



THE REED

June, 2006

Newsletter of The Garden State Harmonica Club, Inc.

P.O. Box 122, Ridgewood, NJ 07451

"For the Elevation and Advancement of the Harmonica"

We meet on the second Friday of each month, at 7:30 p.m., at

The Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Maywood and Taplin Aves., Maywood, NJ ● email: jbgbndlb @ aol.com

Next meeting: Friday, June 9, '06

Deadline For Reed Articles...23rd of each month

Board of Directors

President.....Bob Hibler
Vice President.....Charlie Toker
Treasurer.....Tom Scerbo
Recording Secretary.....Dottie Kuchar
Trustees.....Joe Dobish, Vince Cupo,
 Henry Young, Andrew Menasian, and Victor Fabano
Reed Editor.....Dan Bauch
Sergeant at Arms.....Ellen Singer
Bookings.....Henry Young

Committees

Membership.....Andrew Menasian
Hospitality.....Judy Toker
Sunshine.....Roberta Lulov
Publicity.....
Festival: Shelly Lulov (Committee Chairman), Tom Scerbo (Entertainment Chmn), Phil Caltabellotta, Roberta Lulov, Valerie Redler, Vic Fabano, Charles Toker, Judy Toker, Vince Cupo, Joe Dobish

A Message

from Bob Hibler, GSHC President

Don't look now but we are shrinking. Andy Menasian mailed the Club Roster out several weeks ago, bless his heart and, compared to 2005 our numbers are down. The why is pretty obvious. We are aging, but what we need to do about it is something else. This trend needs to be reversed and that is going to be your homework assignment for the summer...let's try to get some new members! With this June REED are a couple of our new business cards. Please pass them out to get some recruits. They don't have to play, just share in what we like. If they do harp, so much the better. We need to start somewhere. Notice that the website address is on the cards too. I am working on making that a real asset to tell our story. Take a peek if you can get online: gardenstateharmonicaclub.org.

Some of you may have seen Vinny Cupo's face gracing a Hackensack University Medical Center advertisement thanking volunteers. If you haven't seen it, it's on p. 6. Vinny, wearing his Veteran's cap, is shown teaching a bed-ridden youngster how to play the harmonica. Way to go, Vinny!

Another volunteer, Roberta Lulov, is now our Sunshine Committee Chairperson. If you know of a member who could use a card to cheer them

up, let Roberta know. Thanks, Roberta!

Don't forget to get your reservation in for the Festival in October. Save \$25.00 by just sending in your check (payable to GSHC) to Shelly before August 30.

Our 2006 Picnic is history, thanks to all who helped and thanks to all who came. This is being written way before June 3rd but how can any Garden State Harmonica Club Picnic be anything but sublime?

Before I let go of membership, our Ensemble is also looking for company. We practice every Friday (except on Business meeting nights) at 7:00 pm, usually upstairs on the third floor of the Maywood Police Station. Joe Dobish is the point man. Call him for details and stop by to try it on for size.

We needed to have a Corporate Seal made up to stamp some bank documents and I ordered one from Staples. When the device came in I immediately tried it out and saw that the official imprint read, "GARDEN STATE HARMONICA CLUB". That may be true but Staples replaced it anyway.

Finally, this will be my last Message to you as President. Until September, that is. Have a wonderful summer!

Garden State Harmonica Club Festival 2006

4- DAY HARMONICA FESTIVAL

To Commemorate our Club's 35th Anniversary

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday

October 25, 26, 27 & 28, 2006

At the CROWNE PLAZA AT PARAMUS PARK

601 From Road, Paramus, New Jersey 07652

(Formally the RADISSON INN)

Hotel Reservations: (201) 262-6900 or (800) 227-6963

Mention the GSHC for reduced room rate of \$95 plus 6% sales tax per night

Featuring the World Class Harmonica Sounds of:

THE SOCIETY BOYS Phil Calatabellotta, Shelly Lulov, Tom Scerbo

Jazz greats CHARLES SPRANKLIN & RANDY WEINSTEIN

The smooth sounds of SANDY GERMAN

TOM STRYKER with special guest TONY LUISI

(Musical arranger of the famed STAGG McMANN TRIO)

DADDY "T" & THE TWO HARPS Charles Toker, Shelly Lulov, Tom Scerbo

Jazz Stylist ENRICO GRANAFEI and his guitar & harmonica

Classical virtuoso JIA-YI HE with SHELLY LULOV on chord harmonica

PHIL CALTABELLOTTA, AL DATA & FRANK WARNER trio,

BOB McFARLANE

Chromatic Artist DAN BAUCH

The dynamic HOTSHOTS Al & Judy Smith

PHIL CALTABELLOTTA & WALLY PETERMAN duo

The World of Blues CARLOS COLINA & LEO JORDAN, guitar

Fabulous Blues Artist DENNIS GRUENLING with Vocalist GINA FOX

THE HARMONITONES John Savas, Dave Denkers & Mike Itrace

The Country Music of HARPERS BIZARRE

THE GARDEN STATE HARMONICA CLUB ENSEMBLE

RICHIE MILLER & FRANK GROVA duo

The Phenomenal CAROLBETH TRUE on keyboard w/bass & drum

Group sing-a-longs with MARV & ROGER MONROE

CHARLIE McDERMOTT as Master of Ceremonies

Sound Technicians BILL BLUNDETTO & JOE DOBISH

FOUR - DAY FESTIVAL TICKET: \$100 per person*

*If paid AFTER August 30, 2006 – 4-Day Ticket: \$125

RATES ON A DAILY BASIS:

Wednesday \$10 - Thursday \$30 - Friday \$35 - Saturday \$75

SPECIAL SHOWS THURSDAY & FRIDAY NIGHTS, Stimulating Seminars,

SATURDAY MATINEE SHOW - Top Professional Performers - \$5.00 admission fee

Open Mic Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday

MAKE YOUR OWN SUNDAE BAR – FRIDAY EVENING PRIOR TO THE SHOW

BIG CELEBRATION BANQUET & SHOW SATURDAY EVENING

Including Cocktail Hour with Hors d'Oeuvres and Cash Bar

MAIN COURSE Chateaubriand & Capon Wellington combination

Vegetarian and Fish dinners available with prior notice

TO PURCHASE FESTIVAL TICKETS: Make check payable to: GSHC, INC.

Mail payment to: Shelly Lulov, 5 Schenck Avenue, Great Neck, NY 11021

Include: name, address, phone #, email address

Your ticket(s) will be waiting for you at the hotel lobby registration desk

**ORDER TICKETS WELL IN ADVANCE – WE EXPECT TO BE
SOLD OUT FOR THIS FESTIVAL**

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CALL

SHELLY LULOV, Festival Chairman: (516) 829-5808

Email: thesocietyboys@aol.com



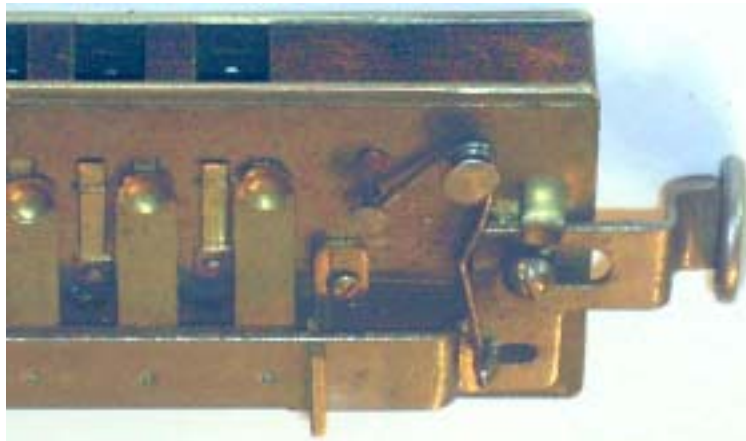
Pete Pedersen...Episode 4

At long last, the kids consent to let Pete entertain (we always knew they would). Pete opens alliteratively, announcing “a little litter lullaby labeled” (try saying that three times fast!). Since he came out from behind that tree, Pete hasn’t played a note. But keep hoping!

That “Mystery Harmonica”

We wrote up this “Chromatic Vamper” in the March REED, and it turned out that past president Monroe Heide knew its owner, Harland Crain. So we were actually able to borrow it!

Here are three pictures. The one at right shows the complete instrument. The one below shows the mechanism, seen from underneath. It has 3 reeds per hole...one blow and two draw.



The button does not affect the blow reeds but, as you can see in the picture, does switch the draw reeds by sliding a little finger over one or the other reed in each hole. (How long it would it stay in tune with that going on, we aren't guess!)

We also made a note chart of this harp, (below) to show you what tones it plays, with button in and button out. With the button out, holes 2-11 play just like a Marine Band in C. But with button in—draw, hole 1 and the other holes play a weird combination of notes. We might expect it to perhaps

play a D7 or Cdim7 chord, but it doesn't. Our only guess is that this was an attempt to come as close to a full chromatic scale as possible with a) a basic Marine Band layout, and b) a total of 33 reeds. If so, it sure would have been tricky to find your way around! Anybody got any better ideas?

Incidentally, if this kind of thing interests you as it does us, the “Vamper’s” owner, Harley Crain, suggests that you join Harmonica Collectors International, an enthusiastic group of which Harley is an active member. Reach him at harleysharps.com.

Note Chart for the Key of C
 “Böhm Blue Bird New World Chromatic Vamper”
 (33 Reeds)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Blow, button in OR out	F	C	E	G	C	E	G	C	E	G	C
Draw, button out	F#	D	G	B	D	F	A	B	D	F	A
Draw, button in	A#	G#	A	C#	D#	F#	G#	A#	C#	D#	F#

May Meeting Minutes

The May 5th meeting was called to order by President Robert Hibler at 8:00pm with the playing of "God Bless America" and a Moment of Silence. The April meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report - Tom Scerbo reported that the Garden State Harmonica Club is "still afloat" with Festival 2006 money coming in. Joseph Petrick of Union, New Jersey wrote to the Club asking for Happy Birthday sheet music. His request will be honored.

President's Report - The GSHC is making progress and "moving along" per Bob Hibler, noting that REED editor Dan Bauch is doing an excellent job.

Membership Report - Membership is at 79 paid members per Andy Menasian. A discussion followed regarding conferring honorary memberships with a reading of the GSHC bylaws. The motion passed awarding Harry Feinberg a lifetime membership, as suggested by Dan Bauch.

Publicity Report - Press releases were sent regarding the Ensemble. The Club's website is www.gardenstateharmonicaclub.org. Henry Young reports that they are loaded with upcoming bookings. The concert at the Haledon Civic Center was a big success.

Festival Report - Chairman Shelly Lulov stated that 99% of the entertainers are confirmed...including The Society Boys. Valerie Redler suggested an optional bus tour into Manhattan with a museum visit, lunch and shopping for the 2006 four day festival to attract additional attendees. She volunteered to gather the necessary information. The GSHC Picnic will be [has been] held on Saturday, June 3rd at Van Saun Park in Paramus. The club has secured the pavilion.

"Happy Birthday" was played for Monroe Heide. He reported that Nick Petro sends greetings. Vinny Cupo suggested changing the monthly meeting to the second Thursday of the month to encourage younger membership. A discussion followed. Bob Hibler, Shelly Lulov & Tom Scerbo would not be available on Thursday evenings. Vinny was applauded for his volunteer work with the children at The Hackensack Medical Center. A photo of him in the Bergen Record shows him instructing a young patient in harmonica playing. (See page 6 of this issue.)

About THE SOCIETY BOYS' performance in Birmingham, AL May 5 - 13

From "Smokey Joe" Leone:

"Society Boys Shelly Lulov, Tom Scerbo, and Phil Caltebellotta are friends and so I don't want it to seem like I'm giving them undue accolades. I will settle for FANTASTIC. Some really difficult arrangements of some tricky tunes and everything worked just peachy. I would have had a stroke attempting this stuff."

In conclusion, Addison singled me out to thank for the support. Wow; I don't deserve it. All I did was send a bunch of e-mails. I had already decided I was going a year ago, and I wasn't going to miss this one. I'm SO glad I didn't. Not meaning to slight anyone but you couldn't beat this fest for hospitality, AND the hotel staff was INVISIBLE...with none of the possible hassles.

God bless all the * S T A R S * that 'fell' onto Alabama.

Tom "Basso" Scerbo reports:

"I had the good fortune to join some of the best Harmonica talent in the United States, at the Heart of the South Harmonica Music Festival, May 10th through May 13th, at the Perimeter Park Hilton, Birmingham, Alabama. The Star of the show, in addition to The Society Boys and The Harmonica

Continued on p. 5

Minutes concluded

Bob noted that GSHC business cards have been ordered with delivery expected next week. They will be distributed with the next Reed mailing to all members. Senator Cardinali has been contacted regarding resolutions to recognize the GSHC on the upcoming anniversary and Festival by declaring a New Jersey Harmonica Week and by a personal presentation at the Festival banquet on Saturday night

Roberta Lulov has volunteered to head the Sunshine Committee and will be sending birthday and get well cards. She has agreed to retype the 1974 GSHC By-Laws. A new corporate seal will be ordered if needed. [It was...Ed.]

"You Are My Sunshine" is the Louisiana State Song. The sheet music was faxed to President Bob Hibler by the Louisiana librarian per his request. Phil Caltebellotta lead those in attendance in playing the closing song in the key of C.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.
Respectfully submitted by Roberta Lulov:

Masters, was Charlie McCoy, famous for his hit "The Orange Blossom Special", a true Country Western delight.

On the program with us and being the formidable trio they are were the Harmonica Masters, consisting of Chris Bauer on Lead, Bud Boblink on Chord, and Frank Warner on Bass, and masters they truly were, without exaggeration.

The Society Boys, Shelly, Phil, and Tom, were no slouches and brought the audience to their feet with our arrangement of "Take Five" and Jerry Murad's arrangement of "Fiddler on the Roof". All in all it was a pleasant experience. The City of

Birmingham was delightful. We made some new friends, but I have to agree with Frank Warner when he says that the same people attend all of the Festivals. Frank's goal, like ours, is to see the Harmonica gain the respect it deserves."

From Addison Hitchcock to Joe Leone and other Slidemeisters:

"Thanks for all the support and encouragement! We had a Great time in Birmingham this last weekend. We called it the Heart of the South Harmonica Festival. The help from Ohio including Jack Ely, Marv and Roger Monroe, Al & Judy Smith and Danny G was Great! *Concluded on p. 6*

Notes about (and by) Randy Weinstein

New member Randy Weinstein, who has graced our recent festivals, and will again, writes:

"I am one of two harmonica players in the group 'Hazmat Modine' playing mostly chromatic. (The other harmonica player, we learn, is Wade Schuman, on diatonic, among other things.) We released a CD in February entitled "Bahamut". It has received a great deal of critical praise and continues to sell well. You can read excerpts of several recent reviews at <http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/hazmatmodine>. Reviews have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *TimeOut*, *the Village Voice*, and *CD Roots* magazine among others. An upcoming review will appear in *Elmore* magazine, a nationally-distributed "roots" music magazine. Check out our website (<http://www.hazmatmodine.com>) to hear excerpts from the CD and to get purchase instructions.

Hazmat Modine played a one-week tour in Russia with two club dates, a theater date, and an appearance on a national arts-oriented television show. The band got rave reviews and we are currently negotiating a potential return visit in late July for a festival appearance. We will be taping a performance for the A&E networks show "Breakfast with the Arts" on May 25. "Breakfast with the Arts" broadcasts every Sunday morning from 8am to 10am on the A&E cable network. The performance broadcast date has not been finalized but a June date is currently anticipated. We have upcoming local

gigs at Terra Blues, Tonic, and Joe's Pub. Check out our website (<http://www.hazmatmodine.com>) for schedule details.

The other newsworthy event is that I have finalized production on an instructional diatonic harmonica CD to be released in conjunction with the second edition of the "Complete Idiot's Guide to Playing the Harmonica." I co-authored the first edition with William Melton, an accomplished multi-instrumentalist in 2001. This second edition not only includes the recently produced CD but also a new chapter of original moderately difficult songs for the diatonic harmonica in a variety of styles — train pieces, fox chases (you mean, like DeFord Bailey, Randy?...Ed.), fiddle tunes, Afro-Cuban 6/8, New Orleans R&B, a bluesy ballad closely modelled on the harmonies to Hoagy Carmichael's "Georgia" played on a Melody Maker-tuned harmonica (what's this?, we wonder...Ed.), and even a klezmer harmonica duet played on harmonic-minor* tuned diatonics."

* *Your editor adds:* Unlike the major scale, which comes in only one variety, the minor has three versions: **natural**, **melodic** (which itself has two versions: ascending and descending), and **harmonic**, wherein the 6th tone (*fa*) is flat and the 7th (*ti*) "normal". This gives it that "middle eastern" or "belly dancer" quality which we all recognize, even those who don't know music theory. (Of course, the 3rd tone (*mi*) is flat in all.)

June Birthdays

Phil Caltabellotta	Vince Cupo	Florence Peti
Tom Scerbo	Roger Monroe	Charles Leighton
Steven Kozak	Al Smith	George Walspy

Picnictures

If any of you REEDers have pictures of the June 3rd picnic, we'd sure like to consider them for *The REED*. Please email them (preferably) or mail them to the addresses on page 1 of this issue. Thanks.



Cupo Carries On

The above is from an advertisement by Hackensack University Medical Center, expressing gratitude for the work of their volunteers. Vince Cupo is shown demonstrat-

ing the harmonica to a young patient (to whom he has already given one, as we can see). Terrific! Now, if we could just get Vince to wear a GSHC cap once in a while!

THE SOCIETY BOYS in Birmingham, concluded

Performances by the Society Boys and Harmonica Masters were absolutely over the top. Players of the Diabolical Other Instrument would make you all as proud as you can be of stepchildren. Probably even make some wish that they were your own. I personally am amazed everytime I hear Phil Caltabellotta. He makes that chromatic sizzle. I only wish that someday I could...."

From Roy, the sound man and Mary, the registration lady:

"We want to thank all of you for coming to Birmingham and hope you enjoyed everything as

much as we did.. Again I apologize for the sound problems during your performance, but it was still fantastic. Phil, I really appreciated your playing and the little jazz seminar you had with Chris. Shelly, I sat in with Addison during your seminar with Al, Judy and Bud and it is just amazing what you guys do in arranging songs for others to play. I hope a little of it sank in and can be used. Tom, I really enjoyed your bass playing, there aren't many of you guys around."