

# Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

# Soundboard



February 2020

SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC for 36 YEARS

Issue 418

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

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

Happy Valentine's Day!!

Well it's February and we are going back on the trail for playdates, Truth be told, I enjoyed having the month of January and it's ugly weather off. However, we are ready to tune up our instruments and share our Silver Strings Dulcimer Society happy music with people. We sure do make them smile.

Please Remember the following performance guidelines...

- Sign up for a playdate.
- If unable to attend, contact The Business Manager Steve Beck 313-701-7539 to let him know.
- Arrive a half hour before performance time.
- Have your instrument tuned.
- Be clean and dressed appropriately.
- *Smile and enjoy the music!*

Here are some events taking place this year. Mark your calendar.

- June 5-6-7 SSDS Campout
- July 16-17-18 Evert Funfest
- August 6 SSDS Picnic
- August 28-29-30 Midland Festival

There is a board meeting February 6 at 5:45 pm.

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

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

Happy Valentine's Day !!!

Our New Year's resolution was to let good people in our lives know that we appreciate them. As February hits, we are reminded of the GREAT group of people we have in Silver Strings. We TRULY appreciate those who have stepped up to help wherever needed, at jams, campouts, and even personal favors. When Sandi broke her legs, it was music that got us through the tough months that turned into years, and SSDS was a HUGE part of that. As new health issues have come up, we are, indeed, blessed by your presence in our lives. We have seen over our 20 years with SSDS that while we all PLAY well together, we also WORK well together... and we have found a CHOSEN family. THANK YOU ALL !

There has been some confusion about the date of the SSDS campout in June. It is normally the weekend before Father's Day, but after negotiations over their large price increase this year, the campground has **reserved a group site for the first weekend in June 5-6-7**. We now have 20 spaces available in a group camp site with our own pavilion, but we will be allowed to pack as many campers & tents in as we want, at no extra charge. **The camp ground is still Groveland Oaks in Oakland County**. We will inform Uncle Carl's, Thornapple, and other groups that joined us last year. Full details will be available in the March newsletter.

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

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### FEBRUARY

- 6... SSDS Board Meeting ..... 5:45
- 6... Slow Jam with Linda Osgood..... 6:00-6:45
- 6... **SSDS MEETING AND JAM** ..... **7:00 - ??**
- 11... Playdate -Heartland Health Care..... 3:00 - 4:00
- 20... Playdate - Brookhaven Manor..... 2:00 - 3:00
- 20... **SSDS MEETING AND JAM** ..... **7:00 - ??**

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

We are off and rolling and the current calendar of playdates are coming in and here are some:

### February

Heartland Healthcare February 11<sup>th</sup> at 3 - 4pm

Brookhaven Manor Ann Arbor February 20<sup>th</sup> at 2 - 3pm

### March

Oakmont – Livonia

March 16<sup>th</sup> 2-3pm

Oakmont–Northville

March 17<sup>th</sup> 2-3pm.



Think of all the fun it is to lift up the people we came to play for. **You can be a party animal too, come and join us for all the fun!**

If you would like a copy of the video on Silver Strings at the Livonia Library and it is at a reasonable price, **Free**.

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

**TREASURER NOTES \_\_\_\_\_ Judy Pyrkosz**

Happy Groundhog's Day! Happy Valentine's Day!  
Happy President's Day! The whole month of February  
is determined to be cheerful!

*Please welcome our new members:*

**Jordan Rabaut**  
*Presently in college, studying pre-law  
He's learning to play hammered dulcimer.*

**Eileen Jager**  
*Learning to play hammered dulcimer*

**Chris & Patty Wolschon**  
*Learning to play hammered dulcimer*

**Don Haase**  
*Plays guitar and ukulele*

Well, after an intense 4-day learning period, I think I've got most of this job figured out - and I'm now I'm really enjoying it! Most of the treasury duties for 2019 are completed. The only thing still open is the Income Tax. Our gross income from the Christmas programs was \$2,725! A very profitable undertaking indeed.

By now, most of you have received my form letter e-mail. I'm reaching out to everyone to update, correct, and ensure accuracy in our membership roster. If you haven't yet received an e-mail letter it's either because you don't have an e-mail address on file, the one on file is incorrect, or it went to your Spam folder. I will be talking to everyone eventually either by e-mail, telephone, or in person as I really want to get a complete review. Also a big thank you to everybody who took the time to respond. It's been most helpful. I am also working with Terry Kozlowski on getting all the emergency cards updated. We hope to have a card on file for everyone soon.

A copy of our updated roster is available in Dropbox. If you don't have computer access, you can get a printed copy from me.

*"The gloom of the world is but a shadow; behind it, yet within our reach, is joy. Take Joy." Fra Giovanni*

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

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

**Tunes of the month** – hope you are enjoying Yankee Doodle Boy. Have you tried it as a medley with "It's a Grand Old Flag" yet? It will become part of our April-July playlist.....just saying.

**Next Tune of the Month:** Balleydesmond #2. This is an Irish polka, often played as a set with Eagan's Polka and/or Dennis Murphy's polka. This should start putting you in the mood for March's Irish theme. I will have a few hard copies but you can find it in Dropbox soon.

**Why Medley's?** Many of the tunes we play are very short. We can play them over and over, but that gets boring. Usually I play a tune straight the first time and then vary it the rest of the time, whether it is to play up or down an octave, add a harmony, or some

embellishment. When we perform, a medley adds variety, generally are tunes that go well together and keep the audience's interest and allow us to combine tunes into something greater than the sum of the parts. You will note some medley's in the next two playlists. Try them out. What tunes do you like to medley? There are infinite possibilities.

..... Marsha mt.koz@hotmail.com 734-239-4190

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

**BIRTHDAYS**

10...Bob Ewald  
10...Christine Hurt  
10...Edie Swanberg  
13...Ed Konstal  
14...Barb Davis  
15...Maureen Treppa  
25...Nancy Sullivan



**ANNIVERSARIES**

12...Bob & Sandi Hlavacek.....54<sup>th</sup>

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

**~ SLOW JAM ~**

Here are the tunes for next Slow Jam on February 6th. We will start at at 6pm.  
..... Linda Osgood

- 1 Maggie
- 2 Yellow Bird
- 3 Southwind
- 4 Red Wing
- 5 Let Me Call You Sweetheart

**Silver Strings on YouTube**

Hi folks,

Are you looking for something to do after you practice your instrument? If you haven't already seen our Christmas concert at Livonia Civic Center on December 19th, check out our YouTube video below!

Livonia Civic Center  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KeM37b10oBU>

Also recently posted is the 35 year video history of our club!  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jVTikBzQ6T0>

There are over **375 club videos** on our YouTube Channel. If you are new to the club or the club's repertoire, listen to the song and play along! We have 388 subscribers!  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/SilverStringsClub>

*Hope you enjoy them!*  
Karen Turner

### Silver Strings March 2020 Playlist – Tentative

Key	Tune	Play
D	Over the Waterfall	3
G	Westphalia Waltz	2*
Em	Road to Lisdoonvarna/ Riding on Load of Hay	3/3
G	Rosin the Beau	3*
Em	Drunken Sailor	4
D	Cockles & Mussels –	3
D	Young Roddy McCorley	4
Em	Tamlin	4
G	Dusty Bob's Jig	3
G	Southwind	3*
D	John Ryan's Polka	4
D	Chinese Breakdown	3
C	When Irish Eyes	3*
D/G	Eagan's Polka/Mari's Wedding	3/2
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast-	3
D	Danny Boy	3*
Em	Scollay's Reel	3
G	Bellman's Jig	3
Am	Cold Frosty Morn	3
Am	Star of the County Down	3*
G	Irish Washerwoman -	3
A	John Stenson's #2/ Hangman's Reel	3/3
<b>Extras</b>		
D	Toora Loora Loora	
D	Hey Polka	3
G	March of St. Timothy	4
*2 <sup>nd</sup> time: If instruments are available--Fiddles, Harmonicas, MD or Whistle take it with backup; HD's softly		
** last time thru – take the 4 ct pause in chorus		

### Silver Strings February 2020 Playlist – Tentative

Key	Tune	Play
<i>Looking for love:</i>		
C	Five Foot Two - <b>S</b>	3
G	South Wind	3*
G	Yellow Bird	3
Am	Bei Mier Bist Du Schoen	3
Em	Road to Lisdoonvarna/ Riding on Load of Hay - <b>C</b>	3/3
G	Muss I Denn	3
G	Let Me Call You Sweetheart - <b>S</b>	2
<i>Troubled Love/ Love Gone Wrong:</i>		
Em	Katushka	4
C	Tennessee Waltz - <b>S</b>	3
D	Over the Waterfall - <b>C</b>	3
G	Red Wing	3*
Em	Tamlin	4
G	Columbus Stockade Blues	3
G	You Are My Sunshine - <b>S</b>	4
<i>Getting married/lasting love:</i>		
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast - <b>C</b>	3
D/G	Egan's Polka/Mari's Wedding	2/2
G	Westphalia	2*
G	Maggie	3
EXTRA TUNES IF NEEDED:		
D	Lover's Waltz	3*
D	Hey Polka	3
*2 <sup>nd</sup> time: If instruments are available--Fiddles, Harmonicas, MD or Whistle take it with backup; HD's play softly		
<b>S:</b> invite audience to sing along 2 <sup>nd</sup> time and/or 3 <sup>rd</sup> time		
<b>C:</b> get audience to clapping in time		

### WE NEED YOU!

We need **you** to share your story with the rest of our club members. If you have not been featured in a “**Getting to Know You**” article, **PLEASE** fill out a questionnaire & give (or mail) it to me. If you have lost your form, get another. You **WILL** be allowed to review it before it is published in the Soundboard.

.....Sandi Hlavacek

datadoc@charter.net 734-663-7974  
5598 Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor 48105



### Music by Linda

Dulcimer Music For Special Occasions  
Dulcimer Lessons

Linda Osgood

734-649-3843

losgood10424@comcast.net

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

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

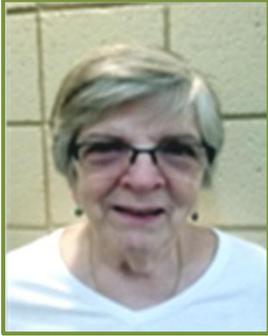


## MIDWEST UKE & HARMONICA CAMP

June 26 - 28, 2020 • Olivet College, MI • [midwestukcamp.com](http://midwestukcamp.com)

16 Teaching Artists • 60+ Workshops

## Getting to know you... Maureen Treppa



I've been single all my life. I have younger twin sisters and an older brother (Terry). I earned a Master in Science in Administration at Central Michigan University in 1995, at age 50. I worked in management positions for the Post Office for 42 years and retired about 12 years ago. After I retired, I moved from Lansing to be closer to my brother. We now share a home.

I began losing my hearing in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade (due to calcium deposits on the bones in the ear), and it progressed over the next 40 years. I didn't hear music or pay attention to "the noise" until I received a cochlear implant in 2004. From then on, I really picked up the rhythm and beat. I started out playing with a ukulele. In 2014, my brother, Terry, encouraged me to participate in Silver Strings, and I joined in 2016. I now play harmonica, ukulele, autoharp and tenor guitar. It's never too late to bloom.

I enjoy reading almost anything, (currently the "Game of Thrones"), knitting & crochet, line dancing and travel. I've seen parts of all of the states, except Alaska, which is still on my bucket list. Now that we're both retired, Terry and I go to Arizona for 6 weeks every winter.

I'm also connected to the Lions Club and the Ladies' Ancient Order of Hibernians, a Catholic club for women of Irish descent whose purpose is doing charitable works

*Submitted by Sandi Hlavacek*

## Getting to know you... Terry Kozlowski



I grew up in Erie, Michigan, a farming community, the middle of 3 children. Music was not a part of our home, because my parents were both deaf mutes. Like many farm family children, I started working young, driving a tractor at age 12, working garden crops & soybeans. Sharecropping soybeans helped pay my way through college. I also enjoyed hunting, fishing & trapping.

I participated in high school football, basketball & track, and ran cross country and indoor/outdoor track at Central Mich. University, where I joined ROTC. There I met Marsha at a dance, and we married before I received my Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Education in 1970. I entered the Army Medical Service Corps, completed flight school & was stationed at Ft. Benning, Georgia as a medivac pilot. Being a medivac pilot fulfilled a dream, then life intervened. In recent years, I have taken flying lessons & passed the written tests. We will see where that takes me. In 1974, we returned to Michigan to raise our 2 daughters. Both married fire fighters, and we have 5 grandchildren. We've been married for 51 years.

I worked in the tool and die field at different tool shops that built large injection molds. I had my own design business for a while. Involving myself in the engineering aspects of the trade, I finished my career at Chrysler doing tool cost estimating, retiring in 2012.

I'm a tinkerer, tweaker, tryer and traveler. I'm always busy with some kind of project, and I'm apt to re-engineer (tweak) things to improve their function. I'm active in archery, and am often "tweaking" my bow. I created an archery range in my basement, and enjoy competitive archery. I also often tweak (fix) things for Marsha around the house.

I tried line dancing with Marsha (and have been dancing ever since with Westside Silver Star Steppers). We saw Silver Strings play at Greenfield Village, and Theresa Smith invited us to visit. When I turned 60, I wanted to learn to play an instrument. Marsha played the Hammered Dulcimer with Silver Strings, and helped me get started by signing me up for Banjo camp. That led me to the Banjola, which I play most with SSDS. I also occasionally play various rhythm instruments, when appropriate. I've been a member for about 10 years, serving as President 2 years and Treasurer for 2 years. Now I set up the sound system for jams & gigs, and help with "special events" like the campout & parties.

Since retirement, I've been able to travel more. We've enjoyed cruises, winter stays in southern Alabama, and trips west and south to visit family and friends. A couple of years ago, we adopted a travel trailer for music festivals, campouts with family & friends, and just to get away. It is fun !!!

My philosophies are "There is always room for improvement" and "Always be willing to try something new". What's in my next chapter?

*Submitted by Sandi Hlavacek*

# JAMMING IN JANUARY



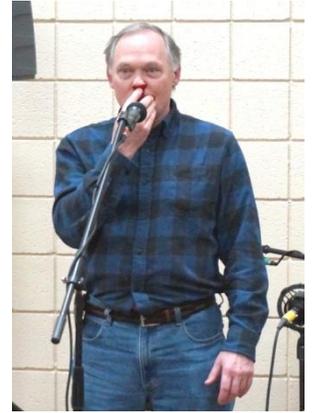
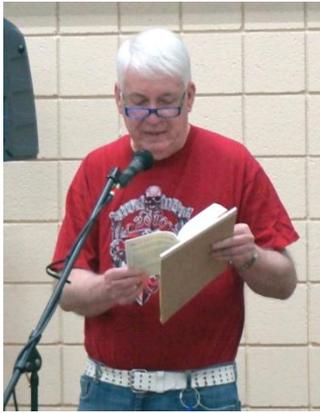
51 members attended on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, our first jam of 2020 ..... and a lively 'After Hours' Jam began at 9pm.



40 musicians entertained at our January 16<sup>th</sup> jam

Position	Name	Contact Information
President	Peggy Kustra	peggyakustra54@gmail.com 313-570-7844
VP Business Manager (Contact for booking performances)	Stephen Beck	sbeck@beck-enterprise.com 313-701-7539
VP Programs	Bob & Sandi Hlavacek	datadoc@charter.net 734-663-7974
Secretary	Julie Kafcas	juliekafcas1@msn.com 734-552-7326
Treasurer	Judy Pyrkosz	jpyrkosz@yahoo.com 734-525-3553
Newsletter Editor	David Smith	dsmithnet@yahoo.com 313-278-5127
Music Coordinator	Marsha Kozlowski	mt.koz@hotmail.com 734-239-4190
Historian	David Smith / Sandi Hlavacek	dsmithnet@yahoo.com 313-278-5127
Website & Dropbox Coordinator	Karen Turner	karenturner@comcast.net 734-678-7405

## VARIETY NIGHT IN JANUARY



Another successful 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday Variety Night took place on January 30<sup>th</sup>. 43 members attended and after enjoying pizza, salad, dessert and socializing, 8 acts braved the stage and entertained with jokes, singing, ukulele, guitar, fiddle, dulcimer and even a nose flute. Our next Variety Night will take place on April 30<sup>th</sup>...be prepared and be there!



# 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>



*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.

