

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Soundboard

March 2007

Year 24

Issue 3

WEBSITE: www.ssdociety.org

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Zoom! The year is already zipping by. January and February are gone and we are already into music festival season. Spring is around the corner. Sandi and I are enrolled in the class at the Buckeye festival in Ashley. We will miss the first meeting in March. George Gonyo will be your 'host' and leader for the March 1st jam.

In addition, we are already taking reservations for the June 15-17th SSDS music campout at Meyers Lake. The following weekend, June 23-25 is the Uncle Carl's music campout at Waffle Farm near Coldwater. I highly recommend both of them, having attended them for a few years. There is a mix of people from the two clubs at both events. See details later in this newsletter.

The month of March has a 5th Thursday, so we will have a variety night on March 29th. Start planning your special numbers you want to perform.

We have an opportunity to purchase copies of the "Ruff Water Fake Book" at a discount. The music in the book is pretty standard at jam sessions around Michigan and Ohio. We have been at jams where people called out #49. The cost of the book would be \$18, and SSDS will pay the shipping, or we will pick them up. Several members, old and new, have expressed an interest in getting one. This is a \$2 discount off regular price.

The workshop with Dee Dee Tibbits presented some interesting variations that we should try to work into our performance pieces. What a fun evening and a packed house! After the workshop, a lively jam sprung up and lasted until 11:30. I really liked the intro she gave us for Ashoken Farewell. It will take a lot of practice to get the timing right, but it should make it an impressive piece.

The Royal Oak and Canton Summit playdates were well attended and fun. We have more coming in March. Sign up early and join us. We will see you all the 3rd Thursday of March.

Bob Hlavacek

PLAYDATE CHATTER (V.P. BUSINESS)

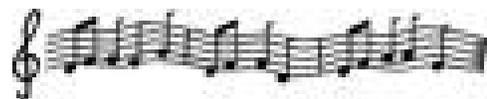
Our first playdate for February proved to be a lively one at American House in Royal Oak. Though the audience was small, they were dancers, singers, hand clappers and toe tappers, and were quite interested in trying our instruments after the performance. The occasion was "February Birthday Celebrations" and we were well received by both staff and residents.

On February 14th, the Detroit area woke up to six inches of snow but that didn't stop 19 dedicated Silver Strings members from braving the elements to perform for the Canton Seniors Valentine's Day Party at Summit On The Park. This performance was honored by 4 musicians who played their first formal playdate: Linda Osgood, Lynne Ellen Kaiser, Kelly Kaiser and Greg Kaiser. Rumor has it that they really enjoyed the occasion and plan to attend many future playdates! Luke Kawecky was highlighted on the saw as well as Walt Jablonski, Smokey Humecky, Bob Hlavacek and Karen Turner on the harmonica. Thanks to all members who attended the February playdates and helped to make them fun and memorable experiences.

The next scheduled playdates are: March 16th, Maple Heights Retirement Community, Allen Park; March 17th, Colonial Acres St. Patrick's Day Dinner, South Lyon; March 24th, Senior Youth Group Fundraiser, Pinckney; and March 29th, Elderwise Seniors, in Ann Arbor.

If you would like to attend a playdate, be sure to sign up at the next SSDS meeting. 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.

Karen Turner



SSDS March 2007 Play List

Key Tune Play 1st Note

G	Westphalia Waltz	2	D
G	Bellman's Jig	3	D
D	John Ryan's Polka	3	D
G	Southwind	3	D
D	Painter's Polka	3	A
G	Down Yonder	3	B
C	When Irish Eyes Are Smiling	3	G
G	Silver And Gold Two-Step	3	B
Am	Cold Frosty Morning	3	E
D	Hey Polka	4	A
D	Young Roddy McCorley	4	D
D	Angleworm Wiggle	3	A
G	Hundred Pipers	3	G
Am	Katushka	5	A
C	My Wild Irish Rose (Ch. only)	3	G
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast	3	D
G	Irish Washerwoman	3	D
G	Rosin The Beau	3	D
G	March Of St. Timothy	3	B
	Endless Medley		
D	Ragtime Annie	2	F#
D	Soldier's Joy	2	F#
D/G	Golden Slippers	2D/2G	D
	Extras		
D	Danny Boy	3	D
Am	Star Of The County Down	2	E
Em	Road To Lisdoonvarna	3	D
G	Dusty Bob's Jig	3	D

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V.P. PROGRAMS

I know it may be early to be thinking about the SSDS campout June 15-17th, especially looking at the snow, however, we are getting plans under way. At our next meeting, we will discuss what we want for our catered dinner. Amber made Swiss steak last year, but can do something else, costing \$10 per person. She said fried chicken would be \$2 more per person. The response for the mandarin orange cake with pineapple frosting was good. The newsletter includes a short registration form for the Meyers Lake Campground, or you may get a full information / registration form at the meeting.

On March 29th, we will have a Variety Night, hosted by David Smith and Bob Niemczewski. They have done a great job before... thank you, thank you. Talk to them if you wish to perform. We will have pizza & salad again, and would appreciate any desserts you bring in.

See you at Strings !

Linda Losse



MARCH 17th

BANKER OURS _____ (TREASURER)

We have some new members. Please add them to your membership list, and welcome them to our club.

- (1) Sandy Johnson. (517) 547-3577
16000 Sanford Road, . . . Addison, Mi. 49220
Hammered Dulcimer
- (2) Ernie Stewart. (248) 363-0587
8854 Orrick, .Commerce Twp, Mi. 48382-3775
ernie6798@netzero.net
Violin and Mtn. Dulcimer

George Gonyo

NOTES FROM YOUR SECRETARY

Board meeting was held Feb. 1, 2007

Karen Turner suggested meeting from 6:00-6:45 on the third Thursday of the month for workshops for individual instruments, working on the 'song of the month,' or having a slow jam for those who are interested.

Bob reported on the progress of our application for a 501C7 status, which is a non-profit membership organization, tax-exempt for earnings of \$20,000 or less.

Bob also suggested having the membership approve the Board's decision to lower the mileage reimbursement for play dates to 50-50.

Linda Losse presented plans for the Campout in June with a potluck followed by a jam on Friday night. On Saturday, there will be a pancake breakfast, workshops, jams, dinner, and more jams. Flyers for the campout will be sent to Uncle Carl's.

Final details for the Dee Dee Tibbits workshop for February 15, 2007, were discussed.

Jim and Evie Bain reported on the progress for the October 4, 2007, banquet. \$250 deposit was approved for the room at Fox Hills, with a guarantee for 74 reservations. (90+ attended last year) \$600 was proposed for gifts/favors but tabled till summer finances are known.

Board member names must be changed on the bank account. Karen received approval to sell our CD's at the Adrian Jams.

There will be no Board Meeting in March, because Bob (pres.) will be out of town.

Additional Business... At the membership meeting on February 1st, members present voted by written ballot (32-9) to accept the Board's recommendation to lower play date mileage reimbursement to 50-50 ratio.

Submitted by Bonnie Ream

Gather your camping supplies, and dream about the festival and campout season to come. This snow won't last forever !



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? yesno

Air conditioner? . . yesno

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.

Signature _____

**Make checks payable to:
Silver Strings Dulcimer Society**

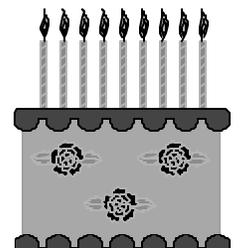
**Once I planted some birdseed. A bird came up.
Now I don't know what to feed it.**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- March 7-10 Buckeye Festival Ashley, Ohio
- March 16 **SSDS Playdate**6 pm
Maple Hts Retirement Allen Park
- March 17 **SSDS Playdate**7:45 pm
Colonial Acres RetireesSouth Lyon
- March 24 **SSDS Playdate**7 pm
C.C.United Church of Christ . . .Pinckney
- March 29 **SSDS Playdate**1 pm
Elderwise Spring Opener. . . .Ann Arbor
- April 25 **SSDS Playdate**7 pm
Finnish Cultural Ctr. . . .Farmington Hills

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

- 1.....Shayla Rachelle
- 7.....Bonnie Ream
- 12.....David Smith
- 12.....Evie Bain
- 15.....Sherry Humecky
- 16.....Derek Channing
- 25.....Donna Mayer
- 27.....Ida O'Dell
- 30.....Dorothy Ewald



**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



Both playdates in February were for senior citizen events... one in Royal Oak and one in Canton. As some in the audiences clapped, sang and even danced, our players had almost as much fun as they did. They enjoy the old tunes they remember, and the lively folk tunes that "perk them up".



**HAPPY 60TH ANNIVERSARY
March 2nd.....Shirley Kaiser**

Ups and downs, joy and tears
You've seen it all, in 60 years.
You've worked so hard
to build your world
Who'd have thought it,
when boy met girl ?

CONGRATULATIONS !!!

DID YOU KNOW ?

Did you know that packets of the Ewart pre-show music is available at the back table? Thank you to the mystery person who brought them.

Did you know that for more than 2 years, **David Smith** has graciously provided the majority of the photos we have published in the Soundboard for Silver Strings ? Much of his work is on the website, and he formatted most of the photo pages in the Soundboard newsletters. **Thank you, Dave**, for sharing your talents in a tedious job.

Besides photography, Dave enjoys woodworking, unique musical instruments, kite flying, and his wife, Theresa (not in that order). He is an interesting wealth of information, and gracious in sharing.

Did you know that if you know a club member who will be /is/ was hospitalized or ill recently, has a new baby, or has a death in their immediate family, you are asked to please contact Bonnie Ream at (734) 464-7156 (our secretary) who will acknowledge it for the club.

Did you know that July 27, 1983 was the first meeting/jam of the group which became Silver Strings Dulcimer Society ? Hal Bain was one of the initial 11 people, and the only one still active. We can only enjoy his company from March-November, because this "Snowbird" flies south (to Florida) for the winter.

Did you know that **anyone** 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 **any member is invited** to attend board meetings held 6-6:45, before the jam, on the 1st Thursday of each month ? (No board meeting in March)

Did you know that you can find **MANY great pictures of SSDS activities**, including playdates, on our website in the photo gallery ? Take a look... you will like what you see ! Most of the photos have been provided by David Smith and Bill Smith.



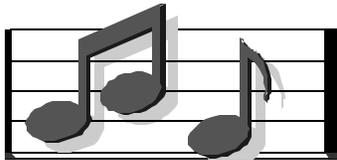
A “full house” is not just good in poker. When Dee Dee Tibbits came to town, she filled the room with learning. Over 60 people came for her guidance in technique and musicianship, and together we gained new insights into the music we play and love. She stressed the importance of **listening** to each other, and also **hearing** what is happening around us. She demonstrated techniques to make a tune come alive, and give it a personality of its own, through variations and featured instruments. Dee Dee is a Michigan treasure, as a musician, as an educator, and as a lady.

WE OWE HER HONOR & THANKS!

Frank and Lynn Bower, from Wyandotte, were among the original 11 SSDS members. They winter in Florida. Lynn has been hospitalized since January 12th. She is still being cared for in a special care facility. The family thinks she has had a stroke.

Lynn was the major organizer and the first president of SSDS. The club will send her our CD. A card shower from our members, with a thank you for providing us with a place to learn & play would be a very special gift.

You can mail to: Lynn Bower
14575 N. E. 21st. Street
Mobil home # 31
Silver Springs, Fl. 34488



NOTES OF INTEREST

On the old Irish tunes, what do you suppose would have been the instrument of choice for the copyist that put the dots on the paper? Fiddle, whistle, harpsichord, harp? Have you ever pondered the origin of notes? Who decided 440 Hz was appropriate for the note "A"?

There was actually "Pitch Inflation". An orchestra would try to sound "brighter" than another and would crank up the pitch. For example, an English pitch pipe from 1720 plays the A above middle C at 380 Hz, while the organs played by Johann Sebastian Bach were pitched at A = 480 Hz, a difference of around four semitones. In other words, the A produced by the 1720 pitch pipe would have been at the same frequency as the F on one of Bach's organs.

For the rest of the story, go to:

([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pitch_\(music\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pitch_(music)))

from Gwyn Besner, dulcimer web group

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

When You and I Were Young, Maggie

Here is a well known song from yester-year, by George Washington Johnson, about growing old. Although it is often found in the repertoire of Scottish singers, George Johnson was a Canadian from Toronto. "Maggie" was Margaret Clark, a pupil of George Johnson who was a schoolteacher. Maggie and George fell in love but although they became engaged, Maggie contracted TB. During one of his fiancée's more serious bouts of illness, George walked to a nearby hill, overlooking a mill, and composed the verse that provided the lyrics to his song. George and Maggie were married in 1864 but Maggie's health deteriorated and she died on May 12, 1865. George's friend, J.C. Butterfield set the poem to music and it became popular all over the world. George Washington Johnson died in 1917.

- When You and I Were Young, Maggie

I wandered today to the hill, Maggie,
To watch the scene below -
The creek and the creaking old mill, Maggie,
As we used to, long ago.
The green grove is gone from the hill, Maggie,
Where first the daisies sprung;
The creaking old mill is still, Maggie,
Since you and I were young.

(Chorus)

And now we are aged and grey, Maggie,
And the trials of life nearly done,
Let us sing of the days that are gone, Maggie,
When you and I were young.

A city so silent and lone, Maggie,
Where the young, and the gay, and the best,
In polished white mansions of stone, Maggie,
Have each found a place of rest,
Is built where the birds used to play, Maggie,
And join in the songs that we sung;
For we sang as lovely as they, Maggie,
When you and I were young.

(Chorus)

They say that I'm feeble with age, Maggie,
My steps are less sprightly than then,
My face is a well-written page, Maggie,
And time alone was the pen.
They say we are aged and grey, Maggie,
As sprays by the white breakers flung,
But to me you're as fair as you were, Maggie,
When you and I were young.

(Chorus)