

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Soundboard



February 2025

SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC for 41 YEARS

Issue 478

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

PERKY PEGGY'S PONDERINGS ~ Peggy Kustra

Hello Everyone, I hope you are keeping warm.

I know it was a bit chilly at Holy Cross on January 16th, well that's because the heat was broken and they forgot to inform us. However, they have it partially fixed. They are working on the fans. I think it would be a good idea to wear layers on our next jam. I will be. I will keep you updated as things proceed.

Remember to check your email before leaving home to jam at Holy Cross. I will inform you if there is heat or too much snow.

Marsha has received the official invite for SSDS to perform on Thursday night's stage-show at the Evert Funfest. See Marsha's article for more details.

Our first slow jam of the year will be on February 6 at 6:15 pm. Linda Osgood will conduct the jam. It's a great opportunity to strengthen your understanding or learn a new tune.

February 6 is also a board meeting. If there is something you would like to present to the board let me know.

Our first-ever "Learn Starts" session, conducted by Marsha, will be on February 20 at 6:15 p.m. A good time to learn how to do it proficiently.

I'll be putting in an order for Silver Strings Apparel. I will only do this once this year. If you would like something please contact me. The price is approximate. I'll know the exact amount when I place the order. I'll have the order sheets out at the next jam. Some of you have placed an order that I have on file. Double-check to see if you still want it and if it is correct. Hats \$20.53, Crewneck Sweatshirt \$19.92, Crewneck Sweatshirt 3xl \$23.92, Zip-up hoodie \$27.72, Zip-up hoodie 2xl 30.72, Zip-up hoodie 3xl \$31.72, Green T-shirt \$8.92, Green T-shirt 2xl \$11.92, White T-shirt \$11.92, White T-shirt 2xl \$14.92, Jackets with name \$40.00 hand wash only on the jacket.

As usual, if you have any ideas, concerns, or questions please feel free to contact me.

Peggy Kustra 313-570-7844

Silverstrings.President@gmail.com

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

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

06 - Slow Jam with Linda Osgood ----- 6:15 pm

06 - SSDS JAM & After Hours ----- 7:00 pm

13 - Spirit Jam #34 with Marsha Kozlowski --- 7:00 pm

20 - Learning Starts with Marsha Kozlowski -- 6:15 pm

20 - SSDS JAM & After Hours ----- 7:00 pm

For more information on all upcoming events, click on:

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

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS...LET'S CELEBRATE !

9...Rosemarie Osborne

10...Bob Ewald

10...Christine Hurt

10...Frank Surhigh

10...Edie Swanberg

12...Janice Kibat

13...Ed Konstal

15...Greg Guy

15...Cynthia Merenbloom

15...Maureen Treppa

18...Jocelyn Shaw

19...Susan Monroe



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

VP-BUSINESS NOTES ~ Cindy Semrau

Gigs in **Bold** are new since last month. All gigs are posted to the SilverStrings Events Calendar <https://www.silverstrings.org/sections/events/events.html> . You can sign up there.

Mar-13-2025 Addington Place of Northville, 42010 W Seven Mile Rd, Northville, 2:00-3:00 pm

Apr-10-2025 St Michael Lutheran Church of Canton, 7000 Sheldon Rd, Canton MI 48187, 1-2pm

May-08-2025 American House of Dearborn Heights, 26600 Ann Arbor Trail Dearborn Heights, MI 48127-1171, 2:30-3:30 pm

Jun-25-2025 John Kennedy Library, 24602 Van Born Rd Dearborn Heights, MI 48125, 6:30-7:30 pm

Jul-02-2025 Addington Place of Northville, 42010 W Seven Mile Rd, Northville, 2-3:00 pm

Jul-17-2025 Evert Funfest, Osceola County Fair Grounds, 101 Recreation Ave, Evert, MI 49631, USA, Time: TBD

Sep-03-2025 Addington Place of Northville, 42010 W Seven Mile Rd, Northville, 2:00-3:00 pm

Sep-25-2025 Springfield Township Library, 12000 Davisburg Rd, 6:00 pm

Nov-19-2025 Wayne County Community college, 21000 Northline Rd, Taylor MI, 12:00-1:00 pm

Dec-09-2025 Addington Place of Northville, 42010 W Seven Mile Rd, Northville, 2:00-3:00 pm

How to Subscribe to the SilverStrings Events Calendar

Would you like the Silverstrings Events Calendar added so you can see the SSDS events on your calendar app?

There are several methods - depending on if you do or don't have a Gmail account or if you use Apple iCalendar.

If you do not have a Gmail account and do use Apple iCalendar

1. Open the **Calendar** app on your iPhone or iPad.
2. Go to **Calendars > Add Calendar > Add Subscription Calendar**
3. Paste the iCal URL <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/silverstrings.events%40gmail.com/public/basic.ics>
4. Click **Subscribe Add**
5. Configure the settings:
 - a. **Name:** Give the calendar a name.
 - b. **Color:** Choose a color for the calendar.
 - c. **Refresh:** Set the refresh interval (e.g., every 15 minutes, hourly, etc.).
6. Click **Add**

7. The Google Calendar events should now appear in your Apple Calendar App. You can toggle the calendar on/off in the sidebar to confirm it's working.

If you use the Google Calendar App on your iPhone or Android Phone/Tablet

From your phone/tablet, click this link:

1. <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=silverstrings.events%40gmail.com&ctz=America%2FDetroit>
2. A calendar will appear. Click the '+' in the bottom right of the screen.
3. Select the **email account** you want to add the silverstrings.events@gmail.com calendar to. The calendar should now appear in your Google Calendar app. You can toggle its visibility by tapping the **Menu > Calendars** and checking/unchecking the calendar.

Cindy Lou Semrau... 586-907-3668

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

silverstrings.business.manager@gmail.com

MARSHA'S MUSINGS ~ Marsha Kozlowski

In Honor of Shirley Becker – About 15 Silver Stringers gathered to play music at the visitation for Shirley. Her family greatly appreciated it. Great grandkids danced and clapped. Shirley and her husband Fred were active members of Silver Strings. They performed, camped and enjoyed the fellowship of our club. It was our privilege to play her favorite tunes from the playlists used when she was performing.

Spirit Jam #34, February 13, 2025 at 7:00 EST. Mark your calendars to join in. Invite your musical friends near and far to meet you there for a shared evening of music and conversation. Thank you for the "crew" that is helping to make this happen.

Getting Started" practice group – 6:15 on February 20. All instruments welcome

Evert Funfest – We have been officially invited to perform at the Thursday night Stage Show. The theme is "Roaring Twenties" and as we usually do, we will try to look the part. The setlist: Sweet Georgia Brown, Five Foot Two, Peekaboo Waltz, Side by Side. Start working on these.

Tune Library – the After-Hours jam continues to come up with tunes to share. These will be added to Dropbox to be available to everyone. Just Added: **March Over Mackinac Bridge** (a tune from Julie Arnold who has given us permission to play/perform), **East Tennessee Blues**, **the Fork Stuck Under the Door**, and a third version of **Florida Blues**, and **Sailor's Hornpipe**.

Marsha.... 734-239-4190

Silverstrings.Music.Coordinator@gmail.com

VP-PROGRAMS NOTES ~ Gerry Kustra & Sally Kilcullen



Eastern Screech Owl

Here we are in February gliding through another winter month. Soon our thoughts will be turning to warmer weather. In another month (March) we will be accepting reservations for our SSDS campout which occurs this year from June 4 through June 10. Once again we will be at the Oakland County park, Groveland Oaks for a week of comradery and music. Start thinking about the campout fun and plan your calendar accordingly. We will be letting you know the exact date reservations will be accepted. In the meantime, let's enjoy our jam sessions indoors on the first and third Thursday of each month.

Gerry Kustra 313-570-7843
Silverstrings.Programs@gmail.com

TREASURER ~ Sally Niemczewski

Hello everyone, I hope you all are staying warm during this deep freeze we've been under. As January is ending, I encourage anyone who has not paid their 2025 dues to send them to our PO Box 51446, Livonia, MI 48151, through PayPal, or pay me at a meeting.

Remember as of **March 1, 2025**, renewals will be **\$25.00** and new members **\$30.00**.

Sally Niemczewski.... 313-585-0054
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

Highland Library Music Jam

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

~ 2025 Jams ~

Mondays - 11am to 1 pm

February 3, 24

March 3, 10, and 17

April 7, 14, and 21

May 5, 12, and 19

Sherri Kerby <skerby200@gmail.com>

UPCOMING EVENTS

QuaranTUNE Dulcimer Festival

Winter Fest: Feb. 13 - 16, 2025

Virtual Online

virtualdulcimerfest.com

Dulcimer Doin's

February 14 - 16, 2025

Sponsored by the Mountain Dulcimer Society of Dayton
Spiritual Retreat Center in Maria Stein, Ohio

daytondulcimers.com

Castaway Music Cruise

February 22 - March 1, 2025

Homosassa, Florida

castawaymusiccruise.com

Southern Wisconsin Dulcimer Workshop

Jam - April 4, 2025

Workshops and Concert - April 5, 2025

First Lutheran Church, Janesville, WI

southernwisconsindulcimerclub.com

Buckeye Dulcimer Festival

April 23 - 27, 2025

Ashley, Ohio

buckeyedulcimerfestival.com

FARMINGTON JAM



Universalist Unitarian Church
25301 Halsted Rd. Farmington Hills 48335

Second Tuesday of each month from Sept – June @ 7:00 pm

The Farmington Jam is a moderately fast jam. We are a gathering of acoustic instrumental musicians who enjoy playing folk music together. We play contra dance tunes, jigs, reels, waltzes, Irish, old time, and more..

Contact: Jeff Despard hreesjd@aol.com



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



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/>

Scan this QR code or click on this link

[SSDS Videos](#)

and it will take you to 100's of YouTube

Silver Strings Videos



Bowed Psaltery Players



Tuesdays, January 14 & 28, 2025

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. Contact Chris Wolschon for more information:

313-410-0143 or silverstrings.programs@gmail.com

Mountain Dulcimer Players



Tuesdays, January 14 & 28, 2025

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

HOW TO CONNECT TO SSDS-SPIRIT JAM ON FACEBOOK

Note: These instructions are for an Apple device but should be similar to an Android device.

1. If you haven't already loaded the Facebook App on your device or computer, do so now. To get the app, go to the "store" that supports your device, i.e. App Store, Google Play Store or the Microsoft Store. It is a free app.

2. If you are installing FB (Facebook) for the first time, you must enter your email address and password. Be sure to write this information down for future use!

3. Once logged in or on Facebook, find your "News Feed" button and press it. Do it again to ensure you are where you need to be. Make sure you do this so you will be at the top of the feed and not in someone's profile or the middle of the feed. This will ensure that your "Search" searches all of FB for the Spirit Jam.

4. Find the "Search Facebook" bar. On the Apple device, it is at the top middle of the screen. Enter these exact words: "Spirit Jam - SSDS" and press Search on your keyboard. Do not enter the quotes on the search bar.

5. On the Apple device, you will see all the results for Spirit Jam - SSDS. The group Spirit Jam - SSDS page should be at the top of your results. It says "Group 283 Members". Press on this result. NOTE: We are at 283 members at the time of this document creation, so it could be a higher number when you join or continue to the group page.

6. This will take you to the Public Group Page entitled "Spirit Jam - SSDS". If you are not a member of this group yet, press the JOIN button. We will check frequently to approve new members, so set up your instrument, playlist and device 5-10 minutes before 7pm. Keep refreshing the page at 6:58 to 7:00 pm until you see Marsha's hammered dulcimer and other props they may have set up. On the Apple device, refresh the page by pulling down from top to bottom. The camera will be turned on 1-2 minutes before 7:00 pm to give us a chance to find the broadcast and prepare for the jam. *NOTE: Some people use headphones, ear buds or stream the sound through their hearing aids! Whether you use your device's speakers or a Bluetooth device is up to you.*

Enjoy the jam! I hope this will be helpful to those who are having problems connecting to the live jam!

Spirit Jam #34 What's on Your Calendar?

Westphalia Waltz	G – 2x
Cold Frosty Morn	Am - 3x
Red Wing	G – 3x
Lovers' Waltz*	D - 3x
Bucket Man Blues	D -3x
Road to Lisdoonvarna	Em - 3x
March of St. Timothy*	G - 3x
Angleworm Wiggle	D -3x
Yellow Bird	G - 3x
Out on Lake Michigan*	G - 3x
Sandy River Belle	D - 3x
Sal's Got Mud	D - 3 (end on part B)
Dancing Bear*	Em - 3x
Liberty	D -3x
South Wind	G – 3x
Smash the Windows	D – 3x
Festival Rag*	D – 3x
Seneca Square Dance	G - 3x
Shoes & Stockings	G - 3x
Jig for a Sunny Day*	G – 3x
Ducks on the Pond	Em – 3x
March Over Mackinac	D – 3x
Fair Fiddlers*	D – 3x
Adirondack Cascade*	Am – 3x
Sweet Georgia Brown	F – 3x
Puncheon Floor	G/D – 2 ½ x
Niskayuna Ramble	G/D – 2 ½ x
Black Cat Schottische*	Am – 3x
Black Mountain Rag	D – 4 x
Simple Gifts	D/G – 2/2
Amazing Grace	G – 3x

Silver Strings **February** 2025 Playlist

Key	Tune	Play
	<i>Looking for love:</i>	
C	Five Foot Two - S	3
G	South Wind	3*
G	Yellow Bird	3
Am	Bei Mier Bist Du Schoen	3
Em	Road to Lisdoonvarna/ Riding on Load of Hay - C	3/3
G	Muss I Denn	3
G	Let Me Call You Sweetheart - S	2
A	Bluemont Waltz	3
<i>Troubled Love/ Love Gone Wrong:</i>		
D	Over the Waterfall - C	3
G	Red Wing	3*
Em	Tamlin	4
G	You Are My Sunshine - S	4
<i>Where There is Love.....</i>		
D	Lover's Waltz	3*
F	Sweet Georgia Brown	3
G	Maggie	3
G	Westphalia	2*
G	Walkin' Branwyn	4
EXTRA TUNES IF NEEDED:		
C	Side by Side	4
D	Hey Polka (instead of hey – shout love)	3
<p>*2nd time: If instruments are available-- Fiddles, Harmonicas, MD or Whistle take it with backup; HD's play softly S: invite audience to sing along 2nd time and/or 3rd time C: get audience to clapping in time</p>		

Silver Strings **March** 2025 Playlist

Key	Tune	Play
D	Over the Waterfall	3
G	Westphalia Waltz	2*
Em	Road to Lisdoonvarna/ Riding on Load of Hay	3/3
G	Hundred Pipers	3
Em	Drunken Sailor	4
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast	3
G/D	Jamie Allen/Road to Boston	3
D	Young Roddy McCorley	4
Em	Tamlin	4
G	Bellman's Jig	3
G	Southwind	3*
D	John Ryan's Polka -feature other instruments- A Part	4
D	Chinese Breakdown	3
D	Eagan's Polka	4
D	Danny Boy	2*
G	Rakes of Mallow	3
G	Irish Washerwoman	3
A	John Stenson's #2/ Hangman's Reel	3/3
Extras		
D	Hey Polka	3
G	March of St. Timothy**	4**
<p>*2nd time: If instruments are available--Fiddles, Harmonicas, MD or Whistle take it with backup; HD's softly ** last time thru – take the 4 ct "hold" in chorus</p>		

Silver Strings April - July 6 2025 Playlist

Key	Tune	Play
D	Over the Waterfall	3
D	Angleworm Wiggle	3
D	Bucket Man Blues	3
D	Black Mountain Rag	3
D	Willafjord	3
Em	Get Low	3
G	Westphalia Waltz	2*
Em	Dancing Bear/Missouri	2/2
G	Yellow Bird	3
Em	Tamlin	4
G	South Wind	3*
A	Hangman's Reel	3
D	John Ryan's Polka	5*
G	Girl I Left Behind	3
D	Ashokan Farewell	3*
D	Liberty	2
D	Armed Services Salute	1
G	America the Beautiful	2**
G	God Bless America <i>repeat from pick-up note in measure 16</i>	1 ½ **
G	Yankee Doodle Boy/ You're A Grand Old Flag	2/2**
	Extras	
D	Hey Polka	3
C	Side by Side	3
D	Ragtime Annie	3
<p>*2nd time: If instruments are available--Fiddles, Harmonicas, MD or Whistles take melody; HD's softly backup</p> <p>** Tempo should be singable – not too fast.</p>		



Our first jam of the new year on January 29th brought out 29 members. After the jam we had lots of snacks and at 9 pm the "After Hours" jam started up. What fun!



The heat was out at Holy Cross Church on January 16th but that didn't stop 29 members from having a good time!



Our first Variety Night of 2025 took place on January 30th. After socializing, pizza, Carol Ann's wonderful salad and an array of yummy desserts the 58 members in attendance were entertained with eleven different acts. Thanks to Bob Niemczewski as our MC, Gerry Kustra and Sally Kilcullen for taking care of food, beverages and room setup and John Robertson for providing his great sound system and Bob Patterson for helping with sound.



On January 24th seventeen Silver Strings musicians performed at Cedarbrook Senior Living of Northville. President Peggy Kustra and resident and member Ann Wassel engage with seniors for a fun and lively performance.

All photos thanks to David Smith, Bob Niemczewski and Cindy Semrau

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	Gerry Kustra	Silverstrings.Programs@gmail.com	313-570-7843
Secretary	Sue Tranquilla	Silverstrings.Secretary@gmail.com	734-751-8109
Treasurer	Sally Niemczewski	Silverstrings.Treasurer@gmail.com	313-585-0054
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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.

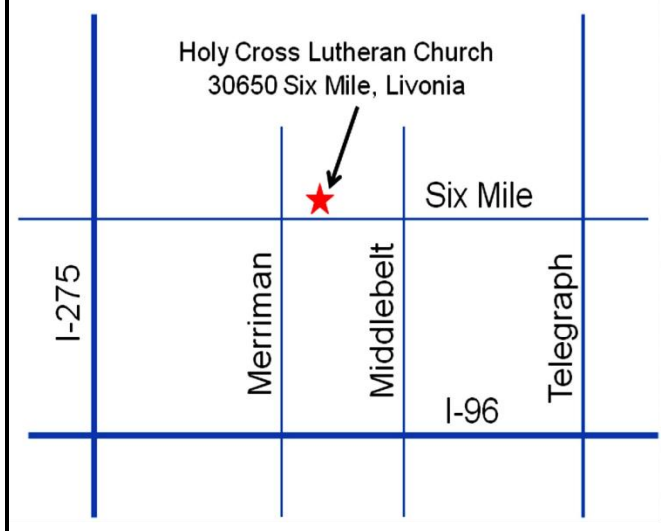
Participate in workshops, festivals, performances,
picnics, fun and fellowship.

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

