

## SUNCOAST HARMONICA CLUB

Consider this our first Newsletter. Please give me some feedback or suggestions for the future.

Well...I think it is time to let you know the results of some trolling for a harmonica instructor around the area. I placed the following (or some variation of it) in three places; 1) the Yahoo Harp-L members list, 2) Jon Gindicks harp forum (off his Website) and 3) the SPAH Harptalk list.

“Several of us in the Tampa Bay, FL area, who met at Jon Gindick's Jacksonville camp a few weeks ago, are forming a local harmonica club. We are interested in Blues playing as well as pop, rock and jazz. The SunCoast Harmonica Club will be listed on SPAHs club Website. We also need someone local to teach basics but also jamming, improvising, overblows, tongue blocking as well as lip blocking, rhythms and a host of other topics.

If you are in the area and interested in the club and/or know of a great teacher please let me know.  
Dewey”

Here are the responses I got back related to teachers in the area.

1. Wow, wish I coulda' made that camp...my Mom is in Jacksonville!

You may wanna contact Frank Warner...killer bass and chrom player!!!!  
(in  
Jacksonville)

best,  
rob” Robert Paporozzi [chromboy@earthlink.net]

2. Hi Dewey.....The best teacher I know of in Florida is Larry Eisenberg. He posts regularly to Harp-l as the Ice Man. I'm not sure how close he is to Jax, but he is a great teacher.

Best Regards to All,

Larry Boy Pratt  
[www.parkhousejam.com](http://www.parkhousejam.com)

3. The best player that I know of in the Tampa Bay area is T.C. Carr. I have not heard anything about him recently, but he used to play with a band called T.C. Carr And The Catch. The had regular gigs around St. Petersburg.

Tobe Terrell, Gainesville

4. icemanle@aol.com - here is the email address of the best instructor in Florida (Orlando), Larry ICEMAN Eisenhorn (?)

Carrol Tipper

5. Nothing takes the place of a good teacher, but if you come up short, since you have a club type setting, why not pitch in and get one of the great instructional book/cd sets and work through it together, giving yourselves 'homework' each meeting and then getting back together to discuss your trials/tribulations with the lesson and to compare notes and help each other out? I recommend Rock 'n Blues Harmonica by Jon Gindick first, to get the basic down in a real fun and relaxed way, then probably Jerry Portnoy's Masterclass series for more basics and intermediate stuff, then from there into some of the stuff by Dave Barrett for being able to jam and play into 12-bar blues structures. You could even use these materials with the aid of an instructor, if you find one open minded enough, and then you wouldn't have as much of a reliance (and expense) on one.

Don't take on too much too fast. Forget overblows for now, none of the masters ever used them. They're great when you learn them, but as far as riorities that should be way down the road in my opinion. Work on clean ingle notes, bending, tone, etc long before you look at overblows.

Bill Hines  
Hershey, PA

6.

Dewey,

I saw your posting on harp-1. Larry Boy actually responding by referring you to me - (again)

For what it is worth, I have a couple that drive down from Lakeland area once/weekly for harmonica and piano lesson - about 1 hr 15 min each way.

I have another student that drives 2 hours each way, every other week, from Naples.

Another gentleman comes from near Orlando airport each week. Because of the traffic, for him it is 1 hour each way.

So, if you want the best, it is here in the Orlando area and is doable.

The Iceman

I haven't had any luck contacting D.W. Gill or other local Harp players that also might be good teachers and have decided that a two hour drive each way is probably necessary. So...for "my own self" I am trying to set up a two hour lesson with the Iceman on Monday Sept 12<sup>th</sup> during the day. I will let you all know how that goes. If anyone wants to meet me there or ride along let me know. Perhaps we could do back to back sessions of an hour or so too. Maybe at some time later we can get him to come this way for a group seminar but he says that he is booked on the weekends now.

Some other interesting responses came back as well.

First, from Michael Peloquin and Jason Ricci (two of the coaches at Jon Gindicks Del Mar Camp in October (which I will be going to-my wife and I have children and parents in the Southern California area)...

Dewey,

I may be in Florida on a short tour playing with Jason Ricci, December 11-16. It might be cool if you booked Jason and me to do a seminar then. We have done instruction together at SPAH and we will be working together in October at Jon Gindick's Jam Camp in California.

Jason's email  
jason@jasonricci.com

feel free to call me- 510 703 6341

Michael Peloquin  
come to Jam Camp in San Diego, Oct 14-16, 2005  
tell them Michael sent you  
<http://www.gindick.com>  
<http://www.harpsax.com>

Wow, would that be great if we could manage to get them around here for a seminar. I responded with the following yesterday and am awaiting a response now.

That would be very cool! I will also be attending the Del Mar Camp to follow up what I learned at Jacksonville so I will see you and Jason then.

I will be out of town until the evening of the 14th but the 15th or 16th would be OK. I will try to check your booking schedules then to see where you will be. Would we need to do the seminar in the afternoon or perhaps before your gigs? What would the cost be, even a ball park, for a seminar of a few hours or more. I could also arrange it someplace convenient for you two and those of us attending (hotel meeting room or one of our houses).

Dewey

Next, MadCat Ruth, another prominent player sent this to me.

Yo Tampa area harmonica enthusiasts-

On Sunday, September 4th I will be performing at St. Barts Island House Restaurant in Tampa, Florida. It's a birthday party but the public is welcome.

For more information about the restaurant check out:  
[www.stbartsislandhouse.com/](http://www.stbartsislandhouse.com/)

for more information about me (Madcat) check out:  
[www.madcatmusic.net](http://www.madcatmusic.net)

Peace & Joy,

Peter Madcat Ruth  
[madcat@madcatmusic.net](mailto:madcat@madcatmusic.net)

## A Follow up clarified

Dear Dewey-

I'm not on any listings, even the restaurant's own listing, because I'm playing for a private birthday party for a friend of mine named Rain Yount. She's turning 30. There is a fifteen dollar cover that night. A percentage of the proceeds goes to a breast cancer research fund. The event is not being advertised but it is open to the public.

I think the music will start around 6:00 PM.

Be sure to introduce yourself.

See you soon.

Madcat

On 1-Sep-05, at 6:24 PM, Dewey Kribs wrote:

Thanks for letting us know. It wasn't in any of the "What's Happening in Tampa/St Pete" that I saw. I tried to check on what time you would be there but the Restaurant Web site didn't list it. What time do you start? I am excited about the chance to see and hear you.  
Dewey

**It sounds like a chance to see a master in a small, intimate setting and perhaps to interact with him. My wife and I will plan to be there and hope some of you can make it this Sunday.**

## Finally, We have two new prospective members.

1. Hi Dewey, I'm in Gainesville but I travel to Tampa regularly. Please keep me in the loop. I'll be glad to help when I'm over there.  
Gus

(Agustin Olmos)

2. ---Hello,  
You might and try to locate Bart Harrington in Tampa. I took some lessons from him a few years ago. He's REALLY good. He lived near Ybor City in Tampa when I last saw him. I'm in Bushnell, Sumter County.

How many people do you have in your club? Where and when do you

usually meet? I guess I would be intermediate. I've been learning the harp for 4 1/2 years. I'm 59 and have been interested and listening to the blues for about 40 years. I've seen a few good harpers over the years.....starting with Paul Butterfield.

Ray

(harpinslim)

#### FUTURE EVENTS

1. Blind Boys of Alabama and Charlie Musslewhite at the Tampa Theatre on Friday, Nov. 18. It sounds like several of us may go.
2. 15th SUNCOAST DIXIELAND JAZZ CLASSIC harmonicarama. Tryouts Nov.18 and five finalists on Nov. 19. The event is held at the Marriott Suites Resort, on Clearwater Beach on Friday and the Saturday set will be played at the Sheraton Sand Key Resort, Clearwater Beach, Florida. They are across the street (Blvd) from each other.