

# Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

## Soundboard



January 2025

SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC for 41 YEARS

Issue 477

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

### PERKY PEGGY'S PONDERINGS ~ Peggy Kustra

*Happy New Year, Everyone!!*

We will be having a Silver Strings Jam on Thursday, January 2, 2025.

Be prepared to play music and have fun. It will be nice to see everyone.

#### BEWARE OF WEATHER!!!

If weather conditions are bad with sleet, ice, snow, visibility, etc., the board will make a decision by 4:00 pm whether or not to cancel the evening's jam session. Please check your email before leaving home, to see if there is a cancellation. Those who don't have email will be called. Everyone's safety is always a number one priority.

Welcome to the new board and a new year of working together. Our board is very important to help keep our club moving forward on an even keel. Thank you for all you do.

Let's have a very good year.

As always, contact me with any ideas, questions, or concerns.

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

### JANUARY CALENDAR

- 02 - SSDS Board Meeting - - - - - 6:00 pm
- 02 - SSDS JAM & After Hours - - - - - 7:00 pm
- 16 - SSDS JAM & After Hours - - - - - 7:00 pm
- 23 - Spirit Jam #34 with Marsa Kozlowski - - 7:00 pm
- 30 - SSDS Variety Night & Pizza Party - - 7:00 pm

For more information on all upcoming events, click on:  
<https://www.silverstrings.org/sections/events/events.html>

### 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
- 24...Kelly Marie Chytry



*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 Review.** To all that performed: Thank you for your openness to adding new tunes, practicing to master all the tunes, and playing at the gigs with smiles, adding the bells, whistles, and decorations to make the performances fun and enjoyable for the audiences. We were blessed with very receptive audiences. They "got" the joy (*Joy to the World and Tidings of Comfort and Joy*), they felt the peace of *Dona Nobis Pacem*, they received the Simple Gift of Love and they sensed the hope for happiness in the New Year.

**Spirit Jam #34**, January 23, 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. The tune list will be out next week.

"Getting Started" group practice will start in February. I will be out of town on January 2. In the meantime, give some thought to...What challenges you to start a tune? What tunes would you like to be able to "start." What is blocking you from being a "starter"? if you do start a tune,

what would you like to improve? The group dynamic of mutual support and encouragement will help all of us get better at this. The more people who can do a start, the better it is for the club's jams and performances. Those who wait for the start must be able to come in at the right time/tempo to match the start. Contact me if you have any questions or a particular area we should address.

**A New Year**, new experiences, new tunes, and a new perspective? Expect new tunes that may delight, challenge or become a new favorite. Expect great oldies to be resurrected and re-appreciated. Expect new performing opportunities. Hope for a return to the library outreach programs with a broader appeal. New workshops that address the club's needs and keep our playing ever evolving. Do you have an idea? A new tune you would like to share? An intention that would help Silver Strings be the best group it can be? To borrow from one of our holiday tunes:

*Sleigh bells ring, I am listening.  
In the air, prospects glisten.  
A beautiful sight, we're playing tonight,  
music in this Winter Wonderland.*

*As time goes on, Let's conspire,  
and dream with a lyre.  
Let plans be made, as we begin to play  
Music in this Winter Wonderland.*

Marsha.... 734-239-4190

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

**Thanks for an AWESOME Holiday Season!**

Thanks to everyone who helped bring Holiday Good Cheer through our performances for others and for our own Christmas celebration. We performed 11 Holiday gigs which I thought was a pretty good number. I especially enjoyed our costumes and props. What fun.

**Silver Strings Events Calendar**

Did you know...That every member of the Silver Strings board can create and update events on the Silver Strings calendar. So, if you see anything that needs added or corrected, let us know!

**Future Gig Signups**

I've decided that instead of sending out signup emails for every upcoming gig (unless I have an urgent need), I'll just post the new gigs here in the newsletter. I will continue to send out reminders one week prior to the gig.

You can go to Silver Strings Events page and sign up via the links in each calendar entry. Many of you have already signed up for the future events. Thanks to everyone for learning the calendar and event signup. It makes it so much easier for me to keep track of everyone. If you don't have email or internet, please call me.

Link to the Events Page:

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

VP-PROGRAMS NOTES ~ Gerry Kustra & Sally Kilcullen



We wish to thank Chris Wolschon for his hard work and dedication to SSDS and its programs during the last two years. He did a great job making sure that things ran smoothly month in and month out!

We are starting the New Year out in 2025 with three Thursdays in January, which means mark your calendars for a Variety Night on January 30. A big welcome goes out to all performers who want to take center stage at the microphone. There will be sign-up sheets for those that wish to perform as well as those that want to attend and be part of those that wish to be entertained. It helps us to have a head count of those attending since, as usual, the club will supply the pizza and salad. However, we depend on the dessert being furnished by those in the audience, so we hope to count on them to supply a variety of tasty treats. Additionally, we are looking for a volunteer to be the emcee for the night. Contact either one of us if you wish to be the host.

Gerry Kustra .... 313-570-7843

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

**2025 Gigs**

January 09, 2025 4:00-5:00 pm Willow Pines 17901 Cross Road, Northville, MI
January 24, 2025 2:00-3:00 pm Cedarbrook Senior Living of Northville 15700 Haggerty, Plymouth, MI
March 13, 2025 2:00-3:00 pm Addington Place of Northville 42010 W Seven Mile Rd, Northville, MI
May 8, 2025 2:30-3:30 pm American House of Dearborn Heights 26600 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights, MI
July 02, 2025 2:00-3:00 pm Addington Place of Northville 42010 W Seven Mile Rd, Northville, MI
September 3, 2025 2:00-3:00 pm Addington Place of Northville 42010 W Seven Mile Rd, Northville, MI
November 19, 2025 12:00-1:00 pm Wayne County Community College 21000 Northline Rd, Taylor, MI
December 9, 2025 2:00-3:00 pm Addington Place of Northville 42010 W Seven Mile Rd, Northville, MI

Cindy Lou Semrau... 586-907-3668

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

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

TREASURER ~ Sally Niemczewski

*Happy New Year!*

I look forward to being the club's new Treasurer. Please be patient with me as I learn the process.

Remember to pay your dues,

**\$15 for renewal / \$20 for new members, until February 28, 2025.**

**Effective March 1, 2025**

**Dues will be going up... \$20 for renewal / \$30 for new members.**

Cash or checks will be accepted at the jams. You can also mail your check to PO Box 51446, Livonia, MI 48151, or through PayPal with a debit or credit card. PayPal will add on a \$2 charge.

Sally Niemczewski.... 313-585-0054

[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)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### QuaranTUNE Dulcimer Festival

Winter Fest: Feb. 13 - 16, 2025

Virtual Online

[virtualdulcimerfest.com](http://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](http://daytondulcimers.com)

### Castaway Music Cruise

February 22 - March 1, 2025

Homosassa, Florida

[castawaymusiccruise.com](http://castawaymusiccruise.com)

### Southern Wisconsin Dulcimer Workshop

Jam - April 4, 2025

Workshops and Concert - April 5, 2025

First Lutheran Church, Janesville, WI

[southernwisconsindulcimerclub.com](http://southernwisconsindulcimerclub.com)

### Buckeye Dulcimer Festival

April 23 - 27, 2025

Ashley, Ohio

[buckeyedulcimerfestival.com](http://buckeyedulcimerfestival.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**



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

[paintcreekfolkloresociety.org/](http://paintcreekfolkloresociety.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](mailto: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. MI

### ~ 2025 Jams ~

Mondays - 11am to 1 pm

January 6, 13, and 27

February 3, 24

March 3, 10, and 17

April 7, 14, and 21

May 5, 12, and 19

*See you in the New Year!*

Sherri Kerby <[skerby200@gmail.com](mailto:skerby200@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 **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

## Bowed Psaltery Players



**Tuesdays, January 14 & 28, 2025**

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. Contact Chris Wolschon for more information:

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

## Open Mic Night at Holy Cross Lutheran Church

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

**No Open Mic in January 2025**

*We'll see you again in February*

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>



## Silver Strings Playlist – January 2025

Key	Tune	Play
<b>D</b>	Whiskey Before Breakfast	<b>3</b>
<b>G</b>	Red Wing	<b>3*</b>
<b>G</b>	<b>Westphalia Waltz</b>	<b>2*</b>
<b>G</b>	Hundred Pipers	<b>3</b>
<b>D</b>	Young Roddy McCorley	<b>3</b>
<b>D</b>	Painter's Polka	<b>3</b>
<b>Em</b>	Katushka	<b>3</b>
<b>G</b>	<b>January Waltz</b>	<b>3*</b>
<b>G</b>	Bellman's Jig	<b>3</b>
<b>G</b>	Red Apple Rag	<b>3</b>
<b>G</b>	Road to Lisdoonvarna	<b>3*</b>
<b>G</b>	Columbus Stockade Blues	<b>3</b>
<b>G</b>	March of St. Timothy's – hold on 4th time	<b>4</b>
<b>Am</b>	Cold Frosty Morn	<b>3</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>Tennessee Waltz</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>C</b>	Five Foot Two	<b>3</b>
<b>D</b>	John Ryan's Polka -	<b>5**</b>
<b>D</b>	Black Mountain Rag	<b>4</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>Saro Waltz</b>	<b>3*</b>
<b>Em</b>	Tamlin	<b>4</b>
<b>A</b>	Hangman's Reel	<b>3</b>
	<b>Extra Tunes</b>	
<b>D</b>	Hey Polka	<b>4</b>
<b>D</b>	Willajford	<b>3</b>
<b>Em</b>	Dancing Bear	<b>4</b>

# SILVER STRINGS CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES



28 Silver Stringer's performed for the Holy Cross Church's Candlelight Dinner on December 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Holy Cross Church in Livonia became our home meeting place in 2018.  
This was the first of 10 December Christmas Concerts. *Let the Holiday's begin!*



Silver Strings performed a Christmas Concert at Good Hope Church in Garden City on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Good Hope Church was our club's home for 32 years (1986 - 2018).



# SILVER STRINGS DULCIMER SOCIETY

St. Richard Church - December 8, 2024

Silver Strings performed a lively Christmas Concert at St. Richard Church in Westland. This was our thirteenth year performing for St. Richard at Christmas. The church enjoyed us so much that they have booked us again for Christmas in 2025.



Let the music begin at Oakmont Senior Living in Livonia on December 10<sup>th</sup>



A select group of musicians performed for the residents of Waltonwood Senior Living in Livonia on December 12<sup>th</sup>



Another lively Christmas Performance took place December 14<sup>th</sup> at Celebration Church in Westland.





## Noontime Concert - Silver Strings Dulcimer Society



Take a break from the hustle and bustle and join us for the Silver Strings Dulcimer Society's annual holiday concert of acoustic music. Get in the holiday spirit with some festive Old Time Music! Bring your lunch and a friend and enjoy the show. Drinks and snacks will also be available for purchase from Anastasia & Katie's Coffee and Cafe stand in the atrium. The Noontime Concert Series is generously supported by the Livonia Arts Commission.

**Date:** Thursday, December 19, 2024  
**Time:** 12:15pm - 1:00pm  
**Location:** Atrium  
**Branch:** Bennett Civic Center Library  
**Intended Audience:** All Ages



A large and enthusiastic audience greeted Silver Strings at the Livonia Library on December 19<sup>th</sup> for our final Christmas Concert of 2024. *Merry Christmas to all!*

# SILVER STRINGS CHRISTMAS POTLUCK PARTY



The last Silver Strings get-together of 2024 took place on December 19<sup>th</sup>. As we gathered with our friends, we were treated to a yummy potluck dinner and after dessert played a couple of fun games. *Best wishes for a musical New Year!*

# Silver Strings Dulcimer Society 2025 Board



**Sally Niemczewski**  
*Treasurer*

**Sally Kilcullen & Gerry Kustra**  
*VP-Programs*

**Peggy Kustra**  
*President*

**Cindy Semrau**  
*VP-Business*

**Sue Tranquilla**  
*Secretary*

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	Gerry Kustra	<a href="mailto:Silverstrings.Programs@gmail.com">Silverstrings.Programs@gmail.com</a>	313-570-7843
Secretary	Sue Tranquilla	<a href="mailto:Silverstrings.Secretary@gmail.com">Silverstrings.Secretary@gmail.com</a>	734-751-8109
Treasurer	Sally Niemczewski	<a href="mailto:Silverstrings.Treasurer@gmail.com">Silverstrings.Treasurer@gmail.com</a>	313-585-0054
Newsletter Editor	David Smith	<a href="mailto:Silverstrings.Newletter@gmail.com">Silverstrings.Newletter@gmail.com</a>	313-802-6001
Music Coordinator	Marsha Kozlowski	<a href="mailto:Silverstrings.Music.Coordinator@gmail.com">Silverstrings.Music.Coordinator@gmail.com</a>	734-239-4190
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.

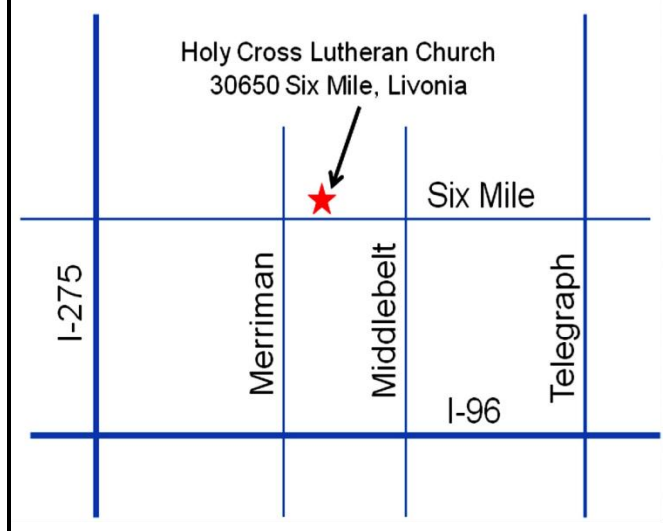
Participate in workshops, festivals, performances,  
picnics, fun and fellowship.

**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)*

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

