



# Silver Strings Dulcimer Society Soundboard

January 2007

Year 24

Issue 1

WEBSITE: [ssdsociety.org](http://ssdsociety.org)

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The year 2007 is upon us. Peace and Joy to all, I wish you a Happy New Year. Our first jam of the year will be January 4<sup>th</sup>. I look forward to seeing all of you there. (I guess the snow birds won't appear). Our new board had a planning meeting in November, and discussed the many things we would like to do this year. Most of the events we've done in the past, we would like to keep. Our primary goal is to have fun and help each other grow our music skills. At the jams this year I'd like to encourage you to try to start the tune you choose to play. As you practice at home, try to also practice a start for the tunes that you know. It does not have to be elaborate. The last couple of measures of a song make a good start. Ask a friend who may know some starts. It's not so scary after you do it a couple of times. It's not mandatory, but it may help develop your skill and confidence.

Our new historian will be Val Loose. Thank you to Dave Smith who has done a wonderful job for the past few years. He has always been seen taking candid pictures of our events. Our Webmaster, Karen Turner will remain on the job, as well as the Soundboard editor Sandi Hlavacek. They have both done very well at their respective tasks. Bill Smith also deserves a lot of credit for his photo contributions this year. Many of our events this year are pictured on the website, due to his efforts.

We need everyone's help to make our meetings fun. Please volunteer to bring a snack from time to time. We were getting pretty sparse near the end of the year. We also need to take a turn or two for cleanup after the snack time. A few helping hands will make it go quickly. We would also welcome any suggestion or thoughts you may have that can make a positive effect on our club and our music.

See you all in January.

Bob Hlavacek

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## SSDS NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Above is the new SSDS Board of Directors for 2007, **Bonnie Ream** (Secretary), **George Gonyo** (Treasurer), **Linda Losse** (V.P. Programs), **Bob Hlavacek** (President), and **Karen Turner** (V.P. Business). We thank the outgoing officers for their 2 years of service, and look forward to a new year of fresh ideas and musical fun. All members will find these officers open to suggestions regarding club activities. You are invited to talk to board members, attend board meetings, and / or use the suggestion box. Silver Strings Dulcimer Society is an open club for anyone who wants to share the music.

## V.P. PROGRAMS

Hi everyone...

I am looking forward to a fun year of jamming, learning new tunes, and contributing to the board.

A **BIG THANK YOU** to Marlin for sharing all of his information on the jam sessions, variety night, and the camp-out. The information will help everything run smoother.

I am going to thank Val ahead of time, for making the coffee. You'll be glad he made it, and not me. I also want to thank people for bringing snacks. You've been doing a great job. Please keep it up! . . . . . Linda Losse

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**V.P. BUSINESS . . . . . playdate chatter**

Happy New Year, and welcome to another year of Silver Strings. First and foremost, I want to take this opportunity to thank Ramona Hadley for all of her efforts and hard work as VP of Business over the past 2 years. Her leadership has helped to raise club funds and has opened more eyes to the world of dulcimers. Many times we take the efforts of others for granted, but if this position were handed to us, I'm sure we would really see the amount of work that was required to make it happen. Hopefully I will be able to continue to build on Ramona's foundation and passion in the coming year...

We already have a couple of playdates scheduled for 2007. Erie Ice Daze is Saturday, January 20 and Sunday, January 21, at Lake Erie Metro park, in Brownstown. This playdate is a fun two days. I've done this for the past 3 years and have always enjoyed it. This event is also a good event to attend if you've been thinking about coming to a playdate but have been hesitant. The atmosphere is more casual and we play mostly as background music with a few visitors stopping by to listen now and then. If you would like to come but can't come for both days, don't let that be a problem. I've love to see you there either day!

The other confirmed scheduled playdate is the Canton Senior Valentine Party, February 14<sup>th</sup> at the Summit On The Park Community Center in Canton. This is a new event and should be fun. For the exact times on the above playdates, see "MARK YOUR CALENDAR".

If you would like to attend a playdate, be sure to sign up at the next SSDS meeting, January 4<sup>th</sup> at Good Hope. The sign up sheets will be on the new "PLAYDATE" table which will be located just inside the room entrance on the RIGHT. These sheets will be available for sign up anytime, throughout the whole evening, and will be there for every meeting thereafter. The table on the LEFT will continue to be the "INFORMATION" table... newsletters, club sign in sheets, new music, calendar, event brochures, etc. If you are unable to attend a club meeting and would like to sign up for a playdate, please email or call. Please note that all playdates are "first come, first served" until full.

KT (Karen Turner)

[karenturner@comcast.net](mailto:karenturner@comcast.net) 734-455-4085

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR :**

- \* Erie Ice Daze, January 20<sup>th</sup> .....11:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Lake Erie Metropark.....Gibraltar
- \* Erie Ice Daze, January 21<sup>st</sup> .....noon - 4:00 pm  
Lake Erie Metropark.....Gibraltar
- \* Senior Valentine Party, February 14<sup>th</sup> .....noon-1pm  
Summit On the Park Community Center.....Canton

If your birthday or anniversary is not on the list or calendar at the information table, please stop and add it, so we can help celebrate.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

- Jan. 10.....Sharon McAuliffe
- Jan. 23.....Terry Avery
- Jan. 26.....Kelly Kaiser

**NOTES FROM YOUR SECRETARY:**

Reconciliation – peace – restoration - unity. These were goals the 2007 Board discussed at a recent planning meeting. We would very much like this to be our mantra or yardstick for decision making during the next year. Encouraging each member to be the best musician they can be and thus enriching Silver Strings and making us stronger musically is a key goal.

We are tentatively planning a March workshop for all instruments that would help us play together more effectively. This would include performance etiquette, starts, stops, how to feature different instruments on certain verses, varying tempo, etc. Another workshop is being considered for the June Campout, which may stress "jamming" styles.

Additional items discussed were the pig roast, the fall banquet, the Christmas potluck, Variety Nights (March 29, May 31, August 30, November 29), play date procedures, software for the new Treasurer, a pictorial directory, waving the two-year limit for chairmen so we can retain our current Web Site Master, Banquet, and Newsletter chairmen, candidates for Music Director, name tags, Minutes Format, and attendance.

We have tentatively set the first Thursday of the month at 6:00 P.M. for our Board Meetings. We thank you for the confidence you have given us to serve you but we cannot make Silver Strings work without your help. "The purpose of this organization shall be to play the hammered dulcimer together with other instruments for our enjoyment, promoting and encouraging knowledge of the hammered dulcimer through regularly scheduled meetings, workshops, performances, a newsletter, and other activities as agreed upon by the membership." (Article I of the By-laws) We need your help to achieve these goals so let us all make every effort to do what leads to peace and mutual edification, building each other up and making Silver Strings strong and a place people can't wait to get to on Thursday nights.

Respectfully Submitted.....Bonnie Ream

[bonnieandcarol@earthlink.com](mailto:bonnieandcarol@earthlink.com) 734-464-7156

**BANKER OURS**

Since the outgoing Treasurer (Bob Hlavacek) is responsible for the year-end report, to be published January 1<sup>st</sup>, the new treasurer (George Gonyo) will first report in the February issue of the Soundboard. The year-end report will be available at all January meetings, and by request, after that.

### NEW MEMBER

Craig Dehmel..... 810) 471-3718  
 6379 Van Vleet Rd, . . . . . Swartz Creek Mi 48473  
 Craigdeh7@charter.net.....Hammer Dulcimer, Guitar

### BOARD SUPPORT for 2007

**SOUNDBOARD EDITOR** . . . . . Sandi Hlavacek  
 datadoc@sbcglobal.net 734-663-7974

**WEBMASTER** . . . . . Karen Turner  
 karenturner@comcast.net 734-455-4085

**HISTORIAN** . . . . . Val Losse  
 val\_losse@yahoo.com 734-994-9097

### SSDS Holiday Potluck Dinner



On December 14<sup>th</sup>, Silver Strings Dulcimer Society held it's Holiday Potluck, followed by a dessert & concert for members of Good Hope Lutheran Church. We certainly have a lot of great cooks in the group. Perhaps at the next potluck, we can have the name of the donor posted by each dish, so we know who to get the favorite recipe from.

It provided the church an opportunity to come see what we're doing on Thursday nights, and allowed us to give a musical thank you for continued use of their space. A good time was had by all.



SSDS January Play List		first
	key	note
1.G	Westphalia Waltz	2X D
2.C	Winter Wonderland	2X G
3.G	Bellman's Jig	3X D
4.D	Peek-a-Boo Waltz	3X F#
5.D	John Ryan's Polka	3X D
6.G	Old Joe Clark	4X A
7.G	Down Yonder	3X B
8.G	Maggie	3x B
9.D	Painter's Polka	3X A
10.D	Young Roddy McCorley	4X G
11.C	Julida Polka (end on A)	3 1/2 G
12.Am	Katushka	5X A
13.G	Silver and Gold	3X B
14.D	Over the Waterfall	3X D
15.G	South Wind	3x D
16.G	Columbus Stockade Blues	4X B
17.D	Viola's Schottische	3x F#
18.C	Silver Bells	2x C
19.G	Redwing	3x D
20.G	Let It Snow	2x E
21.G	Festival Rag	3x A
22.G	I'll Remember You Love	2x B
23.G	Red Apple Rag	3X D
25.G	Jingle Bells (Ch+2	Ch+2 B
26	Endless Medley:	2 ea
D	Ragtime Annie	F#
D	Soldiers Joy	F#
D&G	Golden Slippers	D

**Q: Why are harps like elderly parents?**

*A: Both are unforgiving and hard to get into and out of cars.*

**Q: What's the range of a bass?**

*A: Twenty yards if you have a good arm!*

### Join the fun at playdates.....

Silver Strings played at 14 locations during the busy month of December. Response has been terrific! The audience clapped and sang in the nursing homes and churches. Sometimes, as at Burger School, they clapped, sang and danced.

There is usually "show and tell time" after the performance or during a break. People are most often curious about the hammered and mountain dulcimers. They eagerly come forward for a closer look, with lots of questions. That is our best opportunity to "Spread the word" about these unique instruments.

# DECEMBER PLAYDATES



Assn. Retired School Personnel, Berkley



United Methodist Church, Wyandotte



American House, Westland



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Dearborn



Franklin Community Church, Franklin Hills



Burger School for Autistic, Garden City





**Livonia Civic Center Library**



**Northville Public Library**



**St. Richard's Catholic Church, Westland**

