

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Soundboard

April 2007

Year 24

Issue 4

WEBSITE: www.ssdssociety.org

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Spring has sprung, there are songs to be sung.

Spring should lift our spirits after the cold dreary winter. Those of you with E-mail got my message that Alice Avery's surgery went well. Let's all keep her in our thoughts and pray for a full recovery. This latest medical crisis got me thinking about how many of our SSDS family have had serious medical issues in the past couple of years; many of them debilitating enough to interrupt their ability to play our music. A card, a phone call, e-mail, or a pat on the back when you see them is welcome cheer.

The 16th annual Buckeye Festival was held in March. It is a small-sized festival, with small class sizes, more conducive to learning. There seemed to be an equal mix of mountain and hammered dulcimer events. There were seven SSDS members and two past alumni attending. (See the picture later in this newsletter). Food and lodging is provided, and we had great jam sessions in the evenings.

The playdates we had in March, around St Patrick's Day, were fun for us and the guests. Karen Turner has been doing a terrific job of leading the group at the playdates. Please help carry the load, and sign up for future gigs. Larry Roper and Jennelle Pacic. got their feet wet, and really enjoyed the experience.

The SSDS campout is fast approaching. Get your reservation in to Val and Linda Losse. We begin with a potluck Friday night, so plan your dish to pass. There will be a pancake and sausage breakfast on Saturday morning for all campers and commuters, instead of the usual Sunday. Craig Dehmel, Sandi and I have volunteered to cook. If you have an urge to help, let us know.

We plan to have music workshops from 6:00 to 6:45pm, prior to our meetings (about once a month). April 19th will be the first one. Plans are incomplete,

Strum on.....Bob Hlavacek

**BOARD MEETING at 6:00 PM
before the April 5th meeting.
All members are welcome**

PLAYDATE CHATTER _____ (V.P. BUSINESS)

Can you believe that we have completed the first quarter of SSDS playdates already? It seems like just yesterday we were playing at Lake Erie, our first engagement for 2007. I have always been interested in statistics so I thought it might be interesting to recap the first quarter by relaying some SSDS data to you.

How many playdates have we had so far? Eight, if you count Lake Erie as two separate days. How many same or separate members participated in the eight playdates? One hundred and twenty-eight. How many members attended their first playdate ever during this time? Nine. How many songs have we played? Two hundred and thirty-three. And how many hearts did our music touch? Countless.

The April scheduled playdates are: *April 25th*, Wednesday, Danish Brotherhood & Sisterhood, Finnish Cultural Center, Farmington Hills, 7:00 pm; *April 26th*, Thursday, Farmington Hills Police Department Volunteer Recognition Lunch, Farmington Hills, 11:00 am (lunch provided to SSDS).

If you would like to attend a playdate, sign up at SSDS meetings. If you are unable to attend a club meeting and would like to sign up for a playdate, please email karenturner@comcast.net or call (734) 455-4085. KT

What do a vacuum cleaner and an electric guitar have in common.

Both suck when you plug them in.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 5 **Board Meeting** . . .6 pm @ Good Hope
 Preceding regular SSDS jam

April 14 Uncle Carl's 25th Anniversary potluck
 1:30pm . .Senior Center . . Spring Arbor

April 19. **Workshops**. 6 pm @ Good Hope
 Preceding regular SSDS jam

April 25 **SSDS Playdate**7 pm
 Finnish Cultural Ctr. . . .Farmington Hills

April 26 **SSDS Playdate** 11:00 am
 Fmngtn. Hls PoliceFarmington Hills

April 28 West Adrian Jam6:30pm
 West Adrian United Methodist Church

May 11 **SSDS Playdate** 7:30 pm
 Newburgh United Meth.Church . Livonia

June 8 **SSDS Playdate** 2:30 pm
 American HouseRoyal Oak

V.P. PROGRAMS

I'd like to thank you all for bringing in snacks. You've done a great job of keeping members and visitors happy in dessert heaven. Also, a big thank you to Gerry Hermans for helping with clean-up, and a big thank you to Val (you would be coffeeless without him).

Did I mention how lucky we are to have Dave and Bob host Variety Night ? Thanks to both of you for making it run so smoothly.

If you haven't started thinking about our June 15th thru 17th campout - now is the time. I'll need to know before May 15th for a campsite. Campsites are \$25/night, or \$32/night for A/C. If you plan to get the Saturday night dinner, I need to know by May 1st. At the back table is a sign-up sheet for that meal. If you and other family members or friends are attending, please write in the number of people buying dinner. Amber, our caterer, will serve Swiss steak, mashed potatoes, corn or green beans, roll and salad, with coffee, milk, lemonade or ice water. Our dessert is a mandarin orange cake with crushed pineapple frosting. (\$10 for adults and \$5 for children)

Following tradition, we will have jam sessions and workshops at the campout. If you are interested in presenting a workshop, please contact me.

Happy jamming!..... Linda Losse

Do you have a special memory of good times you have had with Silver Strings ? In July of 2008, we will celebrate 25 years of musical fun. It would be great to include your memories in a commemorative booklet. If you have contact with past members, please invite them to submit a few words, and be put on the contact list for the celebration.

SandiHlavacek, 5598 Dixboro Rd., Ann Arbor,48105
 datadoc@sbcglobal.net or phone (734) 663-7974

NOTES FROM YOUR SECRETARY

Silver Strings family and friends:

Since we did not have a Board Meeting in March, I thought I would take this opportunity to thank you all for your out-pouring of concern, prayers, and generosity to Derrick, after his hospitalization, and Alice and Terry regarding her recent surgery.

Derrick shared at Strings recently, how he received cards from people he didn't even know, but who knew him through Strings. He was deeply touched. Alice told me she received numerous cards and phone calls. Her spirits were lifted and fears subsided when she knew she had so many people praying for her.

Once again, you have proven that we are bound together not by being alike, but by being concerned about each other. What a great comfort to belong to such a group.

As you know, one of the responsibilities of Recording Secretary is to keep the membership notified of any reasons for celebrating or concern toward our fellow members. So, if you know of anything going on with a member, please let me know, so we can send cards, call, or visit... whatever is appropriate.

I would like to close with Alice Avery's thank you note to you:.....Bonnie Ream

"My dear friends,

This week I received and have thoroughly enjoyed the lovely floral bouquet with the birdhouse. The birdhouse will be a lovely decoration long after the flowers have faded. I also received so many phone calls wishing me well during my surgery and recovery. I really appreciated your prayers and thoughts.

We have said countless times that the reason we travel so far to attend Silver Strings meetings is because of all of our wonderful friends. Your thoughtfulness and caring have touched me deeply and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.
 Love, Alice"



If you would like to order the "Ruffwater Fake Book", sign up on the list at the business table. Many people consider this book to be the foundation for jamming in Michigan. Several of our members have expressed an interest in getting a copy or replacing their well-worn copy. Some of the songs are in our current repertoire, and many are not. This is not a substitute for the SSDS music, but a good collection, as an additional resource. The \$18 price is a group discount, and SSDS will pay for the shipping.

BANKER OURS _____(TREASURER)

Please add one more new member to your list, and welcome him to our club.

Phil Chen. (734)996-3856
 3256 Bluett Ann Arbor,Mi.48105
 Fiddle, mandolin, guitar, bass

George Gonyo

**EVART PRESHOW TUNES
have been announced, Start practicing !**

Music is available (free) online, or
for \$2 by mail, from Sandy Holder
7093 14 Mile Road, Ewart, Mi. 49631

Call 231-734-5481 or e-mail civildee@netonecom.net

Friday Night	Key	Saturday Night	Key
<u>You Are My Sunshine</u>	G	<u>She'll be Comin' Round the Mountain</u>	G
<u>March of St. Timothy</u> (by Judi Morningstar)	G	<u>Festival Rag</u> (by Bill Robinson)	D
<u>Southwind</u>	G	<u>Doodler's Reel</u>	G
<u>Manitoba Golden Boy</u>	D	<u>Where the White Lilies Grow</u>	G
<u>Battle Hymn of the Republic</u>	G	<u>Sophrina</u> (by Les Raber)	G
<u>Rakes of Mallow</u>	G	<u>John Ryan's Polka</u>	D
<u>Willow Waltz</u> (by Les Raber)	G	<u>Turkey in the Straw</u>	G
<u>O, Canada</u>	D	<u>O, Canada</u>	D
<u>Star Spangled Banner</u>	G	<u>Star Spangled Banner</u>	G

* * * * *
The mystery is solved... **Thank you Larry Allen** for
the Ewart music packets on the business table
* * * * *

For anyone unfamiliar with Ewart's awesome Funfest,
all hammered dulcimers are invited onto the football field
on Friday and Saturday evening in an attempt to break
the record for the largest dulcimer band in the world. The
"pre-show tunes" above are what will be played. editor

**Great Lakes International Banjo Convention
April 26, 27 & 28, 2007.**



This will be held at the
Doubletree Hotel, Fairlane,
5801 Southfield Service
Drive, at Ford Road, Dbrn.,
MI. Call (313) 336-3340 for
room reservations.

The convention includes continuous jamming,
workshops and instrument displays in the large vendors
area, concerts Friday and Saturday evening (admission
\$8), a free matinee on Saturday afternoon. Attendees
include star banjo players, from all over the world. In
previous years, there have been attendees from
Australia, New Zealand, Japan, England, Ireland,
Germany, Holland and Sweden.

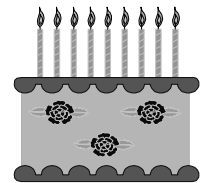
Feel free to bring your dulcimer or other acoustic
instrument, to join in the jamming. Derek Channing



SSDS was well represented at the 2007 Buckeye Festival in
Ashley, Ohio. Above is Bob Hlavacek, Luke Kawecki, Sandi
Hlavacek, Frank Duffy (returning alumni), Rich Smith, Pennye
Scheiber, Mary Lou Battley (alumni), Jane Chevalier, and
Sandy Johnson. It was a great place to restore old friendships
and invite them to come back home. This was the 16th year of
the festival, which is held at the Recreation Unlimited Camp
facility, to raise financial support for the activities of the
summer camps for physically and mentally challenged.

**IT'S APRIL . . . LET'S CELEBRATE !!!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

- 1.....Alice Avery
- 1.....Larry Roper
- 10.....Luke Kawecki
- 13.....Bill Deighton
- 18.....Karl Malwitz
- 27.....Jason Yanity



AN HONOR FOR KELLY KAISER

An active SSDS member since age 9, Kelly is
currently concertmistress of the Celebration Youth
Orchestra Sinfonia group. This is a group for high school
age kids, sponsored by the Plymouth Symphony. Earlier
this year, they had a competition for youth orchestra
members for the honor of playing as soloists at the
"Koncerts for Kids" in March, and Kelly and her stand
partner Amy were selected. "Koncerts for Kids" is part of
a program to bring music to every 4th grader in the
Plymouth/Canton schools. They are bussed to the high
school for a special concert of the Plymouth Symphony.
They also do this for all 4th graders in Wayne/Westland
schools. There were 4-5,000 kids total at the series of 4
concerts on March 7 and 8. Kelly and Amy selected a
Vivaldi concerto for two violins, and the entire Plymouth
Symphony accompanied them. It was pretty awesome to
see. It really did choke me up to see my girl up there
with the whole symphony behind her. . . .Lynn Ellen Kaiser
Congratulations, Kelly!!! We share the pride!!!

Musical Saw players' motto:
"It's better to be out of tune than sharp."

SSDS April 2007 Play List

Key	Tune	Play	first note
G	Westphalia Waltz	2 x	D
D	Chinese Breakdown/Nelly Bly	2/3 x	A/F#
G	Sophrina	3 x	G
D	John Ryan's Polka	5 x	D
D	Peek A-Boo Waltz	3 x	F#
G	Red Apple Rag	3 x	D
G	Down Yonder	3 x	B
Em	Road To Lisdoonvarna	3 x	D
D	Viola's Schottische	3x	F#
D	Hey Polka	4 x	A
D	Sandy River Belle	3 x	A
G	Red Wing	3x	D
C	Five Foot Two	4 x	E
Am	Katushka	5 x	A
G	Tick Tock Polka	3 x	D
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast	3 x	D
G	Maggie	4 x	B
Em	Missouri	3 x	E
G	March Of St. Timothy	3 x	B
Endless Medley			
D	Ragtime Annie	2 x	F#
D	Soldier's Joy	2 x	F#
D/G	Golden Slippers	2 ea	D/G
Extras			
Em	Riding On A Load Of Hay	3 x	E
C	Tennessee Waltz	3 x	C
G	Folk Medley (Red River Valley, Coming Round The Mountain, You Are My Sunshine)	2 ea	D D D



We played to a very full house at Maple Heights Retirement Center in Allen Park. The residents were very enthusiastic listeners, and we all had a great time.



At the Community Congregational Church of Christ in Pinckney, we played to help raise funds for seven youths to do home assistance in the Appalachian mountain region this summer.



As usual, many in the audience were intrigued by our instruments. Luke's 150 year old dulcimer, played with corset stays, is always a special fascination.



St. Patrick's Day at the Colonial Acres Retirees housing complex in South Lyon is always a fun place to celebrate. The room was 'a-rockin'' as the listeners clapped, sang and danced to our music. The Irish spirits were well saluted.

Gather your camping supplies, and prepare for the festival and campout season. It's just around the corner !



Uncle Carl's Dulcimer Club is a group meeting once monthly, near Jackson. Many of our SSDS members are also associated with this group. Their campout is one week after ours. We join each other's weekend, and as with our own, you are invited for the entire weekend or to drive in for the day. (Motels are available for non-campers.)

REGISTRATION FORM

.Uncle Carl's Dulcimer Club Campout
Waffle Farm Campground, Coldwater, Mi.
June 22-23-24, 2007

Reservations due APRIL 1st

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone & E-mail _____

Type & size of camper _____

Number of people camping with you _____

Circle overnights you will be there June 22 June 23
Will you want A/C ? yes.. ..no

Rates: \$26 per night for 2,
\$1 each additional person
A/C \$2 each night

**Send registration and deposit of \$30 payable to:
Kathy Culy, 625 N. Union City Rd.
Coldwater, Mi.49036**

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society Campout

Meyers Lake United Methodist Campground
10575 Silver Lake Road, Byron, Mi. 48418

With questions, call Linda Losse, (734) 994-9097

**Send registration forms & payment to her at:
1319 Wells, Ann Arbor, Mi 48104**

Check-in Fri. June 15th, Check-out June 17th

In order to get all sites grouped close together,
reservations are due by MAY 15th, 2007
cabin reserve by MAY 1st

Rates \$25 per night \$32 per night with A/C

(2 adults are included, each added is \$2 per night)

Cabin rental for non-campers (\$70 per night)_____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone & e-mail _____

Type & size of camper _____

Slide-outs? yes no

Air conditioner? . . yes no

adults (18+) _____ #children _____ # pets _____

Type of vehicle (1 per site) _____

Driver's License # _____

Late arrival or extended departure ? _____

Minimum deposit \$25,
Full payment gets curbside check-in and no long line.

Payment.....CHECK . . .VISA . . . MC . . . DISCOVER

Account # _____ exp. Date _____

Signature _____

**Make checks payable to:
Meyers Lake UMC Campground**

On the back tables, you may :

- Sign up for playdates
- Get the current Soundboard newsletter
- Order and pick up missing music from your book
- Register your birthday and anniversary
- Use the suggestion box
- Pick up info. about coming festivals & workshops
- Sign up for SSDS activities (campout, picnic, etc.)
- Get financial statements, board meeting minutes, performance schedules from our small groups

What' the difference between a violinist and a dog?

The dog knows when to stop scratching.

DID YOU KNOW ?

Did you know that everyone is invited to submit articles of musical interest for publication in the Soundboard ? The due date for articles is the 20th of each month. On the 1st of the following month, the Soundboard is posted on the website. Printed copies are available at meetings during the month. Back issues are available on the website or by request.

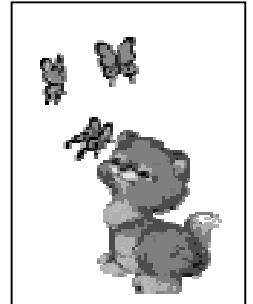
Did you know that you can find MANY great pictures of SSDS activities, including playdates, in our website photo gallery ? Check out www.ssdssociety.org.



Springtime's Birth from frozen earth

by Sandi Hlavacek

**From fields of snow, so wide and white...
from bleak, cold days of winter's blight...
from short gray days, one like another...
grow dreams of Summer's warmth and color.**



**I've searched through books of plant and seed
to spur the dreams survival needs.
Then suddenly the days grow longer.
The hope for Spring is getting stronger.**

**The snow starts melting on the ground,
leaving puddles all around.
Still longer days bring warming sun
to melt the ice from lake and pond.**

**Falling snow has turned to rain.
Earth-bound frost now leaves again.
Buds on trees are swelling round.
Green shoots peek from grass so brown.**

**I see bare earth... can't wait to putter,
Anticipation, like no other.
Streams run full... too cold for wading,
yet, songbirds start their serenading.**

**Green sprouts signal Spring's returning.
I can no more control my yearning.
Crocus, trillium, and redbuds emerge.
I'm overcome with a seasonal urge.**

**Arising from my hibernation
I take in those loved sensations...
fresh pure air, the cool moist ground,
a canvas for color to abound**

**With muddy shoes and dirty nails,
piles of weeds and water in pails,
an aching back... I'm still not torn.
I'm SO ELATED... Spring is born!**

HAPPY SPRING EVERYONE !!!