



Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Soundboard



October 2024

SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC for 41 YEARS

Issue 474

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

PERKY PEGGY'S PONDERINGS ~ Peggy Kustra

Hello Everyone and HAPPY FALL, Y' ALL!!

I'm looking forward to the colors of fall, the tastes of fall, and our annual Banquet.

We will have delicious food, fun, fellowship and then PLAY MUSIC !! A perfect evening.

Our Banquet is a time of reflection on the past year. So many members help out and make this club a very special one. I've noticed beautiful kindness and caring. This is a large part of who we are. I'm blessed to be associated with so many wonderful people. Thank you everyone for all you do.

We have a slate of board members for the year 2025.

- **President:** Peggy Kustra
- **Vice-President Business:** Cindy Semrau
- **Vice-President Programs:** Gerry Kustra & Sally Kilcullen
- **Treasurer:** Sally Niemczewski
- **Secretary:** Sue Tranquilla

Thank you everyone for standing up to the plate and running for these positions.

If anyone would still like to add their name to the list for any of these positions, please let me know.

Our Christmas musical season is coming up. Please practice the tunes. Our First Christmas Practice is OCTOBER 10, 2024 at 7:00pm. It's time to put a few jingle bells in your step.

Let's keep our club an active society. Sign up for playdates and join the fun.

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

Silverstrings.President@gmail.com

OCTOBER CALENDAR

03 - SSDS Annual Banquet & Jam ----- 6:00

10 - SSDS Christmas Practice ----- 7:00

17 - SSDS JAM at Holy Cross ----- 7:00

31 - Variety Night, Pizza & Costume Party - 7:00

For more information on all upcoming events, click on:

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

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS...LET'S CELEBRATE!

- 1...Ernie Stewart
- 5...Debbie Guy
- 8...Susan Calkins
- 9...Pam Haskell
- 12...Nancy Straky
- 15...Laurie Patterson
- 17...Carol Anne Matthews
- 19...Gail VanAmberg
- 23...Alice Gajewski
- 24...Jim Fry
- 26...Ann Wassell
- 30...Iris Ballingall
- 30...Bev Scott



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

MARSHA'S MUSINGS ~ Marsha Kozlowski

We will begin holiday music preparation on October 10 at 7:00 p.m. Please review the lists from 2023 and run through them to dust off the cobwebs. The first practice will be a run-through of these tunes plus a couple of others that may be brought back. This keeps our performance fresh. The only "brand new" tune we will try is "Dona Nobis Pacem." This round is not difficult and we will try to play it as a round. The title's Latin phrase means "Grant Us Peace." If we can make something of this tune, it is a wonderful musical blessing to our audience. Look for it in Dropbox. Are you ready to get started? I hope so.

With the busy holiday schedule, it is prudent to have at least 2 people who can do the start for each tune. This is the season that people get sick and other issues pop up. So my request is that you pick 1 or 2 of your favorites and when you practice it, practice a start for it. Starts are important – they cue a response from the audience, set the tempo and introduce the tune. They add something to the performance. So please consider this as you practice.

One tune I would like to try again is "We Three Kings/Carol of the Bells" medley. We performed it for a couple of seasons and it was a crowd favorite. One fan came to hear us twice, just to re-enjoy that number. The piece is not as difficult as it looks. It is repetitious but has a cool drive to it. The two difficult places are the vamp transitions, especially measures 51, 52.

Part A (We Three Kings) (Measures 1-24) is actually played 3 times – again in Measures 23-36, and 61 through 74 (you may play it straight and ignore the minor variations).

Part B (Carol of the Bells) is repeated 4 times: Measures 15- 22, 37-44, 53-60, 92-99. Ritard the last two measures of the tune.

Part C: (Carol of the Bells – second part) 47-52 played once.

Part D (We Three Kings – Chorus): 78-91. Note that measures 87-91 are a repeat pattern already done in the Part A.

There are two vamps that act as transitions:

Measures 45-46 – should be played softly so that measure 47 comes in loud.

Measure 76-77 - ornamentation vamp that takes us from Part A to Part B of We Three Kings. Usually, everyone stops and rests for those 2 measures while Marsha and/or 1 other play this. The challenge is staying together in the ritard of these measures.

Speaking of Starting Tunes, in January I will be leading a practice group once a month to work on creating starts for our SSDS tunes. It will benefit the player and the club to build confidence so that when you call a tune, you can start it. Between now and then, consider a couple of your favorite tunes that you might like to learn to start.

Marsha.... 734-239-4190

Silverstrings.Music.Coordinator@gmail.com

VP-PROGRAMS NOTES ~ Chris Wolschon

Happy October all.

The **SSDS Annual Banquet** is only a couple of days away on the 3rd of October. Bring your instruments because there will be jamming afterward. Unfortunately, if you have not purchased tickets already, you are too late to attend. Put it on your calendar for next year though.... it is always the first Thursday in October.

We will be having our last Variety Night of the year coming up on the 31st of October... and yes, it will be Halloween night. We will be having a full-out costume party that night with costume judging and prizes will be awarded.

So... get your act together as well as your costume. You have plenty of time to get ready, so no excuses!! The sign-up sheet will be at all the gatherings/jams in October.

Looking into the future, the Christmas Party will be on December 19th, so get that on your calendar also.

Have a great fall,

Chris Wolschon 313-410-0143

Silverstrings.Programs@gmail.com

TREASURER ~ Patty Wolschon

Just a reminder that membership dues are annual, covering January through December. I begin collecting dues for the following year in the preceding October, so you can begin renewing for 2025 now. New members \$20, and renewing members \$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. PayPal will charge a \$2 service fee in addition to the actual cost of membership.

Thanks to all who have renewed for 2024. There are only a handful of people I have not heard from yet and final notices have been sent out.

If you have any questions about the status of your membership, please contact me.

Patty Wolschon.... 248-417-2828

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

VP-BUSINESS NOTES ~ Cindy Semrau

Gigs and More!

I have posted and sent signup emails to all the known gigs we have this year. To view the gigs on the silverstrings.events calendar, go to:

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

Oct-13-2024	Oakmont Communities - Livonia 14265 Middlebelt, Livonia 4, 2:00-3:00pm
Nov-20-2024	Wayne County Community College 2100 Northline Rd, Taylor MI, 12:00-1:00pm
Dec-06-2024	Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill Rd, Garden City, 7pm - 8pm
Dec-07-2024	Garden City Historical Society, 6221 Merriman Rd., Garden City, 7pm-8pm
Dec-08-2024	St. Richards Catholic Church, 35851 Cherry Hill Rd., Westland, 2:00-3:00pm
Dec-16-2024	Southgate Veterans Memorial Library 14680 Dix-Toledo, Southgate, 6:00-7:00pm
Dec-17-2024	Addington Place of Northville 42010 W Seven Mile Rd, Northville, 2pm-3pm
Dec-19-2024	Livonia Civic Center Library 32777 Five Mile, Livonia, 12:15-1:00pm

Google Calendar Education

Do you like using the silverstrings.events@gmail calendar? Would you like to 'subscribe' to the SSDS calendar so you can view it with your own calendar? Watch this video to learn all about it. [How to Create and Use Shared and Public Calendars](#)

Subscribe to the SSDS calendar using a Link!

To subscribe to the SSDS calendar click this link and click 'Add' in the popup window. I hope this works!

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/5?cid=c2lsdmVyc3RyaW5ncy5ldmVudHNAZ21haWwuY29t>

Music Editor Software Hunt

Have you ever noticed how neat and well-formatted the SSDS sheet music is? How the chords are large and easy to read? This was not an accident. Our good-looking music is the result of hard work by a few individuals who edited every new tune added to our library. However, our music software is very old and is no longer supported. We are on the hunt for new software.

Of the NINE programs I have reviewed, the finalist is the Guitar version of SmartScore64. SmartScore64 will scan a pdf and convert it into an editable file. It can also export the music to the standard musicxml format. Care to try a demo? Click here: <https://www.musitek.com/demos.html>.

Would you like to help edit music? Let us know! Do you know of a better software? Let me know.

Software reviewed: Symphony Pro 6, PDFtoMusicPro, MusicXMLReader, PlayScore, MuseScore4, Dorico, PlayScore2, Steinberg, SmartScore64.

Cindy Lou Semrau... 586-907-3668

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

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, October 7, 10-12

Monday, October 14, 11-1

Monday, October 21 - Not Available

Monday, October 28, 10-12

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

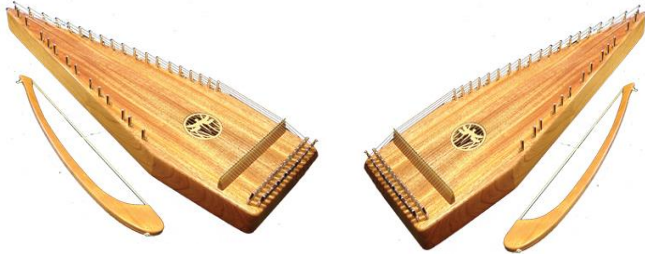


NORTH GEORGIA FoothILLS DULCIMER ASSOCIATION VIRTUAL FALL FESTIVAL November 21 – 23, 2023 Virtual Online Workshops

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/

Attention Bowed Psaltery players



October 8 & 22

We will meet the **2nd and 4th 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

Mountain Dulcimer Players

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

Tuesdays, October 8 & 22

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/>

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 OCTOBER 18

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 Playlist - Tentative

Starter	Key	Tune	Play
KT/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
KT/MK	G/C	Let It Snow/Winter Wonderland Chimes at the end.	2/2
PK/CAM	C	Silver Bells . glockenspiel in chorus as echo. Ritard last 4 measures HD – walk up C Chord,	3
Dan/MK	C	Parade of the Wooden Soldiers - Snare start. Slide Whistle accents. Maintain tempo – don't speed up!	2
MK/Ed	D	Christmas in Killarney – Bohran, if available	2
MK and accessory players	C	Santa Claus is Coming to Town - end of 1st measure/ triangles, end of 2 nd measure/jingle bells, end of 3 rd measure/ clackers/woods; end of 4 th measure/ slide whistle. 4 beats counted and everyone come in. Second time through – play from 1 st measure.	2
MK	C	Marvelous Toy –Boomerang balls activated during chorus. Ritard last 2 measures. No tag ending	2
PK	D	Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer - Santa Stick if available. Jingle bells	2
MK/Whistle	Em	Heigh Ho/Patapan: Whistles/Marsha start, everyone else come in when they start 3 rd measure but start with 1 st measure and play with repeats (the effect will be a round) Play as written, go back to Heigh Ho and play 1 time, ending with 1 st ending. .	1 + Heigh Ho 1 time thru.
MK	Am	Cold Frosty Morn – bohran	2
MK/Ed	G	I Saw Three Ships/Christmas is in the Air - Bohran	As written
CAM	G	Oh Come All Ye Faithful at chorus, start soft, increase volume every 2 measures. End loud. Ritard starts 4 measure to End	3
KT	G	Hark! The Herald Angels Ritard last 4 measures to End	3
CAM	G	Angels We Have Heard on High – Second time HDs soft. Ritard last 3 measures of 3 rd time.	3***
LO	Am	What Child is This - ritard last 4 measures – Feature concertina 2 nd time – everyone soften up	3***
MDs or MK	D/G	Still, Still, Still/O Christmas Tree. MDs play SSS once in D, then rest come in and play as written in G.	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
Guitar	Em	God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen –. guitar start Play <u>upbeat tempo</u> ; all <u>end abruptly on last note and let sound ring</u>	4
Ed/Laurie/MK	D/G	Simple Gifts -4 measure intro. 4 measure tag at end. Watch tempo don't start too fast. Feature harmonicas 2 nd . time	2/2***
Fiddle	D/G	Silent Night - fiddle start, MK will do transition from D to G. Everyone plays G two times. The 3 rd time in G, only harmonicas and guitar.	2/3***

2024 Secular Holiday Playlist - Tentative

	Key	Tune	Play
	G	Jingle Bells – Santa Stick, if available	3 /12
MK	G	Holly Berry	2
MK	G	Deck the Halls MK Plays intro of Holly & Ivy 2x while players "decorate" - will cue into Deck the Halls	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 Tag End by Starter;	2/ 2
	D	Silver & Gold Two-Step	3
PK	C	Silver Bells Ritard End. HD – walk up C Chord, Glockenspiel echo	3
	C	Santa Claus is Coming to Town – at beginning use whistle, bells, clackers and slide whistle. Everyone starts at 2nd line, and plays whole tune second time.	2
	C	Marvelous Toy -Boomerang balls during the chorus. No tag ending	2
	D	Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer – Santa Stick	2
	D	Festival Rag	3
PK	D	Painter's Party Polka	3
	D	Christmas in Killarney – bodhran if present	2
MK	G	I Saw Three Ships/Christmas is in the Air - bodhran if present	As written
MK	D/G	Simple Gifts harmonicas featured 2nd time. Starter Tag end by	2/2***
	G	We Wish You a Merry Christmas – everyone sing 2nd chorus	1 ½
		Extras (Encore)	
	Am	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).



Our Silver Strings Jam on September 5th brought out 31 members



28 musicians attended our rescheduled September 12th Jam

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.

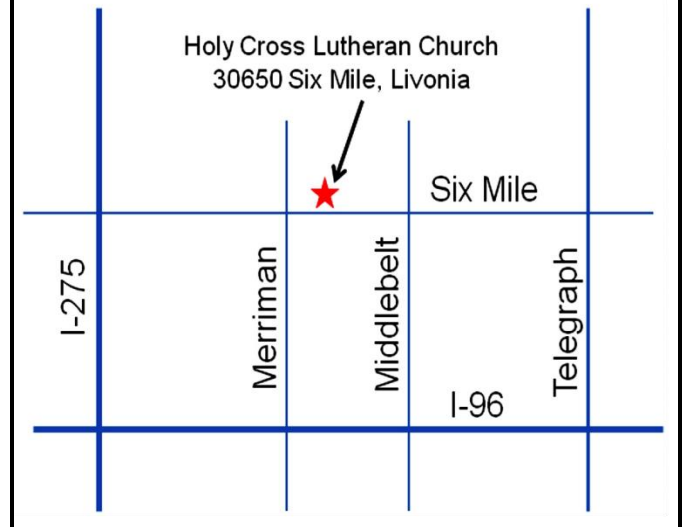
Participate in workshops, festivals, performances,
picnics, fun and fellowship.

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

