



# Notes from the Soundboard

September 2008

WEBSITE: [WWW.SSDSOCIETY.ORG](http://WWW.SSDSOCIETY.ORG)

Issue 9

## President's Notes

September is upon us. We just returned from the Midland music festival, and to me that means the end of summer. What a great time we had at our jammin' camp site. We parked three campers in a U shape on three lots and filled the space between with E-Z-Ups (Tentville). The space was filled with more than 60 musicians every night; thirty or more were Hammered Dulcimers. About 20 SSDS members attended. The workshops for Hammered Dulcimer featured 3 or 4 sessions on hand separation; playing melody with the left and chords with the right. Our brains need to be retrained, and it takes a lot of practice. There was also a good fiddle tract with quite a few sessions. This was the biggest Midland festival to date.

Now on to busy September's business. Check Karen's column for the scoop on play dates and Christmas practices. We may need to put on roller skates to keep up. The 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary banquet will be on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Italian American Club at five mile and I-275. The place is beautiful and the food is great. Tickets will be on sale at all September meetings and events. We need to turn in the final count on the 19<sup>th</sup> of September.

The election committee will present a slate of one candidate per office at the September 18th meeting. Additional nominations from the floor will be accepted at that time and also at the November 6<sup>th</sup> election. To be eligible you must be a member for at least one year and be a performing member (play dates).

**\*\*Note\*\*** There will be a board meeting at 6:00pm prior to the September 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. Get your track shoes on because there are plenty of opportunities to play music this month.

**Banquet tickets will be available at the September 4<sup>th</sup> meeting and after.**

## Playdate Chatter

VP Business

September will be a busy month for the performing part of the club. We start out with a 2 day gig September 6-7<sup>th</sup> at Greenfield Village in conjunction with the Old Car Festival, then another 2 day playdate September 13-14<sup>th</sup> at the Northville Victorian Festival, a performance for the RV Escapees Club in Belleville on September 11th and finally, the 100<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration of the Model-T at the Henry Ford Estate on September 27th. All events have requested we appear in Victorian costumes except the RV Escapees Club. Many of our performers are having fun making their own costumes and hats. We will be dressed to the "hilt" which will add to our already professional sounding performances.

As promised, we will have some extra Holiday practices at Good Hope Church, 7-9pm, on the following Wednesdays: September 10, September 24, October 8, October 22, November 5 and November 12. We will be trying some new Holiday tunes and possibly add them to our already established list. The Holiday playlist is printed in this newsletter and posted on the website at [www.ssdociety.org/sections/tunes/playlists.asp](http://www.ssdociety.org/sections/tunes/playlists.asp)

Our August 9<sup>th</sup> Marine City playdate was a great success. Although spectator attendance at the event was low, we did have a small dedicated audience who waited out the threat of rain with us. Afterward, the performers dined at a restaurant on the St. Clair river and were later treated to desserts, coffee and a tour of Alice & Terry Avery's lovely historic home. Thanks again to Alice for arranging this fun event.

Please read "Mark Your Calendar" for details on coming events. If you would like to attend a playdate, just 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, call (734) 455-4085 or e-mail [karenturner@comcast.net](mailto:karenturner@comcast.net) KT



## VP Program Notes

I'm sure it's been a busy summer for everyone, since there have been so many festivals to take in. It was fun seeing old friends and jamming. It's hard to believe we are setting up practices for Christmas tunes already. September will go just as quickly as July and August.

Silver Strings will have the last variety night of 2008 in October. We are fortunate to have Dave Smith to host it. See or e-mail him to sign up. Personally, I can't wait to see Dave Mathews' next new instrument, and hope he brings his bourbon-powered instrument so I can offer to play it. We will have the traditional dinner with pizza, salad and pop (unless we can all share Dave's Bourbon instrument of course) Thanks to all who bring desert. Everyone appreciates them.....Linda

## Secretary's Notes

### SSDS Board Meeting, August 7, 2008 Old Business:

--Karen Turner reviewed play dates available. We discussed the issue of distance and fees for some playdates making them cost prohibitive. It will be at the discretion of the Business V.P. to accept or decline those sites that are too far to drive to.

--Bob announced the selection of the Nominating Committee as Marie Naster, Janelle Pacic, Sandi Hlavacek, and Karen Turner (Board rep.) The proposed slate (so far) includes: Larry Roper – President, Bert Stein - V P for Business, Geri Herman - Treasurer, Bev Scott - Secretary, and Lynn Ellen Kaiser - Music Coordinator. V P of Programs is still open.

--Sandi Hlavacek reported progress on the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet. Set for October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008, at the Italian American Hall on Five Mile in Livonia.

### New Business:

--Expanding the size of the Board by two members was discussed. This was suggested by the IRS. Board members will research possible options and discuss it further at the September board meeting.

--Members will be asked to vote on cancelling the August 21<sup>st</sup> meeting due to the Midland Festival and vacations. (\*Members voted to cancel the 8-21-08 meeting.)

Bonnie Ream, Secretary

***This is a condensed version of the minutes. If you would like the full, official report, please see Bonnie***

## IT'S SEPTEMBER LET'S CELEBRATE !

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

13<sup>th</sup> ... Ellen Yanity  
21<sup>st</sup> ... Sue Duncan



## Banker Ours

### NEW MEMBERS:

Mike & Lorraine Justice.....(517) 223-4878  
21100 Wasson Rd. . . . .Gregory, Mi.48137

Linda Lloyd.....(734) 604-6970  
513 Longshore Apt.A . . Ann Arbor, Mi.48105  
Plays Mtn. dulcimer, ukulele, & guitar

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sat. Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> . . . . . 11:am-5:pm  
(Costumes) . . . . .Greenfield Village  
Sun. Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> . . . . . 11:am-5:pm  
(Costumes) . . . . .Greenfield Village  
Thurs, Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> . . . . .time TBA  
Escapees RV's . . . . .Belleville  
Sat, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> . . . . . 12:00-1:30 pm  
(Costumes) . . Northville Victorian Festival  
Sun, Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> . . . . . 12:00-1:30 pm  
(Costumes) . . Northville Victorian Festival  
Thurs. Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>. Little Rev concert... 7:00pm  
Sat. Sept. 27. . . . . 1-5:00pm  
(Costumes) . .Henry Ford Estate, Dearborn  
Thurs. Oct. 2 . . . . .SSDS Anniversary Banquet  
Fri, Oct. 17. . . . . 2:30-3:30 pm  
Royal Oak American House. . . . .R.Oak

## Harmonica Happenings

The "Heavy Breathers" Harmonica Group will be meeting September 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at the Maplewood Senior Center, Garden City, 7-9 pm. All levels of players are welcome! For more information or questions call Walt Jablonski (734-422-8803).

Thanks to Carol Ann Matthews for finding the reference harmonica book entitled "***The Complete Idiot's Guide To Playing The Harmonica***". It is a great reference book for all levels emphasizing the diatonic harmonica.

In the most recent edition of the SPAH newsletter (Society for the Preservation and Advancement of the Harmonica), it is mentioned that if you play a musical instrument late in your life, you can delay Alzheimer's by up to 67%. So, no matter what your instrument, keep on playing your way to better health!

KT

### Laundry Person's Mite...

"Not to be left out of the kitchen joliking, some washer-person hit on a non-technical use for the scrub board. Older rhythmic scraping devises were the African gourd scraped with a bamboo stick. In the 1930's, Robert Brown ("Washboard Sam"), using a phonograph turntable for a cymbal developed an expressive syncopated technique. Tony Pinkham and Spike Jones featured unique washboard solos." (Dallas Cline; "How to Play Nearly Everything"; N.Y., Oak, c.1977 p.41)



Hal Bain (right) is the only original founding member of Silver Strings Dulcimer Society who has stayed with us through the entire 25 years. At the July 31<sup>st</sup> Variety night, President, Bob Hlavacek, surprised him with a lifetime membership for his dedication to the club. The first meeting was on July 27, 1983.

### SSDS 2008 Holiday Play List

(Note: A few more tunes may be added)

Key	Tune	Times
G	Jingle Bells	C+2
G	Red Wing	3
G	Away In The Manger	3
G	Deck The Halls	3
G	Red Apple Rag	3
G	Hark! The Herald Angels Sing	3
C	Winter Wonderland	2
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast	3
C	Silver Bells	3
G	Joy To The World	3
D	Angleworm Wiggle	3
G	Let It Snow	2
D	Festival Rag	3
D	Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer	2
G	Westphalia Waltz	2
G	Up On The Husetop	3
D	Simple Gifts	3
D	Frosty The Snowman	2E
G	Angels We Have Heard	3
G	Silver And Gold Two-Step	3
D	Silent Night	3
G	We Wish You A Merry Christmas	CVC

We will be having some extra Holiday practices on the following Wednesdays at Good Hope Lutheran Church, 7-9 pm.

September 10   September 24   October 8  
 October 22   November 5   November 12

### DID YOU KNOW . . .

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society's first "paid" playdate was on June 1, 1985 at the Wyandotte Flower Show. A hat was put out in front of the performers, and they collected \$50.40 in tips.

### SSDS September 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
G	Columbus Stockade Blues	3
G	Tick Tock Polka	3
D	Sandy River Belle	3
D	Angleworm Wiggle	3
G	Southwind	3
D	Whiskey B4 Breakfast	3
D	Young Roddy McCorley	5
Am	Katushka	5
C	Five Foot Two	5
Am	Cold Frosty Morn	3
G	Sophrina	3
G	Bellman's Jig	3
Em	Lisdoonvarna / Riding Load Hay	3/3
G	March Of St Timothy	3
D	Viola's Schottische	3
Em	Dancing Bear	3
G	Old Joe Clark	3
D	Hey Polka	5
D	Midnight On The Water	3
G	Hundred Pipers	3
D	Festival Rag	3
D/A	Maple Sugar	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
G	Silver And Gold Two-Step	3
D	Painter's Polka	3
D	Simple Gifts	3
D	Ragtime Annie	3
D	Soldier's Joy	3
D/G	Golden Slippers	2/2



## Marine City Victorian Days

15 Silver Strings musicians set the tone of the times in front of the beautiful historic City Hall (under restoration) in our colorful Victorian finery. We entertained a varying crowd of citizens as they passed by or paused in seats to listen. Marine City was celebrating "The Annual 200 Mile Yard Sale Trail" and the annual "Arts & Crafts Sale". Although rain threatened for much of the day, it held off until we finished. Players once more shared good times.



## Midland Dulcimer Festival

**Above:** We have a tent... our group was traveling the road, and looking for a place to jam.

**Top right:** SSDS was well represented at the festival. Also attending were at least 14 more members who were not available for the picture after the Saturday night concert.

**Right:** Silver Strings hosted the biggest jam on the festival grounds. 60-70 musicians packed our 3-tent jam area on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights until 3:30-4:00 am. The only interruptions were for popsicles and birthday cake... and the band played on....





*Please join us in celebrating  
25 years of sharing the joy of music with the*

## *Silver Strings Dulcimer Society*

*on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008*

*at The Italian Cultural Center*

*39200 Five Mile Road in Livonia, Michigan*

*(located by I-275 . . . take exit at 6-Mile Rd.)*

*Hors D'ouvres at 6:00 pm, Dinner at 6:30*

*Program to honor past governing members*

*Gifts & Door Prizes !!!*

*Bring your instrument Jamming until 11:00 pm*

*Come see old friends and meet new ones !*

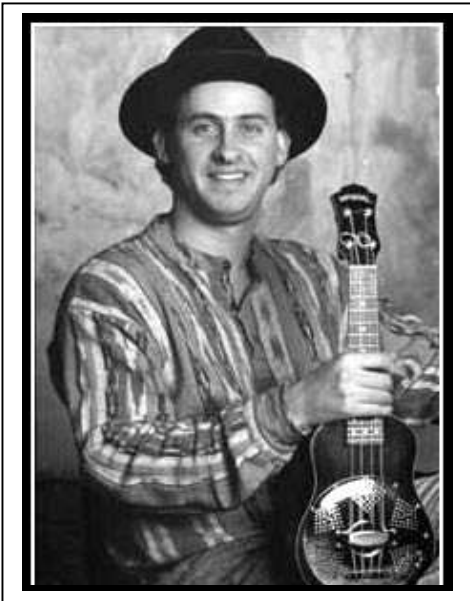
*25 years is a huge accomplishment.*

*You are an important part of that.*

*Tickets available at meetings or from*

*Sandi Hlavacek, 5598 Dixboro Rd., Ann Arbor, 48105*

*Members \$15. . . . .Guests \$20*



# Ukulele Workshop and Concert with Acclaimed Uke-Master Lil' Rev

When: Thurs. September 25<sup>th</sup>  
6pm-7:30pm workshop  
8pm -9pm Concert

Where: Good Hope Luthern Church  
28680 Cherry Hill Road, Garden City  
between Inkster and Middlebelt

How Much: Workshop (includes Concert)  
\$15 adv. (before Sep. 18) \$20 day of  
\$5 Concert only

The Workshop: Ukulele Tunes and Techniques

The Concert: Ukulele, mandolin, guitar, harmonica and banjo in many styles from blues, jazz and tin pan alley, to originals and American folk classics!

For advance reservations and info call John @ 734-482-2902

**[www.lilrev.com](http://www.lilrev.com)**