



Notes from the Soundboard

November 2008

WEBSITE: WWW.SSDSOCIETY.ORG

Issue 283

President's Corner _____

October is history and the beautiful fall colors are going. We still have memories of our wonderful banquet early in October. I can't say enough about the Italian American Banquet center staff and their support. Kudos to the committee! The annual meeting on the 16th was well attended by an enthusiastic crowd. A slate of officers was presented by the election committee, and voting will take place on November 6th. The last variety night of the year was celebrated with a lot of people arriving in costume. The challenge was to dress as a song title. There were some neat, innovative costumes

The holiday season is fast approaching. We will have a holiday potluck on Nov. 20th. That will be our last regular meeting for 2008. The club will provide ham to go with the dishes that you bring. How about A-R bring a side dish or salad, and S-Z bring a dessert? We will have a jam after the potluck. We will start with Christmas tunes so that we are together for the Good Hope concert. If you can think of any other fun holiday 'stuff' to do let me know.

At the meeting on December 4th, we will perform the annual "thank you" Christmas concert for Good Hope in the church sanctuary. Please attend, even if you don't plan to play. There will be refreshments served (and jam?), after the concert. That will be the last meeting in December. There are so many play dates and holiday activities going on, that we will take a break until January.

Next year we will have a new Music coordinator... Kelly Kaiser. Way to go Kelly! Thank you for volunteering. Your musical knowledge will be a great asset to the club. It's great to see a family that is willing to take on this job together. It can be done easily and well as a group effort.

We hope to see you at the last 2 Wednesday night practices for the holiday playdates. Let's make beautiful music.

Bob Hlavacek

VP Program Notes _____

Before we approach our busiest season of the year I want to again thank Dave Smith, Bob Niemczewski, and Jane Chevelier for hosting so many Variety Nights. We at Strings appreciate all the time that goes into preparing for Variety Night. I also want to thank our members for signing up to perform on Variety Night, without you we would be sitting there eating our pizza minus the wonderful entertainment. A big thank you to all who have brought snacks to our jam sessions and Variety Nights, you've put a big smile on all our faces and kept us quite contented.

Linda Losse



'Twas the night of Thanksgiving, I just couldn't sleep.
I tried counting backwards, I tried counting sheep.
The leftovers beckoned... the dark meat and white,
but I fought the temptation with all of my might.

Tossing and turning with anticipation,
the thought of a snack became infatuation.
So, I raced to the kitchen, flung open the door
and gazed at the fridge, full of goodies galore.

I gobbled up turkey and buttered potatoes,
stuffing with gravy, green beans and tomatoes.
I felt myself swelling so plump and so round,
till all of a sudden, I rose off the ground.

I crashed through the ceiling, floating into the sky
with a mouthful of pudding and a handful of pie
But, I managed to yell as I soared past the trees...
Happy eating to all... pass the cranberries, please..

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Nov. 5.....Holiday practice..7-8:30/9:pm
Nov. 6.....7:pm
SSDS Elections and jam @ Good Hope
 Nov.12.....Holiday practice..7-8:30/9:pm
 Nov. 13.....**Playdate.....4-6:30pm**
 Hope Clinic Ground breaking Ypsilanti

HOLIDAY PLAYDATES :

Mon, Dec 1,	6:15pm
Cherry Hill Presbyterian Church,	Dearborn
Wed, Dec 3,	1pm
Nardineers Methodist Church,	Farmington
Thurs, Dec 4,	7pm
Good Hope Lutheran Church,	Garden City
Fri, Dec 5,	7pm
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church,	Dearborn
Sat, Dec 6,	12 noon
Soroptimist International,	Dearborn
(Victorian Dress Required)	
Tues, Dec 9,	TBA
Retired School Personnel,	Dearborn Heights
Wed, Dec 10,	11:30am
Retired School Personnel,	Ann Arbor
Thurs, Dec 11,	12:15pm
Livonia Library,	Livonia
Sun, Dec 14,	6pm
St Richards Church,	Westland
Thurs, Dec 18,	2pm
Garden City Towers,	Garden City
Thurs, Dec 18,	6pm
Henry Ford Estate, (V.D.R.)	Dearborn
Sun. Dec. 21	6:30pm
Belleville Presbyter. Church (V.D.R.)	Belleville

Mother nature is taking a gilt trip !

Banker Ours

Remember... Your dues for 2009 must be paid for you to be eligible to vote. New members are \$20, Renewal is \$15.

New Members:

Lee Ann Lack 734-398-5996
 40996 N. Annapolis Cr. Canton, 48188
 E-mail leelack@att.net
 fiddle, mandolin, clawhammer banjo, pennywhistle

Charlie & Cindy Fiegel 734-913-9235
 2735 S Wagner Rd, Lot 59 Ann Arbor, 48103
 E-mail crfiegel@comcast.net
 Charlie plays hammered dulcimer, bass, uke, bagpipe
 Cindy plays hammered dulcimer, accordion, piano,
 bass, bagpipes, harmonica, etc.

David Bubolz. 248-685-3114
 4905 Triwood Drive, Commerce Twp, 48382
 E-mail dabubolz@umich.edu
 David plays the guitar

Playdate Chatter VP Business

Sometimes I think the hardest part of being the VP of Business is writing this article every month! Our newsletter editor has been very patient with me as I am always the last one to submit my articles. So here goes my second to last attempt to do this!

The Holiday season is fast approaching and within a month we will be deep into our playdates. We have 12 gigs this year and signup has been going quite well. Most are filled due to space limitations but a couple still have room for a few more players. Be sure to check the signup sheets on the table by the door at our Nov. 6th meeting.

Practices have been going well and attendance has been good. We still have 2 more practices left (November 5th and 12th). Everyone is welcome to attend, even if you are not planning on playing a Holiday playdate!

On another positive note, I received a letter from Susan McCabe, Henry Ford Estate curator, thanking us for our performance on September 27th. It reads as follows: ***"On behalf of the entire staff of the Henry Ford Estate-Fair Lane, we wish to extend our heartfelt appreciation to you and the Silver Strings Dulcimer Society for your wonderful performance here at the Estate. You and your group truly helped to make the Par 'T' For The Model T 100th Anniversary Celebration a success. Your group's music and costumes built an atmosphere of nostalgia for all of the guests and participants. Be assured that the Silver Strings will be considered for future events here at the Estate. It was a pleasure to meet you and work with you and your group. Thank you for keeping our musical heritage alive."***

One of the new things I have tried to do this year is to introduce the Victorian costumes into our dress code. I realize some members are against this dress but I cannot begin to tell you the number of positive comments I have received from organizers and audience listeners who have thought our costumes added greatly to our performances. It adds an extra uniqueness and professionalism to our group not to mention the fun many of us are having getting our outfits together. I truly hope this will continue on with the club into the future years.

Be sure to read "Mark Your Calendar" for details on upcoming events. 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 e-mail or call me.

KT
karenturner@comcast.net or call (734) 455-4085

What is the difference between bagpipes and a Harley Davidson Motorcycle?

You can tune a Harley

Secretary's Notes

SSDS Annual Business Meeting Oct. 16, 2008

V P Business, Karen reported 29 playdates in 2008, earning the club \$3500. One performance was posted worldwide on YOU TUBE. Seven were in Victorian attire. 4 new tunes were added to the repertoire and 7 "lost but not forgotten tunes" have been revived for play.

V P Programs, Linda reported having 4 Variety Nights and 66 people participating in the campout.

President thanked Sandi Hlavacek and her committee for the 25th Anniversary Banquet and mentioned Hal Bain's award of a lifetime SSDS membership as the only active original member of Silver Strings remaining. There were discussions regarding recruiting and keeping new members, and possible uses of excess funds.

25th anniversary patches and Anniversary books are available to purchase.

Announcements:

Jane Chevalier and Rich Smith are NOT moving, but will be wintering out of state.

Hal Bain leaves for Florida in October for 6 months. There is a Halloween Dance at the Pittsfield Grange.

Old Business:

Club Shirts-Larry Allen volunteered to take over this project.

New Business:

The Holiday Pot Luck will be Thurs., Nov. 20th, at

Good Hope Church. SSDS will provide meat.

We will play a concert for the church Thurs., Dec. 4th

Nominating Committee, Chaired by Karen Turner with Sandi Hlavacek, Janelle Pacic, & Marie Naster, presented the following slate for 2009:

President.....Larry Roper

V P Business.....Bert Stein

V P Programs..Carol Ann Matthews & Janelle Pacic

Treasurer.....Geraldine Hermans

Secretary.....Bev Scott

Election of officers will be at the general meeting, November 6, 2008. According to club Bi-laws, nominations from the floor may be made at that time. For absentee ballots, contact Karen Turner.

Larry Allen expressed appreciation to Bob Hlavacek and Sandi and the rest of the Board for their work done this past year.

Bonnie Ream, Secretary

(This is a condensed report. For full minutes, check your e-mail or get a copy at the meeting.)

What do you call 25 banjos up to their necks in sand ?

Not enough sand

What do you call one hundred bagpipes at the bottom of the ocean?

A good start

What do you get when you throw a banjo & an accordion off the Empire State Building?

Who cares?

SSDS November 2008 Playlist

Key	Tune	Played
G	Westphalia Waltz	2
G	Red Wing	3
D	Chinese Breakdown/Nelly Bly	2/3
D	Peek A-Boo Waltz	3
D	Over the Waterfall	3
D	John Ryan's Polka	5
G	I'll Remember You, Love, Prayers	3
Em	Tamlin	3
D	Bonaparte Crossing The Rhine	3
D	Sandy River Belle	3
D	Angleworm Wiggle	3
G	Southwind	3
D	Whiskey B4 Breakfast	3
D	Young Roddy McCorley	5
C	Five Foot Two	5
Am	Cold Frosty Morn	3
G	Sophrina	3
D	Mississippi Sawyer	3
G	Amazing Grace	3
Em	Lisdoonvarna / Riding Load Hay	3/3
G	March Of St Timothy	3
D	Viola's Schottische	3
G	Old Joe Clark	3
G	Jamie Allen	3
D	Road To Boston	3
D	Midnight On The Water	3
G	Hundred Pipers	3
D	Festival Rag	3
C	Tennessee Waltz	3
G	Dusty Bob's Jig	3
G	Down Yonder	3
Em	Missouri	3
G	Black Velvet Waltz	3
G	Red Apple Rag	3
G	Maggie	5
D	Painter's Polka	3
D	Simple Gifts	3
D	Ragtime Annie	3
D	Soldier's Joy	3
D/G	Golden Slippers	2/2

Sat, Nov. 8th Rick Thum
workshops at the V.F.W. Hall
4195 13 Mile Rd. in Rockford, Mi.

Workshops : 10am-noon for beginners
2-4pm for intermediate/advanced.

Pot luck at 5pm with

Jim Rathbun's deep-fried turkey.

Rick's concert at 7pm with a great jam to follow
It will be a fun day!

Classes @ \$25.00 each or \$45.00 both

Concert \$10 at the door

Contact: Jim Rathbun after 6pm @ 616-866-9103
or dulcitude@gmail.com or WWW.rthum.com

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society is something different for each person. It is a place to learn, a place to grow, a place to get new music, a place to meet with old friends, a place to meet new friends, a place to get your feet wet in public entertaining within a "safety in numbers" setting, a place to grow and gain confidence to play solo in public, and a place to find compatible musicians to share your desire to form a small group of entertainers. What does Silver Strings mean to you? Submit your answer for publication in the Soundboard, and a win a prize for the best essay. Send to Sandi Hlavacek, Soundboard editor.



Several people expressed an interest in SSDS logo patches to sew onto sweatshirts, jackets, tote bags, t-shirts, instrument cases, or other things. The SSDS 25th Anniversary patches (designed by David Smith) are available for purchase at \$2 each or 3/\$5.

If you missed the banquet or would like extra copies of the 25th Anniversary book, black & white copies are available for \$5 member price or \$10 (including shipping). This is a great gift idea for your "past member" friends.

If you would like a full color copy (which will include anniversary banquet pictures), they are available by request for \$20. A color copy will be available for preview at meetings soon.

If you would like a silver kazoo, they are available for purchase at 2/\$5. What a great "stocking stuffer" for kids of all ages !!!

IT'S NOVEMBER LET'S CELEBRATE !

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 9..... John Mercier
- 10.... Terry Treppa
- 16... Marlin Harmon
- 25....Jane Chevalier
- 30... Greg Kaiser
- 30... Marie Naster



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 9..... John & Sharon McAuliffe

What is the difference between a banjo and an onion ?

Nobody cries when you cut up a banjo

What is the difference between a banjo and an uzi ?

An uzi only repeats 40 times

What is the difference between a banjo and a trampoline?

You take off your shoes to jump on a trampoline

* * * * *

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society 25th Anniversary Banquet



Past presidents Pennye Schieber, Sharon McAuliffe, Mary Lou Battley, Peggy Kustra, Larry Green, George Gonyo, Roger Davis. Bob Hlavacek



25 years of archives on display
Photos, videos, plaques, etc.

The banquet is over, and almost everything is sorted and put away. It is evident from the multitude of comments, calls and e-mails, the Silver Strings Dulcimer Society's 25th Anniversary celebration banquet was a resounding success. We had a record 105 people in attendance.

Statements of, "This place is BEAUTIFUL !!!" and "That was the BEST food we've ever had." and "This is the best banquet I've ever been to." and "Gee, it's wonderful to see all of these old "almost familiar" faces." and "THIS BOOK IS AWESOME !" were music to our ears.

I certainly did not do it alone. I want to recognize, with deep gratitude, the people who made the banquet and "the book" happen. I thank Hal Bain, Ernie Stuart, David Smith, Val Losse, and Pat Tait for their enormous team effort in creating the content of the anniversary book; Bob Hlavacek for his countless computer bail-outs when it hiccupped, and Karen Turner for her many hours of late night proof-reading. Thank you to Marie Naster, David Smith, Hal Bain and Pat Tait for help in locating 76 of the 83 people we wanted to honor. Thanks to Marie Naster for helping gather the great door prizes, and Val & Linda Losse for helping with decorations & archive display. **HUGE THANKS** to Fed-Ex Kinkos and Sue Duncan, for the. **very** last minute printing of the anniversary book, and delivery to the banquet center. Without these people, our celebration could not have been all it was. And thanks to all who attended, and made October 2nd a **truly special** evening.

Of the 83 founders, past officers and "worker bees" on the list, we found all but 7. We learned 2 more were deceased. 46 founders and past worker bees returned to be honored. The old-timers who came back were really happy to see each other, and see the club so alive. During the jam, Larry Green (one of our founders) played a lovely "Dulcimer Waltz", which he wrote in 1984. He has given permission for Silver Strings to use it any way we want. **What a gift !!!**

It bears repeating, there are many music organizations available to join through training, audition or special invitation. Silver Strings Dulcimer Society offers the rare opportunity for **anyone** with an acoustic instrument to come in at **any level**, (beginner, intermediate or advanced), to learn, to grow, and to enjoy music with friends. Several small professional performance groups have begun at Silver Strings. Those opportunities **must** be preserved. We must not let personality differences and egos distract us from the focus on that which brought us to this milestone... 25 years of the joy of making music together and having fun.

That which Hal Bain and his friends joined together... let no man (or woman) put asunder. A-men.

Sandi Hlavacek, 25th Anniversary Banquet chairperson



In digging through the archives in our journey of discovery, we gained a whole new appreciation for what it took for SSDS to survive 25 years, and a new passion toward preserving it. At the banquet, we hope the progression of the officers (above) coming forward, with each group staying to welcome more "new blood", provided a visual demonstration that a consistently building team of officers and "worker bees" over the years, is what brought us to this celebration. This ever-growing team has given a total of 204 years, totaling 2,448 months, with each month involving dozens to hundreds of hours (depending on positions held), of volunteer service to Silver Strings. That monumental effort by 83 people deserves to be respected and protected.

PLEASE THANK OUR DONORS WITH YOUR BUSINESS.

Many merchants have been generous with donations of door prizes for our 25th anniversary banquet. Almost every vendor at Midland donated, along with area businesses and music friends we cherish.

Judy Morningstar
"Ruffwater" CD

Prussia Valley Dulcimers
Harmonica

Cliff's Custom Crafts
Dulcimer Coasters
2 pens

Harrison Harps
"Unfailing Love" CD

Kaiser Family Band
Their First CD

Picks & Sticks Stringband
"Bandwagon" CD

Pam Bowman
"Just Jammin" CD
"Hammered Holidays" CD
"Hammered Halleluia" CD

Joe Wojciechowski
Happy Note Dulcimers
Music Holder

Rick Thum
"Hammered Fiddle Tunes" CD
"A Reason to Dance" CD
"Front Porch Waltz" CD

Kendra Ward
Count Your Blessings" music book
Dulcimer tote bag

Wood'N'Strings
Fiddle Pin

Blue Fish Music Store
Plymouth Mi.
3 - \$30 Gift Certificates

Thankful Praise
(Ida & Ron O'Dell)
Custom printing
2 25 year logo Sweatshirts

Fed-Ex Kinko's
(Sue Duncan)
Amazing service to print
our Anniversary Book

Staples
2 "easy buttons"

Guy George
"Band in a Book"
2 "Dream Castle CDs"

Bob & Sandi Hlavacek
3 leather tote bags
4 sets musical note cards
5 knit hats

Blues Airmen
Garden City, Mi.
Set of Guitar Strings & Picks

Dee Dee Tibbits
"Tapestry" CD

The SSDS archives contain many old photos and clippings which are deteriorating, due to storage in acid containing albums. Many have darkened too much to save. Scrapbooking and computers are popular hobbies. Are there members who would be willing to take a year at a time, scan photos onto discs, and/or re-mount the good photos into non-acid albums? There is no timeline, and it doesn't need to be fancy. People really enjoyed looking through the displays, and it would be very nice to have the photos better sorted, preserved, and protected. If you would be willing to work on this project at your leisure, please let me know.

Sandi Hlavacek....datadoc@sbcglobal.net....(734) 663-7974