



# Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

## Soundboard

July 2006

Year 23

Issue 7

( WEBSITE ) [www.ssdociety.org](http://www.ssdociety.org)

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER . . . . .

Hello Everyone,

Thanks to all of you who participated in June's playdates. A fun time was had by all who attended. The Father's Day Weekend campout held at Myer's Lake Campground was a lot of fun. Thanks to all of you who attended this event and to those of you who helped lead the songs. A big thank you to Penny Schieber and David and Theresa Smith for leading those workshops most of us participated in. Thanks to Bob and Sandi Hlavacek, and Marlin and Carol Harmon, for hosting the Father's Day breakfast. The pancakes and sausages were excellent. Thanks again to Marlin and Carol Harmon for chairing this annual event.

Coming up this month is the Evert Fun Festival. Hope to see a lot of you up there. When you are walking around the fairgrounds, see if you can locate the SSDS bench. A few weeks ago we had a travel agent come into a meeting to discuss the possibility of a group of SSDS member's taking a cruise, or a trip on the seas, or down a river, etc. There was some interest from our club but we didn't feel we could pull it together this year to make it happen. There have been more people asking me about a trip. Is there anyone out there who would be interested in taking this on and possibly contacting other clubs to see if we could get some kind of a trip for next year? Please see me if you are interested. George

### V. P. BUSINESS . . . . .

Now that it's officially summer, our playdate activity has slowed down a bit. It's time for us to attend festivals and other gatherings that give us an opportunity to grow musically, learn new tunes and techniques, as well as, jam with musicians from many different places. At summer's end, I hope we can bring something new to the club to share with our fellow members. This is a way we can keep SSDS a strong and viable group. Can we depend on your continued support?

We have a new playdate to add to our calendar. We will be performing at Grand Court, in Farmington, on Friday, August 11, 2006, at 7:00 pm.

Remember that we will be starting to practice holiday tunes in a few weeks. Although it seems like we have lots of time for this, check your calendars. You'll see we don't really have that many meetings before we start our holiday schedule. As I was preparing this column, I received two more inquiries for holiday bookings. Dates will be published later when all details are finalized.

Hope to see you in Evert and perhaps, Midland. Be safe wherever your journey takes you this summer.

Ramona

*Show me a piano falling down a mine shaft and I'll show you A-flat minor.*

*He often broke into song because he couldn't find the key.*

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR :

July 12 . . . . .	SSDS Playdate . . . . .	11:30 - 3:30 pm
	Garden Club Walk . . . . .	Northville
July 12-16 . . . . .	Evert Funfest . . . . .	Evert, Mi
Aug. 11 . . . . .	SSDS Playdate . . . . .	7:00 pm
	Grand Court . . . . .	Farmington
Aug. 6 . . . . .	SSDS Picnic . . . . .	noon- ?
	German Park . . . . .	Ann Arbor
Aug. 25-27 . . . . .	Midland Musicfest . . . . .	Midland, Mi

**Many thanks to Carol & Marlin Harmon & whoever else helps clean the kitchen on Thursdays. It is always left so neat & sparkling clean. I'm sure the church members appreciate the good job !**

Dorothy Ewald

## V. P. PROGRAMS . . . . .

Hi everyone !

Once again we had a beautiful campout. We had a wonderful time. The weather was warm and we did most of our playing outside. We had a nice potluck on Friday night, and a steak dinner on Saturday. Pennye Schieber taught us "Lover's Waltz", which is a very pretty tune, and Theresa Smith led a ukulele workshop, teaching the uke players a lot of nice tunes and new techniques. Thank you Theresa & Pennye for a job well done! And thank you Bob & Sandi Hlavacek for a great breakfast on Sunday morning.

Don't forget Variety Night on June 29<sup>th</sup> . . . . . Marlin

## YOU CAN BANK ON THIS . . . . . treasurer

Summer is officially here and July has arrived. The year is half over. Camping and music festivals are in full swing. Our Myers Lake camping was a lot of fun...hot, but fun. Coming up are the Evert festival (July 12-15), SSDS picnic at German Park (Aug 6<sup>th</sup>), Midland festival (Aug.25), and a few "instrument specific" workshop experiences some will attend. Between these, dig out your holiday music and start practicing. Time sneaks up on us. Christmas will be here before you know it. We will start practicing at our club jams starting in August.

Election of officers will be in October. All current board members have reached the term limit of two years. So will you please consider filling one of the positions? I am particularly interested in someone for the treasurer position. It is not a difficult job, and great training is available (free from me). Having a computer available, with Quicken installed will be helpful. The club might even spring for the cost of the software, if you don't have it. Paying bills and collecting money is the primary responsibility. Our bank is TCF. There are several convenient branches in the suburbs. Contact any board member if you are interested in a position.

Thanks to Karen Turner for the great job with the club shirt. I think a total of 60 shirts were sold. They should look great on our play dates. Don't forget variety night is June 27<sup>th</sup>. I hope to see you all there. . . . . Bob

## COMING EVENTS . . .

### SSDS ANNUAL PICNIC August 6, 2006

At German Park, N. Territorial Rd. in Ann Arbor.

Pig roast provided, bring instruments, chairs, and a dish to pass. Members free, guests are \$5 for adults & \$2.50 for children under 10.

### SSDS ANNUAL BANQUET October 5, 2006

at Fox Hills Country Club in Plymouth

Hors d'ouvres at 6:00pm, Dinner at 7:00, Jam till ???

If you have never written your birthday and / or anniversary on the big calendar at the "business table" (as you enter for the jam), please do... we would like to help you celebrate !

## NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY . . . . .

A board meeting was held June 6, before the jam. There was discussion regarding:

1. SSDS campout will be on Father's Day weekend, 2 workshops by Pennye Schieber (H. Dulcimer) and Theresa Smith (ukulele).
2. SSDS annual picnic will be at German Park in Ann Arbor on Aug. 6. Club members need not pay, but guests will pay \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children under 10.
3. 2007 elections will be held in October. All current board members have reached their 2 year limit in office. Nominations are needed for all board positions. Talk with any board member, if you are interested.
4. We will begin to practice holiday music in August during the first part of our regular meetings, followed by the jam session format. We hope this will increase confidence for more players to join playdates.
5. Variety night will remain the same as last time. People enjoyed the "cabaret style" set-up in the room, and liked having their food while listening. We need to have guest numbers before, so we can plan enough food.
6. The quantity of our music has become too big. Most is not used for jams or playdates. We may split it into an "active" and "inactive" list so new people won't be so overwhelmed with songs to learn.
7. It was suggested we work on new tunes (song of the month & holiday practice) for the first half hour, then go on to the jam.
8. There is concern about how many players we lose to the basement after the break. We cannot learn to play better together, if we only play for an hour twice a month. Should we break at 9:00 instead of 8:00 ? This is Silver Strings time, with the space paid for by SSDS. What should we do ?
9. The new club shirts are in, and will be distributed at the meetings. 12 extras were ordered, for new members or those who decide they want one when they see them. Karen did a great job !

Next board meeting set for Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>, before the jam. Board meeting ended at 6:00 pm .....Carol

## A POINT TO PONDER... from Reader's Digest, 3-06

Why is it so hard to say you're wrong ?

Because it often involves saying, "I'm sorry", which is even harder. Throughout history, people have found it easier to stop speaking to one another, punch, slander, shoot and bomb rather than apologize.

Tip: Next time say "whoops", and see what happens.

**EVART POTLUCK & JAM . . . . .**

**Will you be in Evert the Sunday before the Funfest begins ? If so, you might enjoy the Hicks Lake Hammered Dulcimer Jam & Potluck Dinner on July 9th, hosted by Pat & Frenchy Deschamps, 14311 Hicks Lake Drive in Evert. Dinner is from 5-7:00 pm. Bring your own chair, your instrument, a dish to pass, and be ready to jam the night away with Rick Thum. It's a 10-15 minute drive from Evert.**

**R.S.V.P. to Pat at 231-734-3593**

Rick Thum is offering an intensive 3-day "Hammered Dulcimer Workshop" in Evert, MI, July 10-12, 2006, for all levels...beginning, intermediate and advanced students. Location: Evert Free Methodist Church, 6151 95th Avenue, Evert, MI. directly across the road, on the west end of the Fairgrounds Cost :is \$145.00, including a German buffet dinner at the end. If a students' family would like to join the group for dinner, cost is \$6 per person. **CLASS WILL BE LIMITED TO 50 STUDENTS !** There are currently about 35. **PRE-REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY.**

For an enrollment form, contact:  
[http://www.ssdociety.org/forum\\_images/events/rick\\_thum\\_workshop\\_06.pdf](http://www.ssdociety.org/forum_images/events/rick_thum_workshop_06.pdf)

Pat Deschamps, who is coordinating Rick's workshop, may be able to help with housing. If you are interested, call Pat at 231-734-3593.

Those experienced in "Evert Funfest" know how difficult it can be to find housing in the area at festival time, especially if you don't have a camper

**ADVENTURERS . . . . .**

**The Hlavaceks are offering a housing option for the Evert and/or Midland festivals. They have a tent that sleeps 4-6, complete with air mattresses. The Evert and Midland fairgrounds have good bathroom & shower facilities, and plenty of choices for eating. If you're concerned about having enough "space", you will only stash your gear and sleep there. You will be so busy with the concerts, jams, and workshops, you won't have time to feel confined. See Bob or Sandi at a meeting, or call 734-663-7974 to reserve it... first come gets it.**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Hal Bain has a pop-up camper for sale. \$600  
 If you are interested, call him at 313-891-6313**

- July 5 Happy Birthday Karen Turner
- July 8 Happy Birthday Joe Malia
- July 9 Happy Birthday Janelle Pacic
- July 11 Happy 47<sup>th</sup> Anniversary &  
 CONGRATS ! Roger & Barb Davis
- July 17 Happy Birthday John McAuliffe
- July 20 Happy Birthday Ramona Hadley

**FROM THE MUSIC MAN . . . . .**

The song for July will be "Lover's Waltz". Pennyie did a work shop at the SSDS camp-out and agreed to let me use the same music for the club.

Also, for July we want to keep in mind some of our Patriotic songs and practice them at the jam sessions. Here are four suggestions: You're a Grand Old Flag, God Bless America, America the Beautiful and Battle Hymn of the Republic . . . . . Roger

	SSDS	July Play List	first	note
1	G	Westphalia Waltz	2X	D
2	C	Apple, Peaches, Pumpkin Pie	3X	G
3	C	Black Velvet Waltz	2x	G
4	G	Bellman's Jig	3x	G
5	D	Hey Polka	4x	A
6	D	Chinese Breakdown	3x	A
7	G	Hundred Pipers	3x	G
8	G	Silver and Gold	3X	B
9	G	Eddie's Reel	3x	D
10	G	Down Yonder.	3X	B
11	AM	Katushka	5X	A
12	G	Jamie Allen	3x	G
13	C	Tennessee Waltz	2x	C
14	G	Red Wing	3x	D
15	G	Rosin the Beau	3X	D
16	G	Tick Tock Polka	3X	D
17	DA	Maple Sugar	3 1/2	F#
18	EM	Missouri	3x	E
19	G	Nail That Catfish to a Tree	4x	B
20	G	Southwind	3x	D
21		Endless Medley:	2 ea	
	D	Ragtime Annie		F#
	D	Soldiers Joy		F#
	D&G	Golden Slippers		D
		<b>Patriotic songs:</b> God Bless America, America the Beautiful, Battle Hymn, Grand Old Flag		

**WHEN IS YOUR FUTURE BEHIND YOU ?**

***When you stop chasing dreams !***

Long time SSDS member, Larry Allen, is on his way to China. He has prepared for this opportunity for 13 years by learning not just "Chinese", but also the different dialects. For many years, he has opened his home to students from China to help educate him in language and customs. He will be there through July, with hopes for contracts to teach English at university graduate school level.

Safe travel, Larry... we look forward to hearing of your adventures and perhaps some Chinese music at Variety Night, when you return.

## 2006 EVART FUNFEST PRESHOW TUNES

\* \* \* \* \*

### FRIDAY EVENING

- Festival Rag.....D**
- Harvest Home.....D
- Columbus Stockade Blues.....G
- Death Valley Waltz.....G
- Ode to Joy.....G
- Manitoba Golden Boy.....G
- Eddie's Reel.....G
- Golden Slippers.....D/G
- Under the Double Eagle.....G/C
- America the Beautiful.....G
- O, Canada.....G
- Star Spangled Banner.....G

### SATURDAY EVENING

- Battle Hymn of the Republic....G
- Red Wing.....G
- Bells of St. Mary.....G
- Turkey in the Straw.....G**
- You're a Grand old Flag.....F**
- Joys of Quebec.....A
- Hey Polka.....D**
- St. Anne's Reel.....D
- Steel Guitar Rag.....G
- God Bless America.....G
- O, Canada.....G
- Star Spangled Banner.....G

**NOTE**...highlighted songs above are to be played in a different key than we usually play them in. Sheet music can be downloaded from the ODPC website

[www.dulcimers.com/tunes](http://www.dulcimers.com/tunes)



SSDS has entertained many times at American House, in Westland. The residents really appreciate us and the players have a lot of fun!



At the SSDS campout, the weekend of June 16<sup>th</sup>, at Meyers Lake, we had 2 workshops & lots of jamming. A few guests from the outside joined us, and fellow campers enjoyed the free concerts. The weather was great, and we let the good times roll !!!



Several members of SSDS are also members of Uncle Carl's Dulcimer Club of Jackson. Their club held an annual campout in Coldwater, the weekend of June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Pictured is the Saturday jam, with a base of 29 dulcimers. There was homemade ice cream, plenty of music, and plenty of fun.



On June 24-25 SSDS entertained in Lathrup Village, Mi. for "Art in the Park". The sun was shining, the sky was blue, and the gazebo was a perfect place to play.