

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society Soundboard

November 2016 SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC for 33 YEARS 1983-2016 Issue 379
www.silverstrings.org

PRESIDENTS REPORT _____ Harold Crane

Greetings fellow musicians, our Silver Strings Banquet last month was an enjoyable evening with our hobby displays, good food and great entertainment.

Well, there's "frost on the pumpkin" and the holiday season is upon us with lots of places to go, things to do, enjoying and sharing our music and of course spending time with friends and family. We have a few new tunes to learn for our Christmas playdates, so try to attend our rehearsals and sign up for our holiday performances which start on December 1st at Good Hope! You can find all the new tunes in Dropbox.

Another huge event this month at Good Hope Church is the Rick Thum all day workshops and evening concert on Saturday, November 12th. Bring some friends, family or other musicians to pack the church and enjoy a great show!

We also have two very important elections coming up, our country's future government and our 2017 Silver Strings Board of Directors. We still need two good people to step up and run for President and V. P. Business, so that our board of directors and Silver Strings will have another successful year.

I'd like to wish everyone a HAPPY THANKSGIVING and peace on earth. See ya soon..... Harold

From the VP PROGRAMS _____ Gloria Tapper

Hello everyone, as most of you know, I have had a rough October, so I have not been able to attend the last few jams, but I'm beginning to get a little better. Thank you for the card.

Also, I want to thank everyone who helped with the Banquet at Corsi's. I needed a lot of help that night, if you couldn't be there, there was some very creative hobbies to check out, and the entertainers were excellent, Rob Bourassa and Mike Karoub. I think the jam session was very interesting, a lot of unique stories being told, and very well done. I wish that I could have participated.

Don't forget Rick Thum will be at Good Hope Church on November 12th with workshops and jamming throughout the day and his concert that evening. There is a flyer, be sure to look it over.

Now, on to the upcoming weeks. Check out all the gigs coming up. The Christmas concert at Good Hope

Lutheran Church is December 1st from 7:00 to 8:00 and I am asking for donations of cookies and desserts for the afterglow upstairs. I know it's still early, but I need to get this out, I will remind you at a later date. Also, our Christmas Dinner will be coming up on December 15th. I will cover that in December newsletter.

I've been enjoying the past warm days, I hope you have too. See you soon.....Gloria

September & October Birthdays & Anniversaries were inadvertently left out of the newsletter.....but here are November's

IT'S NOVEMBER...LET'S CELEBRATE !

BIRTHDAYS

6....Bill Smith
10...Terry Treppa



ANNIVERSARIES

7....Lyle Thompson.....37th
9....Ed Konstal.....48th
9....John & Sharon McAuliffe
25...John Freeman..... 28th

V.P. BUSINESS NOTES _____ Ann Wassell

DECEMBER PLAYDATES with a (*) are open to the public.

Dec. 1	* Good Hope Lutheran Church	7:00 - 8:00
Dec. 3	* Mt. Hope Congregational Church, Livonia	7:00 - 8:00
Dec. 6	Heartland Healthcare - Canton	3:00 - 4:00
Dec. 6	Holy Cross Lutheran Church - Livonia	7:00 - 8:00
Dec. 8	St. Francis Cabrini Parish-Allen Park	6:45 dinner 7:15 - 8:15
Dec. 9	Generations at Botsford - Livonia	1:00 - 2:00
Dec. 11	* St. Richards Church, Westland	2:00 - 3:00
Dec. 12	Plymouth Cultural Center - Plymouth	1:45 - 2:45
Dec. 14	Garden City Hospital Rehab Unit	6:00 - 7:00
Dec. 15	* Livonia Public Library	12:15-1:00
Dec. 17	* Caroline Kennedy Library - Dbn. Heights	2:00 - 3:00
Dec. 20	Howell Senior Center- Howell	12:30-1:30
Dec. 20	Saint Collette Church - Livonia	7:30 - 8:30

PUMPKIN PIE CAKE

- Heat oven to 350 degrees
- Grease and flour a 13 x 9 pan
- 1 can pumpkin puree (15 oz)
- 1 can evaporated milk (12 oz)
- 3 large eggs
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 box spice cake mix
- 1 cup melted butter

First, melt butter so it can cool slightly. I used a 1 cup measuring cup and melted it in the microwave. Whisk eggs until mixed, then add pumpkin, milk, cinnamon and sugar. Spread evenly in the baking pan. Crumble the dry spice cake mixture evenly over the top. Drizzle the melted butter over all. Bake for 55 to 60 minutes. Refrigerate the cake after it cools. May be made a day ahead.....Ann Wassell

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

- 3.....SSDS MEETING AND JAM 7:00 - ??
SSDS Board Meeting 5:30
- 10..... SSDS Christmas Practice 7:00
- 12..... Rick Thum Workshops/Concert....9am-9:30pm
- 17.....SSDS MEETING AND JAM 7:00 - ??

MUSIC COORDINATOR NOTES...Marsha Kozlowski

Library Outreach Update. Two libraries are on the schedule for 2017: Farmington Hills Library, February 20 at 2:30 p.m., Livonia Public Library, March 28 at 6:30 p.m. Circle your calendars for these dates. It is a great program and we had such fun doing it. To be successful, 9-10 dulcimer players are needed plus a nice complement of back-up instruments. I have been in contact with other libraries and may have the opportunity to make our pitch to several at a meeting in early December. So stay tuned. The plan is to be available once a month for this. However, the program won't be scheduled in summer months of July, August or November, December.



Library Outreach at the Plymouth Library in September

I hear “*music, music, music*” – oh, that’s because holiday rehearsals have started. The consensus at the first practice was to work on all the new tunes offered. We had a good practice and everyone’s input was quite helpful. Check Dropbox for the LATEST versions of the tunes. Some needed corrections or changes that have been made and updated versions are in Dropbox. (Thank you Karen). There are **two playlists** – one for most of the libraries and one for the rest of the playdates. Be at practices if you can make it – even if you know the tune, the practice helps everyone get on the “same page” -to be familiar with the tempos being played, where we slow down, starts and endings, dynamics (where to play softly to feature certain instruments), etc. Adding these touches elevates our performance from the ordinary to special and highlights all the talent of our club. If an extra practice is needed to fine tune any of the new tunes, let’s come in early at 6:00 on Nov. 17 to work on those.

Our first concert is December 1 at Good Hope. This is our “giving back” to them for letting us use their facility and it launches the holiday season. It is open to the public and many of us have friends and fans come. To help achieve the full rich sound this concert is known for, please try to make the rehearsals.

“These are a few of our Favorite Tunes”

For those of us who are learning many of our tunes, here is a list of what to learn first. It was created in September by your votes. A mix of these tunes will form the basis of our January playlist and used for the Erie Ice Daze. So when you get tired of practicing holiday tune lists, pull this out to play.

Top 40 Favorite Silver Strings Tunes

Top Tune on 7 lists	On 5 lists:
Tamlin	Ashokan Farewell
	Cold Frosty Morn
Top Tune on 6 lists:	Sandy Boys
Amelia	South Wind
Festival Rag	Whiskey Before Breakfast
Over the Waterfall	Lover’s Waltz
Road to Lisdoonvarna	Red Apple Rag
On 4 lists:	On 3 lists:
Bobby Casey	Beaumont Rag
Columbus Stockade Blues	Hey Polka
Sophrinia	Coleman’s March
Fanny Poer	Chinese Breakdown
The Gale	Bellman’s Jig
John Ryan’s Polka	Dancing Bear
Pickin the Berries	Five Foot Two
Pig Ankle Rag	Hundred Pipers
Red Haired Boy	I’ll Fly Away
Silver & Gold Two Step	Mississippi Sawyer
Snake River Reel	Sandy River Belle
Spanish Two Step	Star of the County Down
Yellow Bird	Washington Square
	Young Roddy McCorley
	January Waltz
	Larry’s Waltz



Jamming at the Banquet - We had such fun with the themed jam – “Where did you go this year?” Harold went out west and woke up to a “**Cold Frosty Morn**” of 35° in Colorado. He crossed many rivers and was sure one of them was the “**Reel Snake River.**” Dave and Theresa Smith went to a “**Festival Rag**”. Chris H. went camping in the U.P. and saw the Tahquamenon Falls but managed not to go “**Over the Waterfall.**” Edie just went into her basement get a “**Rag**”. It was “**time**” for “**Annie**” to come clean. And then there was Terry Kozlowski’s saga of going over the “**Tamlin**” bridge where he saw a “**Red Haired Boy**” as they travelled to a place up north that had a wonderful “**Front Porch,**” big enough to “**Waltz.**” Shirley told us she decided “**I’ll Fly Away**” but when she got there, she had a “**Chinese Breakdown.**” Edie wanted to take the “**Road to Lisdoonvarna**” but it was time to go home.

There were a lot of laughs before time ran out and we could hear where everyone went. As we packed up to go, I wondered what else we would have played given more time. Where did you go? Perhaps “**Off to California**”? Or did you head south like Don Phillips will be doing soon to “**Alabama Jubilee**”? Maybe you went east on the “**Road to Boston**”? Or like George Gonyo you just went, “**Down Yonder.**”



HOLIDAY PRACTICE NOTES:

FINAL PRACTICE (Maybe): November 10 at 7:00 p.m. If you have not made any practices, please try to make this one. Some of the starts are different. We are playing some new tunes and also some old tunes in a different way. The practice will be a sort of dress (without the dress) rehearsal which means we will set up like we will be at a performance in a semi-circle. I will create a seating chart. **To help with that, HD players – let me know if you plan to stand or sit. Multiple instrument players – let me know what instrument you are planning to play. We will go through the playlist and fine tune where needed.**

If we need to work on a particular tune, we can meet at 6:00 on Nov. 17 (the hour before our regular jam) as our final practice. That can be determined on Nov. 10.

About 20 people came to the Oct. 27 practice and managed to get through the entire Holiday Play list. Everyone’s individual practice is paying off. Don’t stop! Based on what was accomplished and decided, an updated playlist with notes is in progress but not ready yet. However, here are some notes in the meantime that will help you continue to prepare for our holiday playing season:

- Mark your music - put in how many times we play, where the ritard starts if applicable, where to play soft, loud, etc., tempo reminders, and whatever else may be helpful to you.
- **JOLLY OLD ST. NICK/Pachelbel’s Canon** – 1) there is an 8 measure start that sets the tempo. 2) The tune is played 4 times: first time softly, second time features the whistles playing melody and harmony the rest of us play softly, the 3rd time everyone play somewhat louder, but not booming – play as if in church, and the last time we play somewhat softly because St. Nick is walking out. The tune ends as it begins with an 8 measure tag.
- **Rockin’ Around the Christmas Tree** – Watch the syncopation in this one – measures 2 and 3. This rhythmic passage repeats itself. If you need to, clap out the rhythm to help “get it”. 1, 2&, 3, 4&; 1,2,3,4&. The 1,2&, 3, 4& rhythm gives this tune its swing feel. You may want to underline or highlight those measures.
- **We Three Kings/Carol of the Bells** – we are getting there with this tune. I don’t want to play it too fast because it gets muddy and loses its clarity. It will be the dynamics that elevate this to a really great performance piece (whether you play it with the group, for yourself or a solo performance at your church). So with that in mind:
 - 1) After a 2 measure lead-in, We Three Kings should be started softly and build up to its peak at the end of the running notes (measures 9-12, 31-34, etc.) and then get softer right before we switch to Carol of the Bells. As you play this, picture yourself crossing the desert at night. It is quiet, mysterious and you are looking at the stars. We are not taking I-96 at rush hour.
 - 2) The repeated interlude at 45-46 should be played softly. Measure 47 we come in loud. There should be a volume contrast.
 - 3) The running passage at 51-52 should also become softer at the bottom of the run and build to the top note
 - 4) When we get to measures 75-77, picture in your mind that the Magi are slowing down to take a break, get off the camels to restore circulation before continuing on as they ponder the Star of Wonder. We pick the tempo back up at 78, they are anxious to get going again.
 - 5) the final Carol of the Bells passage should start the ritard at measure 96.
 - 6) there is a tag ending

Thank you everyone. I think we have a fine program in the works and appreciate your contribution to making it happen.Marsha

(tentative) Silver Strings Christmas 2016 - Revised 10-28-2016		
Key	Tune	Play
G	Jingle Bells Start with chorus – Santa Stick	3½
G	Deck the Halls Tag End by Starter	3***
G	Let it Snow! Tag End by Starter	2
C	Winter Wonderland	3
C	Silver Bells Ritard End. HD – walk up C Chord	3
C	Santa Claus is Coming to Town – Santa Stick	2
C	A Holly Jolly Christmas – peppy tempo	3
C	Jingle Bell Rock	3
D	Rockin' Round the Christmas Tree – Tag end by starter	2
D	Jolly Old St. Nicholas Pachelbel 8 measure start; play soft/slow! 2nd time whistles/psaltery featured. 3rd time more volume, 4th time somewhat softer Tag by Starter	4
D	The First Noel – each time increase volume	3***
G	Ding Dong Merrily/He is Born	2/2
G	Angels We Have Heard on High Ritard End	3***
G	Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Ritard End	3
G	Away in the Manger Ritard End	3***
Em	God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen Play upbeat tempo; all end on last E	4
G	O Come All Ye Faithful Ritard End	3***
Am	We Three Kings/Carol of the Bells Ritard End	1
G	Joy to the World – new 3 measure start Tag end by Bass	3
D/G	Simple Gifts Tag by Starter	2/1***
D/G	Silent Night Ritard End	2/2***
D/G	Here We Come/We Wish You a Merry Christmas – Ritard last 2 measures	2/1½
Tunes marked with *** -HD/s soften up so other instruments can be featured. It will be decided for sure just before each gig.		

(tentative) 2016 Library Holiday Play List - Revised 10-28-2016			
Key	Tune	Notes	Play
G	Jingle Bells	Start with Chorus; Santa Stick	3 ½
G	Deck the Halls	Tag by Starter	3***
G	Let It Snow!	Tag by Starter	2
C	Winter Wonderland		2
C	Silver Bells	Ritard end, HD's walk up C Chord	3
D	Frosty the Snowman		2
C	Santa Claus is Coming to Town	Start play with spirit; Santa Stick	2
C	Jingle Bell Rock		2
C	Holly Jolly Christmas	Peppy tempo	3
D	Festival Rag		3
D	Rockin' Round the Christmas Tree	Tag end by starter	2
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast		3
G	Red Apple Rag		3
G	Silver and Gold Two Step		3***
G	Westphalia Waltz		2***
Am	Cold Frosty Morn'		3
D	Tick Tock Polka	Add the "yip" vocal in part B	3
G	Grandfather's Clock	Third time through – bass solo – if present	3
D	Midnight on the Water		2***
D	Jolly Old St. Nicholas/ Pachelbel Canon	8 measure start; play soft/slow! 2nd time whistles/psaltery featured. 3 rd time more volume. 4 th time somewhat softer Tag by Starter	4
D/G	Simple Gifts	Ritard last 3 measures; Tag end by starter	3***
Am	We Three Kings/Carol of the Bells	Ritard last 3 measures; watch dynamics	1
G	Here We Come A Wassailing/ We Wish You a Merry Christmas	Start and Play w/Spirit; Ritard last 2 measures	2/1½
Pay attention: HD's soften up on tunes marked with *** so other instruments are featured. This will be decided just before each gig. Watch for ritards at end.			



Hello Everyone,

We are looking for a **President** and **Vice President of Business**. These are two very important positions to help our club keep running smoothly. Our President conducts our meetings, conducts Board Meetings, and basically overlooks the club's business. The Vice President of Business receives calls from organizations for the club's playdates, sets the calendar for people to sign up.

There will be training for each of these positions. There is no worry about not knowing what to do. Basically.....easy.....peasy!!!!!! That is a technical term. So look into your heart and time. Let's join up for the roles. People who are currently running for the position:

President: ?

Vice President Business: ?

Vice President Programs: Gloria Tapper

Treasurer: John Pollock

Secretary: Christine Hurt

.....Peggy Kustra - nominating Committee

Webster Hammered Dulcimer for Sale

complete with stand, tuner, 2 hammers, case.
Asking \$750. For more information contact
Peggy Kustra 313-570-7844.

2 Hammered Dulcimers for Sale

1 David's Dulcimer - Student size 1 Master Works.
Contact Donna Mayer for details and price.
313-388-1243

Oscar Schmidt Appalachian Autoharp for Sale

Contact Carol Wasilewski for details.
Phone: 734-367-3139 Email: cswasil@gmail.com

Webster Hammered Dulcimer (circa 1985)

In good shape. A home-built stand included.
Asking \$550 Darryl Smith, Waterford 248-842-8683



FESTIVALS-WORKSHOPS-JAMS

UNCLE CARL'S DULCIMER CLUB

2nd Saturday of month, Sept thru May, 12:30-4:30pm
For information visit <http://www.unclecarls.org>

PAINTCREEK FOLKLORE SOCIETY

We encourage everyone to visit our gatherings.
1st Saturday of every month, September - July, 7pm
<http://www.paintcreekfolkloresociety.org>

NETTLE LAKE MUSIC JAM

1st Saturday of Month, Sept thru May, 6pm
For info contact Jack & Marilyn Mullins: 517-270-2870

MAUMEE STREET MUSIC JAM

4th Saturday of the month Sept thru May, 6pm
For info. Contact:
Jack & Marilyn Mullins: 517-270-2870
Or Larry Roper: 248-437-5403

SUGAR (Saginaw Ukulele Gurus and Rookies)

1st Saturday of the month 10:30am-Noon
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, 1:00 - 4:00pm
Mt. Haley Township Hall, Midland County
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: 248-628-5287
mthaleyfmsm@gmail.com

GREAT LAKES UKULELE GATHERING

1st Wednesday of each month, 7:00 - 9:00pm
Good Hope Lutheran Church,
28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City
A donation of \$3.00 is requested for the church.
Contact: Bob: bsnemo@yahoo.com
or David: musicalcraft@yahoo.com

Pittsfield Open Band - POB

1st and 3rd Saturday from 3:00 - 6:00pm
3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd, Ann Arbor,
<http://www.aactmad.org/sa/pob.html>

LAMS - Livingston Acoustic Musical Society

3rd Saturday of the month 7:00 - 11:00pm
Fowlerville Church of the Nazarene
8040 Country Corner Drive, Fowlerville
Contact: Tony Miceli: 517-223-9590

FARMINGTON JAM

2nd Tuesday of each month from Sept-June, 7:00pm
Universalist Unitarian Church
25301 Halsted Rd. Farmington Hills 48335
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 on this list, please let me know. David Smith

33rd Annual Silver Strings Banquet with Hobbies - Dinner - Entertainment - Jam



Linda Osgood - Harness Racing



Ann Wassell - Vintage Cookie Cutters



Peggy Kustra - Adult Coloring Books



Sharon Crane - Coloring Book



Gerry Hermans - Original Art



George Newton - Family History



Gloria Tapper - Ceramic Painting



David Smith - Wooden Toys



After a tasty buffet dinner, Harold hands out awards to those who helped the club during the past year



Fun Entertainment with Mike Karoub and Rob Brousa



The evening closed with the "Where did you go this year?" themed jam

Featured in Workshops and Concert

Rick Thum



Saturday November 12, 2016

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|---|
| 9:00 - 10:30AM | Workshop #1 BEGINNERS
\$25 | We will explore the basics and more depending on the level and needs of participants. |
| 11:00 - 1:00PM | Workshop #2 ALL LEVELS
\$30 | We will review chord construction and patterns and then practice hearing and playing them for jamming or playing back-up. A good practice at hearing chord changes. Lots of hands on playing. |
| 1:00 - 2:00PM | Lunch | |
| 2:00 - 4:00PM | Workshop #3 ALL LEVELS
\$30 | Embellishments. What notes do I use. How to find them fast and how many do I need. A quick and easy way to find embellishments. |

If taking more than one workshop, take \$5.00 off of each additional workshop.

6:00 - 7:30PM CONCERT \$12

If registered in a workshop concert \$8.00

7:30 - 9:30 OPEN JAMMING

The lower level room will be available for jamming, and hanging out for those not choosing the workshops.

Location

Good Hope Lutheran Church
28680 Cherry Hill Rd.
Garden City, MI 48135

Contact

Rick Thum
314-406-0690
Email: rthum@rthum.com
Website: rthum.com

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

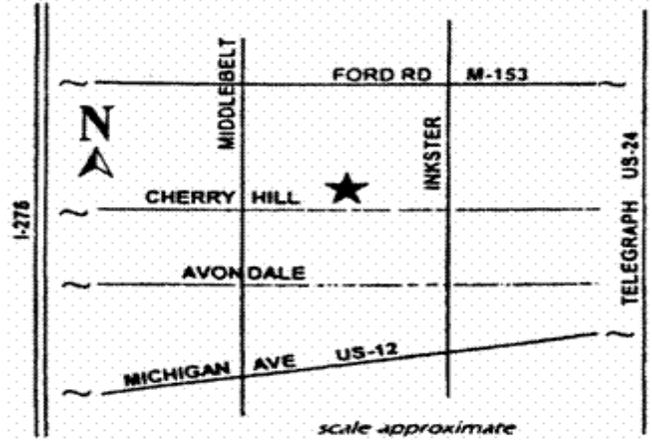
Meetings on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays every month
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.... with jamming till ...?

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

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

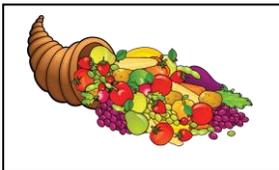
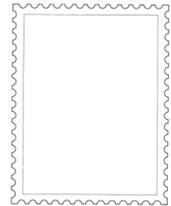
Everyone is welcome !
Come to listen, or come to play.



Start thinking about getting articles for the newsletter to me by the 25th.
Articles or pictures from any member are always welcome.

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

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



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