



# Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

# Soundboard

December 2016      SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC for 33 YEARS      1983-2016      Issue 380  
[www.silverstrings.org](http://www.silverstrings.org)

## PRESIDENTS REPORT \_\_\_\_\_ Harold Crane

Hello everyone, I can't believe 2016 is almost over and my term as Silver Strings President is also coming to an end. Thanks for your support during the past two years. I really enjoyed the position and all the hard working board members and officers who kept our club running smoothly with their leadership and dedication.

I'm looking forward to being the Business V. P. in 2017 and helping our club stay strong and grow, enjoy playing and sharing music and friendship.

Our last board meeting of the year is at 5:30 on December 1st followed by our first Christmas "thank you" concert at Good Hope and our afterglow party. We are very fortunate to have such a wonderful place provided by Good Hope for us to meet.

We have lots of holiday playdates in December so sign up and join in the fun and share the music and joy with others. Don't forget our last really BIG EVENT for the year on Thursday, December 15th - our Pot Luck/Ugly Sweater extravaganza!!!! Be there or be square. Have a Merry Christmas and a healthy and Happy New Year! Till we meet again,

Yours truly,..... Harold

## V.P. BUSINESS NOTES \_\_\_\_\_ Ann Wassell

Addition to the playdate list -

Erie Ice Daze - Saturday, January 21 11 a.m. to 3 pm.  
 - Sunday, January 22 noon to 4 pm.

This is my final article for the Newsletter - VP Business. For the past two years I have been your Vice President for Business. It has been a real learning experience. My computer skills were not up to par when I started, but with Karen Turner's help I have managed many new skills - thanks, Karen!

It has been a pleasure to interact with the venues that hire our music performances. The representatives of all the groups are very enthusiastic about our music and performances. Thanks, all of you that perform so well!

I appreciate all the Board Member that supported and encouraged me. Thanks, Harold, Chris, Gloria and Jeff!

Finally, I send a big THANK YOU to Marsha Kozlowski, our Music Coordinator, for all her hard work in setting up play lists, telling us where to sit and stand at

the playdates, and ensuring that we practice enough to sound really good! Thank you, Marsha!!

I will be happy to be just part of the group (a really great group) of musicians as we move forward, gather new members by way of the Library Programs, and continue to have fun! Bless you all.....Ann

DECEMBER PLAYDATES with a (**) are open to the public.		
Dec. 1	**Good Hope Lutheran Church	7:00 - 8:00
Dec. 3	**Mt. Hope Congregational Church, Livonia	7:00 - 8:00
Dec. 6	Heartland Healthcare - Canton	3:00 - 4:00
Dec. 6	Holy Cross Lutheran Church - Livonia	7:00 - 8:00
Dec. 8	St. Francis Cabrini Parish-Allen Park	6:45 dinner 7:15 - 8:15
Dec. 9	Generations at Botsford - Livonia	1:00 - 2:00
Dec.11	**St. Richards Church, Westland	2:00 - 3:00
Dec. 12	Plymouth Cultural Center - Plymouth	1:45 - 2:45
Dec. 14	Garden City Hospital Rehab Unit	6:00 - 7:00
Dec. 15	** Livonia Public Library	12:15-1:00
Dec. 17	** Caroline Kennedy Library - Dbn. Heights	2:00 - 3:00
Dec. 20	Howell Senior Center- Howell	12:30-1:30
Dec. 20	Saint Collette Church - Livonia	7:30 - 8:30

## From the VP PROGRAMS \_\_\_\_\_ Gloria Tapper

I hope everyone enjoyed thanksgiving , now it's time to enjoy the Christmas season, one of my favorites. First, we have the Good Hope Church program on December 1st, afterglow following. We will need cookies, or other goodies for our friends that evening. The doors will be open at 5:00 so we can set up, have a board meeting ,and be ready to perform.

On December 15th, we will have our Silver Strings Christmas dinner at 7:00, the main entree will be chicken and ham. If your last name begins with letters A through M, please bring a dish to pass ,how about dessert, if your last name begins with O, through Z, how about an appetizer, vegetable, potato, something along those lines. and if you have something special in mind, bring it. The last name letter thing is just a suggestion.

Also, there will be an UGLY sweater contest, if you don't have an UGLY sweater, there is still time to get one. Sally and Theresa have volunteered to take care of the dinner as I will be recovering from my surgery. I will be gone for a while, 6 to 8 weeks recovery, then a much needed vacation, sun and sand.

Enjoy the Holidays.....Gloria

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

#### DECEMBER

- 1.....SSDS Concert at Good Hope. . . . 7:00 - ??  
SSDS Board Meeting . . . . . 5:30
- 15.....SSDS Holiday Potluck & Jam . . . 7:00 - ??
- 29.....NO Variety Night in December

#### SECRETARY'S NOTES \_\_\_\_\_ Chris Hurt

December 1<sup>st</sup> is our first Holiday Concert to be held at Good Hope. December 15<sup>th</sup> is the annual pot luck dinner and the club will provide chicken and ham.

No Variety Night in December.

November 10<sup>th</sup> is the last Christmas practice, with November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 as an added practice if needed. Marsha will resume tune of the month in January and reminded us that we are to play on the Capital steps in May. She has been invited to a meeting of The Library Network to present our library program to library representatives attending the meeting.

It was suggested we switch the board meetings to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month because of conflicts with other events but nothing was decided.

Gloria suggested we switch the banquet date to try to boost attendance. She is working on booking Myers Lake for next year's campout.

The board voted and approved to again send Good Hope Church \$500 for the generous use of their facility. ....Chris

### IT'S DECEMBER...LET'S CELEBRATE !

#### BIRTHDAYS

- 13...Theresa Smith
- 31...Sandi Hlavacek



#### MUSIC COORDINATOR NOTES...Marsha Kozlowski



Looking Back to Look Forward: December will be busy as the holiday concert season is full upon us. Before all the busy-ness overtakes us, I took some moments to reflect on our club's music in 2016.

\* A number of new tunes were added to our performance repertoire including Cockles and Mussels and Yellow Bird. It is neat to see how quickly "Tunes of the Month" can become favorites and be added to our performance repertoire.

\* A goal was set to perform classical music at the Evert Festival and although it looked very "iffy" right up to the day, we achieved that goal. We were even able to repeat it at Variety Night in September.

\* The Evert performance was great! We showed resilience in adverse conditions – a somewhat muddy track, no amplification, and a cross wind that wanted to blow our hammers into the next county. The finale, Yellow Bird, was such fun with tropical accessories, bird whistles and rhythmic back-up section.

\* The Library Outreach Program was launched with a wonderful response, both in attendance and new HD players. Two more programs are scheduled for 2017.

\* We added "spice" to our jams by trying new "recipes:" The "Top 40" jam was great fun. People got caught up in trying to guess the Top 10 of the Top 40. The "Where did you Go" jam at the banquet produced many laughs and good stories.

\* The Christmas playlist includes 5 new tunes. Some of the usual tunes have been freshened up with either a new start or other change. Our last rehearsal showed the commitment of our members to work, to share their talent and polish the numbers with their own talent and ideas – great synergy!



#### LOOKING FORWARD:

- New tunes. I welcome your suggestions for new tunes which go on my list to add as it becomes possible. A new tune is selected in a process that considers the seasons, our audiences, and what it may add to our variety of tempo, style, keys, etc. Newer tunes must be researched for copyright issues and/or permission to play.
- Classical Group - The group consensus is to continue this adventure. If you did not try this last year or tried once but thought it was too difficult – give it another chance. We will start on new tunes in January. Some will be easier than what we played in 2016.
- Library Outreach – Two more programs are scheduled (Feb. and March). Your support and presence help make it happen. A great program!
- Playlists – won't change too much but will be set up around seasonal themes as much as possible. Music tells a story that touches our hearts. Here is a preview:
  - **January** – SSDS "Top 40".
  - **February** – "All about love" – we have more songs about love gone wrong, hmm.
  - **March** – Irish/Celtic emphasis
  - **April – June** – Patriotic Flavor for Memorial day, Flag Day, etc. (If you haven't learned the Armed Services Medley – keep working at it. This will be part of the play list.)
  - **July – September** – "On the Road" – it is festival season.



Many of you know that it is my dream to create a HD Flash Mob experience. I attempted to set this up to play at the State Capitol. That didn't work. However we are scheduled to play a concert May 16<sup>th</sup> on the Capitol steps. Cool,

huh! If we can get the right venue, timing, and everything lines up, I think it can be done and it would be such a cool experience. Stay tuned.

What to give a club that has so much? *One More Tune of the Month!!* December's tune of the month is **Hangman's Reel**. If you have ever played in a Rick Thum jam, you are familiar with this tune and may already know it. Although it is played at the "after hours" jam, it has not been part of the SSDS repertoire. When you need a break from holiday music, get it out and enjoy. This traditional tune whose origin is unknown is played in the key of A although it seems to have become a popular fiddle tune in Virginia and southern regions before spreading out to other areas. Look for the tune in Dropbox. I will have hard copies for those who use binders. ....Marsha

~ **SSDS Board Election Results** ~

We have a full slate for the board for 2017. It is as follows:

- President: **Terry Kozlowski**
- Vice President of Business: **Harold Crane**
- Vice President of Programs: **Gloria Tapper**
- Treasurer: **John Pollock**
- Secretary: **Christine Hurt**

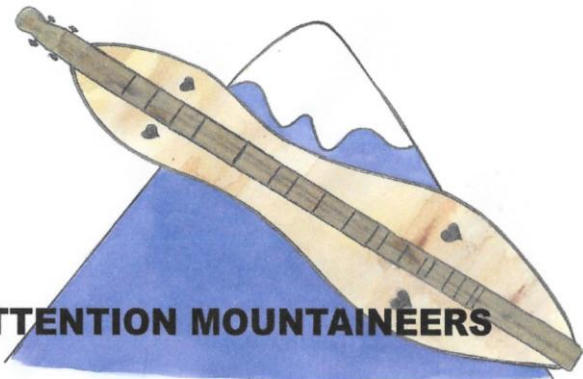
A motion was taken at our last meeting to accept this as our slate and it was accepted by the membership. ....Peggy Kustra

**FOR SALE:**

Master Works Russell Cook Edition Hammer Dulcimer with Dampers, built-In Pickup, Case & Stand \$2975  
260-616-0320 Darlene Hackett in Fort Wayne, IN



**ATTENTION MOUNTAINEERS**



We will begin meeting Wed. Jan 11 and Jan. 25 at the home of Carol Ann and Dave Matthews 42297 Wickfield, Canton. Phone 734-751-7365 All Mountain Dulcimer players are welcome. We also welcome backup players.

Linda and Carol Ann

**FREE** Knabe Upright Piano

with matching bench built in Baltimore, Maryland in 1906. You just have to pick it up and move it. Contact Karen Turner [karenturner@comcast.net](mailto:karenturner@comcast.net)



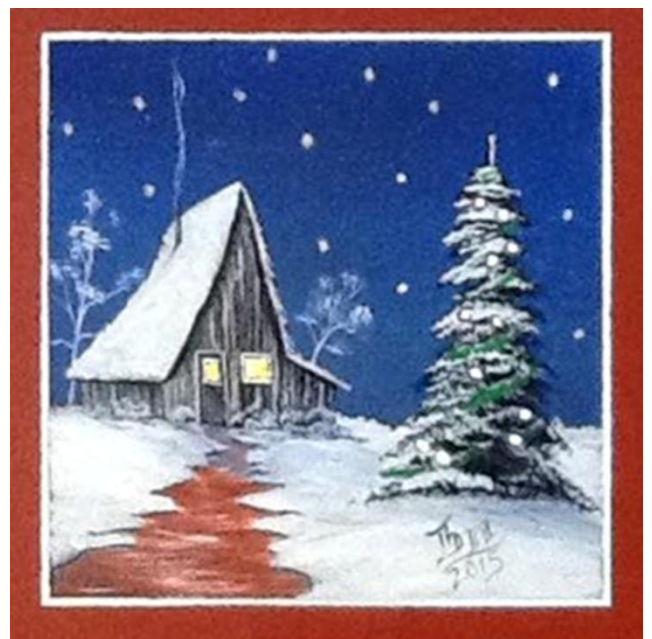
**Music by Linda**

Dulcimer Music For Special Occasions  
Dulcimer Lessons

**Linda Osgood**

734-649-3843

losgood10424@comcast.net



Winter Scene art by Bob Niemczewski

## Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

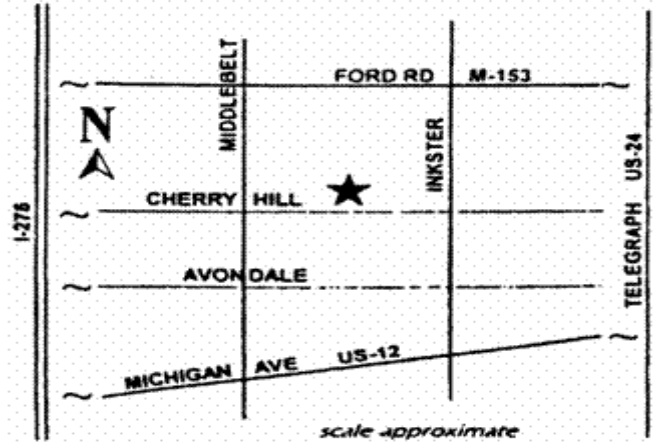
Meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays every month  
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.... with jamming till ...?

Meeting at **Good Hope Lutheran Church**  
In Garden City, Michigan

Featuring the hammered dulcimer,  
and other acoustic instruments :  
mountain dulcimer, banjo, guitar, autoharp, fiddle,  
string bass, washtub bass, mandolin, folk harp,  
recorder, tin penny whistle, and harmonica.  
Learn new tunes and techniques, jam together  
with other players, receive new music  
and a monthly newsletter.  
Participate in workshops, festivals, performances,  
picnics, fun and fellowship.

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT :**  
<http://www.silverstrings.org>

**Everyone is welcome !**  
Come to listen, or come to play.

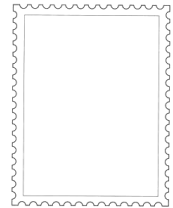


Start thinking about getting articles for the newsletter to me by the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Articles or pictures from any member are always welcome, contact David at [dtsmithnet@yahoo.com](mailto:dtsmithnet@yahoo.com)

### Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

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If you were on the mailing list  
your name would be here.