



THE REED

April, 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 usually 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: jbgbdnb @ aol.com

Next meeting: Friday, April 7, '06

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

Board of Directors

PresidentBob Hibler
Vice President.....Bob Kuchar
Treasurer.....Steven Hughes
Recording Secretary.....Isabelle Kool
Trustees.....Dottie Pispecky, Vince Cupo,
 Henry Young, Joe Dobish, Andrew Menasian
Reed Editor.....Dan Bauch

Sergeant at Arms.....Ellen Singer
Bookings.....Henry Young

Committees

Membership.....Andrew Menasian
Hospitality.....Judy Toker
Sunshine.....Dottie Pispecky
Publicity.....Monroe Heide
Festival Chairman.....Shelly Lulov

👉 Next Meeting...note the date! 👈

Because the Church has other commitments for our usual meeting days, this month's meeting will be on April 7th, and the next one will be on May 5th.

The GSHC is seeking a treasurer. If you're interested in serving, tell us at the next meeting!

On that "note"...a few words from new president Bob Hibler

If you were unable to make the March meeting, you may not have known that I was nominated and elected to be your new President for 2006. Filling Monroe Heide's shoes is a daunting task: I have neither his length of service to the Club nor his musical ability and I can rarely remember jokes long enough to do more than tell them badly.

Still, I will do my best to serve the Club members, the best interests of the Club and to move it along. Tops on my agenda are three issues. The first is to attract new members and the second will be to have more playing at meetings and in general, the last will be to create a website to bring us into the era of the internet. Playing the harmonica is the reason I joined and the reason most people stay. If possible, all items will move ahead simultaneously.

We are now advertising our meetings in several local newspapers, trying to get a posting on the Maywood website and have business cards available to hand out. There should be a few with the May REED. The cards mention where and when we meet, how to book the Ensemble and to reach us by e-mail. Pass them along freely; we have more! I apologize for not knowing as much as I would like about all of you. That will take time. To shortcut the process for you to know me, I have provided Reed Editor Dan Bauch with some biographical details. Due to lack of room this month, they will appear in May. Please note that I do not claim to be a really good harmonica player. As simple as the instrument appears, it

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The 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 Fantastic Harmonica Sounds of:

Jazz greats CHARLES SPRANKLIN & RANDY WEINSTEIN

THE SOCIETY BOYS Shelly, Phil & Tom

The smooth sounds of SANDY GERMAN

Jazz Stylist ENRICO GRANAFEI and his guitar

TOM STRYKER with special guest TONY LUISI

(musical arranger of the famed STAGG McMANN TRIO)

the Phenomenal CAROLBETH TRUE on keyboard with Bass & drums

Classical virtuoso JIA-YI HE with SHELLY LULOV on chord

The beautiful tone of BOB McFARLANE

The dynamic HOTSHOTS Al & Judy Smith

The World of Blues CARLOS COLINA & CHARLES TOKER

Fabulous Blues Artist DENNIS GRUENLING with Vocalist GINA FOX

The incredible sounds of PHIL CALTABELLOTTA on chromatic
 with AL DATA on chord and FRANK WARNER on bass harmonica

THE DADDY "T" TRIO – Charles Toker, Shelly Lulov, Tom Scerbo

THE HARMONITONES John Savas, Dave Denkers & Mike Irace

HARMONICA JUNCTION Al & Judy Smith,

Gene Hansen, Rudy Michelin & Doris Michelin

THE GARDEN STATE HARMONICA CLUB ENSEMBLE

Chromatic Artist DAN BAUCH

Group sing-a-longs with MARV & ROGER MONROE

Charlie McDermott as Master of Ceremonies

PLUS MORE SUPERB PERFORMERS TO BE ANNOUNCED

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

*If paid AFTER to 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,

Ole Tyme Harmonica Movie Classics

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 combo

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

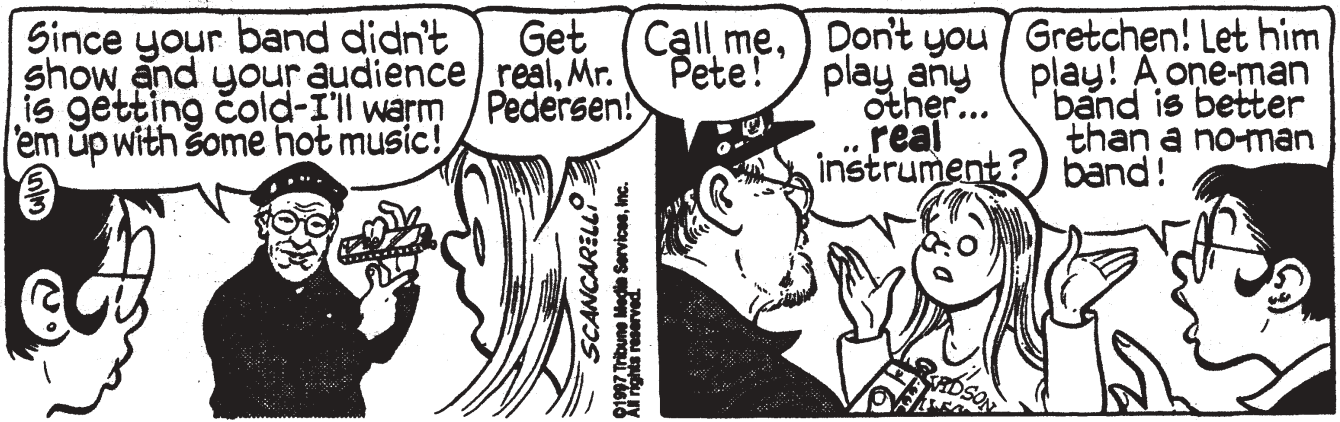
Your ticket(s) will be waiting for you at the hotel lobby registration desk

**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 3

It's time for another spine-tingling chapter in the continuing saga of Pete Pedersen in the World of the Unbelievers. As you will all remember, there was a bit of a *contretemps* at the school picnic, owing to the non-appearance of the looked-for band and the subsequent arrival on the scene of Harmonica wizard and School Custodian Pedersen. Then, as we see here, Pete has volunteered to stand in for the band, however long it may take for them to arrive.

Naturally, all you out there in GSHC-land would much prefer to hear Pete, rather than some hoky heavy metal rock group, but these benighted children don't know any better and ask only whether he might play a "REAL" instrument. However, the young lady with the big specs gradually begins to see the light. She suggests that they give Mr. Pedersen a chance, even if he is only second best. Dare we hope that he will make a group of young converts? We can hardly bear the suspense!

A few words from new president Bob Hibler, concluded

takes talent and practice to play it as well as the majority of you. It is a challenge but I will keep at it.

I have also given Dan a copy of the business meeting agenda to post herein. Everything in it is subject to change except the rule to be polite to the players and not talk while they entertain us. Keep the noise down and outside the auditorium, please!

There are some records that should be available if required down the road and I would be grateful to have copies. The club's articles of incorporation, anything pertaining to its non-profit tax status and tax number are part of this group. If they are in anyone's hands, please mail me a copy of what you have for future reference.

Finally, there is a host of talent in the hands of our membership that I am hoping to tap. First: come to meetings, bring your harmonicas and

ideas to make us bigger and better. If someone want to be the webmaster, that would be just great! Editor Dan stepped up to do *The REED* after five wonderful years under Andy Menasian—Bravo! After filling the Treasurer and Recording Secretary slots, we could use a Publicity Person, a Corresponding secretary, more Hospitality Helpers and an active Sunshine Committee Chairperson. We have a picnic coming up in June and organizing it by a member who has "been there and done that" would be really appreciated.

This is OUR club, more yours than mine simply by longevity, and this is the 35th Anniversary since its founding in 1971. If it is to be around for future players, there is work to be done by us all.

See you at the April 7th meeting,

Bob Hibler

From our Membership Chairman...

The March deadline for dues has passed and we are still below the number we usually get for this period. In the 11 years that I have been your Membership chair, this is the lowest ever. Eleven years ago the GSHC boasted a membership of 125, not counting friends of the club. Our *REED* mailing topped 200 copies. Last year was disappointing with a paid membership of only 89. If more returns do not come in, I am afraid that we will sink further.

For these reasons, it has been decided to extend the cutoff period until the end of April. Club dues are a mere \$20, and for that the club offers *The REED*, a first-rate Festival, a picnic in June and the camaraderie of some real good harmonica players who entertain at our monthly meeting. Of course members who live out in the hinterland do not get to our meetings, but *The REED* keeps them in touch, and a good percentage of them sure make it to our yearly festival, not only to see and hear the sights and sounds of the harmonica but also to renew old friendships.

You now know that we have a new president, Bob Hibler. I believe that under his leadership the club will grow in stature, and if I may be so bold as to say, I bet that he will be a great president. Upon being elected, Bob hit the ground running. He has laid out some plans to improve our lagging membership problem, is working on plans for a GSHC web site, and has many more club-improving ideas.

As I stated before, I have been membership chair, and wrote and distributed *The REED*, for many years. In that time, I noted some things that you might like to know.

First, one member always pays his dues on time. That is, he pays while attending our festival. He usually pays cash and tells someone to give it to the membership committee. Unfortunately, by the time I get the money, the member's name has changed (at least, in my mind), where he comes from becomes obscure, and if I did not know any better, I would never figure it out. I

finally got to know who he is and now whenever I have \$20 unaccounted for, the lights go in my head and all is well again..

Thanks go to Dan Bauch, who constantly reminded members to send in a filled-out application with their dues. His efforts almost cured this problem, except for one who actually threw the \$20 bill at me and ran away. One member doing this I can tolerate. but when several did this in the past it always drove me crazy.

Next, two people always send dues twice. This year was no exception and one of them sent \$30 twice. I guess the \$30 is for inflation. Is this a donation or what? In recent years, I have been returning the money. Under one of our earlier presidents, I was told to deposit it.

This year there was a new twist. Two members sent in their dues in cash, through the mail. This has always been a cardinal sin. Money sent though the mail is an easy target for those who look for a quick buck. I guess times are so good that thieves do not consider \$20 worth going to jail for.

Andrew Menasian

In January, THE SOCIETY BOYS were featured on a local TV show on Long Island, NY. "WES HOUSTON PRESENTS THE SOCIETY BOYS" Wes attended the annual Long Island Harmonica Club Dinner in 2005, and heard the Society Boys perform there. He said: "I have to have these guys on my TV show" And so he did. It was aired on Tuesday, March 21 at 9pm in Nassau County, and on Monday, March 27th at 2:30pm and again on Wednesday, March 29th at 8:30 pm in Queens County, New York.

The show ran for 29 minutes and included personal interviews with Phil, Shelly and Tom. They performed: *Take Five*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Fantasy Impromptu*, *Bluesette*, and *The Girl From Ipanema*. A DVD or VHS Tape of this show can be ordered through The Society Boys' web site: www.societyboys.com

Minutes of the March Meeting

The Garden State Harmonica Club opened its March 10th meeting at eight minutes to eight.

Victor Fabano announced that the dates of the next two meetings have been changed to April 7 and May 5, because the church hall is not available on our regular meeting dates.

Robert Hibler was nominated to be president, and received a unanimous vote. The installation ceremony will be on April 7. The club is seeking other officers.

Henry Young spoke about a gig held by the Ensemble earlier that day (March 10) at the AARP meeting in Lyndhurst. He mentioned cards being made and other forms of advertising being done to get more gigs and to let people know about our club. The Ensemble performed nearly 25 gigs in 2004, donating its fees to the club.

Andrew Menasian said that there are about 50 paid-up members with, hopefully, more sending in their \$20 dues to renew.

Lorraine Dienno suggested that letters or brochures about the club be distributed.

REED editor Dan Bauch requested that members send articles for *The REED*, and

particularly requested a biography of new president Bob Hibler.

Bob reported having sent out some press releases and having talked with Maywood's mayor. Bob requested that there be more harmonica playing at meetings and that talk be limited to the kitchen or hall. He also suggested that the club have a website. He promised, in addition, to look into advertising in *Epoch Times*, a newspaper directed toward the Asian community.

The club's gratitude was expressed to past president Monroe Heide, who is moving to Pennsylvania.

Dan Bauch asked whether the club would like him to take Vince Cupo's suggestion, and make a model, showing how the harmonica works, which may also help in fixing broken harmonicas. All thought it a good idea.

Someone also asked where to get the plastic tubing used around chromatic-slide screws. Andrew Menasian pointed out that the insulation around No. 12 electric wire was just about right.

A Reprieve on Dues (\$20)!

(Continued from page 4)

Those well known Powers That Be have granted another month to let you slowpokes send in your dues. You know who you are, so get with it! (New deadline is April 30.)

And we again remind you: those who joined the club after Oct. 1st, and paid 2005 dues, need not pay again until 2007.

A final word: As we said last month, our membership has been slipping of late; in 2004 we ended up with 97 members. If you know of anyone who is interested in the harmonica, whether beginner or expert, please pass the word along. Maybe we can reverse this discouraging trend.

If you're one of those who
haven't sent in your dues,
Do It Now!
And, please be sure to fill out
and include the form on the
reverse side.

Garden State Harmonica Club Meeting Agenda

Suggested by Bob Hibler, March 10, 2006 and completely subject to revision!

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|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start Meeting at 7:30 pm • Opening Song (Appropriately seasonal, patriotic, sentimental, “You are My Sunshine, My Only Sunshine” or whatever); • Moment of Silence for Departed Members, Our Troops in Harm’s Way, etc.; • Welcome to Visitors and New Members; • Minutes of Previous Meeting to be read and approved; • Treasurer’s Report; • Bills and Communications; • President’s Report; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Executive Committee ○ Membership ○ Publicity ○ Hospitality ○ Website ○ Bookings, past and upcoming ○ Festival Update ○ Reed Newsletter ○ Picnic ○ Ensemble Players ○ Sunshine/News of Members | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Birthday’s This Month (Play Happy Birthday) ○ Others as necessary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old Business; • New Business; • Good and Welfare: (Anyone need help? Rides? Charities to assist? Someone to be remembered in our prayers?, etc.; • Adjourn Meeting. <p>And now for the Reason we are here in the first place!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harmonica Play Time (Solo, Group). |
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If you are not Playing, you can at least Listen Politely!

Please talk only in the hallways and Hospitality Room. **DON’T BE RUDE!**

- End of Meeting: Clean Up and Pack Up.

April Birthdays

Jose Infante
Bob Hibler
Don Sanders

George Findura
George Enet
Trudy Runyan

Eugene Hill
Luttgard Nieshalla
Carolyn Smith
Virginia Dabonka

Henry Young
Cathy Peetros
Thor Bergstrom
Beatrice Mockus

Please make checks out to GSHC and send to:

Garden State Harmonica Club
Att: Membership
P.O. Box 122,
Ridgewood, NJ 07451

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cash | <input type="checkbox"/> Check |

Your Name: _____

(If the information below has changed since last time, please print the proper corrections)

Address _____ Town _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Birthday(**mo/day**) _____ / _____ Spouse’s Name _____ Birthday(**mo/day**) _____ / _____

Occupation _____ Anniversary (**mo/day**) _____

Are you interested in joining a committee? If so, which? _____



For GSHC use only:

Membership _____ President _____ Reed _____ Sunshine _____