



Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Soundboard

October 2005

Year 23

Issue 10

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello Everyone,

The SSDS members who attended the potluck-picnic held at Manfred & Judy Schmidt's cottage on Pleasant Lake were treated to a very enjoyable time. We couldn't have asked for better weather. We were treated to corn on the cob, hot dogs, all your favorite potluck items, and your choice of beverages. The SSDS members were able to perform some of our favorite music, and we were all treated to some stories from professional story tellers, Judy Schmidt and her colleague Linda Luke. Our own Bob Ewald provided us with a story about 'Ole Shep" Manfred has invited us back again next year. He also asked if there is anything he can do to improve upon the picnic.

If any of you would like to run, or nominate someone for any of the 2006 board positions, please contact Dorothy Ewald, Chairman of the Nominating Committee.

Don't forget the SSDS Banquet being held Oct.6th at the Fox Hills Country Club in Plymouth. This banquet will be held instead of our regular meeting. For information and tickets, contact a member of the banquet committee, A big THANK YOU to Evie and Jim Bain and the members of their banquet committee for managing this festive event.

George

Lost Valley Hammered Dulcimer 12/11 with case, stand, dust cover and hammers. Mint Condition. \$500 Call (734) 261-0944 or (248) 647-7260
Carole DePetro @

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT :

www.ssdociety.org

V. P. OF BUSINESS.

It may seem a wee bit early to be thinking about the holiday season. However, there are only 2 regular meetings before we start our holiday performances. Why not take a moment now to check your calendars, and then plan to join one or more of the upcoming playdates. I've listed everything we have booked for the rest of the year. There are 2 in October; the rest are holiday events. I will have the sign up sheets with specifics available at all of the upcoming SSDS meetings (including variety night and the banquet). Of course, you can also e-mail or call me. Here is the preliminary information:

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- Sat. Oct. 8 - EMU, Ypsilanti, 12:30-2:00 pm
- Wed. Oct. 19 - American House, Westland, 2:30-3:30 pm
- Tues. Nov. 8 - Ward Church, Northville, 7:00-8:00 pm
- Mon. Dec. 5 - Cherryhill Presbyterian, Dearborn, 6:30-7:15 pm
- Sat. Dec. 10 - Livonia Mall, Livonia, 2:00-3:00 pm
- Tues. Dec. 13 - Northville Library, Northville, 7:00-8:00 pm
- Fri. Dec. 16 - Northville Presbyterian, Northville, 1:30-2:30 pm
- Sun. Dec.18 - Franklin Community. Church, 10:00-11:00 am
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Our music coordinator, Roger Davis, has prepared the playlist and will announce practice sessions. Thanks for your continuing support.

Ramona

MARK YOUR CALENDAR :

Oct.6	SSDS Banquet	in Plymouth
Oct. 8	SSDS playdate	. . . . 12:30-2:00pm @ EMU, Ypsilanti
Oct. 8	Uncle Carl's Jam,	. . . . 12:30 pm
Oct. 19	SSDS playdate,	. . . . 2:30-3:30 pm @ American House, Westland
Oct. 27	SSDS practice holiday tunes	. . 7pm @ Good Hope Church
Oct. 29	West Adrian Music Jam	. . 6:30 pm
Nov. 8	SSDS playdate,	. . . . 7-8:00 pm @ Ward Church, Northville
Nov. 12	Uncle Carl's Jam,	. . . . 12:30 pm
Nov. 26	West Adrian Music jam	. . . 6:30 pm
Dec. 5	SSDS playdate	. . . . 6:30-7:15 pm @ Cherry Hill Presbyterian, Dbn.
Dec. 10	SSDS playdate,	. . . . 2 - 3:00 pm @ Livonia Mall, Livonia
Dec. 13	SSDS playdate,	. . . . 7 -8:00 pm @ Northville Library, Northville
Dec 16	SSDS playdate	. . . . 1 - 2:30 pm @ Northville Presbyterian Church
Dec.18	SSDS playdate,	. . . . 10 - 11:00 am @ Franklin Community Church, Franklin

YOU CAN BANK ON THIS \$\$\$

The fall season has arrived and marked the end of the summer camping & music festivals. What a fun summer it has been. I feel I've made some progress (musically) from all the fine workshops we attended. We have also made a few financial accomplishments for the club. The State corporation fee has been paid, Federal tax form submitted, the bank account moved to a non-fee bank, and financial statements automated.

In keeping with sound financial health, an analysis was done of our yearly fixed expenses verses income from dues. Our Dues structure left a \$1500 deficit that needed to be made up. At the September 1st board meeting, a new dues rate was set, and subsequently approved by members at the membership meeting. The new dues structure is \$10 for renewal, \$5 for student members under 18, and \$20 for new members. Dues for 2006 must be paid prior to the elections (Nov 3), if you plan to vote. (An E-mail message was sent to all who have computers so this may be redundant.)

Our By-laws were changed in August, to bring dates in line with last year's changes, (to have the board change-over in January instead of October). This required two pages in the By-law document to be changed. I have updated those two pages and will send them out in an E-mail attachment. There will also be a few hardcopies available at future meetings. Please replace those two pages in your existing by-laws. New members will receive a full updated copy. A complete new copy of the by-laws will be made available later.

Happy Hammering, Plunking, strumming, bowing
Bob Hlavacek, Treasurer.

We could certainly slow the aging process down if it had to work its way through Congress.Will Rogers

NOTES FROM THE MUSIC MAN

We had our first Christmas song practice the fourth Thursday of September, and all went well, considering the weather. Twelve of us braved the storm and played our hearts out. We discovered that there are several versions of our songs, and the first thing we need to do is to jointly decide which version to use. If you plan to be a part of our Christmas play dates, and I hope you do, you need to make an effort to attend the next practice on the Fourth Thursday of October(27th). If you miss the practices, you will be unfamiliar with whatever arranging we do with the songs. We want to be unified in what we play for the public, and maintain a good name for the Club. (See September issue for Holiday play list.)

Practice, practice, practice.

Roger

SSDS OCTOBER Play List			first note
1DD	CHINESE / NELLY BLY	2 ea	A&F#
2AM	JOYS OF QUEBEC	3X	E
3C	BLACK VELVET WALTZ	3X	G
4G	ROSIN THE BEAU	3X	D
5D	JOHN RYAN'S POLKA	3X	D
6G	OLD JOE CLARK	4X	A
7G	DOWN YONDER	3X	B
8D	PEEK-A-BOO WALTZ	3X	F#
9D	PAINTER'S POLKA	3X	A
10D	YOUNG RODDY McCORLEY	4X	G
11G	TICK TOCK POLKA	3X	D
12AM	KATUSHKA	5X	A
13G	NAIL THAT CATFISH	3X	B
14D	WHISKEY B4 BREAKFAST	3X	D
15G	SILVER AND GOLD	3X	B
16C	APPLES, PEACHES, PUMPKIN PIE	3X	E
17G	WESTPHALIA WALTZ	2X	D
18D	OVER THE WATERFALL	3X	D
19G	COLUMBUS STOCKADE BLUES	4X	B
20D	FLIGHT OF THE HAGGIS	3X	D
21	ENDLESS MEDLEY	2 ea	
D	Ragtime Annie		F#
22D	Soldier's Joy		F#
23D&G	Golden Slippers		D

Any SSDS member is invited to submit an article of musical information or interest to the Soundboard. It will be printed, as space permits. Music related poetry or humor is also welcome. This is the CLUB's newsletter, not just the BOARD's.

editor

NOTES FROM THE BOARD

Since our secretary, Carol, was on vacation when the board met on 9-1-05, notes are submitted by Ramona Hadley.

Named to the election nominating committee: Dorothy Ewald, Chair, Peggy Kustra, Theresa Smith, and Bob Hlavacek (serving as the board rep.)

Evie Bain, chair of the 2005 Banquet Committee, reported banquet tickets are now available; \$10 for members and \$15 for guests. Tickets were printed with a stub that will be used in the door prize drawing. The last date to purchase tickets will be Variety Night (Sept. 29). This will be strictly a social event; no club business will be conducted. Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm. Karen Turner will add the information to the website. Maps are available.

Jim McKinney gave the SSDS files on copyright law and performing; and permissions granted to SSDS. to President George Gonyo. Roger Davis, our current Music Coordinator, now has them.

Treasurer, Bob Hlavacek has evaluated SSDS expenses from the past several years (rent; supplies, pizza (for variety night), newsletter printing, postage, etc.). The average cost is about \$2200 per year to run the club. He calculated an approximate cost of \$16 per member; per year (140 members). At the present \$5 rate for renewal, the dues generates less than \$800 per year. Based on this analysis, he proposed that the board present a dues increase, because playdates are not a dependable subsidy source.

Jim McKinney motioned that members pay a \$10 renewal fee; members 18 years or younger pay \$5; and new members pay \$20 (covering music pack & name badge). The proposal was offered to the membership for a vote at the full meeting, and passed.

All dues must be paid up before elections, (Nov. 3rd) to be eligible to vote.

If you have changed your address, phone number, or E-mail address, please notify Bob Hlavacek, treasurer. An updated membership list will be available by election time. Your E-mail will absolutely NOT be shared outside our membership.

PUT ON YOUR THINKING CAP

If you have an idea for a trip, a workshop (guest leader, perhaps ?) or any special "happening" you would like to see Silver Strings Dulcimer Society sponsor, talk to a board member. Present your wish ! You have all phone and E-mail information, and we have a suggestion box at the "business table" at each meeting. The money in the treasury can certainly be used for education, as well as picnics and a banquet.

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DEFINITIONS

Accent: An unusual manner of pronunciation, eg: "Y'all sang that real good!"

Accidentals: Wrong notes.

Augmented Fifth: A 36-ounce bottle.

Bar Line: A gathering of people, usually among which may be found a musician or two.

Beat: The down beat is performed on the top of the head, while the up beat is struck under the chin.

Chord: Usually spelled with an "s" on the end, means a particular type of pants, eg: "He wears chords."

Chromatic Scale: An instrument for weighing that indicates half-pounds.

Cut Time: When you're going twice as fast as everyone else in the group.

Discord: Not to be confused with Datcord.

Duration: Can be used to describe how long a music teacher can exercise self-control.

Flat: This is what happens to a tonic if it sits too long in the open air.

Flute: A sophisticated pea shooter with a range of up to 500 yards, blown transversely to confuse the enemy.

Silver Strings in the News submitted by David Smith



The above photo appeared in the Downriver Heritage Newspapers and Downriver Metro section of the Free Press. The photo was taken of some of the Silver Strings attendees at the 13th Annual Midland Dulcimer Festival and signals the "last hurrah of summer" for a summer filled with picnics and festivals. At least 20 Silver Strings members were spotted at the festival which was filled with workshops, open stage, concerts, jamming and camping. A downpour on Saturday morning did little to dampen our spirits, and by early afternoon the weather cleared and smiles returned. Overall, this is a less hectic and more relaxing festival than Evert.

Several Silver Strings members were spotted on Open Stage. Luke Kawecki performed on Saw and Penny Scheiber performed with her dulcimer group. Also, performing ukulele songs, were Sharon and John McAuliffe, Theresa and David Smith, and Luke Kawecki. So until next year, don't miss the Midland Dulcimer Festival, it's always the 4th weekend in August.

A Picnic and Performance at the Lake submitted by David Smith



Manfred and Judy Schmidt invited Silver Strings to play at their cottage on Sunday, Sept. 4th. The large canopy was sent up in front of their cottage, right next to beautiful Pleasant Lake in West Bloomfield. The weather was beautiful, and 17 Silver Strings members enjoyed the afternoon of casual performances to a very appreciative audience. Besides our music, we heard stories by 2 members of the Ann Arbor Story League, demonstrations by Luke Kawecki on Saw, and David Smith's on Hurdy Gurdy. Bob Ewald also sang a heartfelt "Old Shep". We were also treated to a delicious picnic buffet complete with our President, George Gonyo, cooking hot dogs on the grill, delicious fresh picked corn on the cob, and many potluck dishes.