

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Soundboard



March 2025

SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC for 41 YEARS

Issue 479

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

PERKY PEGGY'S PONDERINGS ~ Peggy Kustra

Top 'O' the Mornin' to y'all!!

Time to bring out all the Irish tunes.

On Thursday, March 6, we will play the March playlist to get our Irish on.

March 6, there will also be a "Slow Jam" with Linda Osgood at 6:15pm. Come and learn some tunes or polish them up a bit.

March 20, will be the second "Learn Starts" session with Marsha Kozlowski. The first session went very well. I hope you are all doing the assignments she gave you.

Practice the tunes for the Evart performance. Sweet Georgia Brown, Five Foot Two, Peek a Boo Waltz, and Side by Side. Hopefully there will be time to practice these at the Jam on Thursday the 6th as well.

Regarding Silver Strings Apparel. I will put out the order sheets at the March 6 and 20th jam. March 20 will be the last day to order. If you cannot attend either jam, please contact me if you would like to place an order.

The following are approximate prices:

- Hats \$20.53,
- Crewneck Sweatshirt \$19.92
- Crewneck Sweatshirt 3xl \$23.93
- Zip-up hoodie \$27.72
- 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, questions or praise, please feel free to contact me.

Peggy Kustra.... 313-570-7844
Silverstrings.President@gmail.com

MARCH CALENDAR

- 06 - SSDS Slow Jam with Linda ----- 6:15 pm
- 06 - SSDS JAM ----- 7:00 pm
- 20 - SSDS Starts with Marsha ----- 6:15 pm
- 20 - SSDS JAM ----- 7:00 pm

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

MARCH BIRTHDAYS...LET'S CELEBRATE!

- 1...Patrick Gietzen
- 4...Mary Schraffenberger
- 5...Mary Barden
- 7...Penny Cook
- 12...David Smith
- 15...Adarsa Antares
- 15...Margene Scott
- 23.. Julie Kafcas
- 23...Don Phelps
- 24...Stephen Beck
- 24...John Freeman
- 26...Scott Beatty
- 30...Bob Niemczewski
- 30...Lauren Maynard



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

MARSHA'S MUSINGS ~ Marsha Kozlowski

Spirit Jam #34, was broadcast February 13th on FB Live from "Studio C" at Cindy & Geoff Semrau's home. The crew's efforts were rewarded by much support from all of you. We had "participants" from several states. The positive feedback was encouraging. Those who were part of putting this together learned a lot in the experience and I am grateful for their help in making this happen.

“Getting Started” practice group –introductory session February 20. About 12 of us gathered for this initial session. Its purpose is to grow our musicianship individually and collectively regarding starting tunes. We shared hopes and goals, the challenges of starting a tune and what we could do to help each other as we continue to meet. Other instruments were represented (whistle, guitar, MD, melodica) which will help us get used to non-HD starts. If you want to join us, the next session’s starting point is to create/practice a start for 2 tunes: (1) one you love and know very well (2) one you like but may not know very well, if at all, and learn it with adding a start.... Do the homework and come.

Evart Funfest – We have started playing the “Roaring Twenties” setlist at jams. Side by Side will be worked on at Slow Jam as well. If you plan to perform, start looking for appropriate clothing/accessories. The setlist will be Sweet Georgia Brown, Five Foot Two, Peekaboo Waltz, Side by Side. See the modified lyrics for Side by Side – they may be incorporated into our performance.

Tune Library – the After Hours tune list continues to grow from this group. While the tunes may not become part of the club’s “official” repertoire, they are available for use whenever appropriate. This month’s tunes: **Reed’s Rigadoon – contributed by Pat Tait.** We already enjoy Walkin’ Branwyn. This tune honors her grandson. **Day Dreaming by Jenni Burke.** We have permission from Jenni to play her tunes. This is one often played at the Farmington Jam. **Judy & Jim’s Wedding** by Larry Unger. **Valse Petite Dejeuner (Little Breakfast Waltz)** by Jean-Christophe Lequerre? A sweet little waltz contributed by George Gonyo. **The Pride of Petravore** (in Am) (a chance to play on the lower left of your HD) passed along by Pam Herweyer who thought we would enjoy it, **Son-Shine by Bill Robinson**, arr. for SSDS by me., **Ten Thousand Hammers by Judi Morningstar.** This tune is for the mass HD stage show opener at the ODPC Funfest in July. Let’s all learn it and support Mary Jensen who is leading this. **Cuckoo’s Nest** is a cute tune I heard at a jam and thought the club would enjoy. *Karen will add the tunes to Dropbox. It is up to you to download them to unreal books or Mobile Sheets.*

After Hours – As the fellowship and snack-time ends the evening for some, the AfterHours jam heats up. The jam after the jam (9:00 to 10:00) revisits old tunes, works on new tunes and shares tunes from other groups. If a “not in Dropbox” tune is shared, I will try to make sure it gets put into Dropbox with the AfterHours label so it is accessible to everyone. Be sure to check Dropbox for new additions. If you have trouble doing this, contact Karen Turner (unRealbooks) or Carol Ann Matthews (Mobile Sheets) for help.

Playlists: If you plan to perform at any of the upcoming gigs, be sure to review the tunes on the playlists. The playlists change throughout the year to reflect the month or season. If you are unsure of a tune, call for it at a jam so we can practice and polish it.

Marsha Kozlowski.... 734-239-4190
Silverstrings.Music.Coordinator@gmail.com



The snow is melting and the promise of Spring is here! Our second Variety Night will be on May 29th, so there is plenty of time to practice and be ready to display your special talents. March is the month of St Patrick’s Day celebrations, so be ready to

request your favorite Irish tune at our jam sessions.

Thoughts of Spring makes one think of the outdoors, Music and Campouts. On March 20th, you will be able to reserve a site at the SSDS annual Campout. If you can’t get to that jam or the jams in April and May you can contact Gerry Kustra at 313-570-7843 or gbkustra@hotmail.com to make arrangements. Remember to reserve early to get a site before they are gone!

Campout dates: early arrivals at Wednesday, June 4th with the end date is on Tuesday, June 10. Groveland Oaks County Park (14555 Dixie Highway, Holly MI) will again be our destination and we have reserved our group sites 2 and 3. As you recall, sites have electricity (30 amp) and there are 4 water faucets on the inner circle. Remember that each site is allowed one trailer, one tent, two cars.

Costs remain the same as last year:

1-2 nights cost \$40 per night

3-4 nights cost \$35 per night

5-6 nights cost \$30 per night

If you prefer a cabin or a yurt, they are equipped with a fridge, table and chairs, electricity, nearby water, outdoor cooking grill, picnic table, fire pit and microwave. Guest provide their own linens. For those accommodations, contact Groveland Oaks directly at 248-634-9811 for reservations and additional information. The park charges day only fees at \$5 per car or \$12 general admission for Oakland County residents.

Friday night there will be a bonfire with campfire music and singing.

Saturday starts with a traditional breakfast of pancakes and sausage followed by jamming and workshops throughout the day. A Pot Luck Dinner with fried chicken as the main course (and side dishes and desserts provided by attendees) is scheduled (a \$2 donation per person is encouraged to offset the cost of the chicken. Please let us know if you will be attending the breakfast and dinner so we can make the proper food arrangements to satisfy everyone.

Lemonade, water, coffee, plates, cups, plasticware and napkins will be provided at each meal.

The park also offers paddle boats, paddle boards, canoes and kayak rentals as well as swimming, fishing, hiking trails and birding.

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

TREASURER ~ Sally Niemczewski

Hello everyone,

Just a reminder, as of March 1, 2025, it is \$25.00 to renew your membership and \$30.00 for new members. We still have quite a few who have not renewed. If you still intend to renew, you can pay at a jam session, on PayPal or mail a check made out to Silver Strings Dulcimer Society to our PO Box 51446, Livonia, MI 48151. If you don't intend to renew, please send me an email.

Sally Niemczewski.... 313-585-0054
Silverstrings.Treasurer@gmail.com

VP-BUSINESS NOTES ~ Cindy Semrau

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

Mar-13-2025 Addington Place of Northville 42010 W Seven Mile Rd, Northville 2:00-3:00
Apr-10-2025 St Michael Lutheran Church of Canton 7000 Sheldon Rd, Canton 1:00-2:00
May-08-2025 American House of Dearborn Heights 26600 Ann Arbor Trail Dearborn Heights 2:30-3:30
Jun-25-2025 John Kennedy Library 24602 Van Born Rd Dearborn Heights 6:30-7:30
Jul-02-2025 Addington Place of Northville 42010 W Seven Mile Rd, Northville 2:00-3:00
Jul-17-2025 Evert Funfest Osceola County Fair Grounds 101 Recreation Ave, Evert
Jul-29-2025 Novi Public Library 45255 W 10 Mile Rd, Novi 11:30-1:00
Aug-10-2025 Grosse Ile Alliance for the Arts Macomb Street Park at the corner of Macomb and Meridian Rd 9199 Macomb St, Grosse Ile Township, MI 48138, 7:00-8:00
Sep-03-2025 Addington Place of Northville 42010 W Seven Mile Rd, Northville 2:00-3:00
Sep-25-2025 Springfield Township Library 12000 Davisburg Rd 6:00
Nov-19-2025 Wayne County Community College 21000 Northline Rd, Taylor 12:00-1:00
Dec-02-2025 Holy Cross Lutheran Church 30650 Six Mile, Livonia 6:30
Dec-09-2025 Addington Place of Northville 42010 W Seven Mile Rd, Northville 2:00-3:00
Dec-12-2025 Cedarbrook Senior Living of Northville 15700 Haggerty, Plymouth 2:00-3:00
Dec-16-2025 Willow Pines 17901 Cross Road, Northville 4:00-5:00

Outreach Silver Stringers are very busy bees! Giggling, playing and having fun. Remember you all are our best advertisement. Talk up the club at any opportunity. You never know when you will meet a lonely musician who didn't know their musical family is just down the road....

Spirit Jam 34 We learned a lot about sound boards, interfaces, microphones and Facebook Live. And how NEXT time to select the sound from the sound board and not from the iPhone Argh! #\$\$%@. We met several times to practice together, had a good dinner to fortify us and then PLAYED with our friends all over. The video is posted on the SilverStringsClub YouTube channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/silverstringsclub>

(From the ODPC Newsletter)

Original Dulcimer Players Club

Annual Spring Membership Meeting - Evert, Michigan
 Please mark your calendars for Friday, April 25th and Saturday, April 26th! Our next membership meeting will take place on Saturday, April 26th in Evert, Michigan at the Fairgrounds.

Camping at the Osceola Fairgrounds will be open, and we have reserved a block of rooms at the Osceola Grand Hotel. You can get a king or two queens for \$115.54 (tax included) per night. If you would like to reserve a room, please call 231-734-0470 and register with our group (the Original Dulcimer Players Club)

We're adding something new to our Friday schedule, and we hope many of you will join us. On **Friday, April 25th, Pam Bowman will conduct a series of afternoon workshops from 1 pm to 4 pm.** These workshops are FREE to ODPC members! Here's a link to a form where you can RSVP and suggest topics for those afternoon workshops! <https://forms.gle/Ah9FXY7iBV87VoJ47>
 Non-members are welcome to attend, and we would suggest a \$5 donation to help cover our costs. Bring a friend!

The fun continues on Friday evening with a dinner outing to Sixth & Main in Evert. Afterwards we'll remain at the restaurant for an evening jam.

Saturday will be our regular membership meeting and potluck, and we'll report on our finances, our festival planning efforts, and we will reveal the 2025 festival t-shirt and poster!

We hope to see you in Evert on April 25th and 26th!

Cindy Lou Semrau 586-907-3668
silverstrings.business.manager@gmail.com
[YouTube](#) ~ [Website](#) ~ [Facebook](#)

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 myself when you go through 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

March 3, 10, and 17

April 7, 14, and 21

May 5, 12, and 19

Sherri Kerby <skerby200@gmail.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 threedsjd@aol.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Southern Wisconsin Dulcimer Workshop

Jam - April 4, 2025

Workshops and Concert - April 5, 2025

First Lutheran Church, Janesville, WI

www.southernwisconsindulcimerclub.com

Ten Pound Fiddle 50th Year All Day Party

April 12, 2025

East Lansing, MI

www.tenpoundfiddle.org

Buckeye Dulcimer Festival

April 23 - 27, 2025

Ashley, Ohio

www.buckeyedulcimerfestival.com

Gebhard Woods Dulcimer Music Festival

June 14-15, 2025

Morris, Illinois

www.geharddulcimer.org

Kentucky Music Week

June 22-27, 2025

Bardstown, KY

www.kentuckymusicweek.com

Quarantune Summer Fest

June 5-8, 2025

Virtualdulcimerfest.com

ODPC FunFest

July 17-19, 2025

Evart, Michigan

www.evartdulcimerfest.org



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

paintcreekfolkloresociety.org/

Scan this QR code
or click on this link

[SSDS Videos](#)

and it will take you
to 100's of YouTube

Silver Strings Videos



Website Wanderings

The Board has decided not to renew our SmugMug photo gallery due to increasing subscription costs. A decision was made by the Board that all club photos will be transferred to Google Drive. Once completed you will receive an email to share Google Drive photos. More recent photos and albums will be posted on Facebook.

Karen Turner ~ Website & Dropbox Coordinator

Silverstrings.Webmaster@gmail.com



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/>

SIDE BY SIDE lyrics

Oh, we ain't got a barrel of money
Maybe we're ragged and funny
But we travel along playing our songs
Side by Side

We don't know what's coming tomorrow
Maybe its trouble and sorrow
But we play anyway, make the most of this day
Side by Side

Through all kinds of weather
What if the sky should fall
As long as we play together
It doesn't matter at all

When the festival is over and we've parted
We'll play the same as we started
Just noodling along sharing a song
Side by side

Mountain Dulcimer Players



Tuesdays, March 11 & 25, 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

Bowed Psaltery Players



Tuesdays, March 11 & 25, 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.

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

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</p> <p>** last time thru – take the 4 count “hold” in chorus</p>		

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>		



The February 6th brought out 33 musicians for a fun evening of music, socializing and snacks. The evening started with a Slow Jam led by Linda Osgood at 6:15 – 6:55, then our regular jam from 7:00 – 8:30. After snacks and socializing, the After Hours jam started at 9:00.



39 musicians joined our February 20th music jam. The evening began at 6:15 with "Learning Starts" led by Marsha Kozlowski. Then at 7:00 our group jammed together for 90 minutes. After our snacks at 9:00 eight members stayed and played at the "After Hours" jam.



Spirit Jam #34, was broadcast February 13th on FB Live from “Studio C” at Cindy & Geoff Semrau’s home. The crew’s efforts were rewarded by much support from all of you. We had “participants” from several states. The positive feedback was encouraging. Those who were part of putting this together learned a lot in the experience and I am grateful for their help in making this happen.

Here is a link to Spirit Jam #34 https://youtu.be/GTn2blzPDSk?si=RHyGh_f-AMa6koV6



Starting about 20 years ago a group of Silver Strings members began meeting in the basement of Good Hope Church after our regular Silver Strings jams. In 2013 several of the members formed a spinoff from Silver Strings called Great Lakes Ukulele Gathering “GLUG” and began monthly ukulele jams at Good Hope. Several Silver Strings members have joined our group. A performing group was also formed “Uke ‘n Sing”.

On February 20th we performed and were interviewed by GLUG member Ray Scoboria on the Dearborn Kiwanis program “KiwaniTalk”. This half hour show will be shown throughout March on local cable channels. On the show we played several tunes and Theresa Smith promoted our GLUG organization as well as Silver Strings Dulcimer Society. The program is also available for viewing anytime on YouTube. You can find the video by searching KiwaniTalk on YouTube or follow this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2AMtsnniZII>

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
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.

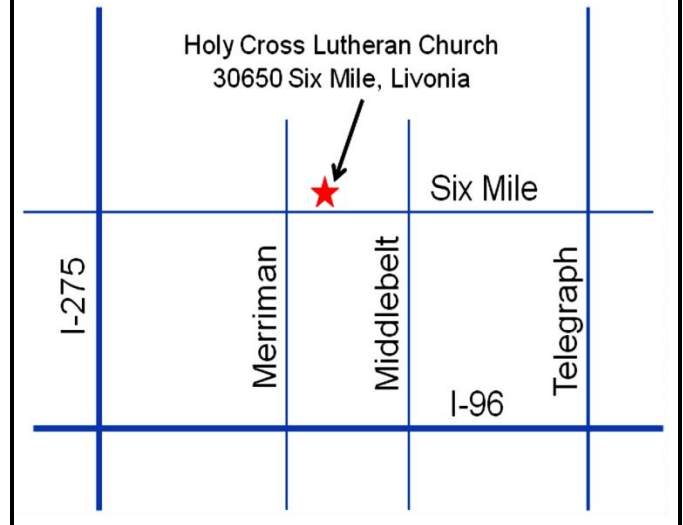
Participate in workshops, festivals, performances,
picnics, fun and fellowship.

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

