

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Soundboard

OCTOBER 2011 28 YEARS SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC July 1983-2011 ISSUE 318

Website : www.silverstrings.org

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Fall has arrived, and the busy season is upon us. We started September with what has become our annual trek to Greenfield Village (The Henry Ford). We arrived Saturday morning to pouring rain. I brought a 10 x 14 Easy-up that we raised and huddled under for a while. We said a prayer for the rain to stop, and fifteen minutes later the rain stopped. The same thing happened at the camp out. The rest of our weekend provided some great outdoor weather. We attracted good sized crowds, and had a lot of fun entertaining them. The 'Hey Polka' was a big hit, as usual, as well as our harmonica "surround sound" while wandering through the audience. It seemed like every 3rd song we started was interrupted by a passing train blowing its whistle. Thank you to all who came out to enjoy playing and displaying your Victorian plumage. It always seems special when we play in Victorian costume. On Friday, September 16th, we played at American house in Royal Oak. We have been there so often, that we have some avid followers who look forward to our visits.

As I write this, we still have some September activity to complete. We will be attending the ODPC meeting at the United Methodist Church in Lansing. Their annual election will be held and a few key items of follow up from the funfest will be discussed. We will do another Victorian concert at the Clinton Michigan fall festival on Sept 25th. Variety night is scheduled for September 29th with Bill Smith as MC of the show. Thanks, Bill !!!

Several key activities are coming up in October. The annual banquet will be held at the Italian American Club, on Five Mile road in Livonia, on October 6th. There will be no meeting at Good Hope that evening. We look forward to seeing many of you at the banquet. The Silver Strings annual meeting will be held on Thursday October 20th at our regular jam night. The board will present a 'state of the club' in each area of responsibility. A report from the election committee will announce any candidates for office in the November election. We still need candidates for the 2012 board. **Please consider giving some of your time to keep 'Strings' a viable music group.** The term is for one year. You may be re-elected for one additional year, if you choose (2 year limit). You must be a member in good standing for one year, and must have performed at least one play date. The election will be held at our first November meeting (Nov 3rd). Your membership dues for 2012 must be paid, to be eligible to vote. Christmas is right around the corner and holiday music practice begins this month. Larry Roper will arrange dates that our meeting room is available in October and November, and will send out a schedule.

Please continue to keep Larry Allen and Bobbie Hurst in your prayers. It is a great comfort to know that one has the prayerful support of friends.

My wish is that you enjoy a colorful autumn and have a fun Halloween. Bob Hlavacek



PLAYDATE NOTES

V.P. Business

Hi Folks:

It has been a pretty eventful month of playdates. We started at Waltonwood in Novi on August 30th, where we did our usual "double header", playing first for the Independent Living, and then for the Assisted living divisions of Waltonwood. We are always well received there and the residents enjoy our performances very much. I'll have to say that the Assisted Living folks were more lively and energetic than the Independent folks were this time. It's always a joy to play there and my contact people have expressed how much they enjoy having us. In fact they enjoy us so much that they booked 10 performances this year alone.

On September 10th and 11th we played at the Old Car Festival at Greenfield Village. The rain delayed our first of four performances by thirty-five minutes but the rain left and we enjoyed two beautiful days at the village. We had lots of people stop by to listen and I received many compliments on our performances. It's always a challenge to play there with all of the noises from the old cars driving by and honking their horns, the trains coming by and blowing their whistles, and the many people strolling by, but it's like taking a step back in history and is a wonderful experience.

On the 16th we played at American House in Royal Oak. Angie, the Activities Director told me once again how much the residents look forward to Silver Strings playing there and how excited they get when they hear that we are coming. American House has many residents who are obviously in the Autumn of their years, and though sometimes it is a difficult thing for us to see their health diminish, it is very gratifying to know that we brought them some joy, if only for a brief period time.

The 17th was the annual Osgood party. Linda and Ed have been having the party at their home for a few years now for SSDS members and friends and it's always a great time with plenty of food, friends and lots of jamming. They had a very good turnout this year and the party was lots of fun. It has become another event that we look forward to each year.

The Clinton Fall Festival is coming up on Sunday the 25th, where we will be performing on an outdoor stage. This is a very nice festival and even if you are not playing it is fun to come out and enjoy the many activities, vendors, crafters, food, and a huge parade.

We have two playdates scheduled for October at this time, once again at Waltonwood in Novi. The sign up sheets have been put out and many folks have signed up. Due to the SSDS Banquet we won't have another regularly scheduled meeting before the playdate, so let me know if you are interested in signing up to play

I have scheduled four practices for Holiday performances (16 booked so far). I have 2 practices in October, the 11th and 27th, and 2 more in November, the 2nd and 15th. They will be held at Good Hope Church at 7:00PM. Some are on weeks that we don't have regular SSDS meetings as it needed to be confirmed that the church hall will be available for us to use. We will be using most of the music from last year and I will have music packets ready by September 29th and have them available at Variety Night.

I had two mail orders for our Traditional CD. One was from France, and the other was from Canada. It's nice to know that people from all over the world can now enjoy hearing us thanks to Karen Turner and Bill Smith, and all of their efforts in making and posting our You Tube videos for the world to see.

I hope everyone has a chance to get out, enjoy the fall weather and colors, and all of the fun activities that autumn brings. Happy October everyone! Larry Roper



Clinton Fall Festival

Setting up for a slot in an all day festival can be a challenge. The festival people have a tight schedule to meet. At the Clinton Fall Festival, we quietly set up instruments on stage, while some young ladies sang on the ground in front. Then we all took our places and waited, while the area's Miss Michigan contestant sang a few songs, before leaving for the parade. We were up and ready to begin.

V.P. PROGRAM NOTES _____ Dawn Hayes

Annual Banquet: Just a reminder that our annual banquet is at the Italian American Hall on 5 Mile in Livonia on Thursday, Oct. 6th. There has been a change in the menu. Instead of roast beef and gravy, there will be baked chicken. Come and join the festivities.

Thank you to all who have been contributing snacks for our Thursday night jams. The treats are appreciated by all.

Reminder: Mark your calendars for our Holiday Happening evening on Dec. 29th (the 5th Thursday of the month). The evening will consist of a potluck dinner, music and fun for all. More details will follow in the next newsletters.



To print the OCTOBER Play list,
please click on our website or this link :
<http://www.silverstrings.org/sections/tunes/pdf/2011/oct11.pdf>

MARK YOUR CALENDAR	
OCTOBER	
6... Annual SSDS Banquet	6:00-11:00
11... Holiday Practice	7:00
18... Afternoon Entertainment . . BC. . . .	1:30-2:30 Waltonwoods Indep. Living.Novi
18... Afternoon Entertainment . . BC. . . .	3:00-4:00 Waltonwoods Assisted Living.Novi
20... Slow Jam .6:00.	Jam 7:00
27... Holiday Practice	7:00
NOVEMBER	
2..... Holiday Practice	7:00
11... Tribute to Veterans BC. . . .	6:00-7:00 Maple Heights Retir. Comm.Allen Park
15... Holiday Practice	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
BC=Business Casual, V= Victorian BW=Black & white, H=Holiday	

OCTOBER PLAY LIST 2011

Key	Tune	Play
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast	3
G	Maggie	3
G	Westphalia Waltz	2
D	Smash The Windows	3
Em	Tamlin	3
G	Red Apple Rag	3
G	Southwind	3*
G	Irish Washerwoman	3
C	Five Foot Two	3
D	Liberty	3
C	Tennessee Waltz	3*
D	Over The Waterfall	3
Em	Dancing Bear	3**
G	Down Yonder	3
D	Coleman's March	3*
G	Scotland The Brave	3
G	Red Wing	3*
D	John Ryan's Polka	Karen Decides
D	Hey Polka	Bob's Choice
D	Simple Gifts	4***
D/D	Endless Medley Ragtime Annie Soldiers Joy / Golden Slippers	2/2/2/2
D/G		
Extra Tunes		
G	Young Jane	3*
D	Mississippi Sawyer	3
G	Old Joe Clark	3
G	Larry's Waltz	3*
*2 nd time feature fiddles and Harmonicas, HDs/backup (soft)		
**3 rd time everyone plays (A) Part soft, strong on (B) part		
***1 st time (1) Hd or MD,(1) guitar & fiddle only 2 nd time add harmonicas 3 rd time everyone plays 4 th time same as first		

EMERGENCY CARDS

If you have never filled out a green emergency card for Silver Strings, **please** get one from the brown recipe box on the business table at any jam. These cards are with us at jams, festivals and playdates, so we have emergency contact information in case you have a medical emergency.

From the Nominating Committee

Well, as I write this article the Fall Season has arrived. With festivals over and outside activities coming to a close, I feel its a good time to bring up the up and coming election of new board members. I know it is easy enough to dismiss this as a job that "someone else" will do. The reality of it is we are all possibly one of those other people!!

We must elect a board of 5 to serve for one year beginning in January. Anyone elected will be graciously trained and helped in any way possible to learn the duties involved

So for a club that is always giving us a wonderful place to play music and enjoy all the benefits of membership in Silver Strings, consider giving of your time and talent.

I'm so proud to be affiliated with this club and am sure we all want to see it continue in the way we've become accustomed to!!

Respectfully,
Linda Osgood.Chair of Election committee
Co chairs. . . .Theresa Smith and Sally Niemczewski

Position descriptions are listed in the next column.

*President

1. Presides as chairman and conducts board meetings.
2. Supervises all club affairs, including regular club meetings.
3. Represents the club at performances, festivals, etc.
4. Recommends chairmen to the appointive offices and special committees.
5. May also serve as committee chairman.

*Vice President Business (Manager)

1. Performs the President's duties in the absence of the President
2. Receives all performance requests for the club.
3. Prepares sign-up sheets for performances and accepts or declines performances accordingly.
4. If time is short, may either refuse the request or organize enough players for the performance.
5. Manages all aspects of performances or appoints someone to do so.

*Vice President Program (Coordinator)

1. Performs the President's duties in the absence of the President and VP Business.
2. Coordinates efforts with the Music Coordinator to bring new songs and workshops to meetings.
3. Teaches new songs or appoints someone to do so.
4. Leads songs at regular club meetings or appoints someone to do so.
5. Coordinates campout & annual picnic, or appoints someone to do it.

*Secretary

1. Records all business conducted at club and board meetings. Submits summary to newsletter
2. Is responsible for correspondence to members.
3. May also serve as a committee chairman

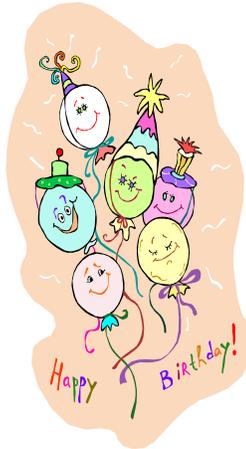
*Treasurer

1. Collects dues, writes checks for club expenses, Coordinates applications for new members
2. Keeps financial records up to date & produces periodic financial reports.
3. Updates & distributes new roster bi-annually.

IT'S OCTOBER...LET'S CELEBRATE !

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 1.....Ernie Stewart
- 12....Nancy Straky
- 17....Carol Anne Matthews
- 18....Donald Pittman
- 21.....Kathy Harrison
- 23....Larry Allen
- 24....Don Weymouth
- 25....Marilyn Mullins
- 26....Ben Catt
- 26....Pat Jurasek
- 27....Marilyn Catt
- 28....Valerie Karhu
- 30....Bev Scott



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 16....Jack & Marilyn Mullins.....?th
- 18....Harold Crane.....36th
- 19....Bob & Sally Niemczewski.....37th
- 22....David & Theresa Smith.....8th
- 29....Walt & Pat Jablonski.....62nd



PURSE STRINGS _____ Linda Osgood

Hello Everyone,

First, I want to thank all who have promptly paid their dues and have patiently waited in line for me to get them recorded. Sure makes my job easier! As always though, I will collect dues anytime.

Remember to pay your 2012 dues before November 1st, to be eligible to vote. Also, there are a few Silver Strings jackets, polo shirts and binders for sale. See me for a binder and Carol Ann for jackets or shirts.

I am happy to introduce you to **4 new members**. We are certainly having a "Growth Spurt" and why not!!???? We are a pretty awesome club!

Georgina North from Ypsilanti
She plays Guitar

Mary Frantz from Manitou Beach (wow)
She plays Mountain Dulcimer

Sharon Schalk from Garden City
She plays Hammered Dulcimer

Shirley Case from Livonia
She plays the recorder and is working on her ukulele and dulcimer

Stop and say hello to these new folks!

See you at the Banquet.....Happy Jammin'

SECRETARY'S NOTES _____

Board Meeting September 22

VP Business Report:

- * We received a CD order from France.
- * We have 51 play dates that we have played or are on the books for the rest of the year. This is probably a record number.
- * There will be two Christmas practices in October and two in November; one Tuesday and one Wednesday in each month.
- * Larry will check availability of the church and email the dates. Bev Scott will call people without email.

VP Programs:

- * Plans for the Oct 6th banquet are being finalized.
- * The Variety night emcee will be Bill Smith.
- * Linda will mentor a new member on the hammered dulcimer. Bob H. is finishing one & starting another. One other new member needs a mentor.

OLD BUSINESS

- * The elections committee has no responses for candidates for the board election.
- * We will place an order for another 1000 more Holiday CDs before the end of the year.

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

FESTIVALS-WORKSHOPS-JAMS

UNCLE CARL'S DULCIMER CLUB

2nd Saturday of month 12:30-4:30pm
(next is Oct 8th)

For info. call Penny 517-547-7448

NETTLE LAKE MUSIC JAM

First Saturday of Month - 6PM
(next is Oct 1st)

For info contact

Jack & Marilyn Mullins 517 270 2870
or Pastor Mike Wilder 419 485 4112

MAUMEE STREET MUSIC JAM

(formerly called West Adrian Jam)

Last Saturday of month - 6PM (next is Oct 29th)

For info. contact

Jack & Marilyn Mullins 517-270-2870
Or Larry Roper 248-437-5403

Original Michigan Fiddlers Association

FIDDLER'S JAMBOREE

Old Fashioned Square Dance - Kalkaska, Mi.

Sat. Oct. 22nd 2011...Senior Center

303 South Coral St.

Fiddlers play 1-5:pm

Open microphone 5-6:30 pm

Round & Square dancing 6:30-9:00pm

Refreshments & dinner available on site.

Bring your non-electric instrument & join the fun !

For info. contact Paula : (616) 240-0445

RICK THUM

WORKSHOPS AND CONCERT

Nov. 12 @ Rockford VFW Hall, Rockford, Michigan

Workshops:

Beginner & past beginner 10:-noon

All levels 2-4:pm

Potluck at 5:pm (bring a dish to pass)

Concert at 7:pm

Jamming all day in the basement and after the concert

Concert \$10, Workshops \$25 or both for \$45

For information or registration:

Rick @ 314-406-0690 or rthum@rthum.com

What do you get when you put a diminished chord together with an augmented chord?

A demented chord.



The rain didn't dampen our spirits, as we played at Greenfield Village. Costumes add to the fun.



The harmonica features are always appreciated, and the "Hey Polka" always gets the audience going.



A steady audience was always attentive, seated across the walk way.