

Medina Community Band - Friday, August 7th, 2009
7:30p – Mercer, Pennsylvania - Courthouse Square Bandstand



Mary Ann Grof-Neiman, (clarinetist and pictured at left) is currently program administrator for the Preparatory and Continuing Studies division of the Cleveland Institute of Music. She received her bachelor of science in music education degree from The Bowling Green State University. Ms. Grof-Neiman has served as clarinetist for a number of ensembles throughout the Northeastern Ohio area including: The Blossom Festival Band, The Cleveland Women's Orchestra, Lakeland Civic Band, Lakeside Symphony Orchestra, Lakewood "Home Town" Band, Medina Community Band, Youngstown Symphony, Erie Philharmonic, and is solo clarinetist with The Sounds of Sousa Band. She also serves as the personnel manager for the Sounds of Sousa Band, woodwind adjudicator for the Ohio Musicians Education Association and is band librarian for the Medina Community Band. Her teachers include the late Dr. Alan Squire, Edward Marks and former Cleveland Orchestra clarinetist, Theodore Johnson.

Hendley Hoge, (guest conductor and pictured at right) principal of Mercer (PA) High School and the founding conductor of the 90 piece Mercer Community Band was born and raised in Lodi (OH) where he attended the Cloverleaf Local Schools. While in high school over 40 years ago, Dr. Hoge performed with the Medina Community Band. He attended The University of Akron, The Pennsylvania State University and Westminster College where he received his bachelor of arts, masters of music education and doctorate in educational administration. The Mercer Community Band was founded in 1977 and performs weekly Friday night concerts in June, July and early August on the beautiful Mercer County Courthouse Square where the average weekly attendance is over 1000 people.



Paul V. Rocco, (Flugel horn soloist and pictured at right) originally from Brooklyn, New York, studied with Blair Moger and Joseph Andrucci in high school and the late Herbert W. Harp at SUNY at Fredonia. Rocco moved to Ohio to take the job of police officer with the City of Medina, where he is also the Police department's Forensic Artist. He became a member of the Medina Community Band in 1989. Since then he has completed his bachelor's degree in fine arts, music at The University of Akron, studying trumpet with Scott Johnston and Tucker Jolly. He is presently studying trumpet privately with Geoff Hardcastle. Besides playing with the MCB, he also performs with the Sounds of Sousa Band and the Brass Band of the Western Reserve. He is a member of the American Federation of Musicians (local 24-Akron, Ohio).

Miki Saito (pictured at left), a coloratura soprano, has enjoyed living in Medina (Ohio) since the spring of 2002. Born and raised in Yokohama (Japan) she moved to the United States to study music and became an American citizen in 1997. She has lived in Pensacola and Jacksonville, Florida, Boston, Massachusetts and Biloxi, Mississippi, performing with many musical organizations along the way. Since her move to Ohio, she has appeared in eight productions with the Cleveland Opera Chorus, has toured the North East Ohio area with the Sounds of Sousa Band and has been a regular guest soloist of the Medina Community Band.



Jan Snyder (narrator, and pictured at right) was a baritone player with the Medina Community Band until her health began to deteriorate. She then quit playing with the band and picked up as a narrator. "I wanted to be part of the band and being a narrator was the perfect solution". Then on February 2, 2007, she received her miracle....a heart transplant! Otherwise she is a Homemaker and wife to tuba player, Kyle. Riding the Harley; walking the dog (Jessie); working out with Jazzercise; and reading, are just some of the things she does for fun.



Amy Thach-McArtor (flute soloist, pictured at right) originally from Lyme, Connecticut, moved to Ohio to study music education at Oberlin Conservatory and graduated in 1995. In 1997, Amy was given a full scholarship to Kent State University to work on her Master's Degree in Music Education which she completed in 1998. Amy has held the position of Middle School band director in Wadsworth City Schools, and in the fall of 2003, she began teaching elementary instrumental music at Central Intermediate School in Wadsworth. She has served as the director of bands for the Medina County Honors Fair Bands from 1998-2008. Amy also plays flute/piccolo and piano and teaches private lessons, in addition to being a member of Medina Community Band and Sounds of Sousa Band.

Marcus Neiman (pictured at left) has been the conductor of Medina Community Band since the fall of 1972. Retired (December, 2000) fine arts consultant for the Medina County Educational Service Center (since 1980), formerly as director of bands at Medina High School (1972 through 1980), he attended the Akron Public Schools, received his bachelor of science in music education degree from The University of Akron, master of music in music education degree from The University of Michigan, postgraduate hours at The Kent State University, and The University of Akron.

Active in the Medina community, Neiman was a founding trustee and a past-president of the Medina County Performing Arts Foundation. He continues to consult Medina County Educational Service Center to coordinate county arts festivals and honors programs, as director of fine arts tours and festivals (beginning March 5, 2001). He is also responsible for creating and implementing the Medina County Schools' Fine Arts Tours, an annual series of professional arts tours that reach out into all of Medina's seven school systems. Since its conception in 1980, over 800,000 students have experienced "first-time" live arts performances. He is the primary grant writer for the fine arts tours and highly regarded for his fundraising abilities for these arts programs.

Neiman has served The Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) in a wide variety of elected and appointed posts culminating with his service as state president of the organization from July 1, 1998 through June 30, 2000 and continues to serve the association as state historian. His first book, edited for MENC, entitled **Life in the Music Classroom**, was published by MENC in April 1992. Neiman is listed in Marquis "Who's Who in America" (58th Edition).

Neiman has appeared with junior high/middle and high school, college and university, community bands, and American Federation of Musicians union professional bands as a guest conductor and in his characterization of famed bandmaster **John Philip Sousa** in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, (state of) Washington, and Wisconsin. In addition to conducting the Medina Community Band, he formed his own professional touring band -- **The Sounds of Sousa Band** -- (in 1992) to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the formation of Sousa's first non-military band. To this date he has performed for over 250,000 people in the role of Sousa. Neiman is a member of Local 24 (Akron), American Federation of Musicians. Neiman appeared with the Volga Concert Band, Saratov, Russia in October of 2004. During his ten day trip to Russia, he lectured at The University of Cultural Arts in Moscow.

The 2008-2009 season will be his 37th summer season as conductor for Medina Community Band. The band continues to perform on the Square in Medina's Uptown Park Square and made their second Cleveland Severance Music Hall performance on Sunday, October 21st, 2007. Neiman is also on the adjunct music education faculty at Case Western Reserve University where he teaches their "Foundations in Music Education," and during the Spring 2009 term taught their "Instrumental Methods and Materials" course and supervises music education student teachers. He is also an assistant lecture for The University of Akron where he supervises visual arts education student teachers.

He and his wife Mary Ann and cats Sasha and Dmitri reside in Medina.



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PROGRAM

- Anthem, **Star Spangled Banner** Francis Scott Key
John Philip Sousa
- Fanfare, **Hometown Fanfare** Tadd Russo
- Overture, **Raymond** Ambroise Thomas
V.F. Safranek
- March, **Sound Off!** John Philip Sousa
- Flugel Solo, **Concerto de Aranjuez: Adagio** Joaquín Rodrigo
Arr. Bolton
Paul Rocco, soloist
- March, **Washington Grays** Claudio S. Graffula
G. H. Roberts
- Duet, **Lakmé: Flower Song – Sous la dome épais** Léo Delibes
James Curnow
Amy Thach McArtor, flute & Mary Ann Grof-Neiman, clarinet - soloist
- March, **Semper Fidelis** John Philip Sousa
Hendley Hoge, guest conductor
- Ragtime, **That Flying Rag** Arthur Pryor
- March, **Black Horse Troop** John Philip Sousa
- Soprano Solos
Gianni Schicchi: O mio babbino caro Giacomo Puccini
Percy Hall
My Fair Lady: I Could Have Danced All Night Lerner & Loewe
Miki Saito, soloist
- Broadway, **Chess: Anthem** Björn Ulvaeus, Benny Anderson, Tim Rice
John G. Mortimer
- March, **Aviators** John Philip Sousa
- March, **Le Régiment de Sambre et Meuse** Joseph François Rauski
Arranged by J.S. Sereby and edited by Frederick Fennell
- Characteristic, **Lassus Trombone** Henry Fillmore
- March, **Windward Passage** John Shaffer
- Patriotic
Stars and Stripes Forever John Philip Sousa
God Bless America Berlin/Leidzen