1/10 |
| Judia Goodson       | 1/19 |
| Charles Hudson      | 1/25 |
| Jay Hotze           | 1/26 |
| Johanna Sutterfield | 1/28 |

### FEBRUARY

|                  |      |
|------------------|------|
| Amanda Warren    | 2/8  |
| Ernie Roberts    | 2/21 |
| Eunice Biermann  | 2/22 |
| Kaleena Hutchins | 2/22 |
| Sandy Bonfiglio  | 2/27 |
| Gloria Winstron  | 2/28 |



**Happy Birthday & Congratulations to all!**

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*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!*

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## Christmas Get-Together

Club members, spouses and friends enjoyed a Christmas party and get-together on December 6<sup>th</sup> following the business meeting. Thanks to everyone who attended and a special thank you to all those who organized, decorated, set up, served and tidied the room.

### Hohner Harmonicas Found In Popular Mechanics Magazine

Imagine my surprise when in reading my December 2012 Popular Mechanics magazine I saw three pictures of a Hohner 10-hole Marine Band harmonica. The first was on the table of contents page. Further on, the magazine had a multi-page section of Christmas gift suggestions. Surprisingly, most were not for tools. One page featured audio entertainment, and pictured and described the Hohner in detail, saying how easy it is to play. I guess every tool box should have one.

The theme of the issue was “The Future – Predictions For the Next 110 Years.” In the middle of it they listed “10 things that will remain the same.” The first was beer, the second was harmonicas. Another Hohner picture accompanied the list.

I was intrigued, so I went on the Hohner web site and found a B. Thomas as a contact for Hohner USA. I e-mailed him congratulations on the product placement and asked if Hohner paid for it. Bart Thomas answered me. He said they didn’t pay for it (they normally wouldn’t advertise in Popular Mechanics!) but remembered getting a request for photos from PM many months ago. He asked me to scan the pages and email them to him, which I did.

In my cover email I told him I thought there was a harp player on the PM staff. He responded by saying that you never know who might be a harmonica player, and that for example the biography of Apple founder, Steve Jobs, has a picture on his desk with a few different Hohner harps on it. He disagreed that harmonicas won’t change (but I guess the main features for playing will remain).

- Submitted by Mark Olesnicki

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### **THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

What is greater than God,  
More evil than the devil,  
the poor have it,  
the rich don’t need it,  
and if you eat it, you’ll die?

### Rich Krueger Performs

Rich Krueger has auditioned and was selected to perform in a talent contest at the Illinois College in Jacksonville, Illinois on February 16. The event is being put on by the Jacksonville Symphony Society, a group attached to the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra. The competition is annual and is called “The Talent Among Us.”

Rich has entered this competition in the past and has performed such selections as “Fiddler On The Roof” and “Rhapsody In Blue.”

The “Rhapsody In Blue” solo by Rich at the Sheldon can be viewed on You Tube. Just look up Richard Krueger or title of song.

Now he has prepared another show-stopper and would like to do a dress rehearsal (so to speak) and get the audience reactions from the Gateway Harmonica Club.

Rich would like to invite members of the club and any guests on January 22. Plan to attend and see his latest endeavor!

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### Making & Meeting New Friends

Chris Pondo joined the adult learners club at Florissant Valley Community College when GHC performed there on December 6. Besides enjoying coffee and cake, she met Frankie Appleby, who gave her a 2013 schedule of FVCC Symphony Orchestra Concerts (she plays violin) and gave Bill Dulin an old harmonica to check if it could be repaired. Chris also won a free raffle including a 50<sup>th</sup> year black t-shirt, drinking cup, key chain-holder, ink pen and pad of paper.

Players were invited to enjoy party refreshments. Some of the students helped load the sound equipment, since the elevator was not working!

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*All are invited to share their noteworthy experiences or other subject matters of general interest.*

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**MUSIC MAKERS (Contest)**

The following quiz was derived mainly from a crossword puzzle. There will be a prize for the first person to respond correctly. Send the answers to: Christine Pondo, 1166 Waldorf Drive, St. Louis, MO 63137

This quiz has been extended and correct answers will appear in the next Reeder.

1. Praise yourself
2. Follows
3. Tally
4. CEO's
5. Cutter
6. Shaw and Miller
7. Football player
8. River fish
9. Feelings
10. Climbing Vine
11. Brainy
12. Procrastinates
13. Attract Customers
14. Casino Music
15. Diva's Work

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**Can You Decipher This Poem?**

1. Playing harmonica in my OMOR is my favorite RECHO. As soon as I'm ESNIFHID, I play some more.

2. I TERACPIC a song three times and ENTH, try to ZEIMROME again and again.

3. I've KARDEM my music, the LAFTS and PHASSR. It's so GERAINXL to play on harps.

4. There's so much music to ZEGARNIO. I confess I like to TELLCOC but my LESCOT's a SEMS!

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Beginner harmonica classes are offered at Meramec, Wildwood, St. Charles Community College and Parkwood adult evening classes several sessions each semester. Thanks to the teachers who donate their time toward these efforts: Buddy and Jessie Hirsch, Ernie Roberts, Herb Huebner, and Mary Ann Love. If anyone would like to volunteer as teacher, come on down!

**Baseball/Musical Quiz**

1. Why was the piano tuner hired to play for the Cardinals?  
*Because he has perfect pitch.*
2. What do baseball runners sing?  
*Home Sweet Home or Home on the Range.*
3. What do catchers sing?  
*Glove songs.*
4. Which Cardinal team player never wears a uniform?  
*The stadium organist.*
5. Which city is referenced in the National Anthem?  
*Atlanta – the home of the Braves.*
6. Where should we look for Fred Bird?  
*In fowl territory.*
7. The Cardinals won 4 to 0 but not a single man touched first base. How did that happen?  
*They were all married.*
8. If you add ERA, RBI, AB, BB and HR to your lunch, what do you get?  
*Alphabet Soup*

This fun musical quiz page submitted by Christine Pondo.

Answer to Thought For The Day: Nothing

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**Thank You Letter** received from one of the students at the St. Charles Community College class titled 'Learn the Harmonica' during the fall session.

Dear Ms. Love –  
Just a note of appreciation for the harmonica class. This is one of the most enjoyable things I've done in many years.  
You and Mr. Roberts have done an interesting and fun session and added plenty of humor too.

Thanks again –  
Sherry Holman

Ernie Roberts also received a similar note of appreciation.

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## Harmonica From Wikipedia

The **harmonica**, also called French harp, blues harp, and mouth organ, is a free reed wind instrument used worldwide in nearly every musical genre, notably in blues, American folk music, jazz, country, and rock and roll. There are many types of harmonica, including diatonic, chromatic, tremolo, octave, orchestral, and bass versions. A harmonica is played by using the mouth (lips and/or tongue) to direct air into and out of one or more holes along a mouthpiece. Behind the holes are chambers containing at least one reed. A harmonica reed is a flat elongated spring typically made of brass or bronze, which is secured at one end over a slot that serves as an airway. When the free end is made to vibrate by the player's air, it alternately blocks and unblocks the airway to produce sound.

Reeds are pre-tuned to individual pitches. Tuning may involve changing a reed's length, the weight near its free end, or the stiffness near its fixed end. Longer, heavier and springier reeds produce deeper, lower sounds; shorter, lighter and stiffer reeds make higher-pitched sounds. If, as on most modern harmonicas, a reed is affixed above or below its slot rather than in the plane of the slot, it responds more easily to air flowing in the direction that initially would push it into the slot, i.e., as a *closing reed*. This difference in response to air direction makes it possible to include both a *blow reed* and a *draw reed* in the same air chamber and to play them separately without relying on flaps of plastic or leather (valves, wind-savers) to block the nonplaying reed. An important technique in performance is bending: causing a drop in pitch by making embouchure adjustments. It is possible to bend isolated reeds, as on chromatic and other harmonica models with wind-savers, but also to both lower, and raise (*overbend*, *overblow*, *overdraw*) the pitch produced by pairs of reeds in the same chamber, as on a diatonic or other unvalved harmonica. Such two-reed pitch changes actually involve sound production by the normally silent reed, the *opening reed* (for instance, the blow reed while the player is drawing).

## Harmonica types

### Chromatic harmonica

The chromatic harmonica uses a button-activated sliding bar to redirect air from the hole in the mouthpiece to the selected reed-plate, although there was one design, the "Machino-Tone," which controlled airflow by means of a lever-operated movable flap on the rear of the instrument. In addition, there is a "hands-free" modification of the Hohner 270 (12-hole) in which the player shifts the tones by moving the mouthpiece up and down with the lips, leaving the hands free to play another instrument. While the Richter-tuned 10-hole chromatic is intended to play in only one key, the 12-, 14-, and 16-hole models (which are tuned to equal temperament) allow the musician to play in any key desired with only one harmonica. This harp can be used for any style, including Celtic, classical, jazz, or blues (commonly in third position).

### Diatonic harmonicas

Strictly speaking, "diatonic" denotes **any** harmonica that is designed for playing in only one key (though the standard "Richter-tuned" diatonic can be played in other keys by forcing its reeds to play tones that are not part of its basic scale; see Blues harp). Depending on the region of the world, "diatonic harmonica" may mean either the tremolo harmonica (in East Asia) or blues harp (In Europe and North America). Other diatonic harmonicas include octave harmonica.

### Tremolo harmonica

The tremolo harmonica's distinguishing feature is that it has two reeds per note, with one slightly sharp and the other slightly flat. This provides a unique wavering or warbling sound created by the two reeds being slightly out of tune with each other and the difference in their subsequent waveforms interacting with each other (its beat). The Asian version, on which all 12 semitones can be played, is used in a large amount of East-Asian music, from rock to pop music.







**WEEKLY EVENTS**

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

6:00 PM – Blues Group, led by Ed Cenatiempo – Everyone welcome

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

7:00 PM – All other Tuesdays: Band Rehearsal – Everyone welcome

8:00 PM – Open Mic – Everyone Welcome

**PERFORMANCES, CLASSES AND SPECIAL EVENTS**

A list of the club's upcoming performances, classes and special events is distributed each month at the business meeting. For the most up-to-date calendar of all GHC performances, classes and special events, go to [www.gatewayharmonicaclub.org/calendar](http://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**  
**47 Orchard Lane**  
**Kirkwood, MO 63122**



**January**



**February**