



Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Soundboard

SEPTEMBER 2011 28 YEARS SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC July 1983-2011 Issue 317
Website : www.silverstrings.org

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Summer is drawing to a close. It went by **so quickly**. For most, the Midland music festival seems to mark the end of the summer music fun. Looking back at the past several months, I am reminded of our members who have had medical issues. We need to continue to keep them in our prayers; Larry Allen, Roger Davis, Bobbie Hurst, Marie Naster, Donna Mayer, Pat Altpeter, and Cindy Feigel. There may be others I have missed, but it confirms that we are an aging population. It would be great if we could recruit and mentor some new young players.

We are moving into our busy season in the coming months. September is the time when we need to start thinking about elections and new board members. Please consider giving back some of your talent to Silver Strings. All of the board positions need to be filled this year. You can help keep SSDS a strong, growing music group by volunteering for one of those positions. The outgoing board members have spent a number of years in various jobs, and will be glad to help with any questions, and with your transition into the role. They have all served very well, and have a wealth of experience to offer. The election will be held at the November 3rd meeting.

The Silver Strings banquet will be held at the Italian American Club on Five Mile Road in Livonia, on Thursday, October 6th. It is a beautiful facility with great food, and we seldom get enough time to visit with each other, have a great meal, some light fun, and then of course playing some music, See Dawn Hayes' news article later in the newsletter.

It is that time of year to dust off the Christmas music, and start to refresh the tunes in our head. We will schedule some practice dates in October and November to crisp up our Holiday performances. This would be a good time to run through the tunes a time or two, or three, or.....

On July 26th we played for Putnam Twp Seniors in Pinckney. They treated us to a pig roast dinner prior to our concert. We were all surprised at the elegant decorations and table settings they had put together. We had a great audience and once again, the HEY Polka was a big hit. Last week, I received a call from a man who saw us play. He was filled with questions about hammered dulcimers. He wanted to buy one for his sister, who would like to learn to play one. They live in Williamston, near Lansing, so I gave him information about dulcimer meetings at Strings, Uncle Carl's and Thorneapple Valley, and encouraged him to pick a day they could make a meeting and 'talk' dulcimer. It is really great to get feedback about how our music inspires people to get involved with the dulcimer.

Our annual picnic was held on Sunday, August 7th at German park, near Ann Arbor. 35 to 40 people attended. The weather was warm, but very cooperative. Thank you to all the people who brought food to the potluck. We jammed until about 6:15 in the huge dance shelter. Thank you Dawn and Ron Hayes for your hard work and coordination of the picnic. Thanks also to George Gonyo, for providing the park and supervision during the day.

Once again we will be returning to The Henry Ford (Greenfield Village) on September 10-11 to play at the old car and bike festival. Karen Turner has been instrumental in arranging this fun weekend for several years. We perform in Victorian costume, which seems to really delight our audience. We play 3 or 4 sets each day and many people return to listen each time and on both days. We have received feedback at several other playdates from people who enjoyed us at the village.

We will be hosting a jam tent again this year at the Midland Folk Music Festival. We have had some great jams with friends from around the state (and beyond), and look forward to the week up there. Larry Roper will lead our regular meeting and jam on Sept 1st. Sandi and I will be playing with our grandkids in Missouri. We wish you a happy Labor Day weekend and will see you at The Henry Ford. Bob Hlavacek



PLAYDATE NOTES _____ V.P. Business

Hello Folks:

We finished off our July playdates with performances at The Heartland Health Care Center, and The Community Congregational Church of Christ in Pinckney. The folks at Heartland Health Care always appreciate our music and it is very rewarding to know that we have brought some joy to folks who are going through difficult times because of various health issues.

We were treated to a very nice lunch before our performance at the Community Congregational Church of Christ in Pinckney, where we played for the Putnam Township Seniors. Beverly Smith put a great deal of effort into arranging the event, complete with a silent auction, a raffle, and pig roast. It's always a treat for me to work with people like Beverly who give so much of themselves to help others.

At newsletter deadline we still have two performances yet to do at Waltonwood Retirement Center in Novi. We are so well received there that by years end we will have been booked for (ten) performances this year alone. Both of the activity directors said they truly love our music and the residents always look forward to seeing us perform there.

We have four playdates scheduled for September including two days at Greenfield Village, and one each at American House in Royal Oak, and the Clinton Fall Festival. Thanks again to all of those who have signed up and traveled the miles to support our club. Your efforts have resulted in our club being well represented, well received and highly respected. Larry Roper

V.P.PROGRAM NOTES _____ Dawn Hayes

Thank you to all for the delicious side dishes and desserts that were brought to our annual picnic.

Thank you to Carol Ann for leading our slow jam last month and those who have been contributing "goodies" for our jams.

Annual Banquet: We will be holding our annual banquet on Thursday, October 6th at the Italian American Banquet Hall on 5 Mile in Livonia. The festivities begin at 6:00 with socializing, followed by the meal at 6:45 and jamming from 8:00-11:00 PM. The meal will include penne with marinara sauce, roast beef with gravy, roasted Italian sausage with peppers & onions, a vegetable medley and Mackinac Island Fudge ice cream and a cake. The tickets are \$15.00 each (member or guest). The tickets must be purchased in advance because we are required to give a final count to the hall by Sept. 23rd. Tickets will be available for purchase in September. **We still need volunteers to help with this event.**

Variety Night: Thursday, September 29th is our next variety night. Bill Smith will be our MC for the evening.

SECRETARY'S NOTES _____ Carol Ann Matthews

Board Meeting Thurs. Aug. 3, 2011

OLD BUSINESS

*The board decided against changing the by laws to have a Music Committee instead of a Music Coordinator. Anyone interested in this position should submit their qualifications in writing to the board for review. See information about this position on page 4 of this newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS

*Player compensation for the holiday players will be taken up at the next board meeting.

*Next board meeting will be held Sept 15th during slow jam.

* Karen will lead the slow jam on Sept 15th.

This is a synopsis. Full board minutes are available from Sec.

IT'S SEPTEMBER...LET'S CELEBRATE !

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 12...Lee Lack
- 13...Ellen Yanity
- 14...Mark Williams
- 20...Pat Deschamps
- 21...Sue Duncan
- 27...Steve Peper



PURSE STRINGS _____ Linda Osgood

Hi All,

It's time to be getting our 2012 dues paid as we will be voting on our new board members soon. As always, I will be more than happy to take care of that for you at any meeting.

I'd like to welcome four new members to our club:

Marie Kuge...Dearborn

She plays the violin

Sue Lough...Brooklyn Mi

She plays fiddle

Kim McCuska...Dearborn Heights

She also plays fiddle.

(We should be well represented in that instrument)!!!!

And last but not least,

Jody Ihlenfeldt...Belleville

She plays the Hammered Dulcimer

We are happy to have you all as part of our club!

Happy Jammin'

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

- 1.....**Board meeting**6:00**Jam**7:00
 10...**SSDS Playdate** V11am-5pm
 Greenfield Village Old Car FestivalDearborn
 11...**SSDS Playdate** V11am-5pm
 Greenfield Village Old Car FestivalDearborn
 16...**Afternoon Entertainment** . . . BC2:30-3:30
 American HouseRoyal Oak
 15...**Slow Jam**6:00.**Jam**7:00
 17...Annual Osgood Jam and Bonfire.2:pm-???
 25...**SSDS Playdate** V1:00-1:45
 Clinton Fall FestivalClinton
 29...**SSDS Variety Night**7:00

OCTOBER

- 6.....SSDS Banquet. 6:00-11:00
 18...**Afternoon Entertainment** . . . BC1:30-2:30
 Waltonwood Independent Living.Novi
 18...**Afternoon Entertainment** . . . BC3:00-4:00
 Waltonwood Assisted Living.Novi

V=Victorian BC=Business Casual

To print the SEPTEMBER Play list,

please click on our website or this link :

<http://www.silverstrings.org/sections/tunes/pdf/2011/sep11.pdf>

SEPTEMBER PLAY LIST 2011

Key	Tune	Play
	List of tunes for 1 hour long gigs	
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast	3
G	Maggie	3
G	Westphalia Waltz	2
A	Red Haired Boy	3
D	Over The Waterfall	3
G	Red Wing	3*
G	Southwind	3*
G	Red Apple Rag	3
D	Mississippi Sawyer	3
Am	Cold Frosty Morn	3
C	Tennessee Waltz	3*
D	Smash The Windows	3
D	Chinese Breakdown/Nelly Bly	3/3
D	Ashgrove	3*
Em	Tamlin	3
D	John Ryan's Polka	Karen Decides
D	Hey Polka	Bob Decides
D	Coleman's March	3*
D/D	EndlessMedley;RagtimeAnnie/Soldier'sJoy/	2/2/2/2
D/G	Golden Slippers (if gig longer than 1 hour, skip this and use as final medley)	

	Add next list for 3.5 hour long gigs	
D	Painters Polka	3
G	March of St. Timothy	3
C	Five Foot Two	4
D	Ashoken Farewell	3*
Em	Road to Lisdoonvarna/Riding load of Hay	2/3
D	Angleworm Wiggle	3
G	Columbus Stockade Blues	3
D	Festival Rag	3
Em	Dancing Bear	3
G	Sophrinia	3*
D	Young Roddy McCorley	5
G	Silver And Gold Two Step	3
Em	Missouri	3
D/A	Maple Sugar	3
C	Tennessee Waltz	3*
D	Angeline the Baker	3
G	Bellman's Jig	3
D	Road To Boston	3
G	Flowers of Edinburgh	3
D	Peek-A-boo Waltz	3*
Em	Drunken Sailor	3
D	Viola's Schottische	3
G	Old Joe Clark	3
G	Hundred Pipers	3
D	Midnight on the Water	3*
D	Petronella	3
G	Rosin the Beau	3
G	Farewell to Whiskey	3
D	Lover's Waltz	2
G	Nail That Catfish to a Tree	3
D	Possum up a Gum Stump	3
G	Irish Washerwoman	3
D	Beaumont Rag	3
G	Larry's Waltz	3*
A	Joys of Quebec	3
D	Saint Ann's Reel	3
G	Jamie Allen	3
G	Ashgrove	3*
Am	Katushka	3
D	Jenny Lind Polka	3
G	I'll Remember You Love In My Prayers	3*
D	Liberty	3
D	Pay de Haut	3
G	Scotland The Brave	3
D	Snake River Reel	3
D	Simple Gifts	3*
D/D	Endless Medley; Ragtime	2/2/2/2
D/G	Annie/Soldiers Joy/Golden Slippers	
G	Extra Tune, When Wheelman Ride By; A Bicycle Built For Two	3
	*2nd time feature fiddles, harmonicas HDs and backup play softly	

FESTIVALS-WORKSHOPS-JAMS

W. MICHIGAN BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION FALLFEST 2011

Sept.16-17-18

Kent County Fairgrounds, Lowell, Mich.
Musical & nonmusical activities for family fun
For information:

Dave @ 616-897-6220 or president@WMBMA.org

EAST LANSING DULCIMER FESTIVAL

Saturday, Sept. 24, 2011...10:am-9:30pm
Coordinated with ODPB Board meeting
Central United Methodist Church, Lansing, Mi.
(across from the Michigan Capitol building)

Meet & greet & register @ 10:am

Workshops 10:30am - 3:15pm

Jamming2: - 5:30pm

Concerts 3:30-4:30 and 7-9:30 pm

For more info. contact www.tenpoundfiddle.org

MAUMEE STREET MUSIC JAMS (formerly called West Adrian Jam)

Adrian, Michigan

Next meets Sept 24, 6- 11pm

For info. Contact: Jack or Marilyn @ 517-254-4828
Or marilynmullins@hotmail.com

NETTLE CREEK ACOUSTIC MUSIC JAM

Montpelier, Ohio

1st Saturday of each month October through April
For information: marilynmullins@hotmail.com

FALL ON THE ISLAND FESTIVAL

Oct. 7-8-9 Music all day Saturday

For more information:

www.drummondislandfallfestival.com

RICK THUM WORKSHOPS AND CONCERT

Nov. 12 @ Rockford VFW Hall, Rockford, Michigan

Workshops:

Beginner & past beginner 10:-noon. All levels 2-4:pm

Potluck at 5:pm (bring a dish to pass)

Concert at 7:pm

Jamming all day in the basement and after the concert

Concert \$10, Workshops \$25 or both for \$45

For information or registration:

Rick @ 314-406-0690 or rthum@rthum.com

MUSIC COORDINATOR WANTED

The board is seeking some one to fill the position of music coordinator. The duties are spelled out below in an excerpt from the by-laws. These duties may be done by the coordinator or arranged to be done by another member.

The By-Laws Under Article IV, Section 5 (Duties of Committee Chairmen) describe the position.

Music Coordinator:

1. Maintains the music library. Provides copies of music for newsletter and for members
2. Puts all music into proper written form (with regard to dulcimer keys, chord progressions, time signatures, proper number of beats per measure, clarity and other technical aspects of written music).
3. Determines musical arrangements for performance
4. Develops song play lists for performances.
5. Determines, with program Coordinator, new songs to be learned.

If you are interested please contact a Bob H or any board member to discuss and submit your qualifications. This can be a fun position where you can share your talent with our members. Mentoring is available to get you started.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Bob Hlavacek



Hello Fellow Musicians....

Please mark your calendars for September 17th as Ed and I will be hosting our annual "Osgood Jam".

Festivities will start at 2:00, food around 5:00 and bonfire at dusk. We will provide Sloppy Joes, soft drinks and place settings. Just bring a dish to pass and some tunes to play !!!

We are located at the SW corner of Geddes Rd and Ridge Rd. 10424 Geddes Rd. Superior Twp, Mi 48198. 734-487-4543 losgood10424@comcast.net
JAM,JAM,JAM!! Linda Osgood



Relaxing and jamming at the Annual SSDS Picnic at German Park. Once again a great success. Good food and great music under the pavilion. There's no better way to spend a warm summer afternoon.





Getting to know you Mary Colgan

I was born and raised as a farmer's daughter among 5 rambunctious brothers. Dad played harmonica, and a little cornet.

The first musical instrument I learned to play was the piano - beginning at age 5 or 6. My grandma gave me my first lessons. After she died, I continued my interest in learning piano, so mom finally agreed to let me start lessons with a neighbor in 4th grade – these would continue for 6 years. During Junior High School, I played Alto recorder. One other girl and I were tutored by the music teacher. We played duets in concert style - mostly classical music. I attempted to learn guitar when I graduated from nursing school. Now, the guitar is happily being played by my talented son.

I've always been "crafty". Mom taught me to sew at an early age. When my 3 boys decided that "mom made" clothes weren't "cool" anymore, I had to find *something* to sew! I started experimenting with stuffed animals, which led me to learning how to make cloth dolls. I've spent two decades, now, creating sewn dolls of various styles. I find it very challenging and lots of fun.

I love to crochet. I prefer to crochet with thread type materials as opposed to heavier yarns... the thread lends itself nicely for dressing the dolls I have around here. Alana tells me I have too many dolls - I ask... "Is that possible?" We don't count them. I'd LIKE to learn to knit better, but, that isn't my passion. I'd also love to be able to tat... but that technique eludes me.

Freeman's daughter convinced me to take some quilting classes with her a few years ago. My interest mainly is in making doll sized quilts. My first "human sized" quilt was not a planned piece, it sort of happened by accident, and took me 3 months to finish it. I have several quilts "planned" and some even started. But... they take second place to my Hammered Dulcimer playing now.

Freeman and I met in 1993 at a singles dance. We have a blended family of 5 children and 4 grandchildren. I've been teaching Alana, our 7 year old granddaughter, to play Hammered Dulcimer. She's doing really well ! You may meet her one day soon!

I bumped into the Hammered Dulcimer when Freeman and I attended a Saturday at Evert Funfest in 2009. We were going to "just listen" to music being played. We were unaware there would be workshops being taught, until we checked in. We attended a "one on one" session first. I don't know the lady's name who gave me my lesson that day, but, she did SO well, by the end of the hour, I began to think "I can do this!" I attended more classes, and Freeman headed to the vendors' buildings to see how much these things cost! I bought my first dulcimer that day. We won't discuss how many I've bought since then....

The only animal I have is carved on the front of my Lost Valley dulcimer! (I bought it used from the lady who commissioned Linda Foley to carve her dog on it, never learned to *play*, and let me adopt it in September 2010). It sounds beautiful, despite the "d-o-g" on the front of it.

After joining other dulcimer clubs, I began hearing about the Silver Strings Dulcimer Society. I had met several SSDS members at festivals as well. My first year of playing HD, I was still working full time and was unable to travel the distance on a work night. Freeman and I joined SSDS in February of 2011. We travel about 1½ hours from Haslett (near Lansing) to attend whenever we can.

I received my B.S. in Nursing in 1976, and I worked in several different nursing positions over the years. I retired in January 2010....that's when life with my HD became my daily focus! I find it *much* easier to practice/play now that I'm retired.

We've been able to attend a variety of local dulcimer events regularly, since I retired from a 30+-year career as a nurse. Music has been important in all my life stages. I expect that it will continue to be. We are happy to be a part of such a wonderful group of people! We're making lots of wonderful friends and learning lots of new music!

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At the popular Midland Folk Festival our "Mountaineers" mountain dulcimer group practiced for their performance later. Historian, Luke, displayed his antique instruments. The jams in the Silver Strings jam tent may start out small but end up overflowing the tent. Great fun was had by all.