

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Soundboard

May 2015 32 YEARS SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC July 1983-2015 Issue 361
Website : www.silverstrings.org

PRESIDENTS REPORT _____ Harold Crane

Hello, It's April 22nd, Earth Day, and I'm writing my newsletter report and it's snowing and blowing outside my window. Living in Michigan you can always talk about the weather or wait five minutes and it will change. Oh well, it's getting warmer so get ready for all the summer fun things to do and places to go.

Our Silver Strings Annual Meyers Lake Campout will be June 12-14 so mark your calendars and join in the music, workshops, jams, great food and socializing with old and new friends. The weather will be warm and sunny?

The next big event you don't want to miss is The Evart Funfest on July 16-18 and our Silver Strings grandstand stage show on Thursday. It's a great time to relax and enjoy yourself and others.

A big THANKS to all the board members and others for their planning, organizing and dedication to keep Silver Strings a great group to be proud of.

I'm off to the big state of Texas for the month of May for a little vacation so party on without me.

Take care and see ya in June. Harold

FROM THE TREASURER'S BOX _____ Terry Kozlowski

May Report

1. Our membership is now at 92. Please welcome returning members Pat Jurasek and Fred Conn.
2. Gig payouts for Feb. and March are completed and will be available at the May meeting.
3. Treasury book is available for inspection. See me at any of the jams or variety night for review.
4. Additional music revision packets will be available at the May meeting.

SECRETARY'S NOTES _____ Mick Mastal

Minutes for the last meeting are on file.

This past month Karen Turner had shoulder surgery which is slowing her down on dulcimer playing. Sad to say that Sally Niemczewski lost her brother. I know we will all have Sally in our prayers.

V.P. BUSINESS NOTES _____ Ann Wassell

Thanks to all of you we had a successful "Name-tag Day"! My name recall is poor and it is so helpful to be able to call people by their name without a struggle to remember. Hope we continue to wear the name-tags in the future.

Please review the play list for May-June-July and be prepared to play. I received a call from the manager of Mill Race Village in Northville (the day after our meeting) with a request to play for their Civil War Encampment on the Fourth of July from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Should be a fun way to celebrate July 4!

We will also play at Heartland Health Care - Canton on Tuesday, June 2. It seems that the Heartland playdates are pre-set for the year and I overlooked this one. Plenty of time to prepare for a playdate we all enjoy.

ANNOUNCING: WORKSHOP in JUNE



To continue encouraging people to do starts and helping everyone to get better at this, Sharon McAuliffe will be giving a workshop on starts. Date: June 4 at 6:00 p.m. (prior to our regular jam).

There are all kinds of ways to do a start to a piece. Doing starts adds to your confidence as a player, it expands your playing and helps our club play better at performances. So, even if you are not the starter, knowing how to recognize and come in at the appropriate time and tempo – all are factors in "getting off to a good start." Mark your calendar to be there for the workshop. (Thank you for Sharon for offering to do the workshop.)

Music Coordinator Notes Marsha Koslowski

Acknowledgement and Appreciation: As has been announced, I have accepted the Music Coordinator position for Silver Strings. As I gathered the information available, it is evident that I owe a great deal of gratitude to my predecessors for establishing a solid foundation on which to build. So, as I review everything to see where we are, I will share with you some of the information that you should know.

For example, our club is sensitive to copyright issues. There are a number of tunes that can be played at our jams but may be stricken from the playlists because we do not have the permission of the copyright holder to play them. When the music was standardized a few years ago, that group of tunes was separated from the rest. The board at that time decided to keep the tunes in our repertoire for our personal enjoyment. Because many of us use dropbox to pull up tunes, you may be unaware of this so following is a list of those tunes. The present board has not made a decision on this yet:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Angel Dance | Kentucky Waltz |
| Bei Mier Bist Du Schein | Five Foot Two |
| Florida Blues | Maple Sugar |
| Folk Medley | Never on Sunday |
| God Bless America | Old Spinning Wheel |
| I'll Fly Away | Robertson's Reel |
| It's a Small World | Takes Two to Tango |
| Just Because | Tennessee Waltz |
| You Are My Sunshine | Washington Square |

Tuning Up for Evert: The board reviewed a number of tunes to consider playing for the Evert gig. It was decided to work on these the next month or two and then narrow it down to 4-5 tunes. Following is the list of tunes for you to practice. Tommy's Waltz which was just taught by Sharon McAuliffe will be one of the tunes for sure because of its connection to our club and because it is a new tune for Evert audience. The rest will depend on what works best.

Farewell to Whiskey, Punccheon Floor. Sandy Boys, Scollay's Reel, Shoes & Stockings, Spanish Two Step, Ten Strike, Tommy's Waltz, You're A Grand Old Flag

New Tunes: The Board has agreed to continue to add new tunes, although it may not be every month. Tommy's Waltz is a new tune. (Note in this tune that there are 4 parts: a.b.c.d. Part C is the only one with **no repeat!**) The next tune may be a religious tune to add to our repertoire when we play for church services. Stay Tuned!

Beethoven – Dulcimer Style. The next opportunity to play the Finale from Beethoven's Fifth Symphony will be May 21 at 6:00 p.m. before our regular jam. So far there have been 7-8 members who have made it. Each time we have improved. I have sent out the parts to Vivaldi's "Spring" to get acquainted with and practice. If we have time, we will try it out. It has been fun so far. Hopefully, we will set up a slot at Myer's Lake for a classical jam.

IT'S MAY...LET'S CELEBRATE !

BIRTHDAYS

- 5....Dave Matthews
- 13...Carol Dick
- 19...Shirley Kaiser
- 26...Ken Kaiser
- 26...Peggy Kustra
- 27...Dawn Hayes
- 27...Terry Kozlowski
- 28...Lyle Thompson



ANNIVERSARIES

- 15...Chris & Mike Hurt.....44th
- 17...Ron & Dawn Hayes
- 26...Kaye Hemmerline

From the VP PROGRAMS _____ Wade Mullins
with Maureen Mullins

Well it looks like spring has finally decided to make an appearance. We are looking forward to some warmer weather and some camping! Please sign up for your Meyers Lake campsites as soon as possible so we can plan for food and drinks. We have invited several other clubs to join us and have had a good response, so we're hoping for a great turn out.

This year we will again be providing a Saturday morning breakfast and a Pot Luck Dinner. The club will provide the meat, place settings and beverages. Please bring a covered dish to pass and remember that although we all love dessert a few other side dishes would be greatly appreciated.

Dates to remember:

Annual Meyers Lake Campout – June 12, 13, 14

Use reservation code G1401833 when calling or contact them at www.meyerslake.org. You can use your own RV, Tent or rent a cabin.

Evert Dulcimer Festival – July 16, 17, 18, 19

Silver Strings Picnic (Garden City Park) – Aug 6

Midland Dulcimer Festival – August 27, 28, 29, 30

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

JUNE

- 2....**PLAYDATE** 3:00-4:00
Heartland Health Care Canton
- 4....**SSDS Meeting and Jam** 7:00-?
- 12-14...**SSDS MYERS LAKE CAMPOUT**

JULY

- 4....**PLAYDATE** 11:30am-2:30pm
Mill Race Village (Civil War Camp). .Northville
- 16-19...**ODPC EVART FUNFEST**

C=Casual, BC=Business Casual

To print the May play list,

please click on our website or this link :

<http://www.silverstrings.org/sections/tunes/pdf/2015/2015MayPlaylist.pdf>

Silver Strings May-June-July 2015 Playlist

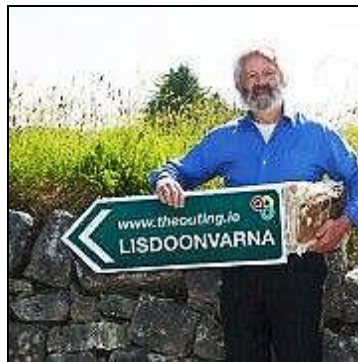
Key	Tune	Play
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast	3
G	Red Wing	3*
G	Westphalia Waltz	2
D	Over The Waterfall	3
D	Sandy River Belle	3
G	Maggie	3
G	Down Yonder	3
C	Tennessee Waltz	3*
D	John Ryan's Polka	5
G	Southwind	3*
D	Snake River Reel	3
G	Red Apple Rag	3
G	Silver and Gold Two Step	3
D	Turkey in the Straw	3
C	Black Velvet Waltz	3*
D	Beaumont Rag	3
G	Bellman's Jig	3
Em	Dancing Bear/Missouri	2/2
C	Five Foot Two	3
Em	Tamlin	4
D	Liberty	3
C	You're A Grand Old Flag	3
	Extras	
D	Hey Polka	3
	*2 nd time: If instruments are available-- Fiddles, Harmonicas, MD or Whistle take it with backup; HD's softly	

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society Music:

We have been given permission, by several composers, to play their music in our club. We also pay for a license that allows us to play some of our favorite tunes. We want to protect our Silver Strings members and respect the composers who have generously shared their music with us. In consideration of the composers and SSDS, do not sell, copy, give away or share any of our Silver Strings music.

MEDIC - ALERT CARDS

If you have not filled out an emergency information card yet, **PLEASE DO**. They are the green cards in the brown recipe box at the business table at all meetings. These go with us to all SSDS activities (social or business). They are kept for family contact in case you have a medical emergency when you are with us. If you have new medical info since you filled yours out, please update it with a new card.



Willy the Matchmaker, seen here with the Road to Lisdoonvarna sign is a fourth generation match maker living in Lisdoonvarna. He has put together many couples from all over the world. The matchmaking festival in Lisdoonvarna originally started when local

farmers who were too busy all year in the fields to court a woman would come to town that week to find a bride. Something to think about while we are playing "Road to Lisdoonvarna".
Mick

Join the Dulcimer Boys of Summer just before the ODPF Evert Funfest



Rick Thum is doing his **A to Z** class again and still has room for you. Monday July 13 thru Wednesday July 15. Over 20 hours of class time. \$175. Contact Rick At rthum@rthum.com or **314-406-0690** or go to his website www.rthum.com to sign up.



Stephen Seiphert is teaching a mountain dulcimer three-day with **Bing Futch** at the Twin Oaks Bowling Center & Lounge in Evert, MI, July 13-15, just before the ODPF FunFest. It's very close to the campground, but just outside walking distance. There will be good food, bowling, and an awesome jam with Rick Thum's bunch. The venue is non-smoking.

Bing and Stephen are teaching beginners, intermediates, and up, and will swap classes after lunch each day. Registration is now open. For all the details, please visit: <http://bingandsteve.com>.

FESTIVALS-WORKSHOPS-JAMS

UNCLE CARL'S DULCIMER CLUB

2nd Saturday of month, Sept thru May, 12:30-4:30pm
(next is May 9th)

For info. call Penny 517-547-7448

NETTLE LAKE MUSIC JAM

First Saturday of Month Sept thru May – 6pm
(next is May 2nd)

For info contact Jack & Marilyn Mullins 517-270-2870

MAUMEE STREET MUSIC JAM

(formerly called West Adrian Jam)

Forth Saturday of the month – 6pm (next is May 23rd)

For info. Contact:

Jack & Marilyn Mullins 517-270-2870
Or Larry Roper 248-437-5403

SUGAR (Saginaw Ukulele Gurus and Rookies)

First Saturday of the month 10:30-Noon (May 2nd)

Sullivan's Restaurant on Gratiot in Saginaw, MI

Songs are posted beforehand on the internet

For info email: muzyka2007@yahoo.com

MT. HALEY JAMBOREE

Last Friday of every month (May 29th)

Mt. Haley Township Hall, Midland County

1:00-4:00-Folk and Traditional Music Jam

Admission is free but donations to the Metamora Historical Society are appreciated. Metamora's 1888 Old Town Hall is part of an historic community.

For info. Call Alice Gajewski at 248-628-5287
mthaleyfmsm@gmail.com

GREAT LAKES UKULELE GATHERING

First Wednesday of the month 7:00 (May 6th)

Good Hope Lutheran Church,
28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City

A donation of \$3.00 is requested for the church.

Contact: Bob at bsnemo@yahoo.com or
David at musicalcraft@yahoo.com

Pittsfield Open Band - POB

Pittsfield Grange 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Road, Ann Arbor, First and third Saturday from 3-6pm.

<http://www.aactmad.org/sa/pob.html>

LAMS - Livingston Acoustic Musical Society

3rd Saturday of the month 7-11pm (May 16th)

Fowlerville Church of the Nazarene

8040 Country Corner Drive, Fowlerville

Contact: Tony Miceli 517-223-9590

FARMINGTON JAM

Universalist Unitarian Church

25301 Halsted Rd. Farmington Hills 48335

Second Tuesday of each month from Sept – June, 7pm

Many players come to play dulcimers, fiddles, guitars...

If you are a beginner, this is a good place to meet people and get involved.

Contact: HolmesSid@aol.com

If anyone knows of a good jam that should be in this column and isn't please let me know. Lee

Camping Information, Please !!

The story is told of a lady who was rather old-fashioned, quite delicate and elegant, especially in her language. She and her husband were planning a vacation in Florida, so she wrote to a campground asking for a reservation. She wanted to make sure the campground was fully equipped, but didn't quite know how to ask about the toilet facilities. She just couldn't bring herself to write the word "toilet" in her letter. After much deliberation, she finally came up with the old-fashioned term "bathroom commode". But when she wrote that down, she still thought it was too forward. So she started again, rewrote the letter referring to the bathroom commode merely as the BC: "Does the campground have its own BC?" is what she actually wrote. Well, the campground owner wasn't old-fashioned at all and when he got the letter, he couldn't figure out what the woman was talking about. So he finally came to the conclusion that the lady must be asking about the local Baptist Church, and wrote the following reply:

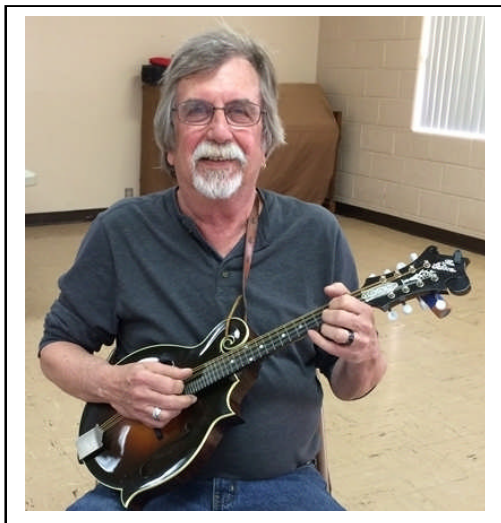
Dear Madam:

I take pleasure in informing you that a BC is located nine miles north of the campground and is capable of seating 250 people at one time. I admit it is quite a distance away, if you are in the habit of going regularly, but you will be pleased to know that a great number of people take their lunches and make a day of it. They arrive early and stay late. It is a beautiful facility and the acoustics are marvelous...even the normal delivery sounds can be heard. The last time my wife and I went was six years ago, and it was so crowded we had to stand up the whole time we were there. It may interest you to know that right now a supper is planned to raise money to buy more seats. They are going to hold it in the basement of the BC. I would like to say it pains me very much not to be able to go more regularly, but it surely is no lack of desire on my part. As we grow old, it seems to be more of an effort, particularly in cold weather. If you do decide to come down to our campground, perhaps I could go with you the first time you go, sit with you, and introduce you to all the other folks. Remember, this is a friendly community!

SSDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2015

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Getting to Know You... Mick Mastal



Hello everyone, my name is Mick Mastal and I am the recording secretary this year for Silver Strings. I have been a member since 2010 and play the mandolin, mandola, and attempt to play the uke and guitar sometimes with my wife.

I live almost across the road from the Lake Erie State Park and on one Saturday I decided to attend the annual Lake Erie Ice Days Festival and heard members of Silver Strings play there. I liked the music and the friendly people so I came back the following day and played with them there and shortly after joined Silver Strings as a member.

I was born in the Warrendale area of Detroit which was a very ethnic neighborhood and grew up listening to Polish, Ukrainian, and Greek music and as a young boy liked to build model airplanes, boats, cars, and toys. My mother was a typical homemaker and believe it or not still lives in our family home along with over 150 varieties of roses in her garden out back. She loves to show people all her prize roses

when they visit. My Father was a metal worker and I passed through doors my dad made in every school I went to in the Detroit Public Schools. I also had one younger brother.

At the age of 12 my parents gave me an AM/FM transistor radio and one day I found a Jazz station (WCHD) that Ed Love put on and from that day on even into high school I listened to it. At the age of about 14 my brother wanted to play the drums (he later became a professional Jazz musician) so our parents got him some lessons and to be fair they offered me lessons on any instrument of my choice. I was undecided on what to play- the trombone, the bass fiddle...and if they could afford to buy one of those for me to play. One afternoon I was at my grandparents talking about it when my grandfather went up to the attic and brought down his 1906 Washburn Mandolin that he has serenaded my grandmother with and said, "How about this?" Ethnic melodies ran through my head, and that was it, I had an instrument! Sadly I never heard my grandfather play that mandolin but the instructor at the music studio insisted on teaching me how to rock and roll on that mandolin, and after six lessons I quit and went to art school at the Center For Creative Arts on Saturdays to study drawing and painting. After high school I went to Wayne State and earned a BFA degree in Fine Arts, got married, got drafted and was in the army signal corps for two years then went back to Wayne State and finished up my masters in Art. I am also a graduate gemologist from the Gemological Institute of America and am a silver/gold hand engraver and design jewelry. I was a craft demonstrator at Greenfield Village for four years as a silversmith, glass blower, and tin type photographer, a truck car hauler driver for 15 years, and for 30 years a goldsmith, jewelry designer, and hand engraver. I retired in 2012 but still do hand engraving, oil and chalk painting and display my works around the Detroit area.

I have been married to Fran (also a Silver Strings member) for 15 years. We have two daughters- one a teacher and one who designs toys and craft kits and also one grandson. About six years ago when Fran started taking guitar lessons and wanted me to play mandolin with her, I got serious about the mandolin and really worked on it. Besides playing the mandolin, drawing and painting, and engraving, Fran and I enjoy sailing on our 27 foot sailboat at Grosse Isle and kayaking there, too. I also play mandolin for a guitar group called, "Picks and Bow" we play at weddings and other events. I am active on the Gallery Committee of the Downtown Council for the Arts, teach boating safety classes, am Senior Navigator in the US Power Squadron, and also serve in many veterans' organizations nearby. We have two cats and recently adopted a rescue greyhound named Hilly from the Greyhound Expressions Rescue Group. Fran first saw her and learned that Hilly had a lot of emotional issues and needed a supportive senior household, and that was us. At first she was very shy and slept behind the couch but now loves to run outside even though she doesn't like our cats but that will come in time I think. My goal is to stay active and creative in my art and music and to be happy with life.

Interviewed and written by Ernie Stewart



Meyers Lake Campground
10575 Silver Lake Rd. Byron, MI
48418



Silver Strings Dulcimer Society's Annual Meyers Lake Campout

June 12 -14, 2015

Join us for a family friendly weekend of Music, Workshops and Jams

Friday and Saturday evening Jams in the enclosed Barn

The club will provide both Saturday morning Breakfast and Pot Luck Dinner

(meat, place settings and beverages included – please bring a dish to pass)

Make your reservations at WWW.meyerslake.org or by calling them at 810-266-4511

Use reservation code **G1401833**

Camp in your own tent or trailer or Cabin rental is available beginning at \$65.00 per night.

20 Amp sites are \$30.00 per night
30 Amp w/water are \$35.00 per night

First night's payment is due upon reservation. Paying for your entire stay in advance you will qualify for curb side check-in and will bypass any lines in the registration office/store.

For any questions please contact:
Wade or Maureen Mullins
mmm31517@aol.com 734-347-2098

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Meetings on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays every month
7-9p.m with jamming till ...?

Meeting at **Good Hope Lutheran Church**
In Garden City, Michigan

Featuring the hammered dulcimer, mountain dulcimer,
and other acoustic band instruments :

banjo, guitar, autoharp, fiddle, string bass, washtub
bass, mandolin, folk harp, recorder, tin penny whistle,
and harmonica.

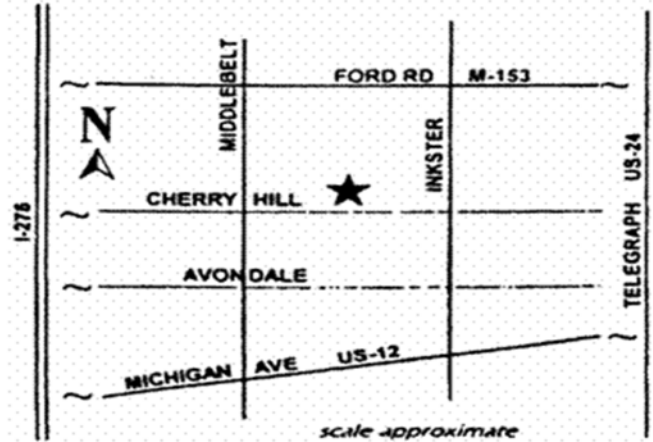
Learn new tunes and techniques, jam together
with other players, receive new music
and a monthly newsletter.

Participate in workshops, festivals, performances,
picnics, fun and fellowship.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT :

<http://www.silverstrings.org>

Everyone is welcome !
Come to listen, or come to play.



Start thinking about getting articles for the newsletter to me by the 20th.
Articles or pictures from any member are always welcome.

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

P.O.Box 1116
Garden City, MI. 48136



IT'S MAY...!
SPRING IS HERE !!

If you were on the mailing list
your name would be here.