

# Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

## Soundboard

FEBRUARY 2013 30 YEARS SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC July 1983-2013 Issue 334  
Website : [www.silverstrings.org](http://www.silverstrings.org)

### **PRESIDENTS RAMBLINGS** \_\_\_\_\_ Bob Niemczewski Hi Folks,

Well, we just finished up a weekend at Lake Erie Ice Daze and had a good time. It was a long weekend, but fun.

At our Board meeting in January, we decided to put together a committee of five members to review and make any necessary changes to our by-laws. Our by-laws are getting a little out of date and need to be dusted off a bit, so I would like to thank Karen T., John Mc., Roger D., Sally N., and Dave S. for stepping forward to take on this necessary task.

It looks like Linda didn't give us much time off after the Christmas season, with January play dates and more coming up in February. Just kidding Linda, you're doing a wonderful job. It does tell me that our club is off to another busy year. We will soon start getting ready for the ODPC Board meeting to be held at our home base here at Good Hope in April. We will be doing a SSDS stage show during the ODPC festival in July. As the information comes in, I will keep you informed about these events.

Thank you, George, for having a workshop and teaching the tune *Washington Square* before our 2nd meeting in January. After the workshop, during the club meeting, the whole membership played the song. It sounded wonderful, so we gave George some praise for being such a good teacher.

Well, I hope this article finds all of you in good health. Try and stay away from that nasty flu bug going around.

Peace Through Music . . . . . Bob

### **NOTEJifications** \_\_\_\_\_ V.P. Business

As I sit here with the temperature at 10 degrees, drinking hot tea, I'm wishin' for the warmer days to play music outdoors! Ah yes, I'm a dreamer you say!!!

Enough of that....We are moving along well with all of our performances, and have been greatly appreciated wherever we play. Nothing is more rewarding than that. We have already been booked for 2014 at the Erie Metropark. They say Erie Daze "IS" Silver Strings! How's that for appreciation?! It is a long two-day gig but all in all, the participants always seem to have a wonderful time with each other and the audience.

Looking ahead, we have a couple of new gigs in Feb. and March so look for them on the sign-up sheets.

Happy Jammin' . . . . . Linda Osgood

### **NOTABLE NOTES** \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary

#### **January 3, 2013 Board Meeting**

\* The SSDS by-laws need to be reviewed and brought up to date. The committee working on reviewing the by-laws will be: Sally Niemczewski, Roger Davis, Karen Turner, David Smith and John McAuliffe. After reviewing the by-laws, the committee will meet with the board and will work out proposals. We will post them in the newsletter and then bring them to the membership for a vote. Sally will send copies of the old by-laws out to committee.

\* Bob Hlavacek has been asked to do our income tax. Sally will get the documents needed for the tax return to Bob.

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

**A successful man is one who makes more money than his wife can spend.**

**A successful woman is one who can find such a man.**

**Before marriage, a man yearns for the woman he loves.**

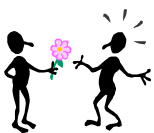
**After marriage, the "y" becomes silent.**

**When a newly married couple smiles, everyone knows why.**

**When a ten-year married couple smiles, everyone wonders why.**

**My wife told me I should be more affectionate.**

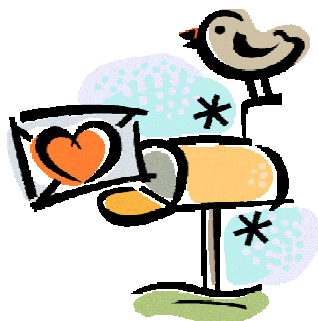
**So I got two girlfriends.**



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

### BIRTHDAYS

- 10...Bob Ewald
- 10...Christine Hurt
- 13...Ed Konstal
- 13...Robin White
- 14...Barb Davis
- 20...Lynn Hartwig
- 24...Joe Johnson
- 25...Nancy Sullivan
- 26...Pat Altpeter
- 26...Bob Aronson



### ANNIVERSARIES

- 5....Jim & Evie Bain.....47<sup>th</sup>
- 12...Bob & Sandi Hlavacek.....47<sup>th</sup>
- 13...Tom & Lee Lack.....26<sup>th</sup>
- 14...Steve & Ramona Hadley.....38<sup>th</sup>

If your Birthday or Anniversary is not on the list at the Business Table, please write them in so we can help celebrate.

### MUSIC COORDINATOR \_\_\_\_\_ Sharon McAuliffe

There is a January/February playlist due to the short list of play dates in February. Look for it in this newsletter if you do not have a copy.

Washington Square has been completed and Karen has sent it out to our Drop Boxes. This is a catchy tune and easy to learn. I hope that everyone has fun with it. George Gonyo taught this at a workshop.

\* \* \* \* \*

### VP PROGRAMS \_\_\_\_\_ George Gonyo

If you all had a good time at the first variety night in 2013, this is to let you know, that we will be having three more this year. We will have one in May, another in August, and we will wrap up with one in October. So, everyone has a chance to attend, and/or perform at least once by the time October rolls around. We're always looking for MC's for this event, just in case you were wondering!

Another reminder for everyone is the Myer's Lake Campout, scheduled for the 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> of June. This is the weekend before Father's Day, and for some of you a chance to campout for the first time in 2013. Please put these dates on your calendar. We are also looking for workshop leaders for various instruments and jams, along with people who just plain want to help out with food preparation, setup, cleanup, and etc. Your participation is always greatly appreciated.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### FEBRUARY

- 5....**Playdate** ..... **BC** ..... 3:00-4:00  
Heartland Health Care ..... Canton
- 8....**Playdate** ..... **BC** ..... 11:15-12pm  
Farmington Hills Senior Costic Cntr. ... Farmington Hills

### MARCH

- 15...**Playdate** ..... **BC** ..... 6:00-7:00  
Maple Hgts. Retirement Center ..... Allen Park
- 16...**Playdate** ..... **BC** ..... TBD  
St Patrick's Episcopal Church. ... Madison Heights
- 20...**Playdate** ..... **BC** ..... 1:30-2:30  
Heartland Health Care ..... Dearborn Hgts

**BC**=Business Casual, **C**=Casual

## JOIN THE PERFORMANCE GROUPS

January 16 & 17, Silver Strings was again invited to play for the Erie Ice Daze at Lake Erie Metropark (for about the 14th consecutive year). This is one of the favorite playdates of the year for many of the 'old-timers'. It requires only 'comfortable dress', and is very informal, much like a regular jam. If you have never joined a playdate before, this was the IDEAL one to test yourself. There is safety in numbers, so you can hide in a corner and make mistakes without getting caught.

The surroundings are interesting to explore during breaks, and it's a great place to bring your kids or grandkids. There were LOTS of fun activities for the family (sled dogs, nature hikes & workshops, crafts, American Indian lore, and more). We also have many people who come back year after year just to hear us play. They are known to clap, dance, and sing along, and there are plenty of laughs. If you missed it for this year, remember it for next year. You'll be glad you did.  
Limit 12 members



## To print the February play list,

please click on our website or this link :

<http://www.silverstrings.org/sections/tunes/pdf/2013/feb13.pdf>

### JAN/FEB PLAYLIST

| Key | Tune  | Play  |
|-----|---|-------|
| G   | Columbus Stockade Blues   | 3     |
| D   | Festival Rag  | 3     |
| G   | Larry'sWaltz  | 2     |
| D   | Possum Up A Gum Stump   | 3     |
| G   | Red Apple Rag   | 3     |
| D   | Maple Sugar   | 3 1/2 |
| G   | Hundred Pipers  | 3     |
| D   | Whiskey Before Breakfast  | 3     |
| G   | January Waltz   | 3     |
| Em  | Road To Lisdoonvarna  | 3     |
| G   | Silver and Gold Two Step  | 3     |
| G   | Maggie  | 3     |
| D   | Over The Waterfall  | 3     |
| D   | Hey Polka   | 4     |
| Am  | Cold Frosty Morn'   | 3     |
| D   | Painter's Polka   | 3     |
| D   | Liberty   | 3     |
| Em  | Tamlin  | 3     |
| G   | Westphalia Waltz  | 2     |
| Em  | Dancing Bear  | 3     |
| G   | Red Wing  | 3     |
| G   | Down Yonder   | 4     |
|     | * Check with Linda or on sign-up sheets for dress code and if chairs are needed |       |

### 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.

### A to Z of Hammered Dulcimer

**Rick Thum** will be teaching a three day hammered dulcimer class in Evert the three days preceding the Dulcimer Funfest. This is a chance to learn the theory and techniques of good playing in sequential order. One technique builds on the other. It is called the A to Z of Hammered Dulcimer, and is a great investment of time and money. Day one we start at the beginning, which is a great review, to be sure we all have the same basis to work from. Then build from there. We have lots of work and lots of fun. Class size is restricted to the first 50, so do not wait to sign up. Credit cards accepted.

[www.rthum.com](http://www.rthum.com) Ph: 314-406-0690

♪♪♪ **Ann Wassell's Group** ♪♪♪

2nd and 4th Wed. from 1 to 3 p.m. If you are a beginner, or just want to brush up on some tunes, Call **734-744-4255** or email: [ann.wassell@yahoo.com](mailto:ann.wassell@yahoo.com)

## FESTIVALS-WORKSHOPS-JAMS

### UNCLE CARL'S DULCIMER CLUB

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of month 12:30-4:30pm (next is Feb 9<sup>th</sup>)

For info. call Penny 517-547-7448

### NETTLE LAKE MUSIC JAM

First Saturday of Month – 6pm (next is Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>)

For info contact Jack & Marilyn Mullins 517-270-2870

### MAUMEE STREET MUSIC JAM

(formerly called West Adrian Jam)

Fourth Saturday of the month – 6pm (Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>)

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 (Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>)

Now at Sullivan's Restaurant on Gratiot in Saginaw, MI

Songs are posted beforehand on the internet

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

### MT. HALEY JAMBOREE

Last Friday of every month (Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>)

Mt. Haley Township Hall, Midland County

For Info contact Alice Perry at: [mthaleyfmsm@gmail.com](mailto:mthaleyfmsm@gmail.com)

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

Clubs and individuals are welcome.

Come to play or listen. Admission is free but donations to the Metamora Historical Society are appreciated. Metamora's 1888

Old Town Hall is part of an historic community.

For info. Call Alice Gajewski at 248-628-5287 or go to [FolkJam.com](http://FolkJam.com)

### GREAT LAKES UKULELE GATHERING

First Wednesday of the month 7:00 (Feb 6<sup>th</sup>)

Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City

Ukulele players of all abilities can strum and sing.

A donation of \$3.00 is requested for the church.

Contact: Bob at [bsnemo@yahoo.com](mailto:bsnemo@yahoo.com) or

David at [musicalcraft@yahoo.com](mailto:musicalcraft@yahoo.com)

### Stephen Seifert Dulcimer Class

July 15-17, 2013 - Evert, Michigan

Mountain dulcimer teacher and performer, will teach a 3 day class in Evert right before the festival.

\$165 for 3 days and 3 nights of work, laughter, and a great learning experience. Limited to 30 students. Register early.

Credit cards accepted.

Information is on his website: [www.stephenseifert.com](http://www.stephenseifert.com)

Or, you can call Paula Brawdy: 616-240 0445.

### PITTSFIELD OPEN BAND

Pittsfield Grange 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Road, Ann Arbor,

First and third Saturday from 3-6pm.

Our jam sessions are free and open to all interested musicians.

We play jigs, reels, and waltzes as played for contra dancing.

The goals are to have fun, learn more tunes, and develop our contra dance musician skills.

<http://www.aactmad.org/sa/pob.html>

### LAMS - Livingston Acoustic Musical Society

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month (Feb 16<sup>th</sup>)

Fowlerville Church of the Nazarene

8040 Country Corner Drive, Fowlerville

Share musical talents and appreciation for music, song and other forms of joyful noise on the 7:00-11:00

Contact: Tony Miceli 517-223-9590





**Devil's Dream**, a twin-fiddle/guitar trio, will be presenting their first CD at a CD release party, 7 PM to 9 PM, Sunday, March 3, 2013 at Goldfish Tea, a tea cafe in downtown Royal Oak, MI. The musical entertainment that evening will be provided by Bert Stein and Mackenzie Lerchen (twin fiddles), Ryan Blankenship (guitar) and their special guest, David Mosher. David has recorded the music and contributed parts (mandolin, guitar, fiddle, concertina, upright bass) for many of the tracks on the new CD. The CD is based upon 32 of the tunes composed by Bert and recently published in his book, "Tunes from the Woods" which is carried by Elderly Instruments (<http://elderly.com/books/items/158-80.htm>) in Lansing, MI and also described on his website: <https://sites.google.com/site/talbertsteinsmusic/>.

Goldfish Tea (117 W. 4<sup>th</sup> St #101, Royal Oak, MI 48067-3848; ph: 248-541-5252; (<http://www.goldfishtea.com/>) is on the south side of Fourth St. between Main St. and Center St. There is a parking structure on Center St. (very close) or one can park in the adjacent parking lot across from the Royal Oak Post Office. At this time on Sunday evenings, parking has been free in either of these locations. Article submitted by Bert Stein



## A Brief History of Valentine's Day

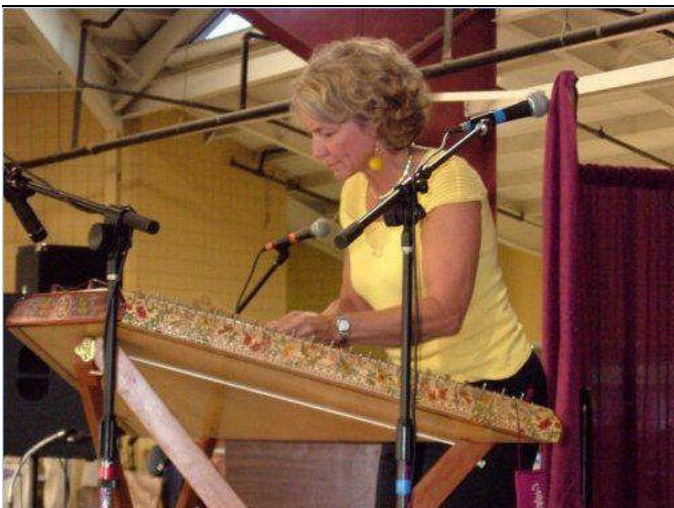
The history of Valentine's Day is a varied one, beginning in Ancient Rome. Lupercalia, the festival of the god of fertility, was celebrated in Ancient Rome on February 15. Priests of Lupercus would run through Rome with goat skins, touching everyone they met with them. This touch was desired by young women because it was believed that it would make them more fertile.

Thoughts on the history of Valentine's Day become mixed when speaking of St. Valentine. One story claims that Valentine was a priest in third century Rome. Emperor Claudius II wanted to build an army, and, deciding that unmarried men made better soldiers, outlawed marriage. The St. Valentine of this story performed secret marriages, and was put to death because of it.

Another St. Valentine legend says that, while in prison, he fell in love with the jailer's daughter, and before his execution, he wrote a letter to her signed, "From your Valentine." Other stories say that Valentine was killed for trying to help Christians to escape Roman prisons.

The history of Valentine's Day is also unclear about why it is celebrated in mid-February. Some believe that it is a celebration of the death or burial of St. Valentine, while others believe it was a Christian attempt of converting Pagans who celebrated Lupercalia. Whatever the true history, sometime around 498 AD, Pope Gelasius St. Valentine's day as February 14.

The history of Valentine's Day as we know it today began around the seventeenth century, with celebrating the day becoming more popular. Esther A. Howland started to sell the first mass-produced Valentines in the 1840's in America, and by this time, it had become common for friends and lovers to exchange gifts and notes. The first heart-shaped candy box for Valentine's Day was created in 1861 by Richard Cadbury.



**Dee Dee Tibbits**  
**Hammered Dulcimer Workshop**  
**Saturday: April 13, 2013**  
**Cost: \$55**

Space is limited so register early.  
 Sorry, we cannot hold a spot for you  
 without receiving your payment.

**Presbyterian Church**  
**215 Almer St., Caro MI 48723**

Registration & Welcome 9:00 am  
 (continental breakfast provided)  
 Session I: 9:30 am-12:00 pm  
 Lunch: 12:00—1:30 pm  
 Session II: 1:30-4:30 pm  
 Informal Session: 5:00-7:00 pm  
 (One last chance to jam!)


This is open to anyone who would like to participate.  
 Bring snacks to share and your own beverage.

**Dee Dee Tibbits'** love of music and love of teaching makes her workshops a fun place to be. Dee Dee combines learning techniques both visual and practical, and will have the seasoned player and the beginner gleaming information and skills while feeling challenged, but not overwhelmed.

In this one day workshop students will learn the essentials for creating their own arrangements and how to make the song pleasing to the ear. Participants will experience the world of playing two hand separation, improvising on a minor pentatonic scale, and practicing tips for becoming a better all-around player.

Dee Dee is a songwriter, performer and music teacher, who is excited to share her skills and abilities with her students. She has two solo CD's and 3 Celtic "Sonas" CD's available. For more information about Dee Dee or her CD's visit her web-site at [deedetibbits.com](http://deedetibbits.com)

For information: Phone: **989-551-4902**  
 E-Mail: **Kandee\_Marie@yahoo.com**





UKULELE JAM

Great Lakes Ukulele Gathering

invites ukulele players of all abilities 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. So bring your Ukulele and your Voice for a good time. Our monthly meetings will begin at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month beginning in January 2013. A donation of \$3.00 is requested for the use of the church. Refreshments and snacks will be provided and you are welcome to bring snacks to share.

**GOOD HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH , 28680 CHERRY HILL, GARDEN CITY, MI.**  
 between Inkster and Middlebelt Roads

For further information contact  
 Bob: [bsnemo@yahoo.com](mailto:bsnemo@yahoo.com) or David: [musicalcraft@yahoo.com](mailto:musicalcraft@yahoo.com)  
 Join us on Facebook, search under *Great Lakes Ukulele Gathering*

**SSDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2012**

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