

# Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

## Soundboard

NOVEMBER 2011 28 YEARS SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC July 1983-2011 Issue 314  
Website : [www.silverstrings.org](http://www.silverstrings.org)

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Bob Hlavacek

The holidays are approaching fast. We began Christmas music practices in October. We have two more practices before our first holiday performance in late November. See Larry Roper's news article. The election of new officers for 2012 will take place at the November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Silver Strings is well known, and has followers far and wide. We have a 28 year legacy to uphold. Let's make sure we give help and encouragement to those seeking office.

I had a call from Lynn Reed who is with the Windsor Dulcimer club. They have been following us on You-tube and loved the videos of us performing in Victorian costume. They wanted to know more about our club and would like to visit. They are interested in starting a uke group within their club. She was also interested in the fact that we have mountain dulcimer and harmonica sub groups; mostly of Strings members.

The last Thursday of September was Variety Night at our Strings meeting. The evening was hosted by Bill Smith. Thank you, Bill, for a most interesting and fun evening.

The First meeting in October was held at The Italian American Club in Livonia. It was a gala night with our annual banquet. The evening began with a bingo game made up of song titles. After a great meal, it was time to recognize our members who have volunteered in various capacities this year. Gift certificates were given to the following people: **Ron Hayes** who helped in every way at the campout, picnic, and acted as pack mule; workshop leaders - **Sharon McAuliffe, Bob Niemczewski, Penny Scheiber; Janelle Pacic**, workshop leader, tune starter, and campout helper; **Karen Turner**, tune starter, slow jam leader, and website host; **Linda Losse**, tune starter; **Carol Ann Matthews**, slow jam leader; **Dave Matthews**, variety night host; **Bill Smith**, variety night host and club photos; **Dave and Theresa Smith**, variety night emcee's and club photos; **Val Losse**, club photos; **George Gonyo**, who provided picnic facilities; **Sandi Hlavacek**, newsletter editor, coordinated printing and distribution of new music and binders, banquet committee prizes and decorations; **Lee Lack**, our new newsletter editor; **Sue Duncan**, who provided economical printing of new music packs, binder inserts, and previous 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary books; **Ernie Stewart**, for "Getting to Know You" articles for the newsletter; **Kelly and Lynn Ellen Kaiser** for putting 160 pieces of music in our repertoire in a standard format, and providing club photos; **Judy Surhigh** for Kitchen help and cleanup at jams, campout, and picnic.  
**Thank you to all who have provided help during the past year.**

The annual meeting was held October 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:15pm during a break in the jam. All of the board members gave a status and brief summary of the year in their area of responsibility. Highlights of the reports were news that over 20 new members have joined this year; we will have done 54 playdates by the end of the year; 21 thank you gift certificates were given out at the annual banquet; the slate of candidates for the 2012 board was announced.(See Linda Osgood's article). The December 15<sup>th</sup>, SSDS meeting will be cancelled because we have 19 playdates scheduled in December. We will celebrate the closing of the year on December 29<sup>th</sup> with a variety night and potluck.

**Practice, Practice, Practice the Christmas music ! . . . . Bob**



Outgoing 2011 board members: Bob Hlavacek, Linda Osgood, Dawn Hayes, Carol Ann Matthews, Larry Roper

**PLAYDATE NOTES \_\_\_\_\_ V.P. Business**

Hi Folks:

Well as usual, October turned out to be the calm before the storm, as we had only two playdates. But wait till you see November and December! We played the two performances at Waltonwood to very receptive audiences at both. Those two performances marked the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> time we have played there this year, and we are booked to play two holiday performances there in December. I kind of get the feeling they like us! We also had our first of four holiday practices. The holiday music, as simple as it sounds, is usually a challenge each year but I was pleased with how the first practice went. Our next practice will be Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at Good Hope Church. We will be working on the arrangements that we will be using this year and I encourage anyone that signs up to play for any holiday performance to attend these practices. I've been really busy booking playdates for the remainder of the year and following up on dates that were being held for various organizations. We currently have 5 playdates in November. Two of those will be holiday performances and will require separate playlists. I'm working with the Emerson Church people to finalize a playlist for that performance and will make sure that those who will be playing for that one gets a copy. You will find the November playlist with two other variations in the newsletter. The Holiday Playlist will be posted in this newsletter but we will still be working on finalizing the list at our remaining practices and some changes may be made. We have 17 playdates booked so far in December with the possibility of a couple more, bringing the total number of holiday playdates to 19. The signup sheets for the remaining playdates for 2011 were put out at our annual business meeting on October 20, so if you would like to sign up to play for any of these, the sheets will be out at our next meeting on November 3<sup>rd</sup> or you can contact me and I can sign you up if the list hasn't been filled. It's going to be a very busy season for us and I look forward to seeing all of our efforts come together as we get closer to the big finale of the year. Have a wonderful November everyone!

Larry Roper

**MEDIC - ALERT CARDS**

**If you have not filled out an emergency information card yet, PLEASE DO.** They are the green cards in the brown recipe box at the business table at all meetings. These go with us to all SSSS activities (social or business). They are kept for family contact in case you have a medical emergency when you are with us. If you have new medical info since you filled yours out, please update it with a new card.

**THANK YOU** to Sharon McAuliffe, Val Losse and Theresa Smith for photos in this issue.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**NOVEMBER**

- 2.....**Holiday Practice** ..... 7:00
- 3.....**Board meeting @ 6:00** ..... **Jam @ 7:00**
- 11...**Tribute to Veterans**. . . . . BC. . . . . 6:00-7:00  
Maple Heights Retir. Comm. . . . . Allen Park
- 15...**Holiday Practice**. . . . . 7:00
- 17...**Slow Jam @6:00**. . . . . **Jam @ 7:00**
- 18...**Holiday Season Kick Off** . . .H. . . . . 7:30-8:30  
First Congregational Church of Wayne. . .Wayne
- 19...**Thanksgiving Celebration**. . BC. . . . . 6:00-7:00  
Southgate Senior Citizens. . . . . Southgate
- 20...**Holiday Concert** . . . . . H. . . . . 10:30-11:30  
Emerson Unitarian Universalist Church. . . . Troy
- 27...**Holiday Concert**. . . . . V. . . . . 6:00-7:00  
South Lyon Historical Society . . . . . South Lyon

**DECEMBER**

- 1.....**Holiday Concert**. . . . . H. . . . . 7:00-8:00  
Good Hope Lutheran Church . . . . .Garden City
- 2.....**Holiday Concert**. . . . . H. . . . . 2:00-3:00  
American House. . . . . Westland
- 3.....**Holiday Concert**. . . . . H. . . . . 1:30-2:30  
John F. Kennedy Library. . . . . Dearborn Heights
- 3.....**Holiday Concert**. . . . . H. . . . . 3:30-4:30  
Caroline Kennedy Library. . . . .Dearborn Heights
- 4.....**Holiday Concert**. . . . . H. . . . . 6:30-7:30  
St. John's Lutheran Church . . . . .New Boston
- 7.....**Holiday Concert**. . . . . 1:00-2:00  
Normandy Apartments. . . . .Dearborn
- 8.....**Holiday Concert**. . . . . H. . . . . 7:00-8:00  
Grand Court of Farmington . . . . .Farmington
- 9.....**Holiday Concert** . . . . . H. . . . . 2:30-3:30  
Village Manor Ret. of Hartland . . . . .Howell
- 10....**Holiday Concert**. . . . . 3:00-4:00  
Royal Oak Public Library. . . . . Royal Oak
- 11....**Holiday Concert** . . . . . H. . . . . 2:00-3:00  
St. Richard's Church . . . . .Westland
- 12....**Holiday Concert** . . . . . H. . . . . 2:00-3:00  
Plymouth Cultural Center. . . . .Plymouth
- 13....**Holiday Concert** . . . . . H. . . . . 1:30-2:30  
Waltonwoods Indep. Living. . . . . Novi
- 13....**Holiday Concert** . . . . . H. . . . . 3:00-4:00  
Waltonwoods Ass't. Living. . . . . Novi
- 14....**Holiday Concert** . . . . . H. . . . . 12:45-1:45  
St. Mary's Cultural Center. . . . . Livonia
- 15....**Holiday Concert** . . . . . H. . . . . 12:15-1:00  
Livonia Civic Center Library . . . . . Livonia
- 17....**Holiday Concert** . . . . . H. . . . . ?
- 18....**Holiday Concert** . . . . . H. . . . . 3:00-4:00  
Pine Ridge of Hayes Ass't Living. . . . .Sterling Hts

**BC=Business Casual, V= Victorian  
BW=Black & white, H=Holiday**

**SECRETARY'S NOTES** \_\_\_ Carol Ann Matthews

There was no board meeting in October to report on due to the banquet.

To print the NOVEMBER Play list, please click on our website or this link : <http://www.silverstrings.org/sections/tunes/pdf/2011/nov11.pdf>

### NOVEMBER PLAY LIST 2011

| Key | Tune  | Play          |
|-----|---|---------------|
| D   | Whiskey Before Breakfast  | 3             |
| G   | Red Wing  | 3*            |
| G   | Westphalia Waltz  | 2             |
| D   | Over The Waterfall  | 3             |
| Am  | Cold Frosty Morn  | 3             |
| D   | Old Joe Clark   | 3             |
| D   | Ashgrove  | 3*            |
| G   | Down Yonder   | 3             |
| D   | Festival Rag  | 3             |
| G   | Red Apple Rag   | 3             |
| G   | Southwind   | 3*            |
| G   | Scotland The Brave  | 3             |
| D   | John Ryan's Polka   | Karen Decides |
| D   | Hey Polka   | Bob Decides   |
| Em  | Tamlin  | 3             |
| D   | Liberty   | 3             |
| G   | Maggie  | 3             |
| D   | Mississippi Sawyer  | 3             |
| G   | Irish Washerwoman   | 3             |
| D   | Coleman's March   | 3*            |
| D/D | Endless Medley; Ragtime Annie   | 2/2/2/2       |
| D/G | Soldier's Joy, Golden Slippers  |               |
|     | *2 <sup>nd</sup> feature fiddles, harmonicas<br>HDs & BU play softly  |               |
|     | For Nov. 11 <sup>th</sup> gig Substitute:<br>Battle Hymn for Tamlin<br>Youre a Grand Old Flag for Liberty<br>America The Beautiful for Maggie<br>God Bless America for Mississippi Sawyer<br>Drunken Sailor for Irish Washerwoman         |               |
|     | For Nov. 18 <sup>th</sup> gig Substitute:<br>Jingle Bells for Mississippi Sawyer<br>Away in a Manger for Irish Washerwoman<br>Joy To The World for Coleman's March<br>Angels We Have Heard On High and<br>Silent Night for Endless Medley |               |
|     | For Nov. 20 <sup>th</sup> gig we will be interacting with Church service and will use a modified Holiday Playlist   |               |

### POINTS TO PONDER...

- \* A bicycle can't stand alone. It's two tired.
- \* To write with a broken pencil is pointless.
- \* The batteries were given out free of charge.
- \* A boiled egg is hard to beat.
- \* A thief who stole a calendar got 12 months.
- \* You are stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.

### SSDS 2011 Holiday Play List

| Key | Tune                                     |
|-----|--|
| G   | Jingle Bells                             |
| D   | Whiskey Before Breakfast                 |
| G   | Westphalia Waltz                         |
| G   | Deck The Halls                           |
| G   | We Three Kings                           |
| C   | Winter Wonderland                        |
| G   | Away In The Manger                       |
| G   | Hark! The Herald Angels Sing             |
| G   | Let It Snow                              |
| D   | Festival Rag                             |
| C   | Silver Bells (remove dot from last note) |
| Dm  | Childgrove                               |
| G   | The Holly and Ivy/Oh Christmas Tree      |
| G   | Joy To The World                         |
| Am  | Cold Frosty Morn                         |
| G   | Star in the East                         |
| G   | O Come All Ye Faithful                   |
| D   | Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer           |
| Em  | God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen              |
| G   | Up On The House + Jolly Old St Nick      |
| D   | Simple Gifts                             |
| D   | Frosty The Snowman                       |
| Dm  | What Child is This                       |
| G   | Angels We Have Heard on High             |
| G   | Dreidel Song (don't medley with "Oh")    |
| Em  | Oh Chanukah                              |
| D/G | Silent Night                             |
|     | <b>Extra Tunes</b>                       |
| D   | Mississippi Sawyer                       |
| Em  | Tamlin                                   |
| G   | Southwind                                |
| D   | Chinese Breakdown/Nelly Bly              |
| D   | Coleman's March                          |
| G   | Redwing                                  |
| G   | I'll Remember You Love in My Prayers     |
| D   | Over the Waterfall                       |
| G   | Young Jane                               |
| D   | John Ryan's Polka                        |
| D/G | Golden Slippers                          |
| G   | Maggie                                   |
| G   | January Waltz                            |
| D   | Young Roddy McCorley                     |
| G   | Red Apple Rag                            |
| G   | Silver And Gold Two Step                 |
| D   | Bonaparte Crossing The Rhine             |
|     | Endless Medley                           |
| D   | Ragtime Annie                            |
| D   | Soldiers Joy                             |
| D/G | Golden Slippers                          |



## The Tablet Solution

I don't know where I first saw someone using one of those new tablets, like an iPad, instead of a big, bulky notebook on their music stand, perhaps at Silver Strings. Then, at Evert, I began to notice in earnest, and saw many of them. I began asking ... what kind? What features? Cost? I thought it was a nice idea, far out there, to be taken seriously... sometime.



Well, sometime came earlier than expected. I was in Best Buy, looking at mobile hotspots, and they had a deal going on. \$100 off on a tablet if you buy a hotspot! I love a good deal, and my greed got involved. Hours later, I walked out with my new hotspot and a TABLET!!!

The geek helpers were helpful, and asked many good questions. But since I hadn't thought it through, and hadn't done my homework, I really didn't know why I wanted it, other than to store the music that was in those big, bulky notebooks of mine. I came home with a good choice of tablet. But it just didn't feel right. So I began to ask SSDS people about their tablets.

And one SSDS angel showed me her tablet and what it could do. How it could store music from Silver Strings and other groups and be so handy to use. Not only that, you could also input a music score and it would play the song, making it easier to learn! She also showed me its other features, and when I went home to use the one I bought, I realized I had the wrong one.

My SSDS angel went with me to exchange what I had bought for my new iPad2, and then helped me set it up with my netbook. I couldn't have done it without her. I was so anxious about making this big purchase I could hardly think straight.

Now, less than 24 hours later, I can't imagine life without my iPad. It's so easy to open it up and go directly to my email, or the web. And I'm dreaming of the books I'll put on it, and the videos I will take of my grandson playing football, and the games I'll buy, and how I can take it places I wouldn't take a laptop. And with the new iCloud, if I get an iPod Touch, whatever I put on that will show up on my iPad! It's easier to take to football games... Or will I get an iPhone? What about an iPod Touch for my son, so we can use Face Time across the miles. Guess I'm having Apple dreams...

It took greed, geek helpers, my SSDS angel and about ten days of technological anxiety to get me here. Look for me at Silver Strings, and for the others who have a solution to the big ring binder. In hindsight, it wasn't so hard, and it was well worth it! Don't wait...

Linda Lloyd

## V.P. Program Notes . . . . . Dawn Hayes

I would like to thank Bill for his great job as MC at our September Variety Night, and to all of the talented people who shared their talents with us. What a fun evening!

**The Annual Banquet** was a success due to the help of Janelle Pacic, Larry Roper, Karen Turner, Sandi and Bob Hlavacek, Frank and Judy Surhigh and Ron Hayes. We were able to get the tables decorated in short time because of you. I hope everyone had an enjoyable evening of "good eats", socializing, games and music.

**Annual Holiday Happening:** Plans are underway for our annual Holiday Happening evening to be held Thursday, December 29<sup>th</sup>.

The evening will begin with a potluck dinner and will conclude with Variety Night. Please consider sharing your talents with the group. Our MC for the evening is traveling great a distance to be with us and I'm sure you won't want to miss renewing his acquaintance.

## PURSE STRINGS \_\_\_\_\_ Treasurer Hello All,

Just a short note, to let the membership know that our club is again doing well with our finances. We are carrying a balance that allows us to maintain our status and purchase the necessary funds to operate efficiently.

We again have enrolled 3 new members who will be listed in next month's newsletter. We must have formal approval by the board and our next meeting falls on the 1st Thursday of November.

However, when you see a new face please extend your hand and get to know them !!

Linda Osgood

## 2012 Board Nominations

Report from the Nominating Committee:  
We have successfully filled the slate for 2012 Board Of Directors. The nominations are as follows:

President : Bob Niemczewski  
V.P.- Business Manager: Linda Osgood  
V.P.-Program Coordinator: George Gonyo  
Treasurer: Sally Niemczewski  
Secretary: Sharon McAuliffe

We will be formally voting on these candidates on Nov 3rd at our meeting.

Thank you to my committee, Theresa Smith and Sally Niemczewski, for all their help in putting together this wonderful group of people to be our leaders in 2012.

Respectfully, Linda Osgood, Chairman

## DID YOU KNOW ???

The Silver Strings Variety Night has been referred to as "a cheap imitation of the Ed Sullivan Show". For those too young to know who Ed Sullivan was, it was early television's "little bit of everything" program.

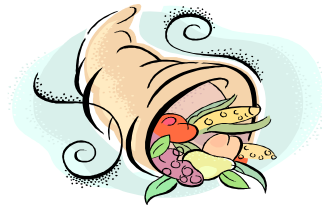
Everyone is invited to strut their stuff ! Though it **usually** involves a musical performance, it also is an opportunity to show off a hobby of yours. David Smith has shared some of his **awesome** wood-working skills with instruments he has built. We have also had a clown making balloon critters, comedy skits, and story telling. How about showing off a quilt you made, or a special kite you made, or a poem or very short story you wrote... after all, it **IS** called **VARIETY NIGHT**. Let's use this to help get to know more about each other.

The next one is in December. Put your thinking cap on !!!

## IT'S NOVEMBER...LET'S CELEBRATE !

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

6....Bill Smith  
9....John Mercier  
10...Terry Treppa  
16...Marlin Harmon  
25...Jane Chevalier  
30...Greg Kaiser  
30...Marie Naster



### HAPPY ANNI VERSARY

5....Charlie & Cindy Feigel.....24<sup>th</sup>  
7....Lyle Thompson.....32<sup>nd</sup>  
9....Ed Konstal.....43<sup>rd</sup>  
9....John & Sharon McAuliffe

## SHIRTS & JACKETS

If you don't have a Silver Strings polo shirt or jacket, there are still a few left. They are available from Carol Ann Matthews.

**Rain resistant hunter green jackets with flannel lining and logo on back... \$38**

(2) extra large available.

**Cotton polo shirts with logo on chest: \$21**

**White with green logo :**

- (1) men's large
- (2) ladies large
- (1) ladies X-large

**Hunter green with white logo :**

- (1) ladies large
- (1) ladies X-large

**NOTE:** Men's large has slightly broader shoulders than ladies.

## FESTIVALS-WORKSHOPS-JAMS

### UNCLE CARL'S DULCIMER CLUB

**2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of month 12:30-4:30pm** (next is Nov. 12)  
For info. call Penny 517-547-7448

### NETTLE LAKE MUSIC JAM

**First Saturday of Month – 6pm (Nov. 5, Dec. 3)**  
For info contact Jack & Marilyn Mullins 517-270-2870

### MAUMEE STREET MUSIC JAM

**(formerly called West Adrian Jam)**

**Third Saturday this month – 6pm Nov. 19**

For info. contact

Jack & Marilyn Mullins 517-270-2870

Or Larry Roper 248-437-5403

### SUGAR (Saginaw Ukulele Gurus and Rookies)

**First Saturday of the month 10:30-Noon**

Magic Bean Café, 5789 State St, Suite 3, Saginaw. MI

All are welcome from curious to virtuosos

Songs are posted beforehand on the internet

For info email: [muzyka2007@yahoo.com](mailto:muzyka2007@yahoo.com)



Jamming and food  
ALWAYS spell success  
at the Silver Strings  
Annual Banquet.



It takes a village of volunteers, beyond the Board of Directors to keep a group going and growing. We are grateful for their service.





## Getting to Know You . . . . Marcia Kozlowski

I grew up in New Boston, Mi., the oldest of 3 children. My mother didn't drive, so our activities were confined to where we could walk. I had many cousins in town, and we lived across from the Methodist Church we attended. I played piano for Sunday school and sang in the choir. In 11<sup>th</sup> grade, my family moved to Dearborn, where I graduated from Fordson High. At CMU, I met my husband, Terry, and earned a B.A. He entered the Army, and I became a camp follower for the next 4 years. We have 2 daughters who have blessed us with 5 grandchildren, who all love music. I have a collection of rhythm instruments that we all play and make music with.

Intending to become an English teacher, my degree was a Bachelor of Arts with English major and Speech minor. But the truth is that other than student teaching, I never taught in a classroom. Life led me down another path, and the knowledge and skills I learned at Central were used in a different way. Most of my professional life was spent in the clerical field. Some of the men I worked for were brilliant men, but dyslexic. Because I was able to recognize this, I put my skills to work in a way I did not envision, but helped them in their frustration in reading documents, and to be recognized for the brilliance of their mind. Another boss was a Romanian Israeli, and my ability to restructure his letters into American syntax helped him to be more effective. As an avocation, my writing skills have been used over the years to either write, or help other people write letters, primarily in an advocacy role dealing with companies, bureaucracies, and other situations. I have used my writing talent to collect stories and to help other people write their stories. Several times, I have compiled a seasonal devotional booklet by gathering and using individual's faith stories, adding scripture and prayers. One collection of stories was done as a gift booklet for a beloved pastor who was moving to another church. He treasured the stories and the congregation felt they were giving something of themselves.

After working many years in the clerical field (secretary, office manager, partner in a human resources business, executive assistant) I retired from the Redford Police Department. My favorite job was in public Services, where I helped people get through "the system".

I was about 5 or 6 when I began piano lessons with Pearl Morris, from Romulus. I played with 4 other girls for a number of years in the Grinnell Piano Concert. Later, I accompanied other students for their solos. In 5<sup>th</sup> grade, I learned to play the viola, and played in high school and college. After getting married, I set aside the viola, but played the piano with children's music programs at church, while our daughters were growing up.

In the late 1990s I discovered the hammered dulcimer and became entranced with its sound, but didn't know if it was something I could play. Madonna College offered a class in beginning dulcimer that allowed students to borrow an instrument. I signed up for the class, and everyone except me dropped out after 2 weeks. Although the instructor was not the best, I accomplished my goal - learning that I could play it. As fate would have it, a year or 2 later, Terry went turkey hunting in Marion, Mi. and stayed with a family who had a hammered dulcimer for sale. He came home with a turkey and a dulcimer. The next year we discovered the Evert Festival, and started going for my annual lesson, to take home and practice.

I knew there were HD groups that played together, but figured they were too far away or I was not competent to play with anyone. A couple of years ago, we saw Silver Strings at the old car festival. Theresa Smith told us about the group, and invited us to come try it out. Finally, with Terry's encouragement, I did. The first night, everything seemed so FAST, but eventually, I got into the rhythm of it. I became a member over 2 years ago, and it has been very pleasant to get a chance to play with others and to meet the many nice people who make up the group.

Terry & I enjoy traveling. We've been on cruises, traveled in Europe, and in the USA (our truly beautiful country). We would like to travel from to music festival to music festival, but that will have to wait until Terry retires in January or February of 2012.

We are active in a country dance club (Westside Silver Star Steppers), and sing in the Newburg United Methodist Church choir. I enjoy reading, and gardens. The soil in my yard is a challenge, but visiting other's gardens gives me joy. My favorite is Butchart Gardens in Victoria, Canada. Another hobby is numerology, which I learned from my mother. I enjoy sharing my knowledge with others. It is about vibration/energy symbolized by numbers, and has correlation with music, as well.

I believe music is a universal language that touches people's souls - sometimes in a profound way. Whether it evokes tears or laughter, joy or sadness, light or darkness, harmony or dissonance, it connects us to the depth of our being. Playing, singing or listening, when I am engaged in music, the harmony of the sound rings in my heart and sets it right.

