

# Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

## Soundboard



November 2024

SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC for 41 YEARS

Issue 475

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

### PERKY PEGGY'S PONDERINGS ~ Peggy Kustra

*Hello Everyone,*

Oh boy, turkey time is near! Thanksgiving is a time to be thankful for our many blessings, one of mine is all of you. Due to the large number of members attending our jam on October 17, and the fact that no one has come forward to add their name to run for the board.... A vote was taken. The results for the 2025 board are as follows:

**President: Peggy Kustra.**

**VP-Programs: Gerry Kustra,** with help from **Sally Kilcullen**

**VP Business: Cindy Semrau.**

**Treasurer: Sally Niemczewski.**

**Secretary: Sue Tranquilla.**

*Thank you for joining the board in 2025... Awesome!*

We have several Christmas playdates. Thank you in advance for practicing the tunes. We are sure to put on a great show. Our last Christmas practice is November 14, at 7:00pm, and our first Christmas gig is November 20. We will be ready!

As always contact me with any ideas, questions, or concerns. Peggy Kustra .... 313-570-7844

[Silverstrings.President@gmail.com](mailto:Silverstrings.President@gmail.com)

### NOVEMBER CALENDAR

**07 - SSDS JAM at Holy Cross ----- 7:00**

**14 - SSDS Christmas Practice ----- 7:00**

**21 - SSDS JAM at Holy Cross ----- 7:00**

*For more information on all upcoming events, click on:*

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

### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS...LET'S CELEBRATE!

**4...Scott Smetana**

**6...Bill Smith**

**10...Terry Treppa**

**28...Janice Johnson**

**30...Greg Kaiser**



*If you don't see your name here for your birthday please let me know.  
David Smith [Silverstrings.Newletter@gmail.com](mailto:Silverstrings.Newletter@gmail.com)*

### MARSHA'S MUSINGS ~ Marsha Kozlowski

**Holiday Music Preparation:** The "dress rehearsal," i.e., last practice, is **November 14**. We will sit as if we are giving the performance and go through the entire playlist. If there is time, we will also run through the secular list tunes that will be performed at Wayne County CC. Please note that the tune lists must sometimes be adjusted at performances. So be flexible, pay attention and mark your music if needed.

**Preparing to Perform** – Playing during the holidays requires our taking it up a notch. Holiday Dress means to wear something with the colors associated with the season. You may wear a lighted necklace – but no blinking lights. Everyone is expected to "decorate" their stand or instrument with an ornament or stocking or garland. Make sure you tune your instrument before coming to the performance. Practice smiling or at least looking up to smile after a tune. We bring musical joy to our audiences in our appearance, our demeanor and our tunes.

**Holiday Performances** – even if you are not performing with the group, please promote these concerts and invite your friends, family, and other groups. Post the list on your FB page, your church or community bulletin board. A good audience feeds our enthusiasm and elevates the level of our playing.

**Personal Tune of the Month** – Have you tried Zelda's Jig or Dutchman's Waltz? They are the newest tunes in the library. It is a good musical habit to always be working on

a tune – especially one you don't know very well. We have almost 300 tunes in the library. Pull one out and make it part of your personal playlist. If you have trouble picking one out – choose one from the January playlist. You could also listen to one of the SSDS performances in the club's YouTube channel and pick a tune from there.

**After Hours Jam** - has started up again. Stay and play. The group plays all variety of tunes, not just those in the "official" repertoire. It helps in considering and learning tunes that may "graduate" to the official directory.

**Spirit Jam #34** – It is my hope to do another Spirit Jam on Facebook Live January 23, 2025 dedicated to Terry. Terry and I had to cancel a planned Spirit Jam in January. With the help of some friends, this may be able to happen one more time. The playlist will come out next month. I hope you will set that day aside to be part of this. January is usually a dark and gray month. This type of jam allows everyone to connect within the comfort of their home, regardless of distance and weather. Let's light it up with a joyful evening of music. Invite your music friends to join us.

**"Starters" practice group** – This four-month project starts in January. It is intended to give players practice starting tunes. Being able to confidently start a tune the musical capabilities not only of the individual but of the group. While focused on HD players, it will be open to any instrument, the greater variety of instruments starting a tune enhances the music. What are your favorite jam tunes? Are you able to start them? Play around with them. Make a list of a few tunes you wish or would like to start. January is not that far away. Make it an intention to begin the new year learning a new skill.

Marsha... 734-239-4190

[Silverstrings.Music.Coordinator@gmail.com](mailto:Silverstrings.Music.Coordinator@gmail.com)

### VP-BUSINESS NOTES ~ Cindy Semrau

#### Subscribe to the silverstrings.events Calendar - From your phone!

I found an easier way to subscribe to the SSDS calendar directly from your phone or tablet, If you have a Gmail account.

- Go to 'Events' page on the SSDS website  
<https://www.silverstrings.org/sections/events/events.html>
- Go to the bottom left side of the page and click 'Add to Google Calendar'.
- Pick your account and you are DONE!

#### Budget Deep Dive

My title says 'Business Manager' so I took a deep dive into SSDS's revenue, financial obligations and spending habits. The results are in Excel pivot tables and reports that the board is reviewing. We may have to tighten our belts or find a bit more revenue. We shall see. Hey - if you know what an Excel 'pivot table' is - send me a note, I want to know who you are!

#### Upcoming Gigs

For those Extra Enthusiastic players, when you sign-up for a gig...only sign up ONCE!!! Even if you play multiple

instruments! FYI, there is no way for you to un-signup. Only the volunteer list owner (me) can remove volunteers. (just let me know). Kind of annoying, but it is probably a feature. Just imagine organizing an event, recruiting volunteers, then everyone 'unvolunteering' at the last minute!

Nov-20-2024 12:00-1:00pm  
Wayne County Community College  
21000 Northline Rd, Taylor

Dec-03-2024 6:30pm  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
30650 Six Mile, Livonia

Dec-06-2024 7:00-8:00pm  
Good Hope Lutheran Church  
28680 Cherry Hill Rd, Garden City

Dec-07-2024 7:00-8:00pm  
Garden City Historical Society  
6221 Merriman Rd., Garden City

Dec-08-2024 2:00-3:00pm  
St. Richards Catholic Church  
35851 Cherry Hill Rd., Westland

Dec-10-2024 3:00-4pm  
Oakmont Communities - Livonia  
14265 Middlebelt, Livonia

Dec-12-2024 1:00-3:00pm  
Waltonwood - Carriage Park  
2000 N Canton Center Rd, Canton  
(6 performers - invite only)

Dec-14-2024 5:00-8:00 pm  
Celebration Lutheran Church  
39375 Joy Rd, Westland

Dec-16-2024 6:00-7:00pm  
Southgate Veterans Memorial Library  
14680 Dix-Toledo, Southgate

Dec-17-2024 2:00-3:00pm  
Addington Place of Northville  
42010 W Seven Mile Rd, Northville

Dec-19-2024 12:15-1:00pm  
Livonia Civic Center Library  
32777 Five Mile, Livonia

Jan-09-2025 4:00-5:00pm  
Willow Pines  
17901 Cross Road, Northville

Jan-24-2025 2:00-3:00  
Cedarbrook Senior Living of Northville  
15700 Haggerty, Plymouth

Cindy Lou Semrau... 586-907-3668

[YouTube](#) ~ [Website](#) ~ [Facebook](#)  
[silverstrings.business.manager@gmail.com](mailto:silverstrings.business.manager@gmail.com)

## VP-PROGRAMS NOTES ~ Chris Wolschon

*It's November already!! How did that happen??*

November is pretty quiet as far as SSDS programs are concerned, but there are plenty of gigs going on as we build up to Christmas.

Speaking of Christmas, the Silver Strings Christmas Party is on December 19<sup>th</sup> this year. The planning committee is already working on putting together a fun evening for everyone.

**We are going to have a 50/50 raffle at the party this year to support the club,** so bring your wallet!

There will be a sign-up sheet at all the jams in November and December, so watch for it. As always, if you want to come to the party but you can't make the jams, give me a call, text or email and I will put you on the list as attending.

Chris Wolschon .... 313-410-0143  
[Silverstrings.Programs@gmail.com](mailto:Silverstrings.Programs@gmail.com)

## TREASURER ~ Patty Wolschon

*Greetings everyone...* Just a reminder that membership dues are annual, covering January through December. I begin collecting dues for the following year in the preceding October. New members are \$20, and renewing members are \$15. Cash or checks are accepted in person at jams, by check made out to Silver Strings Dulcimer Society and mailed to our PO Box 51446, Livonia, MI 48151, or through PayPal (you can use a debit or credit card) on our website: [www.SilverStrings.org](http://www.SilverStrings.org). PayPal will charge a \$2 service fee in addition to the actual cost of membership. Thanks to all who have renewed for 2025 already. Currently, we have 190 members plus one new membership pending. *Happy Fall!*

Patty Wolschon.... 248-417-2828  
[Silverstrings.Treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:Silverstrings.Treasurer@gmail.com)

## SECRETARY ~ Sue Tranquilla

We want to send out a card of support and encouragement when any of our members go through personal difficulties, such as illness, surgery, or the death of a loved one. Please contact Peggy Kustra or me when you are having a difficult time.

Sue Tranquilla.... 734-751-8109  
[Silverstrings.Secretary@gmail.com](mailto:Silverstrings.Secretary@gmail.com)

Scan this QR code  
and it will take you  
to 100's of YouTube  
**Silver Strings Videos**



*Join us as we share, enjoy, learn about and preserve traditional & contemporary folk music, dance & culture.*

[paintcreekfolkloresociety.org/](http://paintcreekfolkloresociety.org/)

## HIGHLAND LIBRARY MUSIC JAM

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

**~ 2024 Jams ~**

The North Oakland group will be practicing at Highland Township Library in the lower-level community meeting room this fall. We welcome anyone who would like a little extra practice opportunity to join us. Here are the dates and times that we have confirmed with the Library:

Monday, November 4, 11-1

Monday, November 11 and 18, Not Available so...

Thursday, November 14, 11-1

Monday, November 25, 10-12

The following dates are tentative depending on the librarian's programming needs for December:

Monday, December 2, 11-1

Monday, December 9, 11-1

Monday, December 16, 10-12 (if needed)

Denise Harris-Fiems [deniseharrismiti@yahoo.com](mailto:deniseharrismiti@yahoo.com)



**NORTH GEORGIA FOOTHILLS  
DULCIMER ASSOCIATION  
VIRTUAL FALL FESTIVAL**

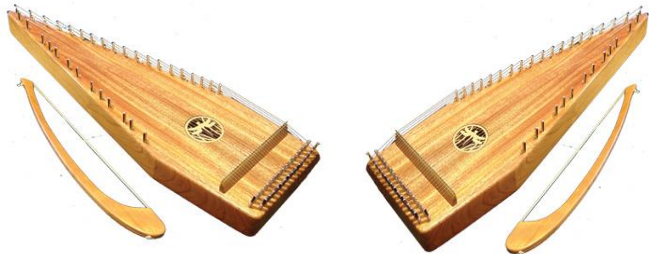
**November 21 – 23, 2023**

**Virtual Online Workshops**

Mountain Dulcimer, Hammered Dulcimer, Autoharp, Banjo-Dulcimer, Celtic Harp, Guitar, Penny Whistle, Ukulele, Native American Flute, Harmonica, Bowed Psaltery, Yodeling, Bodhran Drum, Clogging, and Spoons.

click here for details: [www.ngfda.com/](http://www.ngfda.com/)

## Attention Bowed Psaltery players



**Tuesdays, November 12 & 26**

We will meet the **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday** of the month from **11:00 am to 12:30 pm** at Chris and Patty Wolschon's home; 14892 Fox, Redford, MI 48239.

We will be starting with the basics; tuning, bowing, etc. and working our way up to some 3 part harmony and beyond.

All levels are welcome, even if you have never played before.

Please contact Chris Wolschon for more information:

313-410-0143 or [silverstrings.programs@gmail.com](mailto:silverstrings.programs@gmail.com)

## Mountain Dulcimer Players

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

**Tuesdays, November 12 & 26**

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 **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:bsnemo@yahoo.com)

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

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

## Open Mic Night

at

**Holy Cross Lutheran Church**

**REFRESHMENTS - 6:30 PM OPEN MIC FROM - 7:00 - 9:00 PM**

Join us for our next Open Mic Night on

**FRIDAY NOVEMBER 15**

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>

## 2024 Holiday Play list - Revision: 10-25-24

Starter	Key	Tune	Play
MK	G	Jingle Bells - start with chorus . Santa Stick tag if available. Jingle bells during each chorus	3 1/2
MK	G	Deck the Halls Start -Holly & Ivy 2x by starter while everyone decorates instruments/stands. Tag End by Starter	3***
MK	G	Holly Berry sound effect in the “knock-knock” notes	2
MK	G/C	Let It Snow/Winter Wonderland Chimes at the end.	2/2
PK/Glock	C	Silver Bells . Ritard last 4 measures HD – walk up C Chord, Glockenspeil “echo” in chorus.	3
MK	D	Christmas in Killarney – Bohran, if available. Play revised version.	2
Dan	C	Parade of the Wooden Soldiers – Slide whistle accents	2
	C	Santa Claus is Coming to Town - end of 1st measure/ triangles, end of 2 <sup>nd</sup> measure/jingle bells, end of 3 <sup>rd</sup> measure/ clackers/woods; end of 4 <sup>th</sup> measure/ slide whistle. 4 beats counted and everyone come in. Second time through – play from 1 <sup>st</sup> measure.	2
MK	C	Marvelous Toy –Boomerang balls/toys activated during chorus. Repeat last phrase as tag ending	2
PK	D	Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer - Santa Stick if available. Jingle bells in chorus	2
Ed	G	I Saw Three Ships/Christmas is in the Air - Bohran	As written
PK -	G	Ding Dong Merrily/He Is Born – ritard at end	As written
MK	G	Still, Still, Still/Oh Christmas Tree – ritard at end	As written
CAM	G	Oh Come All Ye Faithful at chorus, start soft, increase volume every 2 measures. 2 <sup>nd</sup> time soft – feature fiddles. End loud. Ritard starts 4 measure to End	2
CAM	G	Angels We Have Heard on High – Second time HDs soft. Ritard last 3 measures of 3 <sup>rd</sup> time.	3***
LO	Am	What Child is This - ritard last 4 measures – Feature concertina 2 <sup>nd</sup> time – everyone soften up	3***
MK/	Am	We Three Kings/Carol of the Bells – Measures 45-46 – play softly. Measures 75-76 – don't play – Marsha plays as vamp to last section	As written
MK/CAM	G	Joy to the World –4 measure start, listen for 3 bongs between each verse before starting next verse Tag end by Bass	3
LO	D	Dona Nobis Pacem – Harp begins, then fiddles join in, then rest of players.	4
Guitar	Em	God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen –. guitar start Play <u>upbeat</u> tempo; all <b><u>end abruptly on last note and let sound ring</u></b>	4
Laurie/MK	D/G	Simple Gifts -4 measure intro. 4 measure tag at end. Watch tempo don't start too fast.	2/2
Fiddle	D/G	Silent Night - fiddle start, 2 <sup>nd</sup> time in G – Harmonicas & guitar only	2/2
MK	G	We Wish You a Merry Christmas – all sing the last chorus	1 1/2

## 2024 Secular Holiday Play list - Revision 10-24-24

	Key	Tune	Play
	G	Jingle Bells – Santa Stick	3 /12
MK	G	Holly Berry	3
MK	G	Deck the Halls <b>MK Plays intro of Holly &amp; Ivy 2x while players “decorate” - will cue into Deck the Halls</b>	3
MK	A	Hang the Stockings (Hangman’s Reel)	3
	D	Eggnog in the Morning (Whiskey Before Breakfast)	3
MK	G	Grandfather’s Clock	3
MK	G	Tick Tock Polka	3
MK	Am	Cold Frosty Morn	3
MK	D	Saro Waltz	3*
KT	C/G	Let It Snow/Winter Wonderland <b>Tag End by Starter;</b>	2/ 2
Dan	C	Parade of the Wooden Soldiers	2
MK		Jingle Bell Rock	2
CAM	C	Silver Bells <b>Ritard End. HD – walk up C Chord, Glockenspiel echo</b>	3
MK	C	Santa Claus is Coming to Town – <b>at beginning use whistle, bells, clackers and slide whistle. Everyone starts at 2<sup>nd</sup> line, and plays whole tune second time.</b>	2
MK	C	Marvelous Toy <b>-Boomerang balls during the chorus. 2<sup>nd</sup> time thru, repeat the chorus (last 2 lines – ritard last 2 measures)</b>	2
MK	D	Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer – Santa Stick	2
MK	D	Festival Rag	3
MK	D	Painter’s Party Polka	3
MK	D	Christmas in Killarney – <b>bodhran if present</b>	2
MK	G	I Saw Three Ships/Christmas is in the Air <b>- bodhran if present</b>	As written
MK	D/G	Simple Gifts <b>harmonicas featured 2<sup>nd</sup> time. Tag end by Starter</b>	2/2***
MK	D	Dona Nobis Pacem	
MK	G	We Wish You a Merry Christmas – <b>everyone sing 2<sup>nd</sup> chorus</b>	1 ½
		Extras (Encore)	
	Em	Tamlin	
	D	Black Mountain Rag	
Tunes marked with * -HD/s soften up second time so other instruments can be featured (depending on who is there).			

# Silver Strings 41<sup>st</sup> Celebration Banquet



Silver Strings celebrated their 41<sup>st</sup> year with a banquet on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. We enjoyed a full evening of socializing with our musical friends and guests, a wonderful meal from Veronica's Catering with an Anniversary Cake made by Sally Niemczewski.

## Silver Strings 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Banquet



After an evening meal we enjoyed what we do best, playing music together with our friends.



## Halloween Variety Night



Our October 31<sup>st</sup> Halloween Variety Night started out with Pizza, Carol Ann's wonderful salad and lots of yummy desserts and concluded with a variety of entertainment from 13 acts. Practice up a tune or two and join us again on January 31, 2025 for another evening of fun.

Position	Name	Contact Information	
President	Peggy Kustra	<a href="mailto:Silverstrings.President@gmail.com">Silverstrings.President@gmail.com</a>	313-570-7844
V.P. Business Manager (Contact for booking performances)	Cindy Semrau	<a href="mailto:Silverstrings.Business.Manager@gmail.com">Silverstrings.Business.Manager@gmail.com</a>	586-907-3668
V.P. Programs	Chris Wolschon	<a href="mailto:Silverstrings.Programs@gmail.com">Silverstrings.Programs@gmail.com</a>	313-410-0143
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Historian	David Smith	<a href="mailto:Silverstrings.Historian@gmail.com">Silverstrings.Historian@gmail.com</a>	313-802-6001
Website & Dropbox Coordinator	Karen Turner	<a href="mailto:Silverstrings.Webmaster@gmail.com">Silverstrings.Webmaster@gmail.com</a>	734-678-7405

## Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

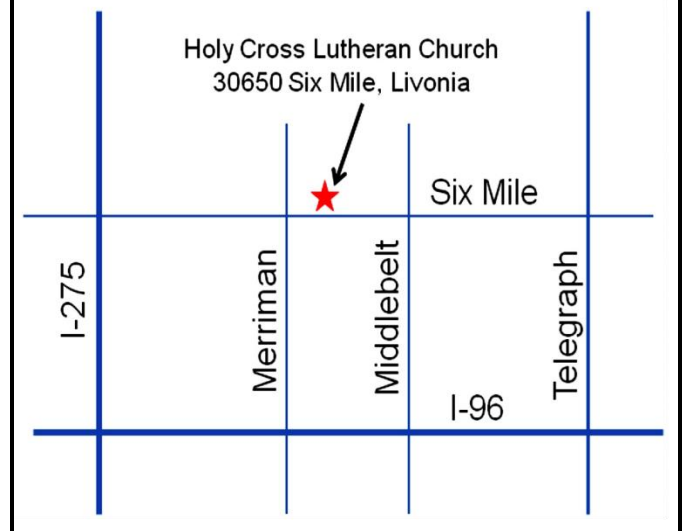
Participate in workshops, festivals, performances,  
picnics, fun and fellowship.

**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 25<sup>th</sup>.*

*Articles or pictures from any member are always welcome, contact David at [silverstrings.newletter@gmail.com](mailto:silverstrings.newletter@gmail.com)*