



# Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

# Soundboard

September 2024

SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC for 41 YEARS

Issue 473

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

## PERKY PEGGY'S PONDERINGS ~ Peggy Kustra

*Hello Everyone,*

I'm writing this article before going to Midland Festival. However, I know it will be fun. Music and Friends are always a great mix.

Lots of things are coming up and lots of things to do. So here goes....

1) The Nomination Committee is currently, Peggy Kustra, Theresa Smith, David Smith, and Sally Niemczewski. If you would like to help nominate join us.

2) We have positions: President, Vice President of Business, Vice President of Programs. Secretary and Treasurer that make up the board.

Peggy Kustra - president, Cindy Semarau - Vice President Business, and Sue Tranquilla - Secretary are willing to fulfill these positions for another year.

Positions: Vice President Programs - Chris Wolschon and Treasurer - Patty Wolschon have completed 2 years in these areas. So, if you are able, why don't you consider trying one of these positions? You could shadow or ask questions of what needs to be done. What keeps SSDS rolling along smoothly is the board. SO WE NEED YOU!!! Join us and have a lovely time keeping SSDS a going concern. We will hopefully vote for the positions on November 7. Let's fill the slate.

3) 10-10-24. 10-24-24, and 11-14-24 are Christmas Music practice nights. Add them to your calendar. You should attend at least once, better twice...fantastic 3 times. This way our performance will be awesome.

4) Hey it's never too early to start practicing Christmas Music. A tentative list in the newsletter. Start to jingle those bells.

5) October 3 is our Annual SSDS Banquet. Buy your tickets and be a part of the delicious food, friends, and music evening.

6) October 31 is a Variety Night. Let's add costumes and make a real party filled with delightful mayhem.

7) That's it for now. Watch for emails from me for any updates. ( as long as my computer works)

*Have a good day. Apple picking Season is almost here.*

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

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

## SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

05 - SSDS Board Meeting at Holy Cross -- 6:00

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

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

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

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

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

9...Nicole Mathews

14...Mark Williams

19...Robin Dorer

21...Sue Duncan

27...Stephen Peper



*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

First, a note of gratitude for all the loving support, understanding and gestures (cards, calls, food, and more) of friendship you have given me, my family and Terry during the past 8 months. My daughter Tara and I were able to attend the Midland festival for a couple of days and felt like we were wrapped in a warm blanket of friendship and love.

It is time for a new tune of the month, a tune by DeeDee Tibbits called Dutchman's Waltz. DeeDee performed it in her set at Midland and many of the group fell in love with it. Watch for it in Dropbox.

There is a new tune for the After Hours group: Zelda's Jig – a tune in Em. I also revised Vodka at Midnight to closer in hammering pattern to Whiskey Before Breakfast. Have fun with that. Play Whiskey twice, then Vodka 1x and then back to Whiskey. Going to festivals is a great way to be introduced to new music, techniques and ideas. At one of our jams, a person asked to play Flop Eared Mule as a waltz 2 2/1 time, then she played bridge and we continued - playing it as the reel we all know. *Quite fun!* Do you want to try it?



Christmas is Coming...in another month, holiday music rehearsals will take place. Pull up last year's list and run through them to re-familiarize yourself. And while at it, dust off and try the We Three Kings/Carol of the Bells arrangement. If we can do this, I would like to bring it back for this year's performances. It is quite repetitious and not as difficult as it looks. It does well as a solo piece as well. Our holiday schedule is filling up, so this is an opportunity to promote our club, instruments and music in the community. Look at the calendar and if you intend to participate, please try to be at least one of the practices and if possible, all of them.

Marsha.... 734-239-4190

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

## VP-PROGRAMS NOTES ~ Chris Wolschon

*Happy September all.*

After all the activity in August, September is going to seem pretty quiet except for our usual Jams on the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Banquet is coming up on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, and ticket sales have begun already. If you want to go to the Banquet and won't be at any of the jams, contact me or Peggy Kustra ([silverstrings.president@gmail.com](mailto:silverstrings.president@gmail.com)) to get tickets.

The last day to purchase tickets will be September 19<sup>th</sup>. There will be NO ticket sales at the door; they must be purchased in advance.

There WILL be a Variety Night on October 31<sup>st</sup>, which is Halloween. This is an advanced notice because it will also be a costume party, so get your costume and act ready. We will be judging costumes and prizes will be awarded.

*Have a great month!*

Chris Wolschon .... 313-410-0143

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

## TREASURER ~ Patty Wolschon

*What a great time we had in Midland!* We had new members join us at the Folk Music Festival stating they enjoyed the SSDS jams and wanted to have access to our music. Current membership is at 189.

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 \$20, 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](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 2024. I sent out another reminder notice to members who have not yet renewed.

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

Patty Wolschon.... 248-417-2828

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

## VP-BUSINESS NOTES ~ Cindy Semrau

The Midland Folk Festival may be past, but mentally I'm still recovering. I enjoy so much renewing and making new connections and friendships. Have you never been to a camping festival? I could not recommend it more. And I hear that there is a glut of campers for sale. Start shopping!

September:

We have an art fair gig in Ferndale on Saturday, Sept 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 pm. We will meet at the corner of Allen and Nine Mile, Ferndale. Ferndale is where the young hip kids are living, and the art fair will reflect the culture of the area. Art fair gigs are an excellent introduction to performing and a good excuse to visit a new place. I hope to see you there.

October:

Christmas practices are on the calendar for Oct 10 and Oct 24 at Holy Cross. And especially important - get your costumes for Variety Night, Halloween style on October 31.

Cindy Lou Semrau... 586-907-3668

[YouTube](#) ~ [Website](#) ~ [Facebook](#)

[silverstrings.business.manager@gmail.com](mailto:silverstrings.business.manager@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)

**WE NEED  
YOU!**

*....to volunteer to be a  
Silver Strings Officer*

## 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 SEPTEMBER 20**

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>



## 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.



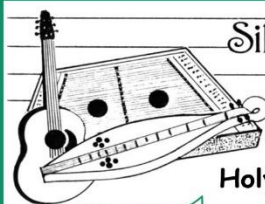
GOOD HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
28680 CHERRY HILL, GARDEN CITY  
between Inkster and Middlebelt Roads



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/>



## Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

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

Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
30650 Six Mile, Livonia, MI

**Thursday, October 3, 2024**

Doors open at 6:00, Dinner at 6:30  
Jamming after Dinner

\$10 members \$20 guests

Join your fellow Silver Strings members for a fun evening of Fun, Food & fellowship.

If you wish to attend, the **last day** for purchasing a ticket is **September 19**. Tickets are \$10 for members & \$20 for guests. Purchase your tickets in person at our September 5 or 19 jams or contact Peggy at:

Peggy Kustra .... 313-570-7844  
[Silverstrings.President@gmail.com](mailto:Silverstrings.President@gmail.com)

# Silver Strings Playlist – August -September 2024

Key	Tune	Play
D	Ragtime Annie	3
G	Red Wing	3
G	Westphalia Waltz	2
D	Over the Waterfall	3
D	Black Mountain Rag	4
G	Down Yonder	3
Em	Tamlin	4
C	Tennessee Waltz	3
D	Columbus Stockade Blues	3
D	John Ryan's Polka	5
Em	Dancing Bear / Missouri	2/2
D	Young Roddy McCorley	3
G	March of St. Timothy	3
G	Southwind	3
G	Yellow Bird	3
G	I'll Fly Away	3
G	Hundred Pipers	3
G	Maggie	3
A	Hangman's Reel	4
	<b>Extras</b>	
D	Hey Polka	3

Waltzs: HDs play soft the 2<sup>nd</sup> time. Let other instruments carry it.

# 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 <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 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 <sup>rd</sup> measure but start with 1 <sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>st</sup> 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 <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***
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 bongos 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 <sup>nd</sup> . 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 <sup>rd</sup> 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 <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
	D	Silver & Gold Two-Step	3
PK	C	Silver Bells <b>Ritard End. HD – walk up C Chord, Glockenspiel echo</b>	3
	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
	C	Marvelous Toy <b>-Boomerang balls during the chorus. No tag ending</b>	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 – <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***
	G	We Wish You a Merry Christmas – <b>everyone sing 2<sup>nd</sup> chorus</b>	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).

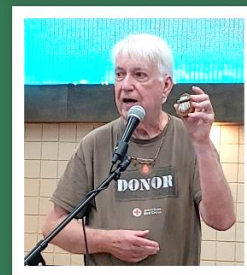


Our Silver Strings Picnic took place on August 1<sup>st</sup> at beautiful Plymouth Township Park. Although the weather was warm and humid, 30 members played music, enjoyed a great potluck dinner and mingled with our friends.



The 40<sup>th</sup> Midland Folk Music Festival took place from August 22 – 25. Beautiful weather greeted all those who attended! A good group of members showed up early and had a fun time visiting the nearby Dow Gardens. Silver Strings hosted several well attended jams at their large jamming site, and thanks goes to all who helped set-up and take down the jamming tents. SSDS members, Cindy Semrau, David & Theresa Smith, Susan Diehl, Jim Newtown, and Julie Mester provided several workshops, Chris & Patty Wolschon volunteered at the registration table, Luke Kawecky displayed his collection of vintage folk instruments and Theresa & David hosted a well-attended evening Ukulele jam.





Silver Strings hosted a Variety Night/Pizza Party on August 29<sup>th</sup>. 30 members enjoyed pizza, Carol Ann Mathews wonderful salad and a potluck of desserts before being treated to a full evening of 14 members acts. Peggy Kustra was our MC and Bob Patterson took care of the microphones and sound.

Join us on **October 31<sup>st</sup>** (Halloween Evening) when we will host another Variety Night. Work on your act and plan to come in costume as there will be a costume contest and prizes will be awarded.



26 musicians attended a fun evening of music at the August 15<sup>th</sup> jam.



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
Secretary	Sue Tranquilla	<a href="mailto:Silverstrings.Secretary@gmail.com">Silverstrings.Secretary@gmail.com</a>	734-751-8109
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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.

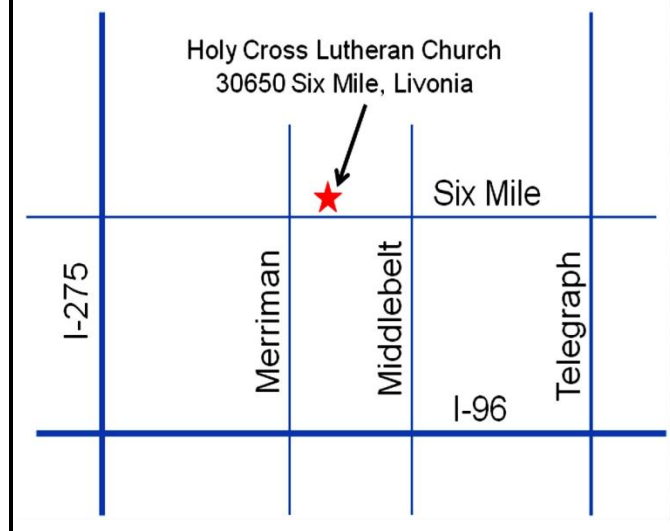
Participate in workshops, festivals, performances,  
picnics, fun and fellowship.

**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)*

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

