



# Silver Strings Dulcimer Society Soundboard

October 2020

SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC for 37 YEARS  
[www.silverstrings.org](http://www.silverstrings.org)

Issue 426

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

BOO!!!! Just getting my spooky ready.

Keeping you updated, we will not be jamming in the church for quite a while. However, we have our lovely Spirit Jams to keep our musical souls alive and well.

Last month the board purchased a digital camera, which has made the taping of the Spirit Jam much better. It has also helped to make the transition to YouTube easier. <https://zoom.us/download>

We are considering having a fellowship Zoom meeting. No music, just talking and seeing each other. We are currently working on all the possibilities and proper procedures. Stay tuned and watch your email for details. BE PREPARED. MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE LATEST VERSION OF ZOOM DOWNLOADED ON YOUR COMPUTER.

Steve Beck will be our Zoom Support. If you are having trouble downloading or don't know what to do, he is the guy. Look at his article in the newsletter to see what times he will be available to give you his full attention.

Again, missing all of you. Please stay safe and healthy. If you have any questions, ideas or concerns please contact me at [peggyakustra54@gmail.com](mailto:peggyakustra54@gmail.com) or call me at 313-570-7844.....Perky Peggy still Perky

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

*Hello Family! (friends who are our musical family)*

Here we are, still mostly in lock-down. The pop-up jams in the park are a welcome break from no music together. Thank you again to Marsha and Terry for planning and hosting them. The board has been exploring Zoom and Google to bring members online to jam together since it looks like we will not be able to meet at Holy Cross for some time. A few of us had a test run last Friday, with mixed results. There are some operational issues to resolve, but we will continue to test led by (president) Peggy Kustra, and Steve Beck, (our technical guide).

There is no news on the programs front. Everything was canceled this year. However, after more zoom testing, we would like to host a zoom round table, where members can say hello and update us with what is going on in their lives. If that works well, then we will

be ready for a test run of a ZOOM jam. We are also exploring a zoom variety night, but you will have to provide your own pizza & cookies (so-o-o-o sorry). There is a good 12 min. video on You Tube with a basic tutorial of zoom. I learned how to join and/or host a zoom meeting. (Zoom is free for meetings under 40 min.) That's good information for those of you with grandkids far away.

In case you didn't know, all board meetings are open to all members of SSDS. We have been meeting every month in ZOOM. All you need to do is let Peggy know you want to join us, and she will send you the link. We welcome your questions & input, in these VERY challenging times. **KEEP PRACTICING !!!** Someday we will get back to "normal"

**We miss you all & pray we can get together soon.**

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

## VP - BUSINESS NOTES\_\_ Stephen Beck

Currently ZOOM is being tested and there are limitations to it, but I'm working with the Zoom and Goggle meet teams to work out some of our problems. We will be testing it in the next month. I have been talking to some colleges about how they are using Zoom or Goggle meet and getting more input about the problems with each system. Please be patient with me when we go through the testing process.

.....Steve [slbeck@beck-enterprise.com](mailto:slbeck@beck-enterprise.com) 313-701-7539

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Thursday, Oct. 22 at 7:00**

**Live SPIRIT JAM**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2641846032714862>

All 14 previous Spirit Jams  
are available for viewing on YouTube at:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/SilverStringsClub/playlists>

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

### October Birthdays

1...Ernie Stewart  
6...Myrna McInerney  
8...Susan Calkins  
12...Nancy Straky  
15...Laurie Patterson  
17...Carol Anne Matthews  
23...Alice Gajewski  
26...Ann Wassell  
30...Bev Scott



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

Music Coordination Notes: Hope you have had a good **Spirit Jam** – now has 244 “members.” Over 100 of them participated in the LONG (almost 2 hours) Spirit Jam on Sept. 17. Deby Libby (Saro Waltz composer) and her bandmates joined the jam. Steve Rosen, the composer of “Nail That Catfish to a Tree” gave SSDS permission to use his tune in our Spirit Jams as often as we want as long as we do not charge anything. Check out his website – he is an interesting person. If you would like to add to your T Shirt collection, he has one with a Nail That Catfish motif. Remember, if you are not a FB user or cannot be at the jam on Thursday, the recording is copied to Silver Strings YouTube page the next day.



The next **Spirit Jam** is **October 22 at 7:00 p.m. EDT**. The theme is Halloween so expect a few tunes in minor keys. Tune

requests are coming in and the tune list will be published by October 9. Photo Collage theme is Halloween – so it would be great to have photos in Halloween character/props, etc.



**Tune Practice Videos** – This project was started to help people learn our tunes or relearn those they may be rusty on. The goal is to have practice videos of as many SSDS tunes as possible. The board purchased a HD video camera to use for this project, making it easy to forward the video to Karen who will copy them to YouTube. There are now 6 videos available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/SilverStringsClub/>

**Would you be willing to help by doing a video of a tune you really know well?** Contact me to ask about it. Or expect to hear from me.... We will help get you set up.

**Pop-up Jams** – we have had 3 so far. The first one held at Rotary Park in Livonia was attended by 17 club members. We observed social distancing and played for 2 ½ hours. It was a test group, mostly of those who signed up to perform. The second one had fewer people (9) but the weather was cloudy and cool. Eleven people came to the 3<sup>rd</sup> one at Plymouth Township Park. The 4<sup>th</sup> one was held on Wed., Sept. 23 at Elizabeth Park in Trenton. It was a beautiful day and the 5 who attended had a great jam. Hopefully the weather will hold out and we will be able to have a few more “pop-up” jams.

**Performances** – Tues. 9-15, 8 players performed at Oakmont in a central courtyard at the back of the facility. It was good for the residents and the players. There were some volume issues (planes flew overhead a couple times). But they were happy we came and we were happy to play. Tuesday, 9-22, 9 of us played in the rear parking lot of Cedarbrook for an audience of about 40 people. Reports are that they really enjoyed the performance. Thanks to Terry, we had a canopy for shade. If the weather holds and all things go well, there is one more performance scheduled for October 13 at Brookhaven Manor in Ann Arbor.

**SSDS Music** - Two tunes have been corrected/updated in Dropbox. Yellow Bird, the revised version of 2017 had never been put into Dropbox. Balleydesmond #2 – all the F naturals should be F#. Since the Spirit Jam started, new tunes have been added (from requests of Spirit Jam members) with the tag “AFTER HOURS”. **CHECK YOUR MUSIC! Keep it updated.** We played some of these tunes at the last Pop-up Jam and they are likely to be requested at the Spirit Jams again.

*“While in-person concerts may not be possible right now, music still offers a powerful way to connect.”*

*For Yo-Yo Ma, musical performance is not about showcasing his technical flourish, but rather about extending hospitality to the world. “The greater purpose is that we’re communing together and we want this moment to be really special for all of us,” he says. “It’s not about proving anything. It’s about sharing something.”*

*Craig Minowa of Cloud Cult, an indie rock band saw how sharing music could be healing — not just for him personally but also for those receiving it. “There’s something in this that they’re able to see deeper parts of themselves, and all of that energy and power of healing and overcoming and hope is coming out of them,” he says. “Music will be the way that we will come together, because we’re asserting ourselves as a community, as a people, as a city, as whatever. And we need to be together.” Every experience of loss is particular in its own ways, and the loneliness of this truth can easily carry us into isolation. But both Ma and Minowa point to a kind of healing that happens when we create containers for everyone to lay their losses in, side by side — whether that’s*

*“[Ghost Inside Our House](#)” or [Bach’s Cello Suite No. 1](#).”*

*(Kristin Linn, Editor, The On Being Project.)*

..... Marsha mtkoz72@gmail.com 734-239-4190



## TREASURER \_\_\_\_\_ Judy Pyrkosz

Well as we wind down to the end of a most unusual year, we begin to look forward to the next. As most of you know, now is the time we start collecting the dues for 2021. In light of what's happened this year, I think it's important to recognize the value of our club and how our dues help to keep it running. Normally, we would have celebrated Evert and Midland festivals, enjoyed our annual campout and feasted at our annual picnic. But none of that happened this year. So while we didn't have the expenses normally associated with those activities, we also didn't have many playdates and as a result, very little income.

And we did incur some additional costs: the equipment to run those wonderfully uplifting and soul-satisfying Spirit Jams; the cost of the Zoom meetings so the board could continue to try to navigate these scary and dark times; the PPE needed when we finally get to meet in person again. And the Board is continuing to be as innovative as possible to promote our club, our music, and our community of music makers with explorations into the possibility of virtual jam sessions and Variety Nights.

This means we need your dues probably more this year than usual. Dues are only \$15 for the entire year, and are due by December 31<sup>st</sup>. You can pay by sending a check payable to SSDS to **SSDS, PO Box 51446, Livonia, MI 48150**. The Board is also working on setting up a Paypal account to make it even more convenient for you to support your club. More information for this will be coming soon. So, this year will end, this pandemic will end and we will once again be together to make music, renew friendships, forge new ones, and enjoy all that Silver Strings has to offer.

### ~ New Members~

Despite all the tribulations of the year, we have enrolled 13 new members. Two new members joined just last week. Our newest members are Bob and Kathie Campbell of Holt, MI. Bob plays guitar and Kathie plays hammered dulcimer, mountain dulcimer, and guitar. They learned of us through word of mouth and the Spirit Jams. Welcome Bob and Kathie!

Respectfully submitted,

..... Judy jpyrkosz@yahoo.com 734-525-3553



On September 15<sup>th</sup>, eight Silver Stringers performed for residents of Oakmont Senior Living Community.



Over 100 musicians participated in the first Spirit Jam of the fall on September 17<sup>th</sup>. Thanks Marsha and Terry.

Next month the Spirit Jam is on October 22<sup>nd</sup>.



September 22<sup>nd</sup>, nine members performed for Cedarbrook Senior Living in Northville.



The 3<sup>rd</sup> Pop-Up Jam took place on September 23<sup>rd</sup> at Elizabeth Park in Trenton. Nice weather!

Every day we should hear at least one little song,  
read one good poem, see one exquisite picture, and, if  
possible, speak a few sensible words.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe



## September-October-November 2020 Playlist

Key	Tune	Play
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast/Mississippi Sawyer	3/3
D	Flop Eared Mule	3 ½
D	Spanish Two Step	3
Em	Dancing Bear/Missouri (2 <sup>nd</sup> Time of DB, play A part softer /B part louder)	2/2
G	<a href="#">Westphalia Waltz</a>	2*
G	Grandfather's Clock	3
D	Angeline the Baker	4*
C	Apples, Peaches, Pumpkin Pie	3
D	Turkey in the Straw	3**
D	Flight of the Haggis	3
D	<a href="#">Midnight on the Water</a>	3*
Em	Tamlin ( <i>start slow, each time a little faster</i> )	4
G	Muss I Denn	3*
G	Bellman's Jig	
Am	Black Cat Schottische	3
Am	Cold Frosty Morn	3
D	John Ryan's Polka	5*
D	<a href="#">Saro Waltz</a>	3*
Em	Road to Lisdoonvarna/Riding on a Load	3/3
A	Hangman's Reel	3
	<b>Extras</b>	
G	Grandfather's Clock	3
D	Over the Waterfall	
D	Young Roddy McCorley	3*
	*2 <sup>nd</sup> time: HD's soft – feature other instruments	
	** 2 <sup>nd</sup> time – feature whistles	



11<sup>th</sup> annual

# New Mexico Dulcimer Festival

October 17, 2020  
From Albuquerque, NM



**Lance Frodsham**

Celtic, Americana, World  
(Vancouver, WA)



**Joshua Messick**

2003 National Champion  
(Black Mountain, NC)



**Katie Moritz**

2013 National Champion  
(Yorkville, IL)



**Butch Ross**

Exciting non-Traditional  
(Signal Mountain, TN)



**Karen Alley**

2014 National Champion  
(Winnipeg, Canada)



**Irma Reeder**

2018 National Finalist  
(Albuquerque, NM)



**Scott Reeder**

2016 Southern Regional  
Ensemble Champion  
(Albuquerque, NM)

**Stay at Home  
Festival!**

- Online Mountain and Hammered Dulcimer Workshops
- Online Concert

(American roots, Bluegrass, Broadway, Celtic, Classical, Jazz, Pop, World, etc.)

**New Mexico Dulcimer Association**  
P.O. Box 11722 Albuquerque, NM 87192  
NMDulcFest.register@gmail.com  
www.NMDulcFest.com 505.355-5927

Festival Sponsors:



<http://www.NMDulcFest.com/>

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## 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 :**  
**[www.silverstrings.org](http://www.silverstrings.org)**



*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*

**Silver Strings Dulcimer Society**  
P.O. Box 51446  
Livonia, MI 48151

