



Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Soundboard

AUGUST 2012 29 YEARS SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC July 1983-2012 Issue 323
Website : www.silverstrings.org

PRESIDENTS RAMBLINGS _____ Bob Niemczewski

Hello Fellow Members,

Well, another Evert Dulcimer Festival has come and gone, and is now in the history books. It was a great time with all our good friends, good music, and so many wonderful workshops to choose from. The festival just keeps getting better and better, and was it me or did I see a lot of younger folks playing dulcimers and other instruments? A small disappointment was the Silver Strings stage show being rained out on Thursday but on the brighter side we did need the rain. I was happy to see so many from our club at the festival representing Silver Strings.

Having talked about Evert is another sign that summer is racing past us, and we will be looking at the fall season all too soon. Also, this means we can look forward to our volunteer members providing us with some fall workshops, so anybody that wants to step forward and do a workshop please let us know.

I would like to thank the folks that did not go to Evert and performed at the Heartland Center. I wish they could have been at the festival, but I'm glad they were able to entertain at the Center and give all those people a brighter day. The next big festival will be at Midland on August 23 – August 26, 2012. That is another good time with lots of music, camping, and jamming. See you all at the club meetings.

Peace Through MusicBob

PURSE STRINGS _____ Treasurer

Hello Everyone,

Hope everyone had a safe trip home from Evert. It seems like it takes longer and longer to recover from a week of music. Sally

NOTEifications _____ V.P. Business

Hello Everyone,

I think I'm finally in the "Recovery Zone" after 10 days of having "Too Much Fun" at Evert. As always, the festival classes, shows, and the crowds of music loving people were outstanding! Even though the heat might have slowed us down some, we still managed to have fun and play lots of tunes.

We had three play dates this month which were very successful. We have none scheduled for August, but have four scheduled for September, so join us if you can to spread our great music to our audiences.

The "Osgood Jam" is scheduled for Sept 15th. Good food, music, and fun around the campfire when we are done jamming.

Sloppy Joes, place settings, and beverages will be provided. Bring your favorite dish to pass and lawn chairs. Our address is listed in the Event Section of the Newsletter.

See you then! Linda Osgood

Evert Dulcimer Funfest _____ Sharon McAuliffe

There were many Silver Strings members in Evert to take part in the Dulcimer Funfest.

The workshops were good and the jams were great. We met old friends and made new friends.

It was very warm, but the vendors with drinks and ice cream helped to keep us all cool. The community center had air conditioning, so everyone had a place to cool off when needed.

Silver Strings and Uke n' Sing were both invited to play on stage Thursday night, but due to a severe thunderstorm, the show was cancelled. It was nice to be invited to play even if we didn't get to perform.

Experience is the thing you have left when everything else is gone.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

AUGUST

- 2....**Board Meeting** @ 6:00.....**Jam** @ 7:00
16....**SSDS Meeting and Jam** 7:00-?
30....**SSDS Variety Night** 7:00-?

SEPTEMBER

- 1....**Thumbfest** Lexington, MI
2....**Silver Strings Potluck** 2:30-?
Manfred & Judy Schmidt's W. Bloomfield
8-9....**Greenfield Village Old Car Festival**
Sat. 11 am-4pm, Sun. 1:45-4:45 . . . **V** . . . Dearborn
12....**Playdate** **BC** . . . 2:30-3:30
Heartland Health Care. Dearborn Hgts.
15....**Annual Osgood Jam** :3:00-?
10424 Geddes Rd., Superior Twp. 734-487-4543
18....**Playdate** **BC** . . . 2:30-3:30
Heartland Healthcare Canton
30...**Playdate** **BC** . . . 12:30-1:30
Clinton Middle School **V** . . . Clinton, MI

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

IT'S AUGUST...LET'S CELEBRATE !

BIRTHDAYS

- 3...George Gonyo
8...Carole Mueller
21...Michael Hurt
23...Linda Osgood
28...Christopher Larue
30...Bob Hlavacek
30...Frank Duffey
31...Mary Edgerton



ANNIVERSARYS

- 1...Dave & Carol Ann Matthews....49
5...Frank Surhigh
25..Lynn & Tom Hartwig..... 33
30..Terry & Marsha Kozlowski.....44

SSDS BANQUET

Thursday, October 4th from 6 to 11pm

Park Place Caterers on 23400 Park Street in Dearborn will be the location.

Ticket information and cost will be in the September newsletter and at meetings.

Hope to see everyone there Theresa Smith

FESTIVALS-WORKSHOPS-JAMS

NETTLE LAKE MUSIC JAM

First Saturday of Month – 6pm (Aug 4th)
For info contact Jack & Marilyn Mullins 517-270-2870

MOUNTAIN DULCIMER WORKSHOP

with Dana and Hank Gruber

Sat, Aug 18th, Washington Life Center, Marine City, MI
Classes: Think Outside the Tab and Ensemble Playing
Info: Tom Hoy (248) 651-0780 or thoy999@yahoo.com

SUGAR (Saginaw Ukulele Gurus and Rookies)

First Saturday of the month 10:30-Noon (Aug 4th)
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

MT. HALEY JAMBOREE

Last Friday of every month (Aug 31st)
Mt. Haley Township Hall, Midland County
For Info contact Alice Perry at:
mthaleyfmsm@gmail.com

BUCKLEY OLD ENGINE SHOW

August 16-19 in Buckley, MI,
between Cadillac and Traverse City
Step back in time with old time music, arts and machines
Info @ <http://www.buckleyoldengineshow.org>

MIDLAND FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL

19th Annual Festival

August 23 - August 26, 2012

Midland County Fairgrounds

6905 Eastman Ave, Midland, MI 48640

Folk musicians, enthusiasts and traditional dancers of all levels bring acoustic instruments and join the festivities. Workshops are included with the price of admission, and will be held on Friday and Saturday for a variety of instruments.

<http://www.folkmusicsociety.org/festival>

THUMBFEST 2012

Saturday, September 1 - 10am til 10pm
Downtown Lexington

12 hours of great music and it's all free
www.thumbfest.org

W.MICHIGAN BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION

FALLFEST 2012

Sept.14-16

Kent County Fairgrounds, Lowell, Mich.
Musical & nonmusical activities for family fun
For information:

Dave @ 616-897-6220 or president@WMBMA.org

Things I hate about people:

When they say 'Oh, you just want to have your cake and eat it too'. What good is cake if you can't eat it?

When they say 'it's always the last place you look'. Why would you keep looking after you've found it?

When they ask 'Can I ask you a question?' You just did, didn't you?

When they say 'life is short'. Life is the longest thing you'll ever do!

To print the **AUG/SEPT Play list**,
 please click on our website or this link :
<http://www.silverstrings.org/sections/tunes/pdf/2012/aug12.pdf>

SSDS August/September Playlist

Key	Tune	Play
	List of tunes for 1 hour long gigs	
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast	3
G	Maggie	3
G	Westphalia Waltz	2
A	Red Haired Boy	3
D	Over The Waterfall	3
G	Red Wing	3*
G	Southwind	3*
G	Red Apple Rag	3
D	Mississippi Sawyer	3
Am	Cold Frosty Morn	3
C	Tennessee Waltz	3*
D	Smash The Windows	3
D	Chinese Breakdown/Nelly Bly	3/3
D	Ashgrove	3*
Em	Tamlin	3
D	John Ryan's Polka	Karen Decides
D	Hey Polka	
D	Coleman's March	3*
D/D D/G	Endless Medley; Ragtime Annie/Soldier's Joy/Golden Slippers (if gig longer than 1 hour, skip this and use as final medley)	2/2/2/2
	Add next list for 3.5 hour long gigs	
D	Painters Polka	3
G	March of St. Timothy	3
C	Five Foot Two	4
D	Ashoken Farewell	3*
Em	Road to Lisdoonvarna/Riding load of Hay	2/3
D	Angleworm Wiggle	3
G	Columbus Stockade Blues	3
D	Festival Rag	3
Em	Dancing Bear	3
G	Sophrinia	3*
D	Young Roddy McCorley	5
G	Silver And Gold Two Step	3
Em	Missouri	3
D/A	Maple Sugar	3
C	Tennessee Waltz	3*
D	Angeline the Baker	3
G	Bellman's Jig	3
D	Road To Boston	3
G	Flowers of Edinburgh	3
D	Peek-A-boo Waltz	3*
Em	Drunken Sailor	3
D	Viola's Schottische	3
G	Old Joe Clark	3
G	Hundred Pipers	3
D	Midnight on the Water	3*
D	Petronella	3

G	Rosin the Beau	3
G	Farewell to Whiskey	3
D	Lover's Waltz	2
G	Nail That Catfish to a Tree	3
D	Possum up a Gum Stump	3
G	Irish Washerwoman	3
D	Beaumont Rag	3
G	Larry's Waltz	3*
A	Joys of Quebec	3
D	Saint Ann's Reel	3
G	Jamie Allen	3
G	Ashgrove	3*
Am	Katuska	3
D	Jenny Lind Polka	3
G	I'll Remember You Love In My Prayers	3*
D	Liberty	3
D	Pay de Haut	3
G	Scotland The Brave	3
D	Snake River Reel	3
D	Simple Gifts	3*
D/D D/G	Endless Medley; Ragtime Annie/Soldier's Joy/ Golden Slippers	2/2/2/2
G	Extra Tune, When Wheelman Ride by: A Bicycle Built For Two	3
	*2nd time feature fiddles, harmonicas, HDs and back up soft	

MUSIC COORDINATOR _____ Sharon McAuliffe

"Pig Ankle Rag" will be the music for August. It can be played A B or AABB so when you are out jamming it with a new group, always ask how they play it. It is a fun tune to play. I hope you enjoy it.

SSDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2012

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EVART FUNFEST 2012

Submitted by Sandi Hlavacek

POTLUCK AT PLEASANT LAKE

Once again, 'Strings' is invited to "Story Time" at the Schmidt house in West Bloomfield.

Enjoy a fun day of story – tellers mixed with music, food and friendship.

DATE: Sunday, Sept 2nd @ 2:30-?

PLACE: Manfred and Judy Schmidt's Cottage
6433 Walnut Lake Rd., West Bloomfield

BRING:

Yourself, instruments and a dish to pass.
Drinks, sweet corn and tableware are provided.

For info. call George Gonyo: 734-996-0089

If lost, Schmidt's Lake phone # is: 248-661-1498

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Hammer Alternatives

I looked in my bag and my hammers box wasn't there. I didn't have spares, so I grabbed a couple of ball point pens, the disposable kind, and tapped on the strings. It worked well enough. I apologized and joked with the audience about forgetting my hammers and they went right along with me. The first tune was a fast fiddle tune and the pens actually worked pretty well, (not very good balance). After the first tune, someone offered me two pencils. They had shamrocks on them and the next tune was an Irish one, so I pulled them out and played with pencils. They worked just fine, a little heavier than the pens so more volume, but the erasers got stuck on the strings if I wasn't really accurate. Then, before the third tune, another person came up with a pair of chopsticks from a nearby Chinese restaurant. Now, here was something that felt good in my hands, made a nice sound on the strings, and I could get some decent rolls and flams from them. The only drawback to the chopsticks was that they were a little light on the strings and didn't produce much volume. I just turned up my mic. a little more and we were happy for the rest of the gig.

Bill Bosler

That happened to me, too. We were on our way to a gig out of state and discovered that I had left my hammer container with all my hammers in Florida, the state we had left the day before. It was too far to go back so we went to a friends' home and got two spatulas and carved hammers out from the handles of them. They were like clubs but, they did the trick. I've also used a lot of other interesting substitutes too. Try it, it's fun.

Sherry Humeckey

The success of the Dulcimer Funfest in Evart Michigan TOTALLY depends on the efforts of the people they can "nab", and they need all the helpers they can get. It is a MONUMENTAL task, to provide the over 200 top quality workshops for musicians to choose from! Michigan is the only place this is available for only a \$5 entry, and the reason they can do it is because EVERYONE is a volunteer, even the "nationally known, BIG name musicians", who give their time so the rest of us can learn.

The Silver Strings Dulcimer Society was well represented by volunteers at the 2012 Funfest. Ida O'Dell did tie-dyeing with kids and adults during the pre-fest activities. For the youth program, Bob & Sandi Hlavacek worked for weeks gathering materials for a "youth quilt" for the activities building and 'shakers" for rhythm instruments, and doing the prep work to make "canjos" with the kids. Sandi continued to work with the kids while Bob and Tom Koppins MC'd the Saturday afternoon stage show. MANY of our people manned the gates to sell entry ribbons, (the tickets to attend workshops and concerts). During the festival, Penny Schieber and Ida O'Dell taught hammered dulcimer, Bob Neimczewski taught autoharp, John McAuliffe taught dobro, and the Humecky clan taught performance group arrangements. Greg Kaiser taught guitar, and the Kaiser Family Band headlined the Saturday night concert. (Although school requirements have made them unavailable for our Thursdays, they are a part of our hearts... we have watched those kids grow up. They will be back !)

Won't you consider giving some of your time to the success of next year's Funfest? It provides such an AWESOME opportunity for learning and enjoying music, and if everyone gives back a little, we can keep it going.



NOTE.....The official Silver Strings annual August picnic and potluck was cancelled by a board decision.