

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Soundboard

OCTOBER 2012 29 YEARS SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC July 1983-2012 Issue 330
Website : www.silverstrings.org

PRESIDENTS RAMBLINGS _____ Bob Niemczewski

Well, folks, as we have passed through our summer months of festivals, picnics, family, and music jams we are heading at warp speed into the Christmas season. This means we will need to blow the dust off the old Christmas songbook, and get ready to visit several locations, adding joy to the season for many people.

While I am on the topic of the Holidays and our music, I might as well address a topic that I brought up a few weeks ago at our meeting, music arrangements. As the club President, I vowed to act for and represent every member in our club, to the best of my ability.

In the 29 years this club has been in existence, we have always played our Holiday music pretty much straight from the book, received warm welcomes from our audiences, and we never were looking for more play dates. As a matter of fact, I remember our club splitting up so we could cover two play dates on the same day at different locations. That being said, our club has many new members who received a music packet, the same as I did when I joined, and were given the holiday music packet, usually at this time of the year. The packets did not, and do not have any instructions for what instruments do what, or who will play alone, not play, play soft, play loud, fade at the end, etc. In the past, I had the ability to attend all of the Christmas practices, and was able to be present when any changes were being made at that practice. Just let me say at this point that the musicians in the past few years have done a wonderful job during the season and represented our club admirably. But, I always felt that many were left out, and if they did not or could not attend the practices when the changes were being made, they would not sign up or attend Holiday play dates. Therefore, it is my intention to level the playing field for all of our members. When they receive their Christmas music, they can come and enjoy our club, our music, and the holiday play dates, as long as they know the music and are able to play confidently with the club.

This article is not written to offend anyone in our club, or to single any one person out. I have nothing but praise and appreciation for all the hard work that has been put into the past Holiday seasons, and the musicians that worked their tails off representing the Silver Strings club. If you have complaints about this, complain to me. If you are upset, please be upset with me. If you really hate what's happening with our club see George and Terry... they are taking nominations for the 2013 SSDS Board.

**Holiday practices schedule will be:
October 16th and 24th and November 6th and 21st**

All practices will be at 7pm at the Good Hope Church. Please come one and come all, and just enjoy this upcoming time of the year. Like I have said before, let's just have some fun with our friends and music.

Peace through music. Bob

NOTABLE NOTES _____ Secretary

Board meeting Sept. 6, 2012

* SSDS will offer members the opportunity to purchase the old sound equipment. If no one wants it, then it will be put on Craig's List or Ebay.

* A motion was made, by the president, to have all music played as written. There will not be any solos, singing or dancing. The motion was passed.

* Karen Turner will clean up our website and get rid of information that is no longer needed.

* Get well cards were sent to: Frank Surhigh and Luke Kaweck.

Respectfully Submitted. Sharon McAuliffe

This is a synopsis. Full board minutes are available from Sec.

In learning traditional tunes, it is no more possible to learn to be a good player by simply reading notes than it is to become a good writer by reading a dictionary. When using transcriptions of tunes, always use the notes just enough to get the tune into your head. *Then*, learn to play it. This is how these tune have been passed down through the ages, so don't get hung up on playing "the dots".

NOTIFICATIONS _____ V.P. Business
Hi Folks,

September has turned out to be a very busy month! We have played four dates, with one to go on the 30th of the month. We had a very successful two days again at Greenfield Village, and our group out did themselves! Our audiences were engaging and very responsive! And, to top it off, Mother Nature gave us two beautiful days.

Thank You again to all who participated in our performances. It takes commitment to take the time and energy to learn and perform our playlists!

We were able to secure some new venues for our upcoming year. It is always nice to go and revisit familiar facilities, but also a challenge and a welcome change to see "new faces" in our audience.

The "Osgood Jam" was lots of fun, and we had a record turnout. Once again, we had cooperation from Mother Nature, with nice sunny daytime temps and a calm evening for the bonfire. Ed and I would like to thank all who helped to get things in order, especially the Hlavaceks for taking time to get the tent tarps ready to be assembled so we could have protection for us and our instruments.! I'm already looking forward to next year's Jam !!

Finally, if anyone is interested in being one of our players at the play dates, please contact me to discuss your concerns.

As always Linda Osgood

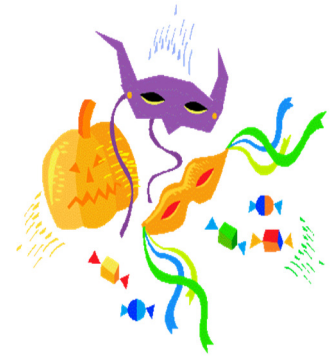
PURSE STRINGS _____ Treasurer
Hello Everyone,

I am now accepting your dues for 2013. If you want to vote in the election on Nov. 1, 2012 your 2013 dues must be paid. Dues for 2013 are \$15.00. Cash or checks (made out to Silver Strings Dulcimer Society) are accepted. You can see me at our regular meetings or mail your payment to SSDS, P.O. Box 1116, Garden City, MI 48136. Sally

IT'S OCTOBER...LET'S CELEBRATE !

BIRTHDAYS

- 1.....Ernie Stewart
- 12....Nancy Straky
- 17....Carol Anne Matthews
- 18....Donald Pittman
- 24....Don Weymouth
- 25....Marilyn Mullins
- 26....Pat Jurasek
- 28....Valerie Karhu
- 30....Bev Scott



ANNIVERSARYS

- 9.....Jeffery and Robin Wh
- 15....Bob Aronson
- 16....Jack & Marilyn Mullins
- 18....Harold Crane.....37
- 29....Walt & Pat Jablonski.....63
- 19....Bob & Sally Niemczewski.....38
- 22....David & Theresa Smith.....19

MUSIC COORDINATOR _____ Sharon McAuliffe

The Holiday music revisions are complete and Karen will be putting them into the Drop Box soon.

The playlist for October will include November because there is only one play date in October at this date.

The Christmas play list and Winter play list are complete and will be sent out when appropriate. It is important that you practice and know the music on the playlist, before signing up for a play date.

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society Music:

We have been given permission, by several composers, to play their music in our club. We also pay for a license that allows us to play some of our favorite tunes. We want to protect our Silver Strings members and respect the composers who have generously shared their music with us. In consideration of the composers and SSDS, do not sell, copy, give away or share any of our Silver Strings music.

SSDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2012

- PRESIDENT** **Bob Niemczewski**
bsnemo@yahoo.com (313) 561-3410
- V.P. BUSINESS** **Linda Osgood**
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- TREASURER** **Sally Niemczewski**
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- MUSIC COORDINATOR** **Sharon McAuliffe**
- SECRETARY** **Sharon McAuliffe**
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- SOUNDBOARD EDITOR** **Lee Ann Lack**
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- WEBMASTER** **Karen Turner**
karenturner@comcast.net (734) 455-4085

FOR SALE

PA System

- LTB amp 4 channel
- 2 speakers LTBs . . . 2 speaker stands
- Complete wires for the system

This is the same setup we use for Variety Night.

\$100.00



To print the October play list,

please click on our website or this link :

http://www.silverstrings.org/sections/tunes/pdf/2012/oct_nov12.pdf

OCT/NOV PLAYLIST

Key	Tune	Play
D	Painter's Polka	4
Am	Cold Frosty Morn'	4
G	Westphalia Waltz	2
D	Flop Eared Mule	4 1/2
G	Red Apple Rag	4
D	Maple Sugar	3 1/2
G	Larry's Waltz	3
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast	4
G	Columbus Stockade Blues	4
D	Possum up a Gum Stump	3
G	Silver and Gold Two Step	5
C	Black Velvet Waltz	3
D	Sandy River Belle	3
D	Hey Polka	4
Em	Road To Lisdoonvarna	3
G	January Waltz	3
G	Down Yonder	4
Em	Tamlin	4
D	John Ryan's Polka <i>*Dulcimers do the "response" 2nd & 4th</i>	4
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast	4
D	Festival Rag	3
G	Tick Tock Polka	3
D/D	Endless Medley: Ragtime Annie, D/D Soldier's Joy and Golden Slippers	2/2/2/ 2
	<i>* Check with Linda or on sign-up sheets for dress code & if chairs are needed</i>	

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

OCTOBER

- 4...**SSDS Banquet** 6pm to 11pm
Park Place Caterers Dearborn
- 9...**Playdate** **BC** 1:00-2:00
Farina's Berkley
- 16...**Christmas Practice** 7:00
- 24...**Christmas Practice** 7:00
- 18...**SSDS Jam** 7:00-?

NOVEMBER

- 6...**Christmas Practice** 7:00
- 14...**Playdate** **BC** 1:30-2:30
Heartland Health Care Dearborn Heights
- 16...**Playdate** **BC** 6:00-7:00
Maple Heights Retirement Center Allen Park
- 21..**Christmas Practice** 7:00
- 29..**SSDS Variety Night** 7:00-?

BC=Business Casual, **V**=Victorian

BW=Black & white, **H**=Holiday

FESTIVALS-WORKSHOPS-JAMS

UNCLE CARL'S DULCIMER CLUB

2nd Saturday of month 12:30-4:30pm (next is Oct 13th)

For info. call Penny 517-547-7448

NETTLE LAKE MUSIC JAM

First Saturday of Month – 6pm (next is Oct 6th)

For info contact Jack & Marilyn Mullins 517-270-2870

MAUMEE STREET MUSIC JAM

(formerly called West Adrian Jam)

Forth Saturday of the month – 6pm (Oct 27th)

For info. contact

Jack & Marilyn Mullins 517-270-2870

Or Larry Roper 248-437-5403

SUGAR (Saginaw Ukulele Gurus and Rookies)

First Saturday of the month 10:30-Noon (Oct 6th)

Magic Bean Café, 5789 State St, Suite 3, Saginaw. MI

Songs are posted beforehand on the internet

For info email: muzyka2007@yahoo.com

MT. HALEY JAMBOREE

Last Friday of every month (Oct 27th)

Mt. Haley Township Hall, Midland County

For Info contact Alice Perry at: mthaleyfmsm@gmail.com

1:00-4:00-Folk and Traditional Music Jam

Clubs and individuals are welcome.

Come to play or be part of an audience. Admission is free but donations to the Metamora Historical Society will be appreciated. Bring your lunch or walk to restaurants. Metamora's Old Town Hall was built in 1888 and is part of an historic community.

For info. Call Alice Gajewski at 248-628-5287 or go to

FolkJam.com

27th Annual Michigan State Championship Old Time Fiddlers Contest

Saturday, Oct 6th, 12:00pm

37260 Huron River Drive, New Boston, Michigan, 48164

Outdoors on the Applefest Stage

Contestants must play a waltz, a schottische, a jig and a reel in a manner suitable to Michigan old-time dancing.

There is a non-refundable \$10 entry fee. The contest begins promptly at noon. Contestants register at 11:00am and draw for positions at 11:30am

\$200 first prize, \$100 second prize, \$50 third prize

EAST LANSING DULCIMER FESTIVAL

Saturday, Oct 20, 2012, 10 am - 4:30 pm,

Dan Landrum, hammered dulcimer, & Stephen Seifert, mountain dulcimer, will teach 4 workshops each covering all level of players. They'll also be in concert the night before, Friday, Oct 19, 8 pm at the Ten Pound Fiddle.

Email: info@tenpoundfiddle.org

Website: <http://www.wandadegen.com/eldf2012.html>

RICK THUM WORKSHOP & CONCERT

Saturday, November 17,

Calvary United Methodist Church, Ann Arbor

Workshops:

10am-12noon: Beginner 2pm-4pm: All Levels
\$25.00 each or \$45 for both sessions

Concert:

7pm with jam following the concert. \$10.00

All-day running jam session.

Please contact Rick Thum for more information

Ph. (314) 406-0690 Email: rthum@rthum.com

Website: <http://www.rthum.com>

Winter Playlist		
Key	Tune	Play
G	Jingle Bells	4
D	Festival Rag	3
G	Larry's Waltz	2
D	Possum Up A Gum Stump	3
G	Red Apple Rag	4
D	Maple Sugar	3 1/2
G	Let it Snow! Let it Snow! Let it Snow!	3
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast	4
G	January Waltz	3
Em	Road To Lisdoonvarna	4
G	Silver and Gold Two Step	4
C	Winter Wonderland	3
D	Sandy River Belle	3
D	Hey Polka	4
Am	Cold Frosty Morn'	3
D	Frosty The Snowman	2
G	Down Yonder	4
Em	Tamlin	3
G	Westphalia Waltz	2
Em	Dancing Bear	4
G	Red Wing	3
D/D	Endless Medley: Ragtime Annie,	2/2/
D/D	Soldier's Joy and Golden Slippers	2/2
	If needed:	
G	Dreidel Song	4
Em	Oh Chanukah	3
	* Check with Linda or on signup sheets for dress code and if chairs are needed	

2012 Christmas List		
Key	Tune	Play
D	Deck The Hall	3
G	Angels We Have Heard On High	4
D	Festival Rag	3
G	Jolly Old St. Nicholas	4
G	Hark! The Herald Angels Sing	3
D/G	Silent Night	2/2
G	Westphalia Waltz	2
C	Silver Bells	3
G	Joy To The World	3
Am	Cold Frosty Morn'	4
G	The First Noel	3
G	Jingle Bells	4
G	Red Apple Rag	4
C	Winter Wonderland	3
C	January Waltz	3
G	Let it Snow! Let it Snow! Let it Snow!	3
D	Simple Gifts	3
G	Silver and Gold Two Step	4
G	Away In The Manger	3
G	Up On The Housetop	3
G	We Wish You A Merry Christmas	2
D	Endless Medley: Ragtime Annie, Soldier's Joy, Golden Slippers	2/2/ 2/2
	* Holiday dress. Check on signup sheet or with Linda if chairs are needed	

Start practicing your Christmas music now and we'll dazzle 'em at the Christmas gigs.



Stephen Seifert Mountain Dulcimer Class

July 15-17, 2013

Mountain dulcimer teacher and performer, is going to teach a three day mountain dulcimer class in Evart right before the big dulcimer festival. It will have a section for very beginners early in the morning, and an advanced section as well. It will be the best \$165 you could ever spend for mountain dulcimer classes. 3 days and 3 nights of work, laughter, and just a great learning experience. Stephen is taking 30 people only, so you can reserve and pay now for the event. Credit cards are accepted.

All the information is on his website:
www.stephenseifert.com.

If you have any questions, you can give me a call as well, Paula Brawdy, 616-240 0445.

A parapsodokian is a phrase or sentence that leads us down the garden path to an unexpected ending.

"Where there's a will, I want to be in it," is a parapsodokian ---- Winston Churchill loved them.

1. Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience.
2. Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
3. If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
4. War does not determine who is right - only who is left.
5. Evening news is where they begin with 'Good Evening,' and then proceed to tell you why it isn't.
6. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.
7. A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where a train stops. On my desk, I have a work station.
8. I thought I wanted a career. Turns out I just wanted paychecks.

It's Election Time Again

This November we will again have elections at Silver Strings. To vote you must have paid your dues. Going to pay them does not count.

It is easy to let the other guy do it. However the club belongs to all of the members. I remember years ago, when I was running some target shooting matches, I had asked for some help. "All I want to do is to come to the match and shoot. I don't want to do any work" was voiced out loud. I wondered if since this fellow does not want to do any work, is he willing to pay someone to do the work for him? Obviously not.

When people volunteer their time and treasure, they are more likely to be involved in the club. We can all be involved to some degree. All of us cannot be the president at the same time. However there is room for everyone to make a contribution. One of the ways is to hold an office or at least offer to hold an office. If you cannot hold an office, then figure out some way to make your presence felt in the club in a positive way.

Elections give the members the distinct pleasure of knowing that there are people who do care about the club, and the mission that we perform in the community. It is not just about us. When we go on play dates, we are making a contribution to the lives of people. We are volunteers. The stipend that the club receives does not pay for much. It is a token of appreciation.

Please consider running for office. You may not be elected, but your willingness to run boosts the morale of the club with all of the members.

Terry Treppa

*President

1. Presides as chairman and conducts board meetings.
2. Supervises all club affairs, including regular club meetings.
3. Represents the club at performances, festivals, etc.
4. Recommends chairmen to the appointive offices and special committees.
5. May also serve as committee chairman.

*Vice President Business (Manager)

1. Performs the President's duties in the absence of the President
2. Receives all performance requests for the club.
3. Prepares sign-up sheets for performances and accepts or declines performances accordingly.
4. If time is short, may either refuse the request or organize enough players for the performance.
5. Manages all aspects of performances or appoints someone to do so.

*Vice President Program (Coordinator)

1. Performs the President's duties in the absence of the President and VP Business.
2. Coordinates efforts with the Music Coordinator to bring new songs and workshops to meetings.
3. Teaches new songs or appoints someone to do so.
4. Leads songs at regular club meetings or appoints someone to do so.
5. Coordinates campout & annual picnic, or appoints someone to do it.

*Secretary

1. Records all business conducted at club and board meetings. Submits summary to newsletter.
2. Is responsible for correspondence to members.
3. May also serve as a committee chairman

*Treasurer

1. Collects dues, writes checks for club expenses, Coordinates applications for new members
2. Keeps financial records up to date & produces periodic financial reports.
3. Updates & distributes new roster bi-annually.





GETTING TO KNOW YOU.....Phyllis Tillapaugh

My name is Phyllis Tillapaugh. I'm a Native Kentuckian. I moved to Michigan in 1991, moved to New Jersey in 1993, back to Michigan in 1997, and have been in Plymouth since then. My earliest memory of music in my life was standing on a church pew between my parents, singing hymns. I have one brother. He and his wife are both Army retirees, and live in Louisville, Kentucky.

My first introduction to music was singing in the children's choir at church. I started playing the violin at age 8 in elementary school (Louisville, Kentucky). My 6th grade teacher taught me to play the recorder and autoharp. In junior high school, I taught myself some guitar chords and some tunes, and played/sang with two folk music groups. I also tried my hand at the mountain dulcimer about 30 years ago, but as I did not know anyone in the area to teach me more, my MD became a fireplace/hearth decoration – and met its end not long afterward.

I was introduced to SSDS by Marsha Kozlowski. I knew of the existence of Hammered Dulcimers, but had never heard one until Marsha played during a church retreat (February 2012). Marsha invited me to a SSDS jam, and put me in touch with Bob Hlavacek, who became my mentor and helped me find my first Hammered Dulcimer, an RL Tack 15/15 Pro, (which now is for sale, since I purchased a new Master Works 16/15 cbw at the Evert Dulcimer Funfest).

I attended Kentucky Music Week in June of this year. I really enjoyed the way that event was set up and how you had some continuity with the instructors. We had the same class & instructor every day for 5 days, but were limited to a maximum of 5 classes per day. However, for the money, and the ability to attend more workshops with more instructors, I think Evert is the overwhelming winner.

I loved Evert! It was a little overwhelming, and had it not been for Marsha and Terry Kozlowski taking me in tow, I'm not sure I would have lasted the weekend. I was really impressed that so many people volunteered their time to make the event possible -- even the instructors! I learned a lot. One of the instructors told the class that it was ok if "you didn't get it during the class" but not to give up. That's very true. I couldn't keep up in class, and it was very frustrating. But I watched, got the music, took it home, and worked on it until it all came together for me. I'd like to see 1st timers get hooked-up with Evert veterans who can show them the ropes, make recommendations about what classes to take (and logistics getting around the grounds), and to encourage them.

I'm still a bit overwhelmed trying to learn to play my Dulcimer, learn the club tunes, and trying to learn who's who at the jams. But I've been having a ton of fun at the jams, variety nights, and the Evert Funfest workshops. I currently play Violin, recorder, guitar, autoharp, and am learning to play Hammered Dulcimer, Bowed Psaltery, and the Pennywhistle

I was divorced (in 2000). I have an 18-year-old daughter. I've worked for Nissan Technical Center, North America in Farmington Hills for 12 years, as the assistant to the president. I worked for Ford Motor Company in Louisville, Kentucky, for 18 years.

I enjoyed a trip to China in 1997. My daughter, who was about 4 years old at the time, had just watched Disney's Beauty and the Beast, and thought the Great Wall was part of the Beast's castle. Other interesting places I've been to are Germany, France, Mexico and of course, Canada. My "Bucket list" includes the Grand Canyon and National Parks out West. I love to go camping and hiking. I'm a member of Hiking Michigan and former member of Sierra Club. My daughter and I used to like to go "geocaching", but that has fallen by the wayside since she's gotten older.

**ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE, WITH MANY KINDS OF INSTRUMENTS,
CAN MAKE BEAUTIFUL MUSIC TOGETHER.**

