



Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Soundboard

SEPTEMBER 2012 29 YEARS SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC July 1983-2012 Issue 329
Website : www.silverstrings.org

PRESIDENTS RAMBLINGS _____ Bob Niemczewski

Wow, I just wrote the August newsletter and no sooner got up from the computer and it's time to do the September letter. We got a little slack time as far as the playdates go, but from what Linda tells us, we are ramping up for several gigs in the coming months. We have a lot going on lately with the election committee (George & Terry) looking for our members to run for the SSDS Board, and please, if you enjoy our club and like or don't like what is happening, consider running for office.

Theresa, Ramona, and Peggy have been organizing our annual banquet that will be on October 4th 2012. Tickets are now available so make sure you get yours.

Dave Smith has ordered our new sound equipment and some accessories. I can't wait to hear what it sounds like.

Karen Turner has been busy being our go to person for the Greenfield Village playdate weekend.

A big thank you goes to Sharon for doing a workshop before the meeting on Aug 16th, teaching the Pig Ankle Rag. Let's not just do workshops on this music and forget about the tune. At our meetings, make sure you request the song and we will continue to build our play list. Also, I have some inside info that Kay will be continuing with more whistle workshops starting in September, so keep your eyes open for details. Like I have said in the past anyone who wants to have a workshop on the 3rd Thursday of the month just let us (the Board) know.

Another note, thanks to the folks who bring the goodies, help put the hall back together after the meetings, and volunteer your time to make this club the best. It takes a team effort, and the church gives us a wonderful place for our meetings, so let's keep their house clean and tidy.

Finally, by the time you get this newsletter, Dave and I will have hosted Variety Night, and I hope we didn't goof it up ☺...

Peace Through MusicBob

NOTEifications _____ V.P. Business

As I write this article I'm in the "Recovery Zone" after a wonderful time at the Midland Folk Festival.

It takes so much time to put together a festival such as this one, and as usual they delivered another smashing success. Many classes, teaching everything from singing, dancing, learning a new tune or to play a new instrument were available. Jamming went on all the day long as the weather was just another added plus to this last festival of 2012 in Michigan. What an opportunity to meet old and new friends who have a love of music!

The stage show put on by the instructors was excellent, and the surprise finale of Musical Dulcimers was well worth waiting for. Sooooo much talent!!

As we go into our fall season, our tempo will pick up. We have 5 performances for September, 1 for October, and bookings for Nov. and Dec., as well as many other fall music venues listed in our bulletin.

Any questions regarding the Playdates or how to prepare to be a part of them can be answered by me or any board member.

Musically Linda Osgood

PURSE STRINGS _____ Treasurer

The busy time of year is coming upon us; the banquet, elections and the holiday season. I would like to remind everybody when writing a check for the banquet, be sure to make it out to SILVER STRINGS DULCIMER SOCIETY. It makes the trip to the bank a lot less complicated.Sally

Welcome new members:

Allan and Julie Slauterbeck of Belleville
Allan is learning the Ukulele and Mandolin
Julie plays the Strum stick and is learning the
Autoharp

Carol Wasilewski of Garden City
Carol plays the Autoharp

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

- 1... **Thumbfest** Lexington, MI
 2... **Jam, Stories & Potluck** 2:30-?
 Manfred & Judy Schmidt's W. Bloomfield
 6... **Playdate** **BC** . . . 1:30-2:30
 Walton Woods Novi
 6... **Board Meeting @ 6:00** **Jam @ 7:00**
 8-9... **Greenfield Village Old Car Festival**
 Sat. 11-4, Sun. 11:45-4:45 **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
 20... **Meeting and Jam** 7:00-?
 Whistle Workshop with Kay Rowe 6:00
 30... **Playdate** **V** . . . 12:30-1:30
 Clinton Middle School Clinton, MI

OCTOBER

- 9... **Playdate** **BC** . . . 1:00-2:00
 Farina's Berkley

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

Kay Rowe will hold a Whistle Workshop on September 20th at 6pm. Bring whistles, music and some "Favorite" requests. We will practice CUTS and STRIKES.

IT'S SEPTEMBER...LET'S CELEBRATE !

BIRTHDAYS

- 12.....Lee Lack
 12.....Will White
 20.....Pat Deschamps
 21.....Sue Duncan



ANNIVERSARYS

- 19.....Donald Pittman

NOTABLE NOTES _____ Secretary

Board meeting Aug 2, 2012

Old Business:

*Karen Turner gave a report on what is expected of people who perform at Greenfield Village. This information will be e-mailed and is available at: <http://www.silverstrings.org>

New Business:

*President Bob Niemczewski announced that Sharon McAuliffe will be the Music Coordinator and will assume the duties of that office.

*A jam tent is needed for the Midland Folk Festival. Bob & Sally and Sharon and John will bring their easy up canopies to Midland. SSDS has two Easy Ups and they will be use, too.

Respectfully Submitted. Sharon McAuliffe

This is a synopsis. Full board minutes are available from Sec.

FESTIVALS-WORKSHOPS-JAMS

UNCLE CARL'S DULCIMER CLUB

2nd Saturday of month 12:30-4:30pm (next is Sept 8th)
 For info. call Penny 517-547-7448

NETTLE LAKE MUSIC JAM

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

MAUMEE STREET MUSIC JAM (formerly called West Adrian Jam)

Forth Saturday of the month – 6pm (Sept 24th)
 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 (Sept 1st)
 Magic Bean Café, 5789 State St, Suite 3, Saginaw, MI
 Songs are posted beforehand on the internet
 For info email: muzyka2007@yahoo.com

MT. HALEY JAMBOREE

Last Friday of every month (Sept 28th)

Mt. Haley Township Hall, Midland County

For Info contact Alice Perry at:

mthaleyfmsm@gmail.com

1:00-4:00-Folk and Traditional Music Jam

Clubs and individuals are welcome.

Come to play or be part of an audience. Admission is free but donations to the Metamora Historical Society will be appreciated. Bring your lunch or walk to restaurants. Metamora's Old Town Hall was built in 1888 and is part of an historic community.

For info. Call Alice Gajewski at 248-628-5287 or go to FolkJam.com

THUMB FEST 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 FALL FEST 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

27th ANNUAL MICHIGAN STATE CHAMPIONSHIP OLD TIME FIDDLERS CONTEST

Saturday, Oct 6th, 12:00pm

37260 Huron River Drive, New Boston, Michigan, 48164

Outdoors on the Applefest Stage

Contestants must play a waltz, a schottische, a jig and a reel in a manner suitable to Michigan old-time dancing.

There is a non-refundable \$10 entry fee.

The contest begins promptly at noon.

Contestants register at 11:00am and

draw for positions at 11:30am

\$200 first prize, \$100 second prize, \$50 third prize

The event is free to listeners.

To print the September play list,

please click on our website or this link :
<http://www.silverstrings.org/sections/tunes/pdf/2012/sep12.pdf>

September Playlist

Key	Tune	Play
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast	4
G	Red Wing	3
G	Westphalia Waltz	2
D	Beaumont Rag	3
G	Maggie	3
Am	Cold Frosty Morn	4
G	Larry's Waltz	3
D	Over the Waterfall	3
G	Columbus Stockade Blues	4
D	Possum up a Gum Stump	3
G	Silver and Gold Two Step	3
D	John Ryan's Polka	4
D	Midnight on the Water	2
G	Down Yonder	4
D	Painter's Polka	4
C	Black Velvet Waltz	3
D	Swinging On A Gate	3
D	Festival Rag	3
C	Tennessee Waltz	2
G	Old Joe Clark	4
D	Mississippi Sawyer	3
G	Tick Tock Polka	2
D/D	Endless Medley: Ragtime Annie,	2/2/2/
D/G	Soldier's Joy, Golden Slippers	2

For anyone who signed up for the Greenfield Village play dates; disregard the playlist in the previous newsletter. Karen will be emailing the extended play list to you.

VP PROGRAMS _____ George Gonyo

SSDS elections are just around the corner, so if you are interested in running for one of these offices, please see Terry Treppa and his election committee to get your name on the ballot.

See Theresa and/or David Smith for your tickets for the upcoming Banquet at Park Place in Dearborn.

Don't forget the East Lansing dulcimer festival coming up on October 20th. This festival will feature Dan Landrum and Stephen Seifert, and will be held at the United Methodist Church at 855 Grove Street in East Lansing. Also, Rick Thum will be coming to Ann Arbor for workshops and a concert on the 17th of November.

The next Variety Night is in the month of November, and we need an MC. Please see me for sign up. A big thank you to all you members who bring in those treats and help with cleanup after each and every meeting. We appreciate your help.

SSDS BANQUET

The SSDS Banquet will be held on Thursday, October 4th, from 6pm to 11pm at Park Place Caterers, 23400 Park Street, Dearborn.

Tickets will be available at the September 6 and Sept. 20th meetings. Tickets are \$10 for members and \$15 for guests. If you cannot make the meetings, but want to attend the banquet you can mail a check made out to Silver Strings Dulcimer Society by Sept. 20th, to Theresa Smith at 3406 Cornell, Dearborn, MI. 48124.

Just a reminder- there will be no meeting at the church on the evening of the banquet.

Hope to see you on October 4th . . . Banquet Committee

MUSIC COORDINATOR _____ Sharon McAuliffe

Music:

*I am working on getting the holiday file completed. We will be starting our practice sessions soon.

*I taught our new tune, "Pig Ankle Rag" at the August 16th meeting.

*If anyone has a piece of music that they would like to share with Silver Strings, please bring it to my attention.

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society Music:

We have been given permission, by several composers, to play their music in our club. We also pay for a license that allows us to play some of our favorite tunes. We want to protect our Silver Strings members and respect the composers who have generously shared their music with us. In consideration of the composers and SSDS, do not sell, copy, give away or share any of our Silver Strings music.

Music is a friend of labor for it lightens the task by refreshing the nerves and spirit of the worker.

~William Green

Rick Thum Workshop & Concert

Saturday, November 17

Calvary United Methodist Church, 1415 Miller Ave,
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Workshops:

10am-12noon: Beginner & Past Beginners
2pm-4pm: All Levels

Concert:

7pm with jam following the concert.

Concert Cost: \$10.00

Workshop Cost: \$25.00 each or \$45 for both sessions

There will be an all-day running jam session in a different room of the Church for those not choosing the workshops.

Workshop #1: Beginners and past beginners. We will explore the basics and beyond, depending on the level of participants.

Workshop #2: All Levels. We'll examine what your specific concerns are. We will, as a group, create a workshop that targets these concerns. We'll take the class wherever you want it to go! All levels will find a challenge to incorporate into practice and playing.

Please contact Rick Thum for more information

(314) 406-0690

Email: rthum@rthum.com

Website: <http://www.rthum.com>

Tips For Learning Tunes:

Listen ... Find tunes you enjoy ... Play with others ... Practice ... Play regularly ...

- * Bring a notebook to music sessions to keep a list of tunes to learn
- * Ask the name of tunes you like
- * Make note of name & key (with any special keychanges)
- * Notate/tab the notes/licks you do figure out
- * Create Tune Hints book: key, chords & few measures of each Part

- * **Listen** to (over & over) different versions of the tune
- * Ask players for their OK to discreetly record tunes in jams/sessions
- * Whistle/Hum the tune regularly during the day/night

- * **Play along** with a recording
- * Play the tune every day, coming back to it often
- * Play the notes you find, fill in the next ones as you find them
- * Play chords along with recording
- * Use slow-down software to play-back tune at slower tempo
- * Play along, at your speed, with real-time notation/tab & MIDI

- * Watch other players to see how they play difficult passages
- * Play the notes you find, filling in the spaces as you learn new notes

- * **Learn chords** to play rhythm backup, while learning the melody
- * Watch guitar players to see chords and key changes
- * Ask someone to call the chord progressions first time through tune

- * **Make a list** of the tunes you know & practice them regularly

- * **Practice training your ear** to hear what you play & play what you hear

- * **Hum/sing along**, in unison, with the tune while you're playing, to strengthen the hand-ear connection

- * Train ears to hear & recognize intervals (I, ii, iii, IV, V, vi, VII, Octave)

- * Ask someone to teach you the tune

- * **Practice** playing the tune: pick it apart - put it together - play it again!

- * Play the tune often!



Stories from Evert

I just wanted to share a humorous Evert moment with you. I took my bowed psaltery to Evert and was getting ready to play at one of the "all-instrument workshops" when a little boy (maybe 6 or 7) came up to

me with wide eyes and said he hadn't seen anything like that at Evert. He appeared to be admiring my instrument, but it became apparent that his focus was entirely on the bow. He seemed really eager to find out what it was made of and if the bow hair was stretchable. I was thinking that this must be one of those rare "teachable" moments, but when he asked if I had any arrows to go with the bow -- I just burst out laughing!

Phyllis Tillapaugh

SSDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2012

PRESIDENT	Bob Niemczewski
bsnemo@yahoo.com	(313) 561-3410
V.P. BUSINESS	Linda Osgood
losgood10424@comcast.net	(734)-487-4543
V.P. PROGRAMS	George Gonyo
ggonyo@peoplepc.com	(734) 996-0089
TREASURER	Sally Niemczewski
bsnemo@yahoo.com	(313) 561-3410
MUSIC COORDINATOR	Sharon McAuliffe
SECRETARY	Sharon McAuliffe
ypsi-ds@sbcglobal.net	(734) 482-2902
SOUNDBOARD EDITOR	Lee Ann Lack
leelack@att.net	(734) 612-1172
WEBMASTER	Karen Turner
karenturner@comcast.net	(734) 455-4085