

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society Soundboard

NOVEMBER 2014 31 YEARS SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC Aug 1983-2014 Issue 355
Website : www.silverstrings.org

PRESIDENTS CORNER _____ Marsha Kozlowski

My year as President is almost up. It has been a humbling year for me with a number of peaks and valleys. The peaks included the performance at Evart during which we were asked to play two additional numbers followed by very positive feedback. Another peak was the great banquet we had last month. The valley was losing Marie to cancer. She was a wonderful support to me and the board. Her experience was invaluable and her sense of humor lightened the air for me when I needed it.

When this newsletter comes out, we will begin the transitioning to next year's board. There will be some new faces and a couple of people staying on. This will be helpful to the board for it will provide some continuity and sense of where things are. I think it will be a good board, and hopefully they will receive the support and encouragement we have had this year. They will bring their own strengths and talents to the job and we can look forward to what this will mean.

The evening of our banquet, I was struck by what Silver Strings means:

- * The hobby display reflected the varied interests and extent of talent of our members – it was awesome!
- * The wonderful food and buzz of conversation reminded me of the fellowship we enjoy at our events and the things that connect us besides music: eating and talking (we are pretty good at this, too, which may be why we often go out to eat after a gig). Not to mention we have some great cooks that make our potlucks the best!
- * The gifts of appreciation and small rewards handed out that evening, including the “saddle blankets” for rocking horses, mirrored the reward we get from playing music together. We don't become rich but we are richer for having music in our lives.
- * The entertainment we had that night gave us the opportunity to be the audience and experience from a different perspective the joy music brings others. We too engage with our listeners through our smiles, music and presence and must be mindful of that.
- * We brought our instruments which were placed here and there around the room, like on our jam nights. Signaling the jamming to come it struck a chord within me that this is what we are about. . . . Play on! Marsha

PLAYDATE CHATTER _____ VP BUSINESS

Since we are approaching the busiest time for the performing side of the club, I thought this month's article could be on “performing.” I know some of you are striving to be on the performing side but are hesitant. Performing can be a fun and rewarding experience, not only for you, but for the audience—it's unbelievable how our music affects people.

But it can also cause a lot of anxiety if it's your first time. The more information you gather on the subject, the less anxiety it will cause. If this is your first performance, don't be afraid of making a mistake. Chances are the only one who will know is you, so just keep smiling and playing. The more you perform, the easier it gets.

There are sign-up sheets available at each club meeting for upcoming performances. These sheets have the details of the performance such as time and place, directions, dress code and any special information needed. If you plan on participating, please sign the sheet so that we have an idea of the number of people that will be there. Some performances have space limitation or other restrictions and we are asked to send a smaller number of performers. It is helpful to know ahead of time that we have the players we need. About a week before the playdate you have signed up for, you will be sent an email reminder.

Punctuality is very important. We ask that you arrive ½ hour ahead of the actual play time to set up your instruments and be ready to play at performance time. Also, hammered dulcimers, please tune your instrument ahead of time. Other instruments can get away with last minute tuning because they only have 4-5 strings!

Feel free to ask any questions and remember that performing really can be a fun and rewarding experience for both you and the audience. Come join us!KT

Two more holiday practices

All practices will be held at Good Hope at 7pm.

Wednesday, November 12th

Tuesday, November 25th

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

BIRTHDAYS

6....Bill Smith
9...John Mercier
10...Terry Treppa
16...Marlin Harmon
30...Marie Naster



ANNIVERSARIES

7....Lyle Thompson.....35th
9....Ed Konstal.....46th
9....John & Sharon McAuliffe
25...John Freeman.....26th

From the VP PROGRAMS _____ Wade Mullins with Jeff Despard & Maureen Mullins

Most of you know that with the recent passing of my Mother in Law, Marie Naster, that I have inherited her duties for this position. Maureen and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who stepped up to help make this year's Banquet such a success! Marie wanted this year to be different from the norm (as was her way), so she planned a change in venue and for us to be entertained. Mitch Manns and his son Jesse performed, and entertained us they did. What a talented father/son duo! Young Jesse even brought his CD to sell. The food at Corsi's was plentiful, delicious and enjoyed by all, as was the social hour before dinner. The displays of hobbies that were set up were amazing and sparked many new conversations. Many people commented that they felt Marie's presence and how happy she would have been with the way the evening turned out.

Upcoming dates to remember: December 7th we will do a holiday performance for Good Hope church with an afterglow immediately following. We are asking for everyone to bring some sort of dish or treat to share not only with each other but the members of the church.

December 18th will be the last jam of the year so we will be having a Holiday Potluck. The club will provide the meat as it has in the past.

If you have any ideas for next year's activities; things you've liked or would like to see in the future please let me know.

ANN'S GROUP

All beginner hammered dulcimer players are invited to participate in a group slow jam and learning session twice a month at my house.

We usually meet on the second and fourth Wednesday each month from 1 to 3 pm.

There is no fee. Please email or call me if you can come and I will give directions to my house. I live in Livonia near 8 Mile and Newburg.

Phone: 734-744-4255
Email: ann.wassell@yahoo.com

FROM THE TREASURER'S BOX: Terry Kozlowski
Membership – renewals are coming in at a steady pace. If you can bring the exact amount (\$15), that would be helpful. I soon run out of \$5 dollar bills to make change on jam nights. Or writing a check works well, too.

If you are renewing by mail, I suggest you send your check to my home address: 45880 Denise Dr., Plymouth MI 48170. We do not check the mail every day and sometimes only a couple times a month. So this will help me get your renewal more quickly.

Christmas gifts for your jammin' friends: We have club t-shirts and some SSDS hats which would make nice gifts for your musical friends - an Inexpensive but exclusive brand for the person who seems to have everything.

New Members in October

Please welcome and extend your warm hospitality and musical mentoring to these newcomers:

Ann Streeter, Canton MI.

She plays HD and Acoustic Guitar.
A member more than a decade ago,
Ann has returned to enjoy playing with the group.
Welcome back, Ann!

Yvonne Walsh, Westland MI

Yvonne plays piano, flute and HD.
She learned about us through her friend,
Edie Swanberg. She wants to improve her skill on the
dulcimer and other folk instruments.
So if you find yourself playing by her – be a mentor for
the evening. It is one of the things we do really well.

A from the Nomination Committee

Hello everyone, good news we have a full slate for the new board for the year 2015. If anyone else wants to run for a position please contact Peggy Kustra at 313-570-7844. Voting will take place at the November 6th, 2014 SSDS meeting.

Here is the current list of nominees:

President: **Harold Crane**

Vice President Business: **Ann Wassell**

Vice President Programs: **Wade Mullins**

Secretary: **Mick Mastal**

JOHN MERCIER UPDATE - I sent out a mass e-mail, but wanted to share his status in the newsletter as a reminder and for those people without e-mail. John resides not at a Heartland facility in Dearborn Hts. He enjoys visitors even though he cannot carry on a conversation. If you wish to send him a letter or card, the address is: Heartland Nursing Center, 26001 Ford Rd., Dearborn Hts. 48127. A longtime member of Silver Strings, let's not forget him.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

6...SSDS Meeting and Jam 7:00-?
 12...**CHRISTMAS PRACTICE** 7:00-?
 20...SSDS Meeting and Jam 7:00-?
 22...**PLAYDATE** **H** 6:00
 Southgate Co-Op Thanksgiving Dinner
 25...**CHRISTMAS PRACTICE** 7:00-?

DECEMBER

4...**PLAYDATE** **H** 7:00
 Good Hope Church Garden City
 6...**PLAYDATE** **H** TBA
 Royal Oak Public Library Royal Oak
 8...**PLAYDATE** **H** 2:00
 Plymouth Seniors Plymouth
 9...**PLAYDATE** **H** 3:00
 Canton Heartland Health Care Canton
 10...**PLAYDATE** **H** 12:30
 Retired School Personnel Livonia
 11...**PLAYDATE** **H** 12:00
 Retired School Personnel Dearborn
 12...**PLAYDATE** **H** TBA
 Generations at Botsford Livonia
 13...**PLAYDATE** **H** 1:00
 John F Kennedy Jr Library ... Dearborn Hgts
 13...**PLAYDATE** **H** 3:00
 Caroline Kennedy Library ... Dearborn Hgts
 14...**PLAYDATE** **H** 2:00
 St. Richard's Church Westland
 16...**PLAYDATE** **H** 2:00
 Brookhaven Manor Ann Arbor
 18...**PLAYDATE** **H** 12:15
 Livonia Civic Center Library Livonia

C=Casual, BC=Business Casual, H=Holiday

To print the Christmas play list,

please click on our website or this link :

<http://www.silverstrings.org/sections/tunes/PDF/2014/ChristmasPlaylist14.pdf>

2014 Silver Strings Christmas Playlist

Key	Tune	Play
G	Jingle Bells Start with Chorus	3 1/2
G	Deck The Halls Tag by Starter	3
G	Let it Snow! Tag by Starter	2
C	Winter Wonderland	3
C	Silver Bells Ritard End. HD's walk up C chord	3
C	A Holly Jolly Christmas	3
D	Frosty The Snowman	2
D	Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer Start & Play with Spirit	2
G	Up On The Housetop	3
G	Oh Christmas Tree Start & Play with Spirit; Ritard End	3
C	Jingle Bell Rock	2
D	Jolly Old St Nicholas	3
G	Angels We Have Heard On High Ritard End	3
G	Bring A Torch Jeanette Isabella	3
G	Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Ritard End	3
G	Away In The Manger Ritard End	3
Em	God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen Play Upbeat Tempo	3
G	We Three Kings Tag by Starter	3
G	It Came Upon A Midnight Clear Ritard End	3
Em	What Child Is This	3
G	O Come All Ye Faithful Ritard End	3
G	He Is Born	3
G	The First Noel	3
G	Joy To The World Tag by Bass	3
D	Simple Gifts Ritard End	3
D/G	Silent Night Ritard End	2/2
G	We Wish You A Merry Christmas Start & Play w/Spirit; Ritard End	2 1/2

See the **Library Holiday Playlist** on pg 6. We will also use it for the one November gig we have.

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.



yee
haw!

Silver Strings Banquet 2014



Mitch Manns and Son, Jesse entertained us with some seriously hot bluegrass jams.



We were greeted at the door with smiles by Janelle, Terry, and Marie's daughter Maureen Mullins, who stepped in to finish what Marie started.



...and then of course there was jamming...



Thank you to all those folks who brought items to display of their hobby or creativity. They included:

Mick Mastal – Painting; **Carol Ann Matthews** – quilting and scrapbooking; **Sharon McAuliffe** – Cross-stitch and quilting; **Terry Kozlowski** – RC Airplane; **Gloria Tapper** – porcelain doll in Halloween setting; **Terry Treppa** – Bear Lake Camp Photos (Bear Care is a camp for the blind, a Lion's Club project of which Terry is quite involved); **David Smith** – toy trains (and they even moved and tooted); **Ann Wassel** – quilting; **Gerry Hermans** – painting; **Ryanne Lesinski** – Embroidered boxes; **Theresa Smith** – Longaberger baskets; **Julie Slauterbeck** – photo display of her prize toy fox terriers; **Allan Slauterbeck** – ham radio; **Bill Smith** – ice cream memorabilia; **Luke Kaweck** – historical dulcimer in process of restoration; **Walt Jablonski** – Wooden Rocking Horse (one of 16 he made for grandchildren and quite sturdy, I must say.) Sorry all couldn't be pictured here.

The display was colorful and made for some great conversations as we strolled around, taking in the display. The response was so great, I had to ask the staff to bring in two more tables to accommodate everything.

Again, thanks – your sharing helped make the evening memorable.



FESTIVALS-WORKSHOPS-JAMS

UNCLE CARL'S DULCIMER CLUB

2nd Saturday of month, Sept thru May, 12:30-4:30pm
(next is Nov 8th)

For info. call Pennye 517-547-7448

NETTLE LAKE MUSIC JAM

First Saturday of Month Sept thru May – 6pm
(next is Nov 1st)

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

MAUMEE STREET MUSIC JAM

(formerly called West Adrian Jam)

Forth Saturday of the month – 6pm (next is Nov 22nd)

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 (Nov 1st)

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

Songs are posted beforehand on the internet

For info email: muzyka2007@yahoo.com

MT. HALEY JAMBOREE

Last Friday of every month (Nov 28th)

Mt. Haley Township Hall, Midland County

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

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

mthaleyfmsm@gmail.com

GREAT LAKES UKULELE GATHERING

First Wednesday of the month 7:00 (Nov 5th)

Good Hope Lutheran Church,

28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City

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

Contact: Bob at bsdemo@yahoo.com or

David at musicalcraft@yahoo.com

PITTSFIELD OPEN BAND

Pittsfield Grange 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Road, Ann

Arbor, First and third Saturday from 3-6pm.

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

LAMS - Livingston Acoustic Musical Society

3rd Saturday of the month 7-11pm (Nov 15th)

Fowlerville Church of the Nazarene

8040 Country Corner Drive, Fowlerville

Contact: Tony Miceli 517-223-9590

FARMINGTON JAM

Universalist Unitarian Church

25301 Halsted Rd. Farmington Hills 48335

Second Tuesday of each month from Sept – June, 7pm

Many players come to play dulcimers, fiddles, guitars...

If you are a beginner, this is a good place

to meet people and get involved.

Contact: HolmesSid@aol.com

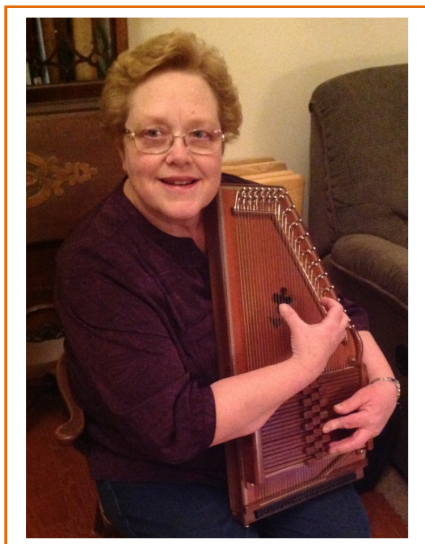
Library Holiday Playlist

Key	Tune	Play
G	Jingle Bells Start with chorus	3 1/2
G	Let it Snow! Tag by Starter	2
C	Winter Wonderland	3
C	Silver Bells Ritard End. HD's walk up C chord	3
C	A Holly Jolly Christmas	3
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast	3
G	Red Apple Rag	3
Am	Cold Frosty Morn'	3
D	Over The Waterfall / Mississippi Sawyer	3/3
G	Silver and Gold Two Step	3
G	Westphalia Waltz	2
D	Coleman's March	3
D	Frosty The Snowman	2
D	Rudolph Red Nosed Reindeer Start & Play with Spirit	2
G/	Up On The Housetop/	2/
G	Jolly Old St Nickolas Play with Spirit	3
G	O Christmas Tree Start & Play with Spirit. Ritard End	3
C	Jingle Bell Rock	2
D	Simple Gifts Ritard End	3
G	We Wish You a Merry Christmas Start & Play with Spirit. Ritard End	2 1/2
Extra music if needed		
D	Hey Polka	5
Em	Tamlin	3
Em	Dancing Bear	4
G	Red Wing	3
G	Down Yonder	4
G	January Waltz	3

SSDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2014

PRESIDENT Marsha Koslowski
mt.koz@hotmail.com. (734) 239-4190
V.P. BUSINESS Karen Turner
karenturner@comcast.net. (734) 678-7405
V.P. PROGRAMS Marie Naster
mnaster@aol.com (734) 981-3772
TREASURER Terry Koslowski
mt.koz@hotmail.com. (734) 239-4190
SECRETARY Mick Mastal
mastal@comcast.net. (734) 552-4773
SOUNDBOARD EDITOR Lee Ann Lack
leelack@att.net (734) 612-1172
WEBMASTER Karen Turner
karenturner@comcast.net (734) 678-7405

Did you know that.....



Margie Meinzinger (one of the autoharp players at Silver Strings) also edits and writes newsletters, poetry, short devotionals and stories? Here is a sample of one of her short stories for you to enjoy.

The water in the motel pool was glistening and smelled like the usual chlorine treated pool. There were about twenty or so people playing in various places in the pool and a few more lounging in chairs and on towels around the edge of the pool as well. As I stood at the edge there were two things on my mind: cooling off from the heat of this summer day and showing off my newly acquired swimming skills. There were so many people in the pool and around the edge of it I was sure that someone would see me as I did the American crawl that I had learned at home in Michigan. Somewhere in my room was my little card that said I had successfully completed the beginners swimming course. I was going to

prove to myself and all watching that I could swim.

I stroked and kicked from the shallow edge of the pool toward the rope that was stretched across the middle of the pool. I thought that in all pools the deep end started at the rope. My mother was sitting on one side of the pool in a lounge chair and my father stood somewhere on the other side of the pool. It was a beautiful day in Paris, Texas and we all were enjoying the luxury of a motel with a pool.

As I swam confidently toward the rope I began to feel tired. I did not want to stop showing off my skill so I kept swimming toward the rope. When I reached the rope I put my feet down. There was no bottom. The pool bottom was designed differently than the pools I had been in before. The deepest part was in the middle where the rope was stretched across. I panicked. I forgot how to swim. As I bobbed to the surface of the water I screamed for help, thrashed my arms and kicked my feet to no avail.

An older girl nearby told me to float on my back. From the side of the pool my mother watched and listened. In a fraction of a second she was out of her chair and headed for the pool. Mom's broomstick skirt billowed out like a hot air balloon as she leaped through the air toward the liquid surface. From the other edge of the pool a fully dressed man ran toward the water and jumped into the pool. My father swam toward my mother and me.

My mother and the unknown older girl pushed me to the side of the pool. My father reached my mother and pushed her to the edge. Hands pulled and pushed me onto the cement surface surrounding the pool. More hands pulled my mother onto the surface and then gently lowered her into a lounge chair. The pool was empty of its previous occupants. Somebody looked at me and said, "she's OK." People gathered around my mother touching her and looking at her. Finally someone announced, "she's in shock." I wondered what it meant that my mother was, "in shock." She was really just dripping wet. Nothing electric had touched my mother.

The following summer I was signed up for swimming lessons. The lessons went well until test day. I was not afraid of the water as long as I knew where the bottom was and that I could touch it with my feet while my head remained out of the water. I did very well making the strokes and kicks that were taught in class. I did not expect to get the Intermediate card at the end of class. I was not going to swim in the deep water. I blubbered and reasoned with my sweet patient teacher that I could NOT take the test. Maybe I could just do the same thing in shallow water. Finally my teacher said something that changed the outcome of my test as well as my outlook on many things later in my life. She said, "I'll go with you." As I reached the deep water I looked over at her and she said, "I'm here." I received my Intermediate Swimmer Card.

During the rest of the summer I swam in the deep end at the pool and even plunged off the high diving board many times. Sad to say, I forgot the name of that swimming instructor but I have remembered her as one of my best teachers. The important lessons she taught me were not in the Red Cross Swimming Instructor's lesson guide. These lessons were: many times in life there are things we cannot do alone and we must accept help to succeed. When we fail we must try again. There are times that someone else will need me to swim beside them in deep water just like my teacher did for me. I need to watch for opportunities to help. (An expanded version of this story can be read in my blog which is at Blogspot.com Marjournal Notes)



Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Meetings on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays every month
7-9p.m with jamming till ...?

Meeting at **Good Hope Lutheran Church**
In Garden City, Michigan

Featuring the hammered dulcimer, mountain dulcimer,
and other acoustic band instruments :
banjo, guitar, autoharp, fiddle, string bass, washtub
bass, mandolin, folk harp, recorder, tin penny whistle,
and harmonica.

Learn new tunes and techniques, jam together
with other players, receive new music
and a monthly newsletter.

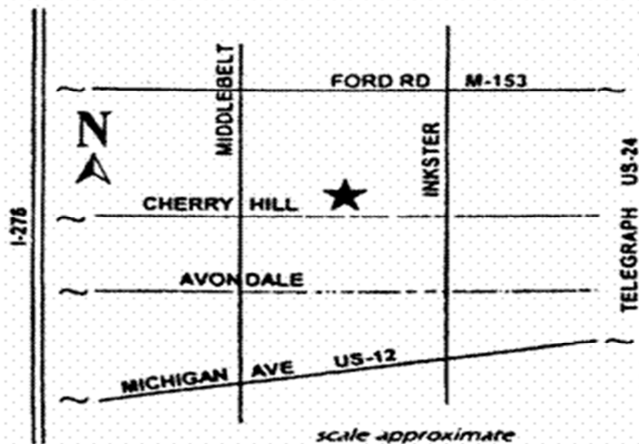
Participate in workshops, festivals, performances,
picnics, fun and fellowship.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT :

<http://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 20th.

Articles or pictures from any member are always welcome.

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

P.O.Box 1116
Garden City, MI. 48136



**IT'S NOVEMBER...!
HAPPY THANKSGIVING !!**

If you were on the mailing list
your name would be here.