

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Soundboard



January 2024

SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC for 40 YEARS

Issue 465

<https://www.silverstrings.org/>

PERKY PEGGY'S PONDERINGS ~ Peggy Kustra

Hello Everyone and Happy New Year. May this year be filled with happy music and friendship.

I want to thank Terry Kozlowski, Harold Crane, Chris Wolschon, Sally Kilcullen and Patty Wolschon for doing so much hard work last year. They were a terrific board.

Many Thanks to Karen Turner, Dave and Theresa Smith, and Marsha Kozlowski. These folks have always stepped up to the plate and have done a marvelous job. We are blessed to have them continue their positions in 2024.

A big Thank you to Cindy Semrau, Sue Tranquilla, Patty and Chris Wolschon for joining with me on the 2024 Board. What a lovely bunch of folks to work with. Looking forward to working with all of you.

Remember to watch your email on heavy snowy or sleety days. Check it just before leaving home. We don't want you driving around if a meeting has been cancelled. January and February are notorious for this kind of weather.

This year let's keep SSDS running smoothly along with fun, friendship, and music galore.

Peggy Kustra.... 734-560-8204

Silverstrings.President@gmail.com

JANUARY CALENDAR

04 - SSDS Board Meeting - - - - - 6:00 pm

04 - SSDS JAM & 'After Hours' - - - - - 7:00 pm

18 - SSDS JAM & 'After Hours' - - - - - 7:00 pm

For more information on all upcoming events, click on:

<https://www.silverstrings.org/sections/events/events.html>

MARSHA'S MUSINGS ~ Marsha Kozlowski

Reflections on our Holiday Music – audience and players alike really enjoyed the new tunes: Christmas in Killarney and the Marvelous Toy. Who knew a Boomerang Ball could be so fun? The tune list was modified to accommodate the various venues, occasions and time limitations. One or more encores were played at most performances as were a couple of special requests. Audience participation and interaction were great. All this is a compliment to the Silver Strings musicianship. Pat yourselves on the back for learning new tunes, jumping in to provide the “bells and whistles” as needed, smiling, and inviting people to come. WE ROCK!

Highland SSDS Practice Group is taking a winter break, but will practice again in the spring! This is an open jam – feel free to join them. The space has great acoustics as a bonus!

Spirit Jam #33 Tune List is the winter practice goal. (*most of the tunes on the list appear on performance playlists sometime in the year. Good time to perfect them.*)

Mark your calendar for scheduled 2024 dates at the Highland Library:

- Mondays, April 1, 15, 29 and May 13 from 11-1.
- Tuesday, April 23 from 11-1
- Mondays April 8, May 6 and 20, from 10-12

Do You Know Who's Who? The goal is to bring the Website photo album up to date, adding our newer
(continued next page)

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS...LET'S CELEBRATE !

- 2...Gerry Hermans
- 2...Sally Kilcullen
- 10...Sharon McAuliffe
- 11...Donna Kolojeskie
- 12...Toby Threet
- 22...Cathy Smith
- 23...Terry Avery
- 30...Mike Dean



If you don't see your name here for your birthday please let me know. David dtsmithnet@yahoo.com

members and including our wonderful members who live in other states. When you can't place a name to a face, you can look it up in the club photo album. Ready? Set? Smile!! Here's a photo of two of our Missouri members: Lin & Darrell Everett. Do you have a good recent photo of yourself?



Tune of the Month – The new board will soon be discussing their desires for new tunes in 2024. Right now, new tunes that come to the club through jams at festivals or other clubs are added to the After Hours category in our tune library. You are encouraged to share music or suggest a tune. If a tune is a copyrighted tune, we may play it at a jam, but it cannot be added to our official repertoire until we have permission to copy, share and perform. The latest tune added to the AfterHours category is "Return to Fingal" – suggested by Cindy Semrau. If you want to hear it, stay after and request it.

Playlists – although we do not have playdates in January, there is a playlist. I have also set up February and March. If you need practice on a particular tune, call for it at a jam. We can play it 4-5 times so everyone can get up to speed. You may want to record it at a jam for practice purposes.

New Year's Intentions, Anyone? HD Players - Practice Tune Videos—At one time new members could purchase practice CDs. They are no longer practical. Now there are 90 tunes in the Practice Video Library. In the meantime, our repertoire has grown to 300+ tunes (including holiday tunes). Building this library helps all members in different ways. This project needs more than one person creating videos to succeed. Please think about it.

Marsha Kozlowski 734-239-4190

Silverstrings.Music.Coordinator@gmail.com

TREASURER ~ Patty Wolschon

Happy New Year everyone! Hope you all had a great holiday, we certainly had some fun playdates. As of December 28th, we have received 64 membership renewals for 2024. You can renew via PayPal on our website or you can mail in a check to our PO Box. SSDS, PO Box 51446, Livonia, MI 48151. If you are unsure of your membership status, email me and I can look it up for you. The money for fall and holiday playdates is still coming in, so I should have some payments to disburse to those who played in the next few weeks. Hope to see you at a jam soon!

Patty Wolschon.... 248-417-2828

Silverstrings.Treasurer@gmail.com

VP-PROGRAMS NOTES ~ Chris Wolschon

Happy NewYear!

WOW.... What a busy year we have had!

I am thankful for all the folks who have contributed their work and talents over the past year to make Silver Strings Dulcimer Society one of the best Dulcimer and folk groups in the state of Michigan. It has been a joy to serve as VP of Programs in 2023 and I'm looking forward to an even better year in 2024.

The Christmas Party last month was a big success. Thanks to Julie and Dan Kafcas, Laurie & Bob Patterson and Gloria Tapper for their hard work making it happen. They're an awesome team!

We have another busy year ahead of us in 2024....

- The first item on our program is a Variety Night on February 29th. The signup sheet will be posted at all the February jams, or you can email me if you aren't able to sign up on the sheet.
- We have another Variety Night on May 30th.
- Our annual campout is June 5th through the 11th. We will start sign up for that in late March.
- The Evert Dulcimer Funfest is July 18 - 20th, but a lot of us are going from the 15 - 21st.
- The annual SSDS picnic is on August 1st this year. We will be in the same location as last year.
- The Midland Folk Festival is on August 22-25, but many of us are going the 19-25th.
- There is another Variety Night on August 29th.
- Our annual SSDS Banquet is scheduled for October 3rd this year.
- There will be a Variety Night on Halloween Night, October 31st. Join the festivities and come in costume!
- The annual Christmas Party will be on December 19th this year.

I hope you have a blessed, healthy and music-filled New Year. Chris Wolshcon.... 313-410-0143

Silverstrings.Programs@gmail.com

VP-BUSINESS NOTES ~ Cindy Semrau

SSDS Spirit - What are we about?

When I first joined SSDS, I thought the club was all about playing music. Now I realize that SSDS is way more. It is the fun of working together on a new website. The challenge of organizing a potluck. The friendships that develop over dinner after a gig. The reason to get out of the house and go somewhere. Camping with friends! The opportunity to create art for the tee shirts or crafts for table decorations. Writing articles for the newsletter. We are about so much more than music, and I celebrate all of it.

(continued next page)

Business Manager Update

As the new business manager, I am not quite sure what all I'm supposed to do. So I'll start with what I want to do:

- Make gigs easier and more equitable to sign up for and manage.
- At gigs, ensure there our instrumentation is balanced.
- Schedule beginner gigs such as farmers markets or festivals for those new to playing in the public.
- Make sign up process available online for those who don't make it to every meeting, and on paper for those who do.
- Explore music from our repertoire and find our new favorites.
- Update our playlists to keep our sound fresh.

Cindy Semrau.... 586-907-3668
Silverstrings.Business.Manager@gmail.com

~ Condolences ~

"Sad news....Kay Rowe was taken to St. Mary's hospital on December 23rd and was found to have both a stroke and a heart attack.

Early this morning she went to her heavenly home to be with her Lord and Savior." Rich Rowe

Please keep Rich in your prayers. Kay has had several health challenges in the past number of years. Although she was at Evert this year, she struggled to do what she wanted. Up until a couple of years ago, they could always be counted on to play at Christmas. They loved Silver Strings, performed at Variety Nights, taught workshops and she had hoped to initiate a Bowed Psaltery circle.

Condolences can be sent to:

Richard Rowe, 7735 N. Ridge Rd., Canton MI 48187.

Mountain Dulcimer Players

Mark your calendars...our jams are returning...

Tuesdays, January 9 & 23

Patricia Wolschon will host a jam at her home in Redford. Myself and Carol Ann will be your moderators.

Meetings usually take place on the **2nd and 4th Tuesdays of every month from 1 - 3pm**. Players of ALL levels are welcome as well as rhythm and back up players!



Contact Linda Osgood at:

losgood10424@comcast.net or text at 734-649-3843



UKE JAM

Great Lakes Ukulele Gathering...

...invites ukulele players to join us for monthly meetings where we will strum and sing. All music will be projected onto a screen so that we can all follow the lyrics and chords.

Gathering takes place on the **first Wednesday of each month from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.** Refreshments will be provided and you are welcome to bring snacks to share.

A donation of \$3.00 is requested. So bring your Ukulele and your Voice for a good time. All levels and ages welcome.

Your first visit is FREE.



GOOD HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
28680 CHERRY HILL, GARDEN CITY
between Inkster and Middlebelt Roads



For further information contact :Bob: bsnemo@yahoo.com

Join us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/glughead>

Check our website: <https://ukulelegathering.weebly.com/>

HIGHLAND LIBRARY MUSIC JAM

Highland Township Library
444 Beach Farm Circle, Highland Charter Twp.

~ 2024 Jams ~

Mondays, April 1, 15, 29 and May 13 from 11-1.

Tuesday, April 23 from 11-1

Mondays April 8, May 6 and 20, from 10-12

Denise Harris-Fiems deniseharrismiti@yahoo.com

Happy New Year
2024

UPCOMING MUSIC EVENTS

Quarantunes 12

February 1-4, 2024
Virtual - Live Workshops
virtualdulcimerfest.com

Central Florida Dulcimer Festival

February 8 - 10, 2024
Mount Dora, Florida
centralfloridadulcimerfestival.com

Dulcimer Doin's

February 16 - 18, 2024
Maria Stein, OH
daytondulcimers.com/

Ohio Valley Gathering

March 15 - 17, 2024
Louisville, Kentucky
ohiovalleygathering.com

Buckeye Dulcimer Festival

April 17 - 21, 2024
Ashley, Ohio
buckeyedulcimerfestival.com

Baltimore Old Time Music Festival

April 19-20, 2024
Baltimore, Maryland
baltimoreoldtimefest.com

Colorado Dulcimer Festival

May 2-4, 2024
Littleton, Colorado
coloradodulcimerfestival.com

Gebhard Woods Dulcimer & Traditional Music Festival

June 8 - 9, 2024
Morris, Illinois
gebharddulcimer.org

Kentucky Music Week

June 23 - 28, 2024
Bardstown, Kentucky
kentuckymusicweek.com

Original Dulcimer Players Club FunFest

July 18 - 20, 2024
Ewart, Michigan
evardulcimerfest.org

Open Mic Night

at

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

THIRD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

REFRESHMENTS - 6:30 PM

OPEN MIC FROM - 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Join us for our next Open Mic Night on

FRIDAY JANUARY 19TH

Come share your music, song, original poetry/spoken word, or just relax, listen and enjoy free refreshments and wifi! No admission charge.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
30650 Six Mile, Livonia, MI

Everyone is Welcome!

Check the Abbey Coffee House Facebook Page for updates and information.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100054339048511>



Symphony of Tympanon, Lute and Flute.

Robert Bonnard ~ French c. 1710



St. Colette Parish hosted Silver Strings on Dec 2nd.
Here Peggy gets volunteers from the audience to participate with shakers.



The Padzieski Art Gallery at the Ford Community Arts in Dearborn hosted Silver Strings on December 3rd.



Highland Library hosted Silver Strings on December 6th. The lively audience enjoyed clapping along and singing to many of the tunes. Judi & Glen Morningstar were in the audience...wow.



Silver Strings 5th Holiday performance took place at Newburg United Methodist Church Dec 8th.



15 members performed at the Celebration Church in Westland on Dec 9th



SILVER STRINGS DULCIMER SOCIETY

St. Richard Church - December 10, 2023



After the St. Richard performance, a generous afterglow was provided for the musicians with pizza and lots of Holiday desserts.



The 17 performers were all smiles at the St. Mary's Cultural Center performance on Dec 13th.



The Southgate Library brought the community out for a Holiday Concert on December 18th.



The 11th and final Holiday performance has become a yearly tradition at the Livonia Library. 23 Silver Stringers performed for a standing room audience on Dec 21st.



"40 years of SSDS Favorites" was the theme for Spirit Jam #33 which took place on Thursday evening December 28th. A full two hours of our favorite tunes along with social interaction was a fitting end to our club's 2023 activities. Notice in the photo that Marsha is playing with only one hammer, in the middle of the tune she dropped one of her hammers, but continued on and never missed a beat...what a pro. The Jam is now available on YouTube by clicking on [Spirit Jam #33](#).

~ ~ Join Marsha and Terry for Spirit **Jam #34** that will take place on **Thursday, January 25th 2024**. ~ ~

Happy New Year
2024

| Position | Name | Contact Information | |
|---|------------------|--|--------------|
| President | Peggy Kustra | Silverstrings.President@gmail.com | 313-570-7844 |
| V.P. Business Manager (Contact for booking performances) | Cindy Semrau | Silverstrings.Business.Manager@gmail.com | 586-907-3668 |
| V.P. Programs | Chris Wolschon | Silverstrings.Programs@gmail.com | 313-410-0143 |
| Secretary | Sue Tranquilla | Silverstrings.Secretary@gmail.com | 734-751-8109 |
| Treasurer | Patty Wolschon | Silverstrings.Treasurer@gmail.com | 248-417-2828 |
| Newsletter Editor | David Smith | Silverstrings.Newletter@gmail.com | 313-802-6001 |
| Music Coordinator | Marsha Kozlowski | Silverstrings.Music.Coordinator@gmail.com | 734-239-4190 |
| Historian | David Smith | Silverstrings.Historian@gmail.com | 313-802-6001 |
| Website & Dropbox Coordinator | Karen Turner | Silverstrings.Webmaster@gmail.com | 734-678-7405 |

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Meetings on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays every month
7:00 - 9:00 pm... with after-hour's jamming till ...?

Meeting at **Holy Cross Lutheran Church**
30650 Six Mile, Livonia, 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, ukulele and harmonica.

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

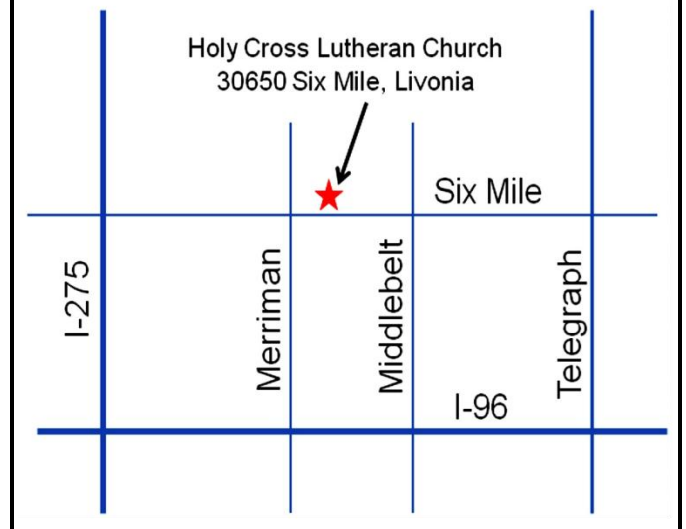
Participate in workshops, festivals, performances,
picnics, fun and fellowship.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:

<https://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, contact David at silverstrings.newletter@gmail.com

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society
P.O. Box 51446
Livonia, MI 48151

