

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Soundboard

November 2009

26 YEARS SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC 1983-2009

Issue 295

Website : www.ssdociety.org

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

October was a very busy and exciting month. Our annual Banquet was the big event and I'd like to thank Theresa Smith and her committee (Dave Smith, Sharon and John McAuliffe, Sally and Bob Neimczewski, and Peggy Kustra) for the wonderful job they did organizing, the food, the games and the beautiful fall decorations. All helped to make this year's Banquet memorable. The big news was the introduction of "Holiday Tradition", our new CD. It was exciting to see all of this come together, and I took the opportunity to thank everyone who took part in this endeavor. Bob Hlavacek was chairman of the CD committee. He and Sandi spent countless hours on the design, royalties, and final production, and they did a very nice job. Terry Treppa kindly offered the use of his church (St. Richards) for recording. The artwork on the cover the CD itself was provided by Carol Ann Matthews. It was taken from a painting she had painted herself. Many of the beautiful arrangements on the CD were created by Janelle Pacic. These arrangements added another dimension to the tunes. A very special thanks went to Ken and Lynne Ellen Kaiser, without whom none of this would have been possible. They offered their time, talents, and equipment to make it happen. They opened their home for us to meet for review and planning. Thank you guys so much for helping to make this happen. I stated in the CD insert that this group turned a vision into reality and what resulted was something we can be proud of for many years to come. I'd like to thank everyone who participated in this project and all who supported it.

We also had a great time at Linda Osgood's party. We had lots of good food, good friends and good music. While some of us die-hards got carried away playing Whiskey Before Breakfast lickity-split for about fifteen minutes straight I noticed another group doing what appeared to be an Indian dance of some sort around the bonfire led by John McAuliffe. I guess folks tend to get a little silly when they're having fun. Thanks Linda, for a great party.

Despite the cold weather and patchy rain, a group of us played at Three Cedars Farm in Salem Township. We managed to squeeze in most of the two hours we were scheduled to play, before the rain came. We played to an appreciative crowd and at one point we had a toddler clapping his tiny hands to our music while he sat in his stroller. I had written an article for the local news (South Lyon Herald) to advertise this event, and it ended up on the front page, complete with a picture of some SSDS members. I didn't send a picture, so they must have gotten it from our website. Thanks to all the brave souls who played that one.

Some SSDS members united with our Uncle Carl's friends, and played at the Adrian Heritage Festival. We played in a metal building, using electric heaters to warm by. A microphone in front of us sent our music throughout the grounds. Luke Kaweck set this up with the organizers, who gave free camping and a free meal to those who braved the cold. Thanks for that one Luke we enjoyed it.

On a sad note, we lost a former SSDS member. Ralph Korte passed away in late September. Ralph was a member several years back around the time the SSDS campout began. I didn't know him personally, but it's always sad to hear news like that. We also lost our dear friend Joe Wojciechowski of Ewart MI. Joe was a well known dulcimer builder, and well liked by all who knew him. His dulcimers went under the name "Happy Notes". Joe was a regular at the Ewart Festivals, and will be dearly missed.

Autumn is here, and it's time to dust off the Holiday tunes for a busy Holiday Season. We have many playdates booked. Bert has put out sign up sheets for these playdates and more at our meetings, and we have started our Wednesday night practices. Please come to the practices and sign up to play. It's going to be a great season! Larry

PLAYDATE MATTERS _____ (VP. Business)

On September 25, Silver Strings played a return engagement at Baldwin House in Birmingham for an enthusiastic audience. A couple of the residents got up and did a wonderful dance to a couple of our tunes. On October 2, we played a return engagement at Heartland Health Care Center in Canton. That had special meaning for one of our participating musicians, Bev Scott who had received rehabilitation treatment there only a short time ago after hip replacement surgery. Bev publicly thanked the staff for their good work. It was heartwarming to see the joy in the faces of the residents, who were mostly in wheelchairs but managed to do a remarkable job keeping rhythm using instruments that we handed out to them or just moving their feet or arms in time with our music. A person from the Plymouth Community Council on Aging who was visiting Heartland that day, came up afterward to say she loved our group, and booked us for a playdate at their facility in January, 2010. On October 8, only nine of us performed at the Southgate Senior Center for a large audience in a huge room. Upon entering that room, I wondered if we'd be able to produce enough sound for that venue but we rose to the occasion. I was bowled over by the number of people who came up afterward to express how much they loved our group's music, and I've never experienced a greater level of interest in buying our CD's after our performance. (We sold 16 CD's and 7 cassette tapes). Larry Roper was the speaker for our group that day, and did an outstanding job. He evoked lots of laughter when he deviated from our normal routine in introducing the "Hey Polka". He selected a lively elderly lady in the front row of the audience, and announced that when he held up the "Hey" sign, she should grab it from him, and commence doing cartwheels in rhythm with the music from her seat all the way to the back of the room, and then do cartwheels back to her seat, hand off the "Hey" sign to her neighbor, who was to copy what she had done, and so on. Upon hearing this, the lady, without missing a beat, asked Larry "Should I hand it to the person on my right or the one on my left?"

The last two practices for our upcoming holiday gigs are scheduled for November 4TH & 18TH at Good Hope Church beginning at 7:pm. I encourage those intending to play for any holiday playdates to attend scheduled practices so you will be familiar with special introductions, arrangements, and endings. Members not intending to play at holiday playdates are also welcome to attend the practices.....Bert Stein

Police were called to the concert hall when a musician was resisting a rest.

NOTES FROM THE PROGRAM VPs _____

Happy Autumn to you all. I hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful fall colors before they're all gone. October also marks the last variety night of the year, since the fifth Thursday in December falls on New Years Eve and will probably be canceled. Looking ahead, the next month that has a fifth Thursday is April 2010. That would be six months before the next variety night! That just won't do!

I'm going to propose that we have the next variety night on the fourth Thursday of either January or February 2010. We'll see if the church is available either of those dates and go from there.

With Autumn upon us, it opens up all kinds of possibilities for some interesting treats for break time. So keep those treats coming. They are an important part of our social time since they tend to bring people together in the kitchen area to nibble, mingle and chat.

Janelle Pacic and Carol Ann Matthews

NOVEMBER PLAY LIST 2009

Key	Tune	Play
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast	3
G	Westphalia Waltz (Bob's Club talk)	2
G	Red Wing	*3
C	Five Foot Two	4
G	Maggie	3
G	Southwind	*3
D	Over the Waterfall (Bob's Story)	3
G	Hundred Pipers	3
Am	Cold Frosty Morn	3
D	Ashgrove	*3
G	Down Yonder	3
D	Smash the Windows (Bob's Story)	3
Em	Road to Lisdoonvarna / Riding Load of Hay (Bob's Story)	3/3
G	January Waltz	*3
D	John Ryan's Polka (Karen's choices)	5
G	Columbus Stockade Blues	3
D	Hey Polka	5
Em	Tamlin	3
C	Tennessee Waltz	*3
D/D D/G	Endless Medley: Ragtime Annie / Soldier's Joy/Golden Slippers	2/2/ 2/2
	* 2nd time: Fiddles, Harmonicas, backup; HD's softly	
	Extras	
G	Silver and Gold Two-Step	3
G	Red Apple Rag	3
D	Lover's Waltz	2

SECRETARIAL NOTES _____

The October board meeting was cancelled because it was the night of the banquet.

The members' annual meeting was held October 16th, when a slate of candidates for office were presented for approval. The current list includes:

President.....Larry Roper
VP Business.....Bert Stein
VP Programs....Carol Ann Mathews & Janelle Pacic
Secretary.....Bev Scott
Treasurer.....Linda Osgood

Elections will take place at the Nov. 5th meeting.
Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor.

Elections will take place at our meeting on Nov. 5th 2009. Here is a brief description of the duties of the elected officers. If you have questions or would like to serve, contact Bert Stein or Larry Roper.

PRESIDENT

- * Supervises all club affairs, meetings, festivals and, board meetings.

V.P. BUSINESS (MANAGER)

- * Performs the president's duties in the absence of the President.
- * Manages all club playdate requests, sign-ups, and performances.

V.P. PROGRAM COORDINATOR

- * Performs the president's duties in the absence of the President.
- * Coordinates club activities (campout, picnic, etc).

SECRETARY

- * Records all business conducted at club meetings, board meetings and all correspondence.
- * Provides meeting minutes to the newsletter
And members

TREASURER

- * Receives and disperses all monies of the club.
- * Prepares a written financial report for the Annual Business Meeting in October.
- * Keeps a record of paid memberships.
- * Arranges publication of the member directory.

HISTORIAN

- * Collects & organizes newsletters, press releases, and photos and/or CDs of photos of activities for archives.

MUSIC DIRECTOR

- * Keeps music files up to date, furnishes music for members, and music packets for new members, holiday playdates, and other special playdates (ex: campout).
- * Collects, introduces and distributes new tunes.

HISTORIAN

Collects & organizes newsletters, press releases, and photos and/or CDs of photos of activities for archives.

Do you like to organize things ?

Do you enjoy "scrap-booking" ?

Are you interested in history ?

Perhaps you would like to be the SSDS Historian. Here is a job you can do at your leisure at home. The club has been without one this year, and we need someone who can help preserve the memories we are making, in an orderly way. Some computer skills might be helpful, as many photos from the past few years are on discs. See Larry Roper if you would be willing to share your skills.

If you have borrowed a skirt, blouse, tie, suspenders or hat for our Victorian playdates, and are currently not attending them, **PLEASE RETURN THEM** to the club so others may enjoy the opportunity. If you have an appropriate piece of clothing you can donate to the club's collection or lend out, we would really appreciate the addition to our costume supply. You may give them to Janelle, Carol Ann, or Sandi.

If you would like to participate in the "Victorian dress" playdates but have no appropriate clothing, see the ladies listed.

NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

9..... John Mercier
10.... Terry Treppa
16... Marlin Harmon
25....Jane Chevalier
26.. **HAPPY THANKSGIVING**
30... Greg Kaiser
30... Marie Naster



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

5..... Charlie & Cindy Feigel
9..... John & Sharon McAuliffe

The pilgrims celebrated the first Thanksgiving Day in the fall of 1621, at Plymouth, Massachusetts.

LEDGER NOTES _____ (treasurer)

The banquet was a memorable one and kudos go out to Theresa and Sally and their team... nice touches, great atmosphere and delicious food. It couldn't have been better!

Remember, in order to vote you must have your 2009 dues paid by election night Nov. 5th. It's \$20.00 for new members and \$15.00 for renewals.

The good news is that our bank balance is climbing now, with so many sales of the Christmas CD. It sure turned out to be a successful venture. Gerry

Mark your calendar for November

- 4....**Holiday practice** @ Good Hope. . . . 7:pm
- 7....**Playdate**1-1:45pm
Orchard Lake Comm. Church. . . . W.Bloomfield
- 13...**Playdate** (Victorian dress)2-3:pm
Trellis GardensJackson
- 18...**Holiday practice** @ Good Hope 7:pm
- 19...**Playdate**1:30-2:15
Cleary UniversityAnn Arbor

Why did the turkey cross the road?
It was the chicken's day off.

If the Pilgrims were alive today, what would they be most famous for?
Their AGE

Why can't you take a turkey to church?
Because they use such FOWL language

Why did the police arrest the turkey?
They suspected it of fowl play.

RICK THUM

Workshops & concert

Nov. 14th, 2009 @ Rockford V.F.W. Hall
4195 – 13 Mile Road, Rockford, Mi.

Workshops \$25 each or \$45 both
10:am – noon (practice techniques)
2 - 4:pm (Chords as back-up in melody)
(Intermediate & advanced)

Potluck dinner at 5:pm
Concert at 7:pm \$10 each

All-day running jam and after concert jam
Contact Jim Rathbun for reservations
(616) 866-9103 / <dulcidude@gmail.com>
Visit <www.rthum.com> for information

Mark your Calendar for December Playdates:

- 2.....Holiday concert2:30-3:30pm
American HouseWestland
- 2.....Holiday concert7-8:pm
Wayne Pub. LibraryWayne
- 3.....Holiday concert7-8:pm
Good Hope ChurchGarden City
- 4.....New Beginnings Dinner6:50-7:35
Cherry Hill Presb. ChurchDearborn
- 8.....Women's Christmas Tea7-8:pm
Cross Pte. Meadows ChurchNovi
- 9.....Mi. Retired Sch. Personnel.12:15-1:15pm
Knights of Columbus HallLivonia
- 10.....Annual Christmas dinner3-4:pm
Flat Rock Community Ctr.Flat Rock
- 11.....Holiday lunchnoon-2:pm
Westland Senior CenterWestland
- 13.....Holiday concert2-3:pm
St Richard's ChurchWestland
- 13.....Holiday concert6:15-7:pm
Historic Trinity Lutheran Church.Detroit
- 14.....Holiday concert3:45-4:45pm
Independence VillagePlymouth
- 16.....Holiday entertainment6:30-7:30
Pine Ridge Sr. Ret. CommSterling Hts
- 17.....Noontime Concert Series.12:15-1pm
Civic Center. LibraryLivonia
- 17.....Christmas Party6-7:30pm
Henry Ford EstateDearborn
- 18.....Holiday Concert6-7:pm
Maple Hts. RetirementAllen Park

HOLIDAY PRACTICES

Two more practices for our upcoming holiday gigs are scheduled for November 4th & 18th in our usual meeting place at Good Hope Church

I encourage those intending to play for any holiday playdates to attend. We will be practicing special introductions, arrangements, and endings. Members not intending to play at holiday playdates are also welcome to attend the practices.
Bert Stein

Notes for next page:

- (1) For Westland Senior Center Gig, replace this tune by **God Rest Ye Merry Gentleman (key Em, 3x): (1:MD,Man,Fid,Harmonica,Flute,Rec) (2 All) (3 All)**
- (2) For Westland Senior Center Gig, replace this tune by **What Child is This (key Dm, 3x): Note: All B notes should be B natural. (1 MD+guitar+Fidd or All) (2 All) (3 All)**

SSDS 2009 Holiday Play List

Key	Times	Special arrangements
		<p>Note: Highlighted bold print: 1 hour long gigs; Non-highlighted Italics: Add these for 1.5 hour background music gigs</p> <p>Note: If highlighting doesn't show in your print-out, note that bold print tunes are for 1 hour gigs; <i>Italicized</i> tunes added for 1.5 hour</p> <p>Note: Backup (BU) plays all cycles; HD=Hammered dulcimers; MD=Mountain dulcimers; Fid = fiddles, harmonicas; AH=Autoharps; Rec=Recorder; FL=Flute, Harm=Harmonica; Rest=everyone except HD</p>
G	Jingle Bells	C+ 2 Santa Stick
G	Red Wing	3
<i>D</i>	<i>Peek-A-Boo Waltz</i>	3* 2 nd time: fiddles, harmonicas, backup: HD's softly
G	Away In The Manger	4→ (1:HD) (2:All) (3:Fid, Harm.) (4 All); Retard last 2 meas.
<i>D</i>	<i>Mississippi Sawyer</i>	3
G	Westphalia Waltz	2
G	Deck The Halls ***	4→ Lively: (1:HD) (2:All) (3:Fid, Harm.) (4:All) (Tag by starter)
G	Red Apple Rag	3
<i>G</i>	<i>Southwind</i>	3→ (1 HD) (2:Harm) (3:All)
G	Hark! The Herald Angels Sing	3→ (1 HD) (2:Fid) (3:All) Retard last 2 measures
<i>Em</i>	<i>Tamlin</i>	3
<i>D</i>	<i>Painter's Polka</i>	3
C	Winter Wonderland	3→ (1 HD) (2A:All) (2B:HD Call/Rest Answ) (3 All)
<i>D</i>	<i>Chinese Breakdown/Nelly Bly</i>	2/3
<i>G</i>	<i>Hundred Pipers</i>	3
G	We Three Kings ***	2→ (1A intro by MD or Man or Fid/Fl) (1 All play whole tune) (note F# & A in 1 st meas. line 3 should each be dotted half notes) (2: Anyone move up octave). (Tag by KT)
G	<i>Columbus Stockade Blues</i>	3
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast	3
C	Silver Bells *** (remove dot from last note)	3→ (1 HD) (2A:All--2B:HD Call/Rest Answ) (3:All) (End by walking C chord down & back up)
<i>D</i>	<i>Soldier's Joy</i>	3
<i>Em</i>	<i>Road To Lisdoonvarna/Riding Load Hay</i>	3/3
G	Joy To The World ***	3→ (1 HD) (2:Rest) (3:All) (At end of each cycle , Karen's 3 "bong" filler to re-start together) (Tag Bass)
Am	Cold Frosty Morn	3
<i>G</i>	<i>Sophrina</i>	3
G	Let It Snow ***	2 (1A HD--1B All) (2:All) (Tag end by starter)
D	Festival Rag	3
<i>D</i>	<i>Over the Waterfall</i>	3
G	Oh Come All Ye Faithful	3→ (Intro: Fiddle) (1 Fid, guit, bass) (2 Man+MD+Fid+Harm) (3:All) (Retard last 4 measures)
<i>D/G</i>	<i>Golden Slippers</i>	2/2
<i>G</i>	<i>Maggie</i>	3
D	Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer ***	2 (2 B+Tag Santa stick) (@Westland Sr.Ctr: God Rest Ye)
<i>G</i>	<i>January Waltz</i>	3* 2 nd time: fiddles, harmonicas, backup: HD's softly
<i>D</i>	<i>Bonaparte Crossing Rhine</i>	3
<i>D</i>	<i>Flop Eared Mule</i>	3
G	Up On The Housetop / Jolly Old St Nick	2/3 (No extra beats House) (Remove last 1/2-note from Jolly)
D	Simple Gifts	3→ (1 MD harmony by fiddle) (2 harmonicas) (3:All)
D	Frosty The Snowman	2+End (@ Westland Sr.Ctr: What Child is This)
<i>D</i>	<i>Young Roddy McCorley</i>	3
<i>D</i>	<i>John Ryan's Polka</i>	5
G	Angels We Have Heard on High	3→ (Intro: AH or MD or Man or Fidd) (1 AH or MD or Fidd + HD softly) (2 add all with HD still playing softly) (3 All with HD normal volume) Emphasize & slow last 3 notes
G	Silver And Gold Two-Step	3
G	Dreidel Song **	3 Only for library gigs and St. Richard's
D/G	Silent Night	2/2 (1 Harm) (2:vocal German D) (3 Starter transition to G; Vocal English) (4 All--not too loudly)
G	We Wish You A Merry Christmas	3 1/2

Em...God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen..3X...(1 MD, Mand, Fid, FL, Rec, Harm.) (2 All).(3 All)

Dm What Child is This 3X (1 MD Guit Fid) (2 All) (3 All)

Annual Banquet October 1, 2009



The 2009 SSSD Annual Banquet was a great success ! Theresa Smith & committee decked the hall for fall, David Smith brought a variety of his unusual instruments for a 'guessing game', and President, Larry Roper unveiled the brand new SSSD Holiday CD. The evening was fun & exciting.



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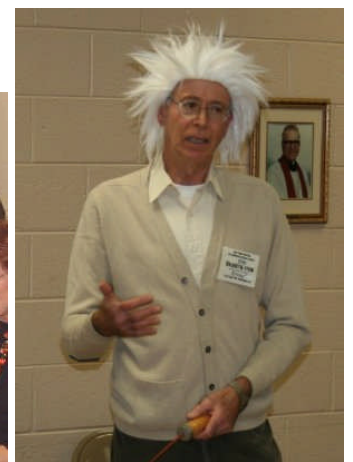
**Variety Night provided variety, indeed !
October 29th**



M.C. Farmer Bob led the evening.



Mountaineers entertained



(T)albert (Ein)stein shared the science of music.

Dorothy's sweet song filled the room.

Uke'N'Sing revived oldies but goodies.



Walt & Pat Jablonski celebrated 60 years of marriage on that night.

