



# Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

## Soundboard

December 2019

SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC for 36 YEARS  
[www.silverstrings.org](http://www.silverstrings.org)

Issue 416

### PERKY PEGGY'S PONDERINGS\_\_ Peggy Kustra

Merry, Merry Christmas!

We are currently on our performance Christmas Concert Marathon. Big Thank You to all who are participating and spreading our special Silver Strings Christmas Joy. We are like the energizer bunny.....we ....just.....keep.....going.....

I want to send out a really big Thank You to the 2019 SSDS Board, Bob Patterson- Vice President Business, Bob and Sandi Hlavacek- Vice President Programs, George Gonyo -Treasurer , and Gloria Tapper - Secretary. You guys are awesome. You had a job to do and exceeded expectations. Yea for all of you.

Hello to the New Board of 2020 for Silver Strings. Thank You all for stepping up to the plate.  
Steve Beck-Vice President Business  
Bob and Sandi Hlavacek-Vice President Programs  
Judy Pyrkosz-Treasurer  
Julie Kafcas -Secretary  
and, me Perky Peggy Kustra your President.

It was quite a Year:

- We emptied out the file cabinets at Good Hope Church.
- We found a new campground for our camp out
- A Jam for all the Dulcimer Clubs at Holy Cross
- Annual Picnic
- Fun Variety Nights
- Fantastic Halloween Party
- A Great Christmas dinner happening on Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>
- Marathon Christmas Performances
- Performance at Evart
- Many gigs during the year
- Always interesting and jolly Thursday night Jams.
- Ordered new t-shirts, hoodies and sweatshirts

You just have to love Silver Stringers, someone is always willing to help another person out, musically or otherwise. Best group of people ever.

If you have any questions, ideas or concerns call me at 313-570-7844 or email at [peggyakustra54@gmail.com](mailto:peggyakustra54@gmail.com).... Perky Peggy Kustra



We have a New Year ahead of us and a great New Team.

Thank You to all our unsung heroes for keeping us all going: Marsha Kozlowski - music Co-ordinator, Dave and Theresa Smith - Newsletter Editor, Karen Turner - Webmaster.

### VP- PROGRAMS NOTES\_\_ Bob & Sandi Hlavacek

Can you believe it, December is here! We have a flurry of Holiday playdates.

We will have our Christmas potluck dinner at Holy Cross on December 19th. The doors will be open to members around 6:30, and dinner will be served at 7:00pm. **Thank you** to those who volunteered to help with set-up. We will be there around 5:30 to start decorating. And **thank you** to our volunteers for clean-up, too. With your help, we won't have to be cleaning up until midnight.

Our vote showed the stronger interest in chicken, so we will have chicken, (both baked & fried). We have always had really good response from Kroger's fried chicken at the picnic & campout. Hoping the menu will balance out, we ask that if your last name begins with **A-G please bring a dessert for at least 10 people. All others, please bring a side dish to serve at least 10.** We have a LOT of great cooks in our group, so our potlucks are always an adventure in eating. What a GREAT way to end the year... food & fellowship !

Sandi & Bob [datadoc@charter.net](mailto:datadoc@charter.net) 734-663-7974

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### DECEMBER

5.... SSDS MEETING AND JAM ..... 7:00 - ??

19... SSDS Christmas Potluck & JAM .... 6:30 - ??

#### VP - BUSINESS NOTES \_\_\_\_\_ Bob Patterson

Hello everyone. I hope that this newsletter finds everyone in good health and good spirits. It's hard to believe that the year is drawing to a close. We had a fun season. We froze our behonkiss\* off down at the Erie Ice Daze. The weather was brutal that weekend, but our drive and musical spirit pushed us through. We played on Belle Isle in August and sweated our behonkiss\* off. In July we had the pleasure of performing at the WHFR radio station. We also played at many facilities, churches, libraries, outreach programs and hopefully caught the interest of future performers. A good time was had by all at our summer campout in Oakland County, our picnic at McClumpha Park in Plymouth, our fall banquet at the Hellenic Cultural Center, and our open house at Holy Cross with the ODPC.

By the end of the year we will have played 40 performances four which were in Victorian dress. As of today we have nothing on our schedule until the first weekend of May, but things will roll in.

As the year draws to a close, sadly, so does my term as you VP of Business. This will be my last contribution to our newsletter. Stephen Beck will be your new V.P. of Business for our Society. I would like to thank Stephen for accepting the position. I know that he will do well. I also would like to thank my Executive board friends who helped me along my way in my position. I know that the Executive board will be just as helpful to our new board members.

\* [Ed: behonkiss - n. (Southern slang) one's bottom or backside.]

Bob..... silverstring14@gmail.com

#### SECRETARY \_\_\_\_\_ Gloria Tapper

Hello everyone, there's a lot going at this busy, happy time of year. Thank you, Julie Kafcas for taking on the position of Secretary. I have enjoyed doing this and found it to be quite easy and rewarding. I have had the chance to meet and talk with many helpful members and it's been a very insightful time for me.

There are a lot of upcoming events, the other board members have their itineraries in place and will let everyone know what is going on in their area of Silver Strings.

So now we need to wish everyone well, there's been quite a few out with surgeries, injuries and other ailments over the past months.

Please take care, stay warm, and enjoy the Holidays.

....Gloria Getapper@yahoo.com 734-427-1142

#### MARSHA'S MUSINGS \_\_\_\_\_ Marsha Kozlowski

As I write this, we have the first gig under our belts (Children's Hospital Festival of Trees). It was supposed to be background music, but an audience gathered to sit and listen. They seemed to love the tunes and sang along for several. Even though the acoustics left a lot to be desired, we played well and likely will be asked to return next year.

**Practice Pays Off** - Thank you to everyone who came to a practice, worked on the tunes, old and new, and are ready to put our best holiday foot forward with joyful music for the upcoming gigs. Because we have several people ready to be starters, I will assign starts for each gig and prior to each performance send the playlist with their assigned starts to each starter. That way you will know and there will be less commotion before the performances. I am trying to spread them out so each person who signed up to start gets to do it at least once.

**January SSDS Favorites Playlist** – very few responded, but since there are no gigs booked for January, it doesn't really matter. What is interesting is if we were to play the 25 tunes submitted, 7 would be waltzes. Our group loves waltzes!

**January Tune of the Month** – When you get tired of holiday music and are thinking about the new year, try our first tune of the month for 2020: Yankee Doodle Boy. It will be in Dropbox and I will have some copies at the next jam. If it takes off and we do it well, I plan to medley it with "It's A Grand Old Flag" and play it at our April-July gigs and in our Evart set. So take a look at it. It is not hard and quite peppy.

.....Marsha mt.koz@hotmail.com

#### TREASURER \_\_\_\_\_ George Gonyo

Just a quick note to inform you that **DUES are DUE** for the coming year - 2020. Only \$15 for the entire year. You can mail or see me at the meeting. Checks are much appreciated.

Make checks payable to Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

George Gonyo - Treasurer

3829 Glengarry Ct.

Ann Arbor, MI 48105

..... ggonyo@peoplepc.com 734-996-0089

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

### ~ Birthdays ~

13...Theresa Smith

31...Sandi Hlavacek

Happy Birthday

### ~ Welcome New Member ~

Dorothy Buchan

If you don't see your name here for your birthday or anniversary or if dates need correction please let me know ..... David dtsmithnet@yahoo.com

*Invite your Family and Friends... here are 12 Public Performances!*

## **SILVER STRINGS DULCIMER SOCIETY**

### **2019 Holiday Performances**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Place</b>
Monday, Nov. 25	2:00 P.M.	Children's Hospital Festival of Trees (1) Ford Performing Arts Ctr 15801 Michigan Ave., Dearborn
Sunday, Dec. 1	3:00 P.M.	Commerce United Methodist Church 1155 N. Commerce, Commerce Twp.
Wednesday, Dec. 4	7:00 p.m.	Littlefield Presbyterian Church (2) 7560 Littlefield Blvd., Dearborn
Friday, Dec. 6	7:00 P.M.	Good Hope Lutheran Church 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City
Saturday, Dec. 7	2:00 P.M.	Mt. Hope Congregational Church 30330 Schoolcraft, Livonia (2)
Sunday, Dec. 8	2:00 P.M.	Commerce Township Library 180 E. Commerce Rd., Commerce Twp.
Monday, Dec. 9	1:30 P.M.	Plymouth Community Center 525 Farmer Street, Plymouth
Wednesday, Dec. 11	7:00 P.M.	Southgate Veterans Memorial Library 14680 Dix-Toledo Rd., Southgate
Sunday, Dec. 15	3:00 P.M.	Plymouth Public Library 223 S. Main St., Plymouth
Tuesday, Dec. 17	7:00 P.M.	St. Richards Catholic Church 35851 Cherry Hill Rd., Westland
Thursday, Dec. 19	12:15 P.M.	Livonia Public Library 32777 Five Mile, Livonia
Sunday, Dec. 22	7:00 P.M.	Newburg United Methodist Church 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia

(1) \$5 adult admission/\$3 child – Children's Hospital Benefit

(2) Free will offering to be taken

## 2019 Holiday Play list – Final list 11/15/2019

Key	Tune	Play
G	Over The River/Jingle Bells - Santa Stick , jingle bells and whistle accents	2/3
G	Deck the Halls Start (Holly & Ivy 2X). *during start – “decorate” Tag End by Starter	3***
G/C	Let It Snow/Winter Wonderland	2/2
C	Silver Bells Ritard End. HD – walk up C Chord,	3
C	Parade of the Wooden Soldiers – 4 measure start- Slide Whistle accents. Time to wear Toy Soldier headbands.	2
C	Santa Claus is Coming to Town – multiple instrument start: triangles, jingle bells, wood clackers, slide whistle. All join in - beginning at second line after 4 beat lead-in	3
D	Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer – Santa Stick	2
G	I Saw Three Ships/Christmas is in the Air	As written
D	Jolly Old St. Nicholas/ Pachelbel -8 measure start; 1 play soft/slow! 2nd time whistles/psaltery featured. 3 <sup>rd</sup> time more volume Whistles play, 4 <sup>th</sup> time – HD use soft sides 8 measure Tag end by Starter	4
G	O Come All Ye Faithful - chorus dynamics: start soft, increase volume every 2 measures. End loud. Rit. End	3***
G	Angels We Have Heard on High (Feature harmonicas 2 <sup>nd</sup> time) Ritard End	3***
G	Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Ritard end.	3 ***
G	Manger Medley 1 <sup>st</sup> B: feature other instruments (depending on who is there), HDs soft, 2 <sup>nd</sup> B: HD play louder. Ending: on G while Fifth line becomes a 1 person tag.	1
Am	What Child is This – 2 <sup>nd</sup> time, HDs soft. Play w/expression Ritard end.	3***
G	Joy to the World –4 measure start. 3 bongs between each verse. Tag end by Bass	3
Em	God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen –. guitar start Play <u>upbeat</u> tempo; all <u>end abruptly on last note.</u>	4
Am	We Three Kings/Carol of the Bells 45-46 – play softly. Two measure rest, 76-77 (except for MK, Edie, CA, PT. Carol of Bells run – start soft each time and crescendo to end. Ritard last line.	1
D/G	Simple Gifts 2 <sup>nd</sup> time feature harmonicas	2/1***
D/G	Silent Night Ritard End (Sandi sings 2 <sup>nd</sup> time in D and 1 <sup>st</sup> time in G)	2/2***
D/G	Here We Come/We Wish You a Merry Christmas – 3 beat transition to We Wish. Ritard last 2 measures. All sing the last chorus. Hand out jingle bells for audience to jingle with us.	2/ 1 1/2
Tunes marked with *** -HD/s soften up second time so other instruments can be featured (depending on who is there).		



## Library Holiday Playlist – Rev. 11-17-2019

Key	Tune	Play
G	Over the River/Jingle Bells	2/2
G	Deck the Halls	3
G/C	Let It Snow/Winter Wonderland	2/2
C	Silver Bells	3
D	Lover's Waltz	3
G	Silver and Gold Two Step	3
C	Jingle Bell Rock	3
C	Parade of the Wooden Soldiers	2
C	Santa Claus is Coming to Town	3
D	Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer	2
G	I Saw Three Ships/ Christmas in the Air	2/2
D	Jolly Old St. Nick/Pachelbel	4
D/G	Simple Gifts	2/2
Em	Tamlin	4
Am	Greensleeves	3
Am	Cold Frosty Morn/ Schottische du Stockfish	3/3
G	Tick Tock Polka	3
Am	January Waltz	3
D/G	Here We Come/ We Wish You a Merry	2/ 1 ½
	Extras:	
D	Black Mountain Rag	3
D	Hey Polka	4

Hammered Dulcimer - Repair/Rebuild  
Hammers, Strings, Lessons, Loaners

Bob Hlavacek 734-657-0820  
datadoc@charter.net



### Music by Linda

Dulcimer Music For Special Occasions  
Dulcimer Lessons

**Linda Osgood**

734-649-3843

losgood10424@comcast.net



From 1558 until 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to practice their faith openly. Someone during that era wrote this carol as a catechism song for young Catholics. It has two levels of meaning: the surface meaning plus a hidden meaning known only to members of their church. Each element in the carol has a code word for a religious reality which the children could remember.

--The partridge in a pear tree was Jesus Christ.

--Two turtle doves were the Old and New Testaments.

--Three French hens stood for faith, hope and love.

--The four calling birds were the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke & John.

--The five golden rings recalled the Torah or Law, the first five books of the Old Testament.

--The six geese a-laying stood for the six days of creation.

--Seven swans a-swimming represented the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit--Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership, and Mercy.

--The eight maids a-milking were the eight beatitudes.

--Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit--Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self Control.

--The ten lords a-leaping were the ten commandments.

--The eleven pipers piping stood for the eleven faithful disciples.

--The twelve drummers drumming symbolized the twelve points of belief in the Apostles' Creed.

*Merry (Twelve Days of) Christmas, Everyone  
from Jane Chevalier*

## Halloween Variety Night



Although it may seem like a long time ago, a little over a month has passed since our Halloween Variety Night took place on October 31<sup>st</sup>. We had an enjoyable evening with pizzas, salad and desserts, many of our members dressed up for the occasion and a dozen acts performed. In the costume contest, Julie & Dan Kafcas won 1st place as Mary Poppins and the chimney sweep. Our next Variety Night will take place on **January 30<sup>th</sup> 2020**, so practice up.





## November Happenings



A well attended 3<sup>rd</sup> and final Holiday Practice took place on November 14<sup>th</sup>.  
37 members were ready to celebrate the Holiday Season.



29 members took part in our November 21st jam.



The "After Hours" jams continued after the regular jam.



Our first Christmas Concert of the season took place at the "Festival of Trees" fundraiser for the Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation. We were expecting to be background music, but so many interested in our music that chairs were set up for the interested and appreciative audience. 23 of our Silver Stringers filled and overflowed the nicely decorated stage. Next up in December are 15 more concerts..... *Christmas Season here we come!*

## Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays every month  
7:00 - 9:00 pm.... with jamming till ...?

### Holy Cross Lutheran Church

30650 Six Mile, Livonia, MI

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

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

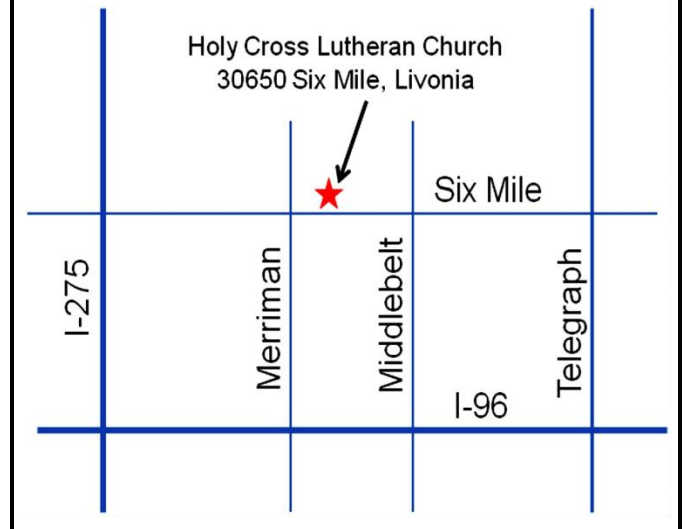
Participate in workshops, festivals, performances,  
picnics, fun and fellowship.

### 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 25<sup>th</sup>.*

*Articles or pictures from any member are always welcome, contact David at [dtsmithnet@yahoo.com](mailto:dtsmithnet@yahoo.com)*

### Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

P.O. Box 51446  
Livonia, MI. 48151



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

*Happy  
Holidays*