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**Medina Community
Band**

Media Release



Complete information on each concert, literature performed, soloists, and guest conductors, as well as personnel for each concert can all be found on our website:

<http://www.medinacommunityband.org/>

This material is for the first season concert – Monday, July 4, 2022.

Site: Medina's Uptown Park Square (intersections of Rts 18, 42, Broadway and Liberty Street). Cancellation of concerts due to the weather will be posted on the above website!

Medina Community Band will present their fifth concert of the 2022 summer season, a celebration of 163 years (since 1859) of presenting community concerts in Medina, on **Monday, July 4th, 2022, at 8:30p**, in **Medina's Uptown Park Square Gazebo**.

Featured soloists will be **Mary Ann Grof-Neiman**, clarinet soloist, performing George Gershwin's *Walking the Dog* (from *Shall We Dance*), and A Dixieland ensemble consisting of **Mary Ann Grof-Neiman, clarinet; Marcia Nelson-Kline, trumpet; Rodney Hannah, trombone; and, Kyle Snyder, tuba**, will perform Jared Spears' *At a Dixieland Jazz Funeral*. The trombone

section of the ensemble will be featured in Fillmore's *Lassus Trombone*.

The community band will feature Randall D. Sandridge's *Fiat Lux (Let There Be Light)* fanfare; John Williams' *Summon the Heroes*; Alan Silvestri's *Captain America*; and Modest Mussorgsky's *The Great Gate of Kyiv* (from *Pictures at an Exhibition*). Patriotic marches will include Villanueva's *Honor With Dignity*, Bagley's *National Emblem*, and Sousa's *Stars and Stripes Forever*. The band will also present an armed forces salute.

The concert will be dedicated to the remembrance of **William G. Batchelder III** (December 19, 1942 – February 12, 2022); **Richard Keith Dirham** (September 5, 1940 – May 15, 2021), **Lucille Bayne Smith** (November 5, 1923 – December 31, 2020) and **Dr. Robert E. Smith** (November 17, 1922 – December 17, 2010)

Area social and civic groups will be featured as summer social hosts providing light refreshments at a reasonable donation during each concert: **Marcus Neiman** conducts Medina Community Band and will be joined in the conducting duties by **John Connors, Matthew Hastings, and Amy Muhl** (assistant conductors). The social host for the Friday, June 3rd concert will be **Medina Breakfast Kiwanis Club**.

Medina Community Band is proudly sponsored and supported by the **Medina Community Band Association**, composed of members of Medina Community Band. The board of directors consists of **Lu Ann Gresh**, president; **Amy Muhl**, vice president; **Lindsay Hastings**, financial secretary; **Rodney Hannah**, treasurer; **Sue McLaughlin**, secretary; with directors **John Connors, Jeff Danilovic, Thomas Kenat, and Kristin Thompson**.

Membership in MCB is open and there are no dues or auditions; however, members are expected to maintain a regular attendance. The band rehearses on Wednesday evening from 7p - 9p in the gymnasium of St. Ambrose Church/Parish (929 Pearl Road, Brunswick, OH 44212).

For additional information on the 2022 concert season or Medina Community Band, contact Neiman at 330.725.8198 or MarcusNeiman@medinacommunityband.org, or visiting Medina Community Band website –

<https://medinacommunityband.org/>.

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Medina Community Band

The Medina Community Band

Marcus L. Neiman, conductor

John Connors, Matthew Hastings, & Amy Muhl, assistant
conductors

Welcome by The Honorable Stephen D. Hambley, president,
Medina County Commissioners

July 4th, 2022

Concert dedicated in Remembrance of

William G. Batchelder III

December 19, 1942 – February 12, 2022

Richard Keith Dirham
September 5, 1940 – May 15, 2021

Lucille Bayne Smith
November 5, 1923 – December 31, 2020

Dr. Robert E. Smith
November 17, 1922 – December 17, 2010

Featuring

Mary Ann Grof-Neiman, clarinet soloist

Mary Ann Grof-Neiman, clarinet, Marcia Kline, trumpet, Rodney Hannah, Kyle Snyder, tuba

Fanfare, <i>Fiat Lux</i> (<i>Let There Be Light</i>) (2019).....	Randall D. Sandridge
Anthem, <i>Star Spangled Banner</i> (1889/1917).....	Francis Scott Key Sousa/Damrosch
Patriotic, <i>Summon the Heroes</i> (1996).....	John Williams Paul Lavender
March, <i>Captain America</i> (2011).....	Alan Silvestri Paul Muthra
Clarinet Solo, <i>Walking the Dog</i> (from <i>Shall We Dance</i>) (1927/2007).....	George Gershwin Derek Bourgeois
Mary Ann Grof-Neiman, soloist	
March, <i>Honor With Dignity</i> (1995).....	Jari A. Villanueva
Dixieland, <i>At a Dixieland Jazz Funeral</i>	Jared Spears
Mary Ann Grof-Neiman, clarinet, Marcia Kline, trumpet, Rodney Hannah, Kyle Snyder, tuba, soloists	
March, <i>National Emblem</i> (1906/1996).....	Edwin Eugene Bagley
Patriotic Tribute, <i>Armed Forces Salute</i>	arr. Robert Lowden
Suite, <i>Great Gate of Kyiv</i> (from <i>Pictures at an Exhibition</i>) (1884/1996).....	Modest Mussorgsky Mark Hindsley
Our National March, <i>The Stars and Stripes Forever</i> (1996).....	John Philip Sousa
Patriotic, <i>God Bless America</i> (1917).....	Irving Berlin Erik Leidzén

Program subject to change



To view entire program online (at our website) scan QR code above!

Conducting Staff



Marcus L. Neiman has been conductor of Medina Community Band since the Fall of 1972 and has served as conductor of the ensemble longer than any previous conductor in the ensemble's history. 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.

Neiman retired from posts held with the Medina County Schools Educational Service Center in 2010 (1980 through 2000 as fine arts consultant and 2000 through 2010 as director of fine arts tours and festivals). He was formerly director of bands at Medina High School (1972 through 1980). Neiman retired in July of 2016 from his position as assistant professor of music education at the Hugh A. Glauser School of Music at Kent State University where he was an interim assistant director of bands conducting the Concert Band (May of 2010 through May of 2011) and music education courses, as well as supervising music education student teachers.

Prior to his arrival at Kent State University, Neiman was a part-time lecturer for the music department at Case Western Reserve University with major responsibilities of teaching their "Foundations of Music Education" course and supervising music education student teachers from April 2004 through May of 2010. He also supervised visual arts education student teachers for The University of Akron.

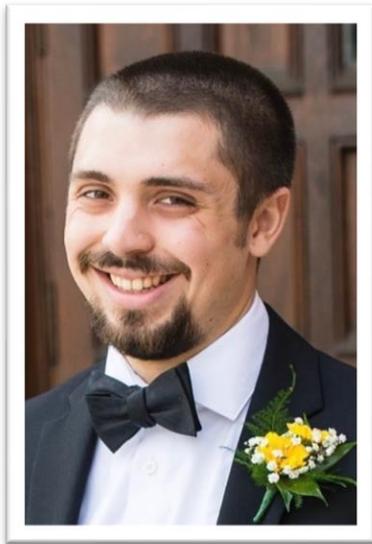
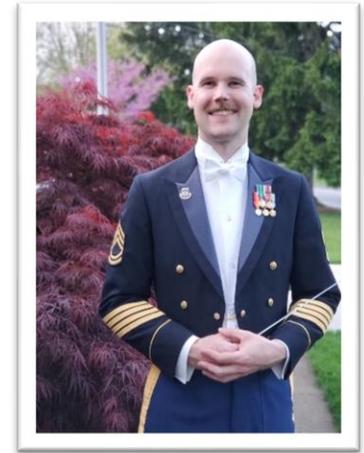
Neiman was a founding trustee and past president of both the Medina County Arts Council and Medina County Performing Arts Foundation and served as music director for productions by both Medina County Show Biz Company and Brunswick Entertainment Company. He served as a committee member on the City of Medina Uptown Park Committee and Arts Under the Stars committee. A past member of Medina Noon Kiwanis Club he was a member of the class of '94 Leadership Medina County. He was awarded the **Leadership Medina County "Excellence in Education Leadership"** in June of 2014, the sixth recipient of the award in Leadership Medina County's history and the only recipient not a superintendent of a school district.

Neiman has served Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) as a member of the adjudicated events flute solo and ensemble required list selection committee, communications, governmental relations, music in our schools, and public relations committees, district president, vice-president, state chair for **Music In Our Schools** and public relations, state editor of their professional journal **TRIAD**, and state chair for their council of supervisors. He was elected by OMEAs membership to serve as state president from July 1, 1998 through July 1, 2000 and is currently OMEAs state historian. He was awarded OMEAs highest honor, the **"Distinguished Service Award"** on January 29th, 2010 at the Professional Development Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio. Neiman has been published in Music Educators National Conference journal **MEJ**, **The Instrumentalist**, **The School Musician**, **The Music Educator**, OMEAs **TRIAD**, **FANFARE** magazine, and Bands of America **Newsletter**. His first book, edited for MENC, entitled **Life in the Music Classroom**, was published by MENC in April 1992. He 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, Ohio, Michigan, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, (state of) Washington, and Wisconsin. On October 15, 2004, Neiman conducted the Volga Concert Band in Saratov, Russia in a Sousa-style concert following a week's residence in Moscow and Saratov. In addition to conducting the Medina Community Band (since 1972), 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 200,000 people in the role of Sousa.

Neiman's goal has always been to preserve the presence and character of the traditional "town-band." In addition, Neiman has encouraged composers to write for the band. Over the years, the band has commissioned works by Douglas Court, Robert Feldbush, Stuart Ling, Edmund J. Siennicki, Tadd Russo, and David Shaffer. Neiman is a member of numerous professional organizations including the National Association for Music Education and Ohio Music Education Association, National Band Association, Ohio Alliance for Arts Education and Ohio Citizens for the Arts. Neiman is a member of Kappa Kappa Psi (University of Michigan Nu chapter, and honorary Beta Pi at Kent State University). He is also a member of Omicron Delta Kappa (national leadership society – The University of Akron - Theta Circle). He and his wife Mary Ann, who is a professional clarinetist reside in Medina with Ludwig – the cat.

John Connors, assistant conductor, is a Sergeant First Class in the Ohio Army National Guard, where he serves as the full-time Readiness Noncommissioned Officer of the 122nd Army Band in Columbus. In addition to these duties, he continues to perform as a trombone player and serve as drum major, where he has led the band in parades throughout the state of Ohio. 2022 will mark Connors' fifteenth year serving in the Ohio National Guard. Outside of the Army, John remains active as a freelance musician throughout Ohio and currently plays lead trombone in the John Trapani Big Band of Canton. He has also served as trombone soloist with the Brass Band of the Western Reserve in Akron. Additionally, he performs on historical instruments with the Civil War period ensembles The 73rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment Band, The Camp Chase Fifes and Drums, and the 2nd Cavalry Brigade Band. He joined the Medina Community Band in 2002 to play trombone, and he has also played in the euphonium, horn, and percussion sections. Connors holds a Master of Music Degree in Music Education from the University of Akron (2019), Master of Music degree in Trombone Performance from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh (2014), and Bachelor of Music degree in Trombone Performance, with a minor in Jazz Studies, from Ohio University in Athens (2012). He graduated from Highland High School in 2007. Connors has studied conducting with Richard Suk and Andrew Trachsel at Ohio University, Andrew Feyes and Galen Karriker at The University of Akron, and with Marcus Neiman.



Matthew Hastings, assistant conductor, has been employed with the Wadsworth City Schools since 2015. At Wadsworth, Hastings oversees the 5th and 6th grade band programs, assists with the marching band during band camp, and serves as theatre manager for Wadsworth's OJ Work Auditorium. Prior to his appointment at Wadsworth, he completed his student teaching experience at Donnell Middle School in Findlay, Ohio teaching grades 6-8 band and grades 6-7 general music. Hastings joined the Medina Community Band in 2018 where he plays tuba and percussion, and he is also serving as an assistant conductor for the 2019 summer session.

Hastings graduated from Green High School in Green, Ohio in 2011, and earned a Bachelor of Music in Music Education from Ohio Northern University in 2015. He resides in Medina with his wife, Lindsay and their dog, O'Malley

Amy Muhl has been a member of Medina Community Band since 1998. Originally from Lyme, Connecticut, moved to Ohio to study music education at Oberlin Conservatory in 1991. She graduated in 1995 and taught orchestra for two years in the Willard City Schools. Amy received her masters of music education from Kent State University on a scholarship, in 1998. She then taught instrumental music at Buckeye High School, in Medina (OH) and in the fall of 1999, became the elementary band teacher for Buckeye Local Schools. In the fall of 2001, she began teaching elementary instrumental music at Central Intermediate School in the Wadsworth City Schools. After raising Eva and Simon for 5 years, Amy returned to Wadsworth Schools teaching general music at Valley View Elementary and is now back at Central Intermediate School teaching general music and choir. Amy also plays flute/piccolo and piano, in addition to being a member of Medina Community Band and Sounds of Sousa Band. She is also Vice President of the Medina Community Band Association. Amy resides in Wadsworth with her husband Frank, and three children, Kenneth, Eva and Simon.



Soloists



Mary Ann Grof-Neiman, clarinet soloist and Dixieland clarinet, clarinet section leader and head librarian, received her bachelor of science in music education degree from the Bowling Green State University. Ms. Grof-Neiman has served as principal clarinetist with the Sounds of Sousa Band and as clarinetist for the Blossom Festival Band, the Cleveland Winds, Lakeland Civic Band, Lakeside Symphony Orchestra, Youngstown Symphony, Chagrin Falls Studio Orchestra and Erie Philharmonic. She currently performs with the Cleveland Philharmonic Orchestra, Heights Chamber Orchestra, Lakewood Home Town Band, Akron Symphonic Winds and Medina Community Band, where she serves as band librarian. She maintains private studios at Baldwin Wallace University Community Arts School as well as her home in Medina. She has served the Ohio Music Education Association as a Woodwind Adjudicator for over 30 years and is a member of AFM Local 4. She resides in Medina with her husband Marcus and Ludwig 'the cat.'

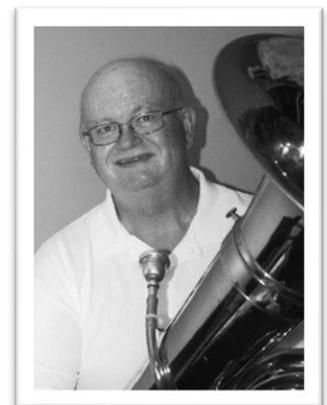
Rodney Hannah, Dixieland trombone, attended the Norton City Schools and graduated from Norton High School. He received his Bachelor's degree from Kent State University and a Master's degree in mathematics from The Ohio State University. He is a retired math and physics teacher at Norton High School. Married for 51 years (as of 2022) with two adult children and two grandchildren, he resides with his wife Carolyn in Medina (Ohio). Looking back, he reminisced that he has always had a love for music and was voted 'most musical' student in his high school senior class. Marches have always inspired him and he especially liked the counter-melodies in the low brass parts, which encouraged him to switch from cornet to trombone.



Marcia Nelson Kline, Dixieland trumpet. Copley resident Marcia Nelson Kline began her trumpet studies with parents Milton and Sarah Nelson, Lloyd Haines, and further advanced her studies with Harry Herforth and James Darling. She is a member of Medina Community Band (since 1984) and Brass Band of the Western Reserve (since 1997) and has performed with Marcus Neiman's Sound of Sousa Band, Mill Street Brass Quintet, and Cleveland Women's Orchestra. She is featured as a cornet soloist on Medina Community Band's CD "Sounds of Summer". Marcia has an associate degree in medical assisting from The University of Akron and is a retired ophthalmic technician from Cleveland Clinic.

Kyle Snyder, Dixieland tuba is a retired claims adjuster. He currently is a part time school bus driver for Lake Ridge Academy in North Ridgeville. He has been a member in the Tuba Section of the Medina Community Band for 32 years. The genre he enjoys playing most though, is "Dixieland" music. He currently performs with the River City Jazz Band, Honey Creek Jazz Band, and the Hymns of Dixie. He also plays tuba in the Deutscher Musikverein German Band.

When not playing his tuba, Kyle enjoys riding his Harley Davidson Triglide with other band members and friends. In his down time he enjoys sharing the couch with his wife Jan , their dog Henry, and cat Harry while watching television or listening to music.



In Remembrance

William G. Batchelder III

December 19, 1942 – February 12, 2022



William G. Batchelder III (79) passed away peacefully February 12, 2022, at Western Reserve Masonic Home in Medina, Ohio, after a long illness. William was born in Medina, Ohio in December 1942, the son of William Batchelder Jr. and Eleanor (Dice) Batchelder. He graduated from Medina High School in 1960 and studied History at Ohio Wesleyan where he met his wife, Alice (Moore) Batchelder. They were married in August 1966. After earning his law degree at The Ohio State University, he returned to Medina to join Williams and Batchelder, the family law firm on the square.

In 1968, he was drafted into the US Army just months after he had filed to run for the Ohio House. His greatest supporter and dearest love, Alice, ran his first campaign for the House of Representatives while he was stationed at Georgia's Fort McPherson. After he was elected, the Army graciously discharged him, and he returned home to

assume his seat as the freshman representative for Medina County. At the time he was sworn in, Bill was the youngest state representative in Ohio History. When he was first elected, he promised Alice that he would never cast a vote that was not based on principle. He never did.

First Legislative Career

For the majority of his nearly 40 years in the legislature, Bill occupied a place in the Republican minority, and maintained his floor presence in the back row of the House Chamber, giving "barn-burner" speeches and representing his constituents as a staunch advocate of limited government, small business, low taxes, and pro-life causes. Not only did he successfully introduce and carry legislation that preserved the right to life, such as the partial-birth abortion ban, he also worked closely with the Diocese of Cleveland to structure and implement School Choice legislation, giving those in troubled school districts access to a quality education. Litigation concerning this legislation resulted in the Supreme Court case upholding the constitutionality of school voucher programs—a decision that has had an impact on children nationwide. During the Savings and Loan crisis of the 1980's, Bill worked tirelessly with Governor Celeste to draft complex legislation to remedy the crisis according to the Governor's aims. After delivering the complex proposal as requested, Bill concluded that this approach went against his own free market principles and did not vote for his own legislation. Among many other legislative achievements, he also successfully sponsored legislation for the elimination of Ohio's Estate Tax, established the Ohio National Guard Scholarship, and instituted JCARR, the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review, to reduce bureaucracy in Ohio.

Throughout his career, Bill focused on making Medina County a place of opportunity and prosperity. He worked to establish the Joint Vocational School, now the Medina County Career Center and, later, to fund its fire tower; he facilitated the placing of the John W. Brown National Guard Armory in Medina County; and he was always a vocal and effective champion of the Ohio State Highway Patrol, which, upon his retirement, named the Medina County Patrol Post in his honor.

No matter how immersed he was in drafting legislation and doing the work in Columbus, Bill loved the time he spent with his constituents in Medina County. From presenting commendations at Eagle Scout Courts of Honor; to enjoying church socials and pancake breakfasts; to engaging with the Medina County's Township Trustees and Clerks; to listening to the concerns of the members of the Farm Bureau, Kiwanis, and Rotary Clubs; he strove to hear and address Medina County's needs.

Service in the Judiciary

In 1998, Bill was elected to the Medina County Court of Common Pleas. He loved being a trial judge, but when then-Governor Bob Taft appointed him to the Ninth District Court of Appeals, he accepted the appointment and served as an appellate court judge (as well as the presiding judge of the district) for the counties of Medina, Summit, Wayne, and Lorain from 1999 to 2005.

Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives

When the opportunity presented itself in 2006 for Bill to return to the House of Representatives, he ran and was re-elected. During his first two years back, from 2007-2009, he served as Chairman of the Insurance Committee. In his second return term, his colleagues elected him Minority Leader of the House Republican Caucus. In his final four years in office, 2011-2014, Bill realized his childhood ambition and served as the Speaker of the Ohio House, only the second representative from Medina County to do so.

Because of his long experience as a legislator in the minority party (1968-1994), Bill vehemently objected to what he regarded as abuses of the power of the Speaker, particularly to practices which curtailed the right of legislators in the minority party to speak. In 1983, when an earlier speaker had refused to allow debate on a budget, Bill appeared on the floor of the House in a dog muzzle. Once his colleagues had made him Speaker, Bill offered genuine bipartisan leadership, ending the long-standing partisan practices he so resented. He ensured that every representative had an opportunity to speak on pending legislation, and he restored the practice of allowing amendments to be offered on the floor of the House by either side prior to a vote. He balanced being a powerful and effective speaker with making the House chamber more open and truly representative than it had been for years.

Upon retiring from the House of Representatives, Bill was honored to serve on the board for Jobs Ohio, a project he had envisioned and initiated while Speaker, whose purpose was to bring quality jobs to Ohio, and on the boards of the Ashbrook Center at Ashland University, and the Western Reserve Historical Society. He also served as The Edwin Meese III Distinguished Fellow at The Buckeye Institute.

Medina County provided Bill with so many opportunities, and he never forgot his heroes, mentors and friends who encouraged him and made his accomplishments possible. He was determined to continue the legacies of Governor John W. Brown, Congressman H. G. Blake, Representative Harold Williams, his own father, former prosecutor William G. Batchelder Jr., and leading citizens in Medina County whom he always admired, such as his Scoutmaster, Ralph Waite. The example Batchelder provided to his children, grandchildren, and many colleagues, aides, and indeed friends, was one of honor, principle, and integrity, with an underlying foundation of deep faith in Christ.

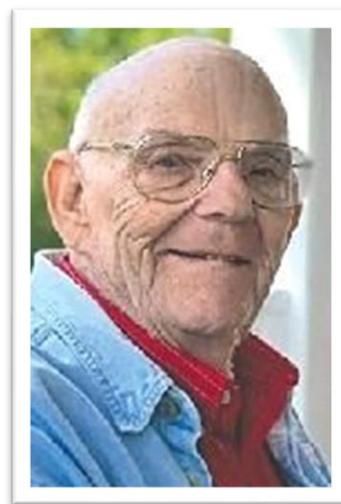
William Batchelder was preceded in death by his parents, William Batchelder Jr. and Eleanor Batchelder, and is survived by his wife Alice; his children William (Xela) Batchelder IV, of Waynesburg, PA and Elisabeth (Matthew) Akers of Doylestown, Ohio; and by eight grandchildren: Eilidh, Sophie, William V and James Batchelder; and Eleanor, Matthew, Bethany, and Mary Ruth Akers. He is also survived by his siblings Barbara Massie, Drew Batchelder, Kathryn Cashman, and John Batchelder, and treasured cousins, uncles, and other extended family.

Richard Keith Dirham

September 5, 1940 – May 15, 2021

Richard Keith Dirham age 80, passed away peacefully at home on May 15, 2021. He was born on September 5, 1940 to the late Keith H. and Thelma (Trammel) Dirham in Lodi, Ohio. Richard was proud to be a member of the Medina Community and freely gave of his time for many organizations including being a member of the Kiwanis Club of Medina for over 40 years, he was a 32nd Degree Mason with the Medina Masonic Lodge #58, he served on the Medina City Council for 16 years, a past Commodore of the Chippewa Yacht Club, he was a favorite Bus Driver of the Medina City Schools and a property manager in Medina for many years. He was also known for his talent as a woodworker, he was an active and Charter member of Medina Presbyterian Church, but was happiest surrounded by his beloved wife and family (especially his grandchildren).

Richard is survived by his loving wife, Joyce (Stephenson) Dirham; sons, Keith (Deonna) and Tom (Allison); beloved grandchildren, Lillian, Lincoln, Jacob, Bryson, and Magnolia; along with a lifetime of collected friends. He is preceded in death by his parents.



Lucille Bayne Smith

November 5, 1923 – December 31, 2020



Lucille Bayne Smith of Mount Vernon, Ohio, passed into the loving arms of her husband, Bob, at 12:10 p.m., Thursday, December 31, 2020 while a resident at Country Club Retirement Campus in Mount Vernon, Ohio. Lucille was 97. She was born in Akron on November 5, 1923, a daughter of Richard and Lorena Bayne and an only child. During the Depression her parents took in her five cousins who were like brothers and sisters to her.

She graduated from South High School and attended University of Akron for three years majoring in Food and Nutrition. She was a homemaker and a mother of eight children. Lucille met her future husband, Robert E. Smith, while at University of Akron. Bob enlisted in the U.S. Army during WWII and they married while he was stationed at Ft. Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis, Indiana. Due to the need for doctors, Bob enrolled in the University of Pennsylvania Medical School in Philadelphia in 1944. Bob and Lucille lived in a small apartment and Lucille was employed by the Army in a sensitive position at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds.

Following his graduation from medical school, Dr. Bob began an internship at Akron City Hospital, where their first child was born. Following his internship,

Bob and Lucille began a journey that took them to many places including Parsons, West Virginia, Oak Hill, Ohio, Medina, Ohio, Jackson, Mississippi, Columbus, Ohio, Rome, Georgia, West Salem, and finally to Mount Vernon, Ohio in 2003.

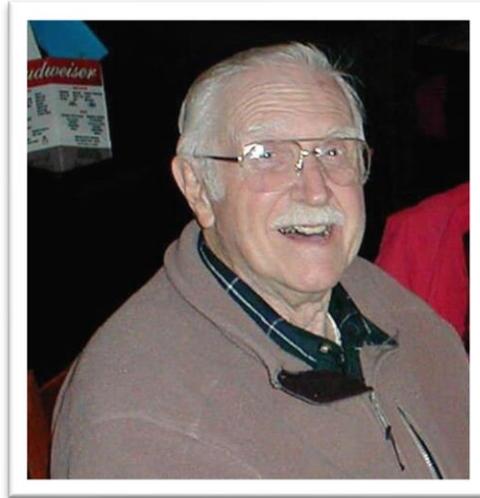
Dr. Bob passed while at Country Club Retirement Campus of Mount Vernon on December 17, 2010. Lucille was a resident there until her passing. Lucille leaves behind her sons, Richard (Anne) of Girard, Ohio, Kathleen (Dennis) Posey of Mount Vernon, Ohio, Elizabeth (Georg) Schultz of Saint Joseph, Michigan, James (Lucy) of Lakewood, William of Saint Joseph, Michigan, Jennifer Moffitt of Madison, Mississippi, Margaret Dahlhausen of Mount Vernon, Ohio and Robert of Medina; 12 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren; nephew, Gene Nixon and niece, Diana Woods.

Lucille was an avid reader who loved mysteries, politics, history, knitting and cooking. Most of all she loved her family. She was a member of many organizations including Zeta Tau Alpha National Sorority, PEO and UCC Church of Medina.

Dr. Robert E. Smith

November 17, 1922 – December 17, 2010

He was born November 17, 1922 in Akron, Ohio to Frederick and Ruth Marie (nee Vanderhoof). Robert graduated from the University Of Pa. School Of Medicine in Philadelphia in 1948. Dr. Smith started his internship at Akron City Hospital. His first practice was in Parsons, W.Va., and second practice in Oak Hill, Ohio and then came to Medina to serve our community for 25 years. Following retirement from General Practice Dr. Smith shared his years of experience by teaching, and was involved in family practice residency programs the Director of Family Practice at University of Mississippi, Akron General Hospital, Case Western Reserve, NEOUCOM and Akron General Hospital, the University of Mississippi medical center and the Ohio State University hospital. In 1983 he became director of the family practice program at Floyd County Medical Center in Rome GANeucom in Cleveland until retiring in 1996. 1954, Dr. Smith served his country in the U.S. Army.



Dr Smith served 12 years on the Medina City School Board and helped found the Medina County Joint Vocational School. He was an avid gardener noted for his roses and was a member of the American Rose Society. Dr Smith was a charter member of the American Board of Family Practice and was a member of the Medina County Medical Society.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Mary "Lucille" (nee Bayne) to whom he was married 66 years; loving children, Richard F. (Anne) Smith of Girard, Ohio, Kathleen (Dennis) Posey of Mt. Vernon, Ohio, Elizabeth (Georg) Schultz of St. Joseph, Mich., James R. (Lucy) Smith and William A. Smith both of Lakewood, Ohio, Jennifer Moffitt of Madison, Miss., Peggy Dahlhausen of Milford, Ohio and Robert V. Smith of Aurora, Colo.; 12 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; niece, Diana Woods of Akron, Ohio; nephews, Gene and Frederick Nixon both of Akron. He was preceded in death by his sister, Nancy Jean Johnson.

Medina Community Band



Banding together to celebrate a new land. The Medina Community Band traces its beginnings back to 1859, when a group of local wind and percussion players got together (some with formal training - others without) to perform music for the community. That first "community band" was called *The Medina Silver Cornet Band*, probably since the instruments the musicians used were primarily "silver lacquer coated" cornets or percussion. Since its beginning in 1859, that the band has been in existence, there have been 20 directors. **Marcus Neiman** has served as conductor since 1972 with **John Connors** serving as assistant conductor (since 2015), and **Matthew Hastings** as assistant conductor (since 2019), and **Amy Muhl**, as assistant conductor (since 2022)

Early versions of the band probably existed at the pleasure of the square's business community, who often funded the season and encouraged patrons to attend the concerts. The performance night has changed over the years, in most cases at the urging of the business community, and season concerts have been given on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings. Since the 1970s, the band has been supported by donations from the general public and, to this day, is supported through these donations. Band members donate their time and talent to rehearsing and performing for the community as members of the ensemble.

Since the 1970s, Medina Community Band has traveled outside Medina to perform: Ashland Brookside Bandstand (1980, 81, 93); Bay Village (Connections Series 1990, 91, 92); Canton (Kent State Stark Community Band Exchange Concerts 1995, 96, 98, 99); Case Western Reserve University (Cleveland Youth Winds Exchange concerts – Severance Hall – 2002 and 07, Medina, 2005); Cleveland State University (2010, 13); Dalton (Wayne County Schools Honors Bands 1983); Mentor (Lakeland Civic Band Festival 1985 and 1990); Mercer (PA) (with Mercer Community Band, 2009); Milan (EHOVE Career Center, 1993-2007); and, Wadsworth (Wadsworth Community Band Festival 2007). In February of 2015, Medina Community Band was selected by blind audition to perform at the Ohio Music Education Association Professional Development Conference in Cleveland.

Regional and nationally known conductors have appeared with Medina Community Band. Since the 1970, the following individuals have appeared as guest conductors: David Adamson; William Bauer (Florida State University); Frank Cosenza (Mentor, OH); Albert Oliver Davis; Paul Droste (Ohio State University), John Boyd (Indiana State University); Wayne Gorder (Kent State University); John Franklin (Kent State University); Patricia Ann Grutzmacher (Kent State University); Richard Jackoboice (University of Akron); Robert Jorgensen (University of Akron); Galen Karriker (University of Akron); Jesse Leyva (Kent State University); Gene Milford (University of Akron); Nathan Muehl (St. Petersburg College, Florida); Bill Park (North Royalton Community Band); David Seiberling (Moore Community Band); Edmund J. Siennicki; and, Nathan Stark (Montana State University).

The following individuals have been commissioned, or have written, or arranged, works for Medina Community Band: Douglas Court; Albert Oliver Davis; Robert Feldbush; Percy Hall; Floyd O. Harris; Stuart Ling; Gene Milford; Bill Park; Tadd Russo; David Schaffer; David Seiberling; Edmund J. Siennicki; Gail Sigmund; and Jonathan Tietz.

Medina Community Band is sponsored by the **Medina Community Band Association** composed of members of The Medina Community Band proudly supports the community band. Membership in MCB is open and there are no dues or auditions; however, members are expected to maintain a regular attendance. When in session, the band rehearses on Wednesday evening from 7p - 9p in gymnasium of Brunswick St. Ambrose Church/School, 929 Pearl Rd. (US Rte 42) *Brunswick*, Ohio 44212). During normal seasons, the band also presents their popular summer series every Friday, June through July, in Medina's Uptown Park Gazebo. Each year the band presents at a winter concert, and spring concert. For additional information on the 2022 concert season or Medina Community Band, contact Neiman at 330.725.8198 or MarcusNeiman@medinacommunityband.org.