

# The Cornell Chimes Newsletter

## News and Notes from the Cornell Chimesmasters

Winter 2015 ♦ Number 48

### Chimesmaster's Corner – A Year in the Chimes

Keiran Cantilina '15, head chimesmaster

This past March, the Cornell Chimesmasters took a break from the competition to visit the Syracuse University chimesmasters! We had a blast hanging out with our Syracuse analogues at their 10-bell instrument. Unlike the Cornell Chimes, the Syracuse Chimes are shrouded in mystery; the members are inducted in secret by tapping, and most people on the campus have no idea how the chimes are played. The bells are housed in Crouse Tower, and the playing stand is sequestered in a tiny chamber accessible only by a terrifyingly long ladder. Although the public is no longer permitted in the tower, the ancient graffiti covering the walls reminded me of our own crowd-sourced decoration in McGraw Tower's practice room. Our hosts graciously let us try out their instrument after they demonstrated their own prodigious skill at the levers. Although the Syracuse playing stand resembles the setup at the top of McGraw Tower, we found their instrument pretty tricky to play. The mechanism is much heavier than ours, and they only have pedals for the lowest bells. Chiming at Syracuse is quite a workout!

We spent the rest of the day at Syracuse's enormous "Destiny USA" shopping mall. The chimesmasters decided to challenge themselves and do some team building by tackling a high ropes course together. It was pretty fun, but I still think the ladder in Crouse Tower was harder.

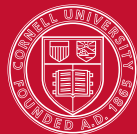
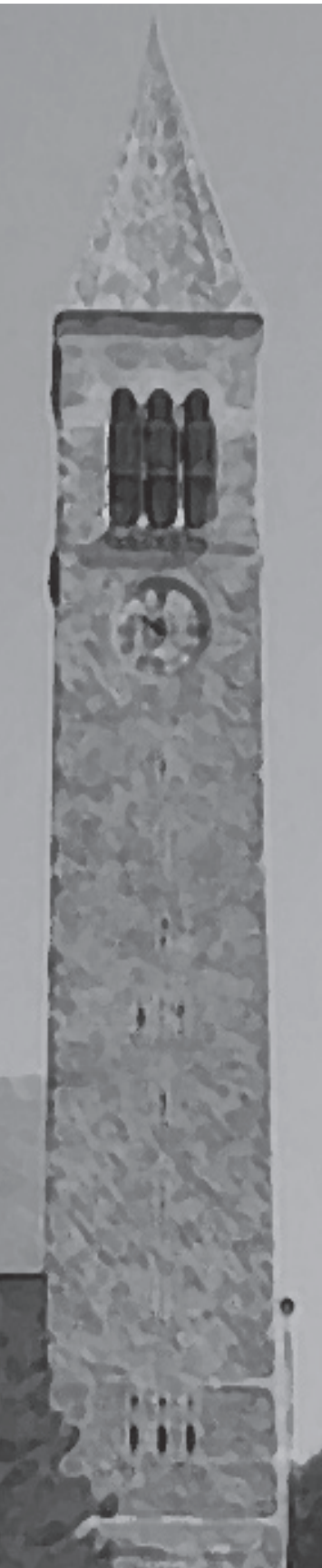
We also were supposed to stop by the Alfred University carillon the next afternoon, but the weather turned out nastier than expected and we had to head straight back to Ithaca instead. Alfred has a "no bell playing below 40 degrees" policy. I think there's now a tradition of Chimes road trips happening upon horrible weather, if I am to judge by the last two years.

The competition this past year went smoothly, with a bit of a change from previous years. For the first time, the role of competition coordinator was introduced to help handle most of the administrative and logistical aspects of the competition.

Weijia Chen '14 assumed the new role, and we both worked together to make the competition a success. After the typical ten weeks, we were excited to welcome Serim An '17 and Ren Ortega '15 into the chimesmaster tradition! I look forward to working with Ilia Karp '15 in his role as competition coordinator this spring.



Costumed chimesmasters at the 50th Annual Chimes Halloween Concert. A salute to **Bob Feldman '66, '75** for starting this wonderful tradition! Photo provided by Emily Graf.



Cornell University

In May, we reluctantly lost Hyangmi Kwak, Barrett Smith, and Weijia Chen to graduation. It happens every year, yet graduation this past year was a striking reminder to me that I'm next. It'll be interesting to see who gets to write this article next year!

Summer in Ithaca was a relaxing time for the chimes, this year manned by Charlie Xu '16 and Ilia Karp '15. Along with the typical wedding specialty concerts, the Cornell Chimes Summer Sunday Sunset Series (C<sup>2</sup>S<sup>4</sup>) program of themed weekend concerts was revived after the hiatus the previous year. In addition, the chimes received a visit from TinShi Tam, the University Carillonneur of Iowa State University.

In the fall, the most exciting concert of the season was extra-special this year. We celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Annual Chimes Halloween Concert at the top of the tower right on Halloween night! The turnout was great, and both chimesmasters and audience had a grand time.

The chimes year concluded with the traditional Christmas Vespers concerts. This year, we were pleasantly surprised by dozens of Glee Club and Chorus members climbing the tower after Vespers to sing Chimes-accompanied Christmas carols in flawless four part harmony. We hope to continue this new inter-musical tradition in the coming years!

We're now in the midst of spring semester. It's a pretty normal spring so far, with the typical grey skies, perpetual precipitation, and ceaselessly practicing compets that have marked the beginning of spring semester for me since I've been at Cornell. I'm excited at the thought that our future chimesmasters are already in the competition, somewhere in that crowd! In contrast, I look toward my impending graduation with reluctant acceptance but also thankfulness. I'm grateful for all I've experienced at Cornell, and I'm especially thankful for the joy and community that the tower and chimes family has brought me, even through a busy three semesters of head chimesmaster-ship. It's been great! If I ever leave, I'll be back soon.



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Please contact us with your comments and feedback or if you would like to be added to our mailing list.

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***"Chime masters come and ring and go;  
They come and ring and have their day.***

***We listen for a while and lo,***

***Remembering, must go our way."***

*from "The Chime Master" by Albert W. Smith '78*

*Keiran Cantilina (KKC) is a senior in the Biological Sciences major, concentrating in Plant Science. He looks forward hopefully to the prospect of staying at Cornell as a PhD candidate in Plant Pathology, where he'd be able to continue enthusiastically playing the chimes while also enthusiastically doing research on obscure crop diseases.* 

### **Chimesmasters Welcome Canadian Parliament Carillonneur for Master Class Jennifer Lory-Moran '96, '97, chimes advisor**

On Saturday, September 20, 2014, the chimesmasters welcomed Dr. Andrea McCrady to McGraw Tower for a master class. Andrea is the Dominion Carillonneur for the Canadian Parliament, and she provided many interesting insights about practice, performance, and arranging.

All ten chimesmasters participated in the class, which lasted about four hours (with a break in the middle to walk down to Collegetown for lunch).




Keith Jenkins '93 receives instruction from Andrea McCrady at a master class in September. Photo by Jennifer Lory-Moran.

Here are some of my own “take-aways” from our day with Andrea:

- \* In bell arrangements, less is more. Thin it out. Take out middle voices when possible. Don’t repeat a note that was just played.
- \* An arrangement is just an arrangement. If you don’t agree with how it’s written, change it!
- \* Look at original scores and listen to the piece in its original form to see how it was translated to make the arrangement. Playing a song? Find the lyrics and know those, too.
- \* Prepare! Once a note is struck, it’s struck. Move on to the next note as quickly as possible.
- \* Something to try: to bring out the high notes more clearly, try putting your hand further forward on the lever for better mechanical advantage.
- \* Mark up your pieces - make “performance copies” for

yourself.

- \* Consider studying Alexander Technique to learn about body ergonomics and balance.
- \* “Goldilocks” Practice Technique - Play the passage very slowly to see if you can play it in a controlled manner. Then play it very quickly to look for phrasing and make the regular tempo seem easier. Also try this technique with playing too loud and too soft (and then “just right”!)
- \* The place that we listen to the compets play each spring (on the overlook next to the tower) is not the best spot for hearing the bells. There are many better listening spots further away from the tower.

Educational opportunities such as master classes, and road trips happen annually thanks to the support of the Monica Novakovic Chimes Program Endowment. 

**Thank you to our generous alumni and friends for their gifts to the Cornell Chimes general fund, the Chimes Unrestricted Program Endowment, and to the Sibal and Novakovic Endowments over the past year (fiscal year July 2013-June 2014). Your gift today will make an immediate and lasting impact on the Cornell Chimes program.**

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Mr. Daniel R. Zlatin GR





## Alumni Notes

First we want to acknowledge the many alumni chimesmasters who returned to Cornell in the past year. Alumni chimesmasters are always welcome in the tower and encouraged to play!

As winter continues for much of the country, we'll start with our chimes alumni who are enjoying warmer environs!

**Judy Ogden '71, GR** reports that she has relocated from Michigan to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. "I am enjoying the opportunity to play the carillon at The Citadel in Charleston. I have been playing about once a week when the campus is open."

"No chimes, let alone carillons, in Sarasota, Florida unless one counts the electronic chimes in the Methodist Church half a mile away, playing very pleasant but one-dimensional music. One of my fellow condominium owners down here is Wylie Crawford, the carillonneur of the Rockefeller Memorial carillon of the University of Chicago and president of the World Carillon Federation. We spent a very pleasant evening talking, but not playing, bells," wrote **George Ubogy '58**.

Over the past year we have had many joyful events in McGraw Tower



Kathryn Barger GR, Cathy Longley-Cook '03, '05, Jenny Xia '13, and Bob Feldman '66, '75 play a summer concert at a Newton, MA chime. Photo provided by Bob Feldman.

including several marriage proposals. But there is one that is closest to our hearts. **Ivana Thng '12** was engaged in the tower this past spring. "After my clock tower proposal in March 2014, I will be getting married to Liang Ze Wong '12 this coming July in Singapore. When he drove me to all my morning concerts and always volunteered to open the tower door for visitors before a concert while I was practicing up top, I knew he was a keeper! All chimes friends in the South East Asian region are welcome to attend." Ivana and her fiancé reside in Seattle.



Ren Ortega '16 and Keiran Cantilina '15 bundle up to play the chimes at the First Unitarian Society in Newton, MA. Photo by Jenny Xia.

From the travelogue: **John '56 and Mary Jane Hoare** joined about 40 Cornell alumni in July for a cruise to Alaska. "It was a great trip and included seeing grizzly bears, seals, whales and bald eagles and a beautiful blue glacier up close. The crab we had on one side trip was 'to die for' it was so good. The weather could have been a little less rainy but nonetheless it was a good time."

**Bob Feldman '66, '75** remains active in the bell world by regularly playing




Jenny Xia '13 reunites with Dick '58, '65 and Connie '58 Haggard at CALC in Boston. Photo provided by Jenny Xia.

at the The First Unitarian Society in Newton (FUSN) 11-bell chime along with other Boston-area chimesmasters **Kathryn Barger GR, Cathy Longley-Cook '03, '05, Scott Silverstein '08, and Jenny Xia '13**. Over the summer they played three evening concerts including one with an audience sing-along. The concerts were announced in the local community and to the Cornell Club of Boston. Over 40 people, including many Cornellians were in attendance at each concert.

During Cornell's winter break, **Keiran Cantilina '15 and Ren Ortega '16** paid a visit to Boston and played the Newton chime as well as visited with alumni chimesmasters.

And speaking of Boston connections, **Jenny Xia '13** was pleasantly surprised to run into **Dick '58, '65 Haggard** and his wife **Connie '58** at Cornell's Annual Alumni Leadership Conference (CALC) in January.

We close our Alumni Notes by bidding a farewell to our chimes friends who passed away in 2014. They included **Mrs. Barbara Hall Browne '44, Mr. Philip H. Haselton Jr. '49, MR. Richard E. McErlean '49, Mr. Neil E. Munch '48, Mrs. Patricia K. Paolella '46, Mr. Anthony G. Tappin '49, Mrs. Roxanne R. Williams '49, and Mr. E-An Zen '51**. You are in our thoughts. 

## Remembering Erwin Jennifer Lory-Moran '96, '97

The Cornell Chimes community was stunned and saddened to hear of the unexpected passing of **Erwin Chan '00** on January 2, 2015. We are all grieving the loss of such a talented, committed, and caring man.

Erwin tried out for the chimes in the Spring of 1997. He was serious, purposeful, confident, not one for small talk, and with musical talents that could not be missed. Erwin only played the chimes for two years – the bells were being tuned his junior year – but he left a legacy that has affected generations of chimesmasters. He had a reputation as a brilliant performer, prolific arranger, and effective (and demanding) coach.

Erwin wrote some of the most challenging arrangements in our files. He completed 30-40 arrangements, known for their technical and musical beauty. Most of his arrangements were the works of classical or romantic composers – Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin, Rachmaninoff. Given his love of classical music, it always amused me that Erwin also wrote our arrangements of “Can’t Take My Eyes Off of You” by Frankie Vallie and “Part of Your World” from *The Little Mermaid*. But those were pieces he arranged for friends – and Erwin’s friends meant a lot to him.

We keep a “Top of the Tower” journal upstairs where Erwin wrote some extensive, honest, reflective entries. Erwin said about his arrangements, “I wanted good quality music to play, so I arranged them for myself. When I did hear other people playing them, I always thought no, no! That’s not the way to play that piece! It’s worse in my duets. I know how I want the piece to be played, but I don’t have 4 arms and 3 legs...” I remember that Erwin was always *quite* demanding about how one should play his duets with him. He pushed us all to be our best.

Throughout Erwin’s time as a chimesmaster, he made a habit of recording himself playing, from his very first concert through his graduation. After he graduated, he put them all together into a collection of 15 compact disks titled *The Art of EC*. There were recordings of Erwin playing throughout his years at Cornell, both alone and with others, before and after the bells were tuned. It was a massive project and is an incredible documentation of the progress of a

**Correction:** In the 2014 edition of the *Cornell Chimes Newsletter*, we incorrectly captioned a photo of Bryan Chong '13, '14 playing the bells at the Christian Science Mother Church in Boston during a chimesmaster road-trip. That instrument is an 18-bell chime, not a carillon.

chimesmaster. I think it will be considered one of Erwin’s most lasting contributions to Cornell Chimes history, a history that he came to know so well.

After he left Cornell, while in graduate school at Penn, Erwin became a collector of Cornelliana, including an incredible collection of vintage postcards of McGraw Tower. Some may remember Erwin’s wonderful presentation of chimes history and the memorabilia he had collected at the Chimes Reunion in 2010. As his collection evolved, Erwin himself evolved into an expert on the history of Cornell and the chimes.

Erwin appreciated and understood the Cornell Chimes like no one else. Even chimesmasters who never got to meet Erwin are familiar with the stories of his playing, his collecting, and, of course, all the wonderful music he gave us. He will be remembered, and he will be deeply, deeply missed.

*The chimesmasters will be arranging a musical tribute in honor of Erwin later this semester. Details will sent out via the chimes-alum-I listserv once plans have been finalized.* 🦋



Erwin Chan '00 plays a duet with Lauren (Marino) Casey '02. After graduating from Cornell, he began wearing gloves to protect his hands - he played with such intensity, he felt they were necessary because he wasn't playing as regularly. Photo by Marisa LaFalce.



## Student Spotlight on Emily Graf '16 Interviewed by Marisa LaFalce '96

*On a dreary gray December day, I sat down in the cozy browsing library in Willard Straight Hall for a cheerful interview with Emily Graf.*

*Emily, thank you for meeting with me this afternoon. Have you finished your exams?*

Not yet, I have one more to turn in tomorrow. But I'm basically done, and heading home after I turn in the paper.

*Congratulations. You must be glad to be almost done. How has semester been?*

It's been a good semester, but busy, because I'm going abroad next semester. So I've had lots of classes in my major to take so that I'm ready to go away next term. Well, and I'm a double major, first Anthropology and now also Psychology... so I have a lot of classes to take but they are classes that I enjoy.

*You must be excited to go away next semester. You're headed to Nepal?*

Yes, I am very excited, nervous too, but excited! There are not too many kids going (on this program) which is sort of nice, so it's a smaller group.

*That's a pretty unusual destination, how did you settle on Nepal?*

They have a very strong anthro(pology) program so that was one of the main reasons. Also, I wanted to go somewhere different. I've been to Europe before, plus there are many good anthropology reasons to go. Also, the field research has you meeting with many different Nepali families and students, and you live with a Nepali family. I've travelled abroad before and the best part is meeting people, so I am excited about that.

*Will you do any trekking while you are there?*

Yes, we have one trek; it is about a week long and it's not too intense. I think you stay in lodges, so it's not too rigorous. Which is good because I'm not the most athletic person. But I may stay after the program ends and do some additional travel – my family may come visit.

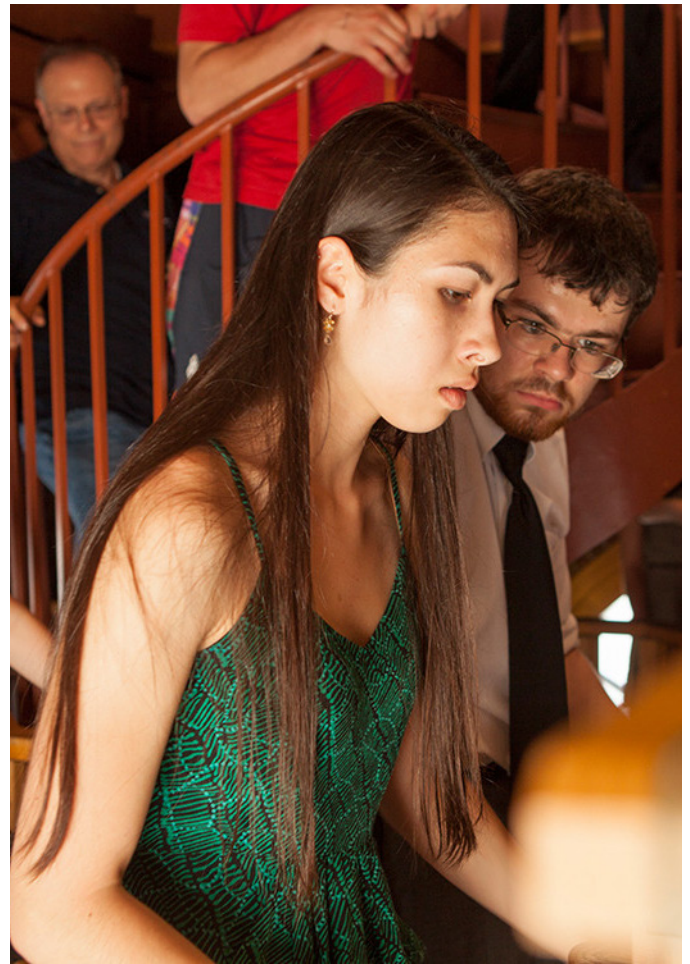
*Yes, I've heard the hills are way worse than Ithaca! Anthropology, why does this subject interest you?*

I've always been interested in it since high school. I love travelling and seeing other cultures - and learning how we're different.

*With your majors in Anthropology and Psychology are you thinking about graduate school or is it too early?*

I'm not entirely sure... I definitely want to take some time off if I decide to go to grad school, either to work for a non-profit or to do Teach for America, or something like that, but I'm not entirely sure yet.

*We've had several recent grads involved in Teach for America, or related programs including Peter Im '13 and Jenny Xia '13. Fortunately you have time to decide what's next. Studying abroad*



Emily Graf '16 plays a duet with Ilia Karp '15. Photo by Cornell University Photography.

*in Nepal sounds exotic... You originally hail from New Jersey –slightly less exotic around here. What part?*

I live on the Central Shore, near the beach. It's the "Bruce Springsteen area" (which refers to Asbury Park, New Jersey).

*So was your family or towns impacted by Hurricane Sandy?*

The areas around us were very hard hit, but fortunately our town and house was pretty okay. I was here (at Cornell) when it happened, but my family lost power for more than two weeks, and I had a friend whose house was moved totally off the foundation.

*It must have been weird to be here while the storm was happening, and then to go back and see everything devastated.*

Yes. We live near a beach town and it was so weird to see all of the beach clubs boarded up. Now if you go back, some things are still boarded up but many businesses are back to what they used to be.

*Being the globetrotter that you are, weren't you one of three chimesmasters in Taiwan this summer (along with Keiran Cantilina '15 and Charlie Xu '16)?*

Yes, I think we were all there at least at different points during the summer.

*What brought you to Taiwan?*

I was there as part of a program that teaches English to Junior High School students in rural areas. I was there just a month, during that time, they train you, then you teach for two weeks, and then you tour the countryside for a week. It was fun. I have never taught before, and many of the students spoke no English - and I don't speak any Mandarin, so it was challenging but fun.

*Do you speak any other languages?*

I took Spanish in High School, so I can kind of hold a conversation in Spanish. And I took Chinese 101 my freshman year, so I can understand, but can't hold a conversation in Chinese. My grandparents speak Mandarin, but I speak to them in English.

*How did you end up here at Cornell?*

I always wanted to come here. Both my parents went to Cornell and my older sister also went here. At first I was unsure if I wanted to attend Cornell because my whole family went here, but after visiting, I knew I really wanted to come. So I applied early decision, which made the college decision process much less stressful. My cousin also went here, so I have lots of family ties to the University.

I believe that Cornell has so many opportunities that you can really make it your own school. I've learned it's not their school, there is so much to do. Plus my sister graduated before I even got here.

*So then, how did you get connected to the Cornell Chimes?*

I kind of wanted to try out for the chimes before I even got into Cornell! I played the hand bells in high school and I always thought the chimes are a really cool instrument. My whole family is really into the chimes. At first I was afraid to try out, because I'd heard the competition was really tough, and I wasn't confident in my musical background, but my parents convinced me to try out... I guess I always wanted to do it (become a chimesmaster) in the back of my mind.

*Your case is unusual... often when I speak with chimesmasters about how they discovered the instrument; it's often a more random occurrence (that they try out). This is kind of funny given how the chimesmasters are (to the instrument).*

Yes, that was the case with me and Charlie (Xu '16). We had a mutual friend from high school and I told him I was trying out and he said, "Oh really?" And then he ended up trying out too!

*Have you arranged any music or written any compositions for the chimes?*

I've arranged one piece but haven't proposed it yet... I am not as into arranging music as some other chimesmasters. I have a list of songs that I want to arrange, but I never have the time. I have started a few arrangements, but never finish them.

*What piece or kinds of music do you like to play?*

I definitely like to play songs that are slower, that show your musicality more than technicality. For example the "Evening Song" is one of my favorite songs. I like songs where you can show off the expressiveness of the song, and analyze it more. Something really fast like "the Rag" is harder for me.

*Everyone comes from diverse musical backgrounds, what is yours background?*

I started playing the piano when I was about 7, and I have been playing ever since. I played hand bells at my church on and off in middle school and all through high school, so for about six years. I also played a year of flute. So piano and hand bells are the two main instruments I've played. I also played the organ a little, but not too much... I sort of stopped that.

*So do you use the piano in the tower?*

Yes. I do a lot! I used the piano a lot this past week, it helps me when I am stressed and want to procrastinate. I used to use the pianos in Lincoln Hall, but you need a key to access them, and they are very crowded. I like having the piano in the tower and use it a lot.

*So what else are you involved in (beyond chimes and academics)?*

I am in a few clubs. I'm a member of Big Red Belief, it's a humanitarian group that organizes events and fundraisers for international humanitarian causes.

I also just started doing something this semester called Friends of Farm Workers. We tutor at farms in the Ithaca area, usually to Spanish speaking workers.

*Because of the wineries and other agriculture, the Finger Lakes actually have a pretty big migrant community particularly in the summer and fall.*

Yes. You wouldn't know it if you just stayed on campus. But after my experience in Taiwan this summer, I really wanted to keep teaching. It's nice to go to farms and see something outside of Cornell.

*(continued on next page)*

## **Your Gift Matters!**

**Your gift to the Cornell Chimes General Fund or the Unrestricted Chimes Program Endowment supports the program, ensuring the chimesmasters play their best.**

**Make your gift today at  
<http://chimes.cornell.edu/giving.html>.**




(Graf interview continued)

So do you think maybe you want to teach some day? You've mentioned it a few times.

Yes. It is definitely something I've thought about so we'll see....

What do you like to do in your free time? Like on a Friday night?

Watching Netflix - I do that a lot! And I like just hanging out with friends. I've been trying to see my friends more since I won't see them for a while with going abroad. I feel like the chimes is my one thing that I really identify with here, and they take up a lot of time. So when I'm already talking about them my involvement elsewhere seems less.

Well there is no doubt that being a chimesmaster is big. It is a huge commitment. I'm always amazed anyone can find time to engage in anything beyond that! Thank you Emily for meeting with me. I hope you have a wonderful experience in Nepal! 

### A Look Back at Chimes History: Early Chimes Personalities Daniel Zlatin MS '80

We are coming up on the *Cornell Chimes* Sesquicentennial in 2018, which got me to wondering what some of the early commentary on the chimes was like. I stumbled across the Cornell Digital Archive (<http://digital.library.cornell.edu/cuda/>), and pulled out some interesting items.

Some of this information is mentioned or referred to in *The Cornell Chimes*, the book by Ed McKeown, written in honour of the tower's centennial in 1991. (You do have a copy of it, don't you? It is available at the Cornell Store, of course! <http://chimes.cornell.edu/merchandise.html>). But seeing it in the original hand-set font brings home (to me, at least) more of the feel of the time, and the almost 150 years between then and now.

Many of the chimes-related material in the archive is from *The Cornell Era*. This was the first student newspaper at Cornell, and it is now available online.

In this article, I'm looking at items related to two chimes-related personalities: James O'Neill and F. M. Finch.

**James O'Neill** was our first chimesmaster. His life and writings have certainly been touched on in Ed McKeown's book (and others). I've collected a few items related to him from those in print at the time; these may be new to some of you. In addition to being our first chimesmaster, in the fall of 1869, James became an editor of *The Cornell Era*.

The November 28, 1868 issue printed a heartfelt appreciation

of the bells and the donor. Although this paragraph does not have an explicit author, I believe James likely wrote it, given that he was interested in the role of editor, and was already the chimesmaster.

— Grateful is every member of Cornell University for those bells, which by their sweet and pleasant sounds, mark the various hours of the occupations of each day. The signal which tells of the hours of rising, of assembling in the Chapel, of study, rest, and recreation, is not the clanging of a single bell, but the music of a chime.

As long as those bells shall ring out sharp and clear among the hills and through the valleys round the head-waters of Cayuga Lake: as long as their echo shall linger in the recollection of those upon whose ears it for years and years to come shall daily fall, so long will the recollection of the donor be cherished by all who know of, and appreciate the gift. Decades from now, when the granite tower which is to contain this beautiful gift, shall be wreathed with twining ivy, and those who first have heard these bells shall have been laid away in the "uncatalogued library of oblivion," those chimes shall yet ring forth, and sound with other sounds the memory of their fair donor.

The January 30, 1869 issue has a letter signed by James where he discusses the difficulty of getting music suitable to play on the chime in its configuration at that time. Reproduced here is just a portion of that letter.

Pieces like the following are best suited to the chimes, viz: Hail Columbia, Star-Spangled Banner, Home, Sweet Home, Home Again, Gaily the Troubadour, Evening Bells, Alma Mater, Hungarian Waltz, Tramp, Tramp, the Boys are Marching, White Cockade, Old Hundred, Shirland, and Sweet Hour of Prayer. Probably the last named can be produced with more expression than any other. As from five to twenty pieces are played each time, it will be seen that, without repetition, the fullest collection of music adapted to the bells would soon be exhausted. Your correspondent received four large collections a few days since, in which not half-a-dozen pieces suitable for the bells can be found. On such a chime, it is believed, a good piece will never wear out.

The chimes can be heard to the distance of three or four miles on the hills surrounding Ithaca; along the shore of the Cayuga they can be heard five miles away.

And on October 27, 1869, *The Cornell Era* contains what is the first explicit attempt at fundraising for the chimes. Given his position as editor that year, I cannot help but imagine that

THE University chimes have been admired by not only the citizens of Ithaca, but by thousands of visitors during the past year, which is certainly the most natural thing in the world, considering their great power and compass. But although they are capable of producing very fine music, they may be vastly improved. The chime now consists of ten bells, viz: the large bell (D,) and an octave beginning with G with an additional bell, F natural, which allows pieces in C to be played. Now there are three bells between the D bell and G, viz: E, F natural and F sharp, which would add immensely to the capacity of the chime and would add materially to the effect of many pieces in which in many places the octave must now be struck. Yankee Doodle, Bonaparte's March, Shirland and many other pieces are examples of music which would sound very different were such an addition made to the bells. Now, what we want is that some gentleman or gentlemen shall present bells to fill up the deficiency. The cost of these bells would be in round numbers \$4,000. Is there not some man generous enough, and public spirited enough, and sufficiently interested in the University to come forward and place his name on the list with Mr. Cornell, Mr. McGraw, Miss Jennie McGraw, President White and Mrs. White as the benefactors of the University? Or are there not three men who will each give a bell? Most assuredly such men would be remembered by the students and friends of the University and their names become synonyms of generosity.



this is another authored by James. (Since this time, we have shifted what we call the bells down by one tone, so that what is referred to here as "D" is our "C", etc.

**Francis Miles Finch** is mentioned in two chimes-related threads. Reporting on the events of the university commencement on October 7, 1868, *The Cornell Era* reported that as Secretary of the Board of Trustees, he presented the chime to the University. Neither Jennie McGraw, nor, a year later, Mrs. Mary A. White, got to address the crowds personally, at the time of the formal presentation of their bells.

**He was followed by F. M. Finch, Esq., Sec'y of the Board of Trustees, who in the name of Miss Jennie McGraw, presented the University most fitting words, a beautiful chime of bells. These were received the Hon. Stewart L. Woodford.**

In fact, Finch had tendered his resignation to the Board the previous day. He was not going far though, on October 30, 1868, he was appointed Legal Counsellor and Attorney to the Board.

But the second chimes-related activity of Mr. Finch was when he demonstrated his skills as a poet / songwriter. On January 23, 1869, *The Cornell Era* (Vol. I, No. 7), publishes what they claim is "the first college song to which Cornell University can lay claim". It was sung by the Orpheus Glee Club at a meeting of the Cornell Library Association. And that song? Not "Davy". Not "The Crew Song". Not even the "Alma Mater" or "Evening Song". It was "The Chimes"!

A year later, April 20, 1870, *The Cornell Era* reports that the song was published in New York. The cover of that newspaper appears on page 20 of Ed McKeown's book. Keith Jenkins '93 (KGJ) has determined that the so-called arrangement of the song in our files (C204) is in fact not the music as it was originally published!

Can we persuade, nay challenge, any current members of the Board of Trustees to write a song about the chimes? In my wildest fantasy, the chimes community would arrange the music as published for the chime (a duet, maybe?) and in October of 2018 we would persuade representatives of the current Board of Trustees to climb the tower, where they would be serenaded by this song, sung by chimesmasters and accompanied by the chime. Think of it as a message, as it were, from the Board of 150 years ago to the Board of today. A proper sesquicentennial for the chime!

I hope you've enjoyed this look at some of the published items relating to two personalities from our past. I may be back in future newsletters with more from our (digital) history!



### *The Chimes.*

To the busy morning light,  
To the slumber of the night,  
To the labor and the lessons of the hour,  
With a ringing, rhythmic tone,  
O'er the lake and valley blown,  
Call the voices, watching, waking, in the tower.

*Chorus*—Cling-clang-cling, the bells are ringing;  
Hope and Help their chiming tells;  
Thro' the Cascadilla dell,  
'Neath the arches of "Cornell,"  
Float the melody and music of the bells,

By the water's foam and fall,  
By the chasm castle-wall,  
By the laurel bank and glen of dreaming flower,  
Where the groves are dark and grand,  
Where the pines in column stand,  
Come the voices, mellow voices of the tower.

*Chorus*—Cling-clang-cling, &c.

When the gentle hand that gave,  
Lies beneath the marble grave,  
And the daisies weep with drippings of the shower,  
O, believe me brothers dear,  
In the shadows we shall hear,  
Guiding voices of our angel in the tower.

*Chorus*—Cling-clang-cling, &c.

Not afraid to dare and do,  
Let us arouse ourselves anew,  
With the "Knowledge" that is victory and power,  
And arrayed in every fight,  
On the battle side of right,  
Gather glory for our angel in the tower.

*Chorus*—Cling-clang-cling, &c.

**Stay Connected with the Cornell Chimes, Chimes Alumni and Friends, All Year Long!**

**Join the chimes alumni email list-serve** A list-serve is simply a collection of addresses that receive an email when sent to just one address.

**Follow the Cornell Chimes Facebook page**  
<https://www.facebook.com/chimes.cornell>

**Join the Chimesmasters Private Facebook group.**

These are useful ways to quickly share news, ask questions, and get connected with the rest of the chimesmaster alumni.

Email [chimes@cornell.edu](mailto:chimes@cornell.edu) to sign up.

## **Chimes Advisory Council Grows Unrestricted Endowment; Prepares for Sesquicentennial** **Scott Silverstein '08, chimes co-chair**

Lately, the Chimes Advisory Council (CAC) has taken a visionary standpoint, looking toward the future and asking what will the chimes be doing in five, ten, fifty years. To that end, CAC has identified two major goals to keep the program strong, with a new subcommittee to spearhead each initiative.

With Cornell's Sesquicentennial upon us, the chimes look forward to our own Sesquicentennial in 2018, celebrating 150 years since the bells first rang at Cornell's opening ceremonies. We'd love to involve as many past and present chimesmasters as possible in our celebrations, and to achieve this goal Daniel Zlatin GR challenged CAC to reconnect with chimesmasters and friends who may have fallen out of touch. Daniel points out that past Chimes Reunions in 1991, 2001, and 2010 have seen only about 25% of alumni chimesmasters in attendance. Participation from chimesmasters who played in the 1960s and 1980s is particularly low. The next Chimes Reunion will likely coincide with our 2018 festivities, and a key goal is to bring back as many chimesmasters as possible.

What will the chimes To that end, the Outreach Subcommittee is brainstorming new ways to reconnect with chimesmasters. As Head Chimesmaster Kieran Cantilina '15 pointed out, "Bell-crazy people aren't exactly common in the general populace," and this unusual bond all chimesmasters share is a great place to start. You can expect that we will reach out to you in the future!


### ***"What will the chimes be doing in five, ten, fifty years?"***

Our second priority is continued growth of the Chimes Unrestricted Program Endowment. Growth of this endowment, together with support for the Chimes Annual Fund will maintain the vitality and strength of the chimes program in perpetuity. The seeds for this endowment came from the chimesmaster reunion less than five years ago and this fiscal year the program began to reap the rewards by utilizing the annual payout to support chimes staffing. As we near the \$200,000 mark for this endowment, we're over 20% of the way towards our \$850,000 goal for total program self-sufficiency.

A second subcommittee is helping to grow this endowment. Dubbed the CEICSC (said like "cakes",

and standing for the Chimes Endowment Information and Contribution Solicitation Committee), our alumni held monthly calls to brainstorm, discuss and execute ideas. The first task was to elaborate a consistent message about the endowment, and second was to facilitate continuing contact with donors.

The landmark 2014 event of the CEICSC was the Donor Appreciation Concert, to honor all donors from the prior fiscal year. Committee members reached out to the top donors, who had an opportunity to choose a piece to be played during the concert, which took place during Reunion weekend on the morning of Sunday, June 8. Afterwards, a press release about the concert saw print in the *Ithaca Journal*. We had a great time at the Donor Appreciation concert and look forward to the next one in 2015!

The CAC is not an exclusive group, and is comprised of both current and alumni chimesmasters, spanning eight decades. If you would like more information or if you have comments to share, please contact [chimes@cornell.edu](mailto:chimes@cornell.edu) to get in touch with us. 



### **Time for a Museum Update!**

We recently received a pair of McGraw Tower clock hands that were salvaged from a dumpster during the renovation in 1999. The hands were mounted and hung in the home of the late President Emeritus Dale R. Corson and his wife Nellie. Corson, a physicist, had a strong interest in the chimes, and his children gave a bell in their honor during the renovation. Their son, David W. Corson '65 asked if the program would like the clock hands, and recently delivered them to the tower. We look forward to mounting them in our museum for display later this year. Photo by Marisa LaFalce.



**Chimes Advisor Report from GCNA 2015**  
**Jennifer Lory-Moran '96, '97**

In June 2014, I had the opportunity to go to the annual Congress of the Guild of Carillonneurs of North America (GCNA) at the University of Denver in Colorado. The weather was beautiful, the gold-plated tower shone in the sun, and we listened to many lovely concerts played on DU's 65-bell carillon.

The week I spent in Denver was full of carillon concerts, lectures, classes, business meetings, and conversations with old and new friends. I attended master classes by two different teachers, which I left appreciating that even when discussing the basics of carillon technique, different teachers will have very different styles and advice. There were a total of sixteen recitals throughout the week - eight given by members of the GCNA, and eight by candidates hoping to become members.




Chimes Advisor Jennifer Lory-Moran '96, '97 tries the carillon at the University of Denver. Photo provided by Jennifer Lory-Moran.

There were three talks during the week that made a particularly strong impression on me. First, I had the opportunity to hear composer John Knox speak about his musical background and the criteria that he keeps in mind when composing for bells. The whole Congress was dedicated to John Knox and his work - almost every recital included one of his compositions. Next, I enjoyed Ellen Dickinson's lecture "The Lifelong Learner: Foundations for Practice and Performance", which included specific and practical tips for effective practicing, both on a practice stand and when you are playing out loud. Finally, Jeremy Chesman's pre-



Can you imagine performing on *this*?! This pull-handle chime stand from St. John's Cathedral in Denver. Even bell expert Rick Watson had never seen anything like it before! Photo by Jennifer Lory-Moran.

sentation on a model for teaching dynamics and legato to beginning carillon students was fascinating. He provides students with a mental image (inspired by an online game) that takes into account how the sound from each bell begins to decay as soon as it is struck and how this affects notes that are played in succession. I left his presentation totally rethinking my own model for chimes instruction in favor of one that incorporates musicality more from the very beginning (as opposed to focusing more on technique).

The next GCNA Congress will be hosted by Jeremy Chesman at Missouri State University, June 15-18, 2015. The theme will be Carillon Education: Teaching and the Tower, and will include discussions of carillon pedagogy, educating the public, recruiting audiences and players, and the history of carillon teaching. I expect many more exciting conversations that will make me reflect on our program's traditions and how we can (always!) continue to improve. 

*Congratulations to our  
May 2014 graduates!  
Weijia Chen, Hyangmi Kwak, and  
Barrett Smith  
We will miss you!*



The Cornell Chimes  
B07 Day Hall  
Ithaca, NY 14853-2801

### *Mark Your Calendar...*

#### **February 3-April 25**

Annual chimesmasher competition.

#### **March 28-April 5**

Spring Break; concerts infrequent

#### **April 27**

Charter Day ([150.cornell.edu](http://150.cornell.edu))

#### **May 6**

Classes end, study period schedule begins.

#### **May 23-24**

Commencement weekend. Concerts, open house and senior recital.

#### **May 25**

Summer schedule begins - concerts infrequent.

#### **June 4-7**

Cornell Alumni Reunion Weekend - many concerts to be performed including our chimes donor appreciation concert. Alumni chimesmasters are encouraged to play!

#### **August 25**

Classes begin, regular concerts resume.



Hyangmi Kwak '14 engages a young reunion attendee - and perhaps, future chimesmaster? -during Cornell Reunion last June. Photo by Cornell University Photography.