

# The Adelphi Community Band

Adelphi, Ohio  
Established 1880



## Newsletter



November 14, 2022

Greetings!

As we cruise toward the holidays it's easy to get lost in the crush of shopping, gatherings, and parties. Although fun (usually), the end of the year also marks the start of the next one. That's the focus of this newsletter edition.

Enjoy!

John Mathew

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First of all, before you hear a mutilated version of this story from strangers on the street.....yes.....I showed up to Pumpkin Show Band practice an hour early on Tuesday November 8 because I never changed the clock on my truck. And then precisely at 7:00...or actually 6:00 for people who HAD changed their clocks like they were supposed to, I emailed Becky and asked her where everybody was.

### 2023 Schedule:

- a). ALL **Practice** dates are **CONFIRMED**. I have scheduled 6 practices at this point for 2023.
- b). With the exception of September of 2023 year, practices are scheduled for the Second Monday of the month.
- c). ALL our usual **Performance** dates, except one, are **TENTATIVE**.  
I have already been contacted by, and accepted the contract for, the Lancaster Festival for Saturday **July 22**.
- d). Additional details on each date will be sent out closer to the date, unless it involves either a date change or a significant time change. Then I will let you know right away.

**FEBRUARY 2023:**

**CONFIRMED PRACTICE:**

Monday February 13, 7:30

**Practice List for February 13, 2023:**

Bill made a worthwhile suggestion for me to go ahead and send a practice list now for the February 2023 practice. I was going to send one out well in advance of February, anyway, but now is just as good.

So, here is a start for the February practice list. I reserve the right to possibly add more to it before then.

**Monday February 13, 2023, Practice List:**

- 1). Paddelin' Madelin' Home
- 2). Brass Buttons
- 3). Officer of the Guard
- 4). Armed Forces Salute
- 5). Beautiful Ohio
- 6). Buffalo Bill's Farewell
- 7). Carrollton
- 8). God Bless America
- 9.) Hail to America
- 10.) Take Me Out to the Ball Game

As always, sound files of our songs can be found on the web page:

<https://adelphiband.weebly.com/manila-folder--1.html>

If it is a computer made sound file, then I made it at the speed at which I will target playing it. If I have provided a link to a YouTube video of the song, the video **may** be faster than I will target, but at least you will have a sound file to hear how your part fits into the whole.

Computer sound files naturally take a long time to make, so I reserve doing that for whenever I can't find anything else for you to listen to.

**MARCH 2023:**

**CONFIRMED PRACTICE:**

Monday March 13, 7:30

**APRIL 2023:**

**CONFIRMED PRACTICE:**

Monday April 10, 7:30

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### MAY 2023:

#### **CONFIRMED PRACTICE:**

Monday May 8, 7:30

#### **TENTATIVE PERFORMANCE:**

Sunday May 28, **Probably** 1:30 PM  
Adelphi, Ohio Green Summit Cemetery on Rt 180

#### **TENTATIVE PERFORMANCE:**

Monday May 29, **Probably** 10:30 AM, Memorial Day  
Hallsville Cemetery, Rt 180

### JUNE 2023:

#### **TENTATIVE PERFORMANCE:**

Pickaway County Fair Harness Races  
**Possibly** Saturday June 17, Time:?

### JULY 2023:

#### **TENTATIVE PERFORMANCE:**

TUESDAY July 4, Ashville,  
Parade at 11:00

#### **CONFIRMED PERFORMANCE:**

Saturday, July 22, Time: Not yet determined  
Lancaster Festival at Fairfield County Fairgrounds.

### AUGUST 2023:

#### **TENTATIVE PERFORMANCE:**

Possibly Sunday August 6, Time: ?  
Ross County Fair Harness Races

### SEPTEMBER 2023:

#### **CONFIRMED PRACTICE:**

Monday September 18, 7:30

This is NOT the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month, but by moving band practice to a week later, this stays away from trying to schedule something o/a 9-11

**OCTOBER 2023:**

**TENTATIVE PERFORMANCE:**

Possibly Thursday October 12, 2023, Time? (*in 2022, it was 1:30*)  
Fairfield County Fairground harness races

**TENTATIVE PERFORMANCE:**

**Friday October 20, 2023**

Circleville Pumpkin Show  
Possibly 8:00 parade

**TENTATIVE PERFORMANCE:**

**Saturday October 21, 2023**

Circleville Pumpkin Show  
Possibly a 6:30 concert and 8:00 parade

As always, copies of the most recent band newsletter, along with any separate playlists or other documents, will be posted on the band's SCHEDULE page:

<https://adelphiband.weebly.com/schedule.html>

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**BITS AND PIECES:**

**Band Practice Location and Time:**

At this point, ALL band practices will be at the:  
Calvary UM Church  
427 South Washington Street  
Circleville, Ohio  
Start at 7:30 PM  
Use the door with the ramp off the alley in the back

**Things to Bring to EVERY practice or performance:**

- a). Your own instrument
- b). Your own music
- c). Your own clothes pins
- d). Your own music stand.....any style you have is fine
- e). a pencil...yes...always bring that pesky pencil....and don't be afraid to use it....the Dollar Tree always has more

**Possible Future Need to Change Band Practice Location?:**

The shorter version of this story is that many of you probably already know of the continuing turmoil within the United Methodist Church. This is causing **some** UM churches

to splinter off and either join another traditional United Methodist-like based group, possibly go independent, or maybe even close completely.

Circleville Calvary UM church is not exempt from this discussion, and the congregation is determined to keep the church open in some fashion. But there is much work and much uncertainty ahead of them. I am confident that the band will have the facility made available to us as a practice location for as long as possible. And I will jump out and say that the Calvary church, and their welcoming attitude, has been wonderful for us. It is probably the best place we have ever been for band practice, at least during my time. As long as the facility is available to us, I would have either no reason or interest in leaving.

However, since circumstances **may** require us to relocate, looking ahead to plan for an **possible** alternative site seems prudent.

**Some considerations in any relocation of our band practice area:**

**a). In Circleville, or in the immediate area:**

Our recent relocation out of Adelphi to Circleville for band practices has served us well and has almost tripled attendance. Circleville pretty much still serves as the geographic center for the majority of the musicians currently active with the band. And Circleville should remain a convenient location in hopefully still attracting additional musicians.

**b). We do NOT need to keep any of our property on-site.**

We are **not** seeking space for storage, too.

**c). Easy access on Practice Dates.**

We certainly would not expect our own key to any such facility, but I have lived through the band using other spaces where the person-in-charge who was supposed to let us in every Monday would routinely forget. At that point, last minute phone calls had to be made to find that person, and then often even more calls to a second person since the first one could not be located. Meanwhile, the musicians remain outside the building....waiting.

So, a positive relationship with the person taking his/her time out to come and grant us physical access on practice nights would certainly be important.

**d). Cost:**

We would not expect anything for free, and can pay as needed. However, the more the cost, the fewer practices that the band can afford.

**e). Size of Space Needed:**

In my time, the band has practiced in high school gyms, dilapidated storage areas, church hallways, a two room schoolhouse, and a food service storage room where the only available open space had to be much smaller than a one car garage.

We create a lot of noise and volume. The more area to make that in, the better. But, also, the less chance that our practice will aggravate the neighbors is also important.

**f). Access to restrooms:**

Enough said

**g). Practice Dates and Times:**

We have held practice on Monday nights at 7:30 for as long as I've known. It is as good a date and time as any, and better than most. I would prefer to keep that date/time.

**h). Frequency of Practice Dates:**

We currently only have 6 practices scheduled for 2023. All of you are so busy, so I do not yet know how we can increase that much. But, we might have that discussion later this year.

If any of you have ideas for a possible **next** band practice location, should the need arise, please share them.

**New Musicians:**

Should you be able to recruit/bully/persuade/convince/induce/entice other musicians into playing with us, just let me know so that I can print out music for them. I will need to know what instrument and part he/she wants. Just to repeat what all of you know already, the music will be theirs to mark up as they need, however they want (*pencil, marker, sticky notes, etc*). I do not ever want it back.

At some point I will need an e-mail address so that he/she can get routine band updates, and a phone number would be useful (*to them*) if I need to communicate band schedule changes right away.

**Song Selections for 2023, and Beyond:**

As we did in 2022, my plan for 2023 will be to play a variety of songs, and not just the same few that the Adelphi Band got into the rut of doing for **many** of the years past, regardless of who the Director was at the moment.

Looking back, some of those old, paper records of the band are startling in showing just how much repetition in song selection there was, no matter who the Director was at the time. So, actually, 2023 should see us again play almost **all** the music that is currently in your Music Folder. You need to practice them all. **I will continue to send out practice and performance lists at least 30 days ahead of time.**

I spend a lot of time looking for new songs to possibly add to our folder that I think will both sound good, and sound good with our current musicians and instrumentation. But, I never know for sure until we try them out. That is what practice is for...yours at home as well as when we get together as a group.

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My current plan is to review our music folder toward the end of the year, each year, and rotate a few new songs in and a few out, keeping the folder size at its current size of @ 70 songs.

Some new songs I have already thought of using can be found at:

<https://adelphiband.weebly.com/future-songs.html>

I will add to this list regularly.

But I welcome your thoughts on songs that you might want to add.

An index of our current music library can be found at:

<https://adelphiband.weebly.com/indexes-of-band-music.html>

There are some small clean up processes I need to do on our current music library index, but it is still valid.

And this web site has thousands of Public Domain Songs available for only the cost of printing. I look through it constantly.

<https://bandmusicpdf.org/>

### **Band “Uniform”**

Just to reiterate for the newer musicians who haven't lived through a full summer with us, yet.

We have just recently jettisoned the military style (*winter*) uniforms and hats that the band has used since the late 1950's or early 1960's. No one can afford them...and they have been cast aside for many other reasons as well.

**The preferred uniform is black bottoms and white top, or as close to it as you can come.**

The band does not currently have the money to issue uniform items, and I don't want to put people in a position to have to **buy** stuff themselves in order to play with us.

**We care more about the musician than what the musician wears.** Everything being equal, looking at least fairly close to “uniform in appearance” has its advantages, but we have always welcomed musicians to sit in with us. There are many community bands who become so absolutely fixated on what the musicians wear, down to even dictating sock color and shoe color. I don't think you will have to worry about that from me. But, still, we want to look good and be presentable.

When it gets cold and rainy (*like during the Pumpkin Show and the Fairfield County Fair,*), wear whatever you have and whatever you need to be comfortable. Color is the last thing to worry about at that point. We're just happy to see you play with the band at that point.

### New Job Offers:

There isn't much I have kept from you as far as the operation of the band is involved, to include what the band has usually done, how everything works "behind the curtain" in Oz, etc.

Not too many years ago, the band would apparently just pretty much take every job offer that came along, and never ask the musicians about them, first. We would often play several times a week, and 2-3 times in one day in different cities....really..... Some of that was fun, but in checking the band attendance records, some of it clearly was not, and even 20-40 years ago the band played many jobs with only 9-10 musicians present.

As good news (*I think*) for the future of the band, in 2022 we received several offers of new jobs. One I automatically had to turn down since I knew it would conflict with the plans of the Pumpkin Show Band. On others, I have asked you first to see if you were interested. When I found not enough musicians could participate, then I had to decline those offers. Or, I would accept them if enough musicians told me they could participate.

**For those of you who play in both bands, I will never knowingly take a job that will put you in a position to have to make a choice between the two bands. I communicate regularly with Becky Ohlinger to hopefully make sure that both bands can stay on this same page. Currently, there are @ 16 on our roster who now play in both bands.**

The band's routine jobs I have posted above. We have taken these for many decades, and when the offers come in, I will plan to automatically just take them. I hope to see as many of you as can make any of those performances.

However, for any job offers that come in OTHER than these, I will never officially take them until I can make you aware of the offers and can see that we can present at least a decent sized band. **This is yet another reason to frequently check your e-mails to make sure you know what the band is up to.** During our usual performance season, these kinds of things and changes happen quickly and often.

### Harold Collins:

Harold is the Trumpet player originally from Lancaster, but now living in Pigeon Forge. He has played with us for several years at the Fairfield County Fair. He actually plays all over a multi-state area, and also usually does a Friday night concert on his Facebook page.

I have attached a graphic showing some of his other musical activities.

### The Adelphi Community Band Support Group is now "Plus 1":

Congratulations to Catherine Brown on her recent marriage to Nathan. Catherine is the daughter of Fred Brown (*Tuba*) and Jane Brown (*Bass Drum*). We certainly wish Catherine and Nathan the best. Catherine has had a pretty busy schedule over the last few years, but we look forward to seeing her with us again whenever her schedule permits.



**Even Professional Musicians Use a Pencil:**

In my crusade to affirm that pencils and metronomes are tools and not crutches, and that no one should feel any less “manly” or “womanly” because they use either, I track the activities of the “USAF Airmen of Note” (***jazz ensemble***). They routinely post pics from their performances and practices just as interest.

A recent pic they posted showed a piece of music on their music stand. This particular arrangement was commercially produced, but enlarging the pic shows probably more pencil markings and reminders to the musician than musical notes. (*Attached*)

*Pencils...they're not just for shopping lists*

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**CONTACT INFO:**

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