



THE CORNELL
CHIMES
NEWSLETTER

Number 34

Fall 2004

www.chimes.cornell.edu

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Marisa Piliero LaFalce '96, Editor

Chime Time in Rochester

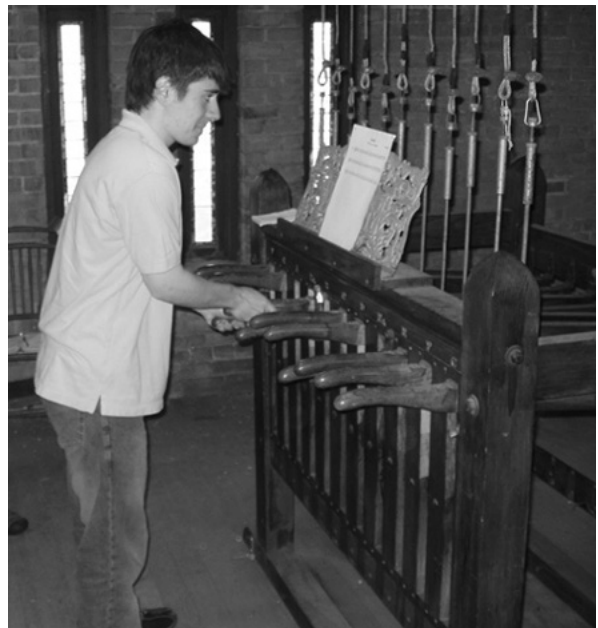
Karen Kamprath '05

On Friday, September 24, seven chimesmasters hit the road for Rochester, New York for a weekend. Our goals were to play some bells and meet with some of the chimesmaster alumni who live in the area, and we weren't disappointed! As a Rochesterian, I have been curious about the carillon at the University of Rochester for a long time, so as road trip coordinator, I was finally able to get everybody to come and see it with me.

But first, on Saturday morning, we visited an 11-bell chime at the Third Presbyterian Church. Sandy Gianini and her daughter Amanda coordinate the chime playing. Sandy lives in the area, and was drawn to the church by the sound of the bells. She has been playing this chime for about 16 years, since Amanda was a little girl. The tower was pleasant and well maintained. We had to climb some ladders, but we appreciate a little adventure in our towers! Our group of chimesmasters particularly enjoyed the sound of the bells of this chime, and no wonder, they're Meneely bells just like ours.

Later that day, we met alumna Faith Hall '46, and her husband Burt '49 for the first time. They joined us for lunch, along with Lauren Marino '02 and Jennifer Turney '89 MS. Faith was the third female chimesmaster, and a contemporary of Ken Campbell '44 and Betty Allen '45. We were able to share stories of "When you played the bells, did you...?" and "Do you still...?"

Following lunch, we had the pleasure of visiting the carillon at the University of Rochester. Lauren Marino has permission to play the 50-bell instrument. There is an elevator up most of the way to the playing stand, where



Does that music stand look familiar? Alex Thimons '07 tries out the 11-bell Meneely chime at the Third Presbyterian Church in Rochester, New York.



Faith Hall '46 and Karen Kamprath '05 compare notes from their days on the Hill.

we were able to put on an hour-long concert made up of pieces that we had brought from our own Cornell Chimes. The familiarity of the music made playing a lot of fun, because we didn't have to

learn new music in addition to a new instrument. We were able to put together a set of the Alma Mater Duets that involved all of us in some way or another!

In addition to playing the carillon, Lauren let us crawl through some dusty passageways and up some seldom-used ladders to get out and see the bells. From the top, we were rewarded with amazing views of Rochester. It's a shame that there is no permanent carillonneur for this instrument, although since the University of Rochester has given Lauren permission to play, she has been performing a one-hour concert each week. (Contact her if you're in the area and would like to join her.)

On Sunday we were invited to have brunch at the home of alumna chimesmaster Jennifer Turney and her husband Harry (Stanton) who live in the area. They have been working on their beautiful home in the country as a gradual project. We enjoyed dining with them and seeing notes on the chimes competition from when Keith Jenkins '93 was a compet.

The weekend was a wonderful opportunity for the chimesmasters to bond and relax as well as learn more about bell instruments. We would like to thank David and Sally Kamprath for letting us stay at their home, Amanda and Sandy Gianini of the Third Presbyterian Church for showing us their bells, Lauren Marino for showing us the carillon and for coordinating Saturday's lunch, Jennifer Turney and Harry Stanton for hosting us at their home, and Faith and Burt Hall for joining us for lunch and for sharing stories from another time at Cornell.

The chimesmasters hope to continue the road trip tradition next year. If anyone has ideas of where we might go to visit some interesting bell instruments, please let us know. We love to visit other chimes as well as chimesmasters!

The Cornell Chimes would like to thank our alumni and friends who have generously supported the chimes program over the past year (fiscal year July 2003-June 2004).

Elizabeth Finley Allen '45
 Paul Amico
 Doris Bartow '48
 Douglass F. Bartow '47
 Matthew Blackwood '49
 Kristin Overgaard Bond '85
 Jean M. Bosworth
 Jean Brown
 Elizabeth C. Campbell
 Joseph M. Conte '82
 Sharon Dittman
 Marcy Dubroff '84
 Robert L. Feldman '66, '75
 Dorothy S. Fielder
 David R. Fister '75
 Deborah Lyon Fister '74
 Gail P. Friske
 Stephen F. Gagnon '91
 Mary Gerlach '58

Richard C. Grambow GR '57
 William D. Gurowitz '53
 Richard A. Haggard '58
 Constance C. Haggard '58
 Frederick E. Heinzelman '54
 Peter Hellmold '70
 Marion L. Howe '38
 Anita & Jay D. '55 Hyman
 Grace V. Jean '00
 Jacqueline Jernigan
 Cynthia & Michael M. Jones
 Indrikis M. Kaneps
 Paul E. Krochmal '69
 Diana M. Lucs
 Michael G. Mage '55
 Shoko S. Malkan '89
 Michael B. Maltenfort '91
 Barbara B. McClelland
 Suellen Anderholdt Nelson

Carolyn Chauncey Neuman '64
 John L. Neuman '64
 Lisa M. Olafson '95
 Jane Park '97
 Jack D. Rice '43
 Franklin T. Russell '58, '60
 Evelyn & Thomas '55 Sanford
 Steven J. Santurri '87
 Allegra M. Schafer '99
 Charles R. Schempp
 William J. Sibal '64
 Harold S. Simon '70
 Charles E. Swanson '49
 Gligor A. Tashkovich '87
 David H. Taube '69
 Marisue Taube '75
 Leaf Turner '63
 George A. '58 & Jo Ubogy
 Ralph Work '43

The 62nd Congress of the GCNA

Catherine Jordan '03, '05

The GCNA Congress is the annual meeting of the Guild of Carillonneurs of North America. This group consists of carillonneurs and bell lovers from across the country and around the world. And what a friendly and interesting group of people! We even have two GCNA members among our talented chimesmaster alumni, they are Judy Ogden '71, '75, '77 and Daniel Zlatin '79, '80.

Carillonneurs vary from professional musicians at prestigious and well-loved towers to volunteers at towers that, like so many, need love and maintenance. There are students like myself playing the bells as a hobby, as well as students pursuing a career in carillon-playing. Several members have contributed greatly to the carillon's great rise in popularity, and the transition from disorganized individual towers to a national organization has allowed for music sharing, discussion and learning. Many members have studied the carillon abroad in France, Belgium or the Netherlands, or here in the United States, at the University of Michigan or as the apprentice of an established carillonneur. Imagine "campanology" being your college major!

This year, the GCNA Congress was held at the Culver Academies in Culver, Indiana, not far from South Bend. The Culver chapel carillon barely stopped ringing the entire week. Listening to the amazing music coming from the tower was an inspiration – and it was charming to listen with carillon experts, who could tell the difference between "Sonata" by Thornock and "Serenade" by Barnes after the first few notes. One of the highlights was a presentation on carillon technique, given by three carillonneurs, John Gouwens from the United States, Stefano Colletti of France, and Boudewijn Zwart of the Netherlands. Watching their hands fly across the keyboard making beautiful music, as they described in detail their techniques was incredible. It was very interesting to see the subtle differences in their playing styles, which led to enormous differences in the music of their recitals.

Another highlight was getting to know members of the Yale Guild of Carillonneurs. Their group, a student-run organization that plays in Yale's

Harkness Tower, is most similar to ours. I enjoyed learning about their audition process, playing schedule and organization. Their ideas are very useful as we constantly strive to improve the Cornell Chimes program. I also heard many suggestions and perspectives from other carillonneurs on how best to publish music. I hope that we can use some of these good ideas and models to someday publish some of the music in our own files.

The number one highlight of the congress? Being asked, "So I hear you stand on one foot to play... but that's not possible, is it?" I would like to thank the many chimes friends, who made my trip to the GCNA Congress possible, through their gifts to the Cornell Chimes.



The chimesmasters enjoyed their trip to Rochester so much that they didn't want to leave! Clockwise from top: Lisa Ngai '05, Cathy Jordan '03, '05, Taras Czebiniak '06, Eric Hayes '05, Karen Kamprath '05, Kenny Lim '05, Alex Thimons '07.

...Alumni Notes

It has been a very busy past few months for the Cornell Chimesmasters, and amidst the excitement, we have been thrilled to welcome back so many alumni. In May we were delighted to have a surprise appearance from **Courtney Kimball Zimmerman '01**, Courtney and her husband Matt had been stationed in Abilene, TX, but this fall, she wrote, "Matt and I are now both assigned to the 354 Civil Engineer Squadron at Eielson AFB. We moved into a duplex in a town called North Pole (!) and are settling in for the winter. My piano made it without a scratch, and I am looking forward to bringing my x-country skis out of their TX retirement. We are living about 10 miles outside of Fairbanks." We imagine the culture shock Courtney and Matt must be experiencing relocating from TX to AK!

With more than 1,000 visitors and many hours of chime playing, we were thrilled to welcome **Waitz Ngan '02** back for the Commencement weekend concerts. Then, just a couple of weeks later, reuniting alumni returned to campus, including **Phil '52 & Barbara '54 Gottling, Grace Jean '00, Allegra Schafer '99, and Liz Wallis '02.**

July, which is typically a quiet month (except for all of those Sage Chapel wedding concerts) also brought many alumni. **Sharon Lubeck Karnado '86**, and her family made a visit to Ithaca over July 4th weekend, it was the first trip to the tower for her children. **Bob Feldman '66, '75** and Canadian chimer Peter Ryde quickly followed them. In late July, **Judy Ogden '71, '75, '77** played a few concerts while in town for a week, and **John Hoare '56, '57** made the trip over from Seneca Lake with his grandchildren.

September brought a record turn out of alumni for the annual Chimes Advisory Council meeting, and just last month **Peter Burckmyer '56** stopped by for a concert while showing the campus and community to friends. We are always pleased to welcome back **Erwin Chan '00** who occasionally makes trips through the area to play the bells and to expand his remarkable Cornell postcard collection.

We would like to extend a warm congratulations to **Tziporah (Sherry) Cohen '89** and her family, who welcomed Dalit Ruth on July 1 to join big brother Max, who turns 3 this November. Tziporah reports, "We are sleep deprived but happy, and very excited about our Red Sox making it big. And that's the news from Boston."

Congratulations also go out to **Elizabeth Wallis '02** who was married in August. And speaking of weddings, on November 6, the chimesmasters played a couple of wedding tunes in honor of **Amy Hirshfeld's '02** wedding ceremony in Pennsylvania that same day!

Not long ago, **Kristen Simpson '98** wrote to share this story with us, "I attended a church luncheon this past Sunday. As we went around introducing ourselves we were asked to provide a funny or embarrassing story. As luck would have it, most of my embarrassing stories involve the chimes. I told the story of demonstrating the competition pieces for 3 or 4 compets during one of my afternoon concerts and decided to end my concert with the Centennial Variations of the Alma Mater to show off the chimes. Unfortunately, I realized as I was playing the first page that I had placed the sheets in the wrong order on the music stand. While I was playing I figured out the spot where I could flip

off the top sheet to reveal the last page. But I was so excited about demonstrating the piece for these compets that when the time came I threw off THE PAGE I WAS STILL PLAYING. Unfortunately I flung it so hard that it flew through the spiral stairs and ended up about 2 floors down. Even worse was that the page had the key change from G back to C major. So much for impressing the compets. I ended the concert and told them that was how NOT to play the Alma Mater. To this day I am much more careful about placing pages on the stand before starting. Although it was embarrassing I still treasure chime memories like that."

We hope that you will continue to visit us in McGraw Tower, and stay in touch!

Stay connected with other chimes alumni...

by joining the chimes alumni email list-serve!

A list-serve is basically just a "list" of people's email addresses (in this case chimesmasters' addresses). When a message is sent to the list-serve address (chimes-alum-l@cornell.edu), the message is sent to all of the people subscribed to the list.

If you are interested in subscribing, your email address has changed, or you have additional questions about this list, email current chimesmaster Kenny Lim, at khl25@cornell.edu.

News from the Council Co-Chairs

Greetings from Boston and Washington, D.C.!

As the new co-chairs of the Chimes Advisory Council, we would like to thank our predecessors, Judy Ogden '71, '75, '77 and Kristen Simpson '98, for their leadership during the past few years. They passed the reins (or clapper) to us at the annual meeting on September 11, and we are pleased that they will continue to serve on the council. We are also both excited about our new responsibilities and we are honored to lead such an enthusiastic group of chimesmasters.

We had a great turnout for the annual meeting and terrific late-summer weather to match. The current chimesmasters updated their wish list of things they'd like to have in the tower, such as a computer on the main playing stand level, an updated display case in the lobby, perhaps a PA system, and activities they would like to do outside of McGraw Tower, such as continuing outreach visits to other chimes. These wishes fueled much discussion within the three committees and a dialogue has continued via listserve e-mails. We hope to make progress on some of these items during the year.

With the turnover in leadership, it seemed to be a good time to assess the council and meeting structures. We wanted to review our three committees, Visitor Experience, Outreach, and Fundraising, to see if they should continue as defined, be restructured, or dissolved. But we are happy to report that they continue to remain strong. Not only are we keeping those committees as they are, but we are also adding a new Performance/Musicality Committee to be chaired by Daniel Zlatin '79, '80. This new committee is still in its infancy and will have the first face-to-face meeting at the annual meeting next year.

During the annual meeting weekend, members of the council performed a memorial concert in honor of Phyllis Dittman McClelland '43, first official woman chimesmaster and former council co-chair, who passed away in February, and her husband, Fay (Mac) McClelland Jr. '44, who passed away at the beginning of September. The program included the Amazing Grace Variations, Galway Piper, Bourdon Theme for Bells, Alma Mater, Evening Song, Taps, and Lilliburlero, which was arranged by Phyllis. Our hearts and prayers go out to their families. We will miss Phyllis at future meetings, but her spirit will always be present.

Views from the tower show a campus visibly changing, from the newly completed Duffield Hall on the engineering quad to the new Alice Cook House on West Campus. If you haven't been back to Cornell in a while, we invite you to attend our next meeting in Fall 2005. We will post the date in the spring newsletter.

Have a safe and happy holiday season!

"I work at the cafe in Olin, and business is pretty hectic during the day. It's refreshing to pause and listen to the chimes concerts in the afternoon; their music is a nice change from the noise of the cafe." -Stephanie Kwai '05

The above quote was part of the article "A Piece of Tradition: The Cornell Chimes", featured in the Winter 2004 edition of *Connecting with Cornell*, a serial produced by the Office of the Vice Provost for Research. The Cornell Chimes were featured for their integral place in the university's history as well as their continued role in the landscape of the community.

To read this article, visit <http://www.research.cornell.edu/VPR/CWC172-04/index.html> and click on the article on the left side of the page.

Best wishes,

Bob Feldman, '66, '75 and Grace Jean '00

An Educational Journey to Our Northern Neighbors...Notes from the Chimes Advisor

Jennifer Lory-Moran '96, '97

In September I had the opportunity to attend a fabulous Chimer's Seminar in Oshawa, Ontario. Rob Millikin, of St. George's Memorial Anglican Church, organized the seminar conducted by Gordon Slater. Gordon is the Dominion Carillonneur of Canada, playing carillon at the Peace Tower, Houses of Parliament, in Ottawa. Even though the seminar was taught by a carillonneur on a carillon-type stand with no foot pedals, I learned so much that I was able to bring back and apply to my playing at Cornell.

The format of the seminar was well planned. The twenty participants were broken up into four groups of five. Each group had a little over an hour with Gordon Slater at the chime stand, which meant each participant ended up having a 15-minute mini-lesson with Gordon. The three groups that were not at the chime stand sat on the church lawn. From there, they could hear the playing and hear Gordon's critique via a radio setup. Having the radio available for those below helped everyone hear all of the feedback without trying to cram 20 chimers into the small playing area.

“A well-adjusted chime has one of the widest dynamic ranges of any instrument on the planet.”

The feedback given ranged from basic instruction on counting to proper hand position on a carillon keyboard to issues of musical phrasing and dynamics. I was reminded of many things I *used* to know about making music, but with so many years gone by since my last piano lesson, it has been a long time since anyone talked to me about building phrases and other musical issues.

Some of the most important points that I brought back to Cornell were related to dynamics, phrasing, and the properties of good arrangements. Gordon said at one point, “A well-adjusted chime has one of the widest dynamic ranges of any instrument on the planet.” We have the ability to adjust the tension to our bells for a reason, and we need to do it as frequently as possible. This will increase our ability to play softer, thus increasing our dynamic range. Anyone can hit a bell very hard – dynamic contrast is better shown by effectively playing softly instead. The piece I played at the seminar was Keith Jenkins' '93 “Windrose”, and Gordon and I

talked a lot about the rise and fall of phrases, especially in the melody. By keeping the accompaniment soft and mainly changing the dynamics of the melody, I learned to bring out my melody and my phrasing much better. Gordon also suggested looking for and writing arrangements that don't fight the natural loudness of lower bells by keeping the melody in the mid-to-lower range. Most of the Cornell arrangements have melody on top with accompaniment in the lower bells, so this will be a new idea for most of us here to consider.

I met many wonderful chimers at this seminar from a number of different chimes in the United States and Canada. We had terrific conversations about our bells and how we play them. And I saw a great model of how to organize this kind of event in case Cornell ever considers hosting something similar. I'm so glad that I was able to attend this first-of-its-kind event.

Joe Connors posted a summary of the weekend's events and some pictures on his allchimes.com website. The link to the seminar page is <http://www.allchimes.com/tocanada.htm>.



Where there's a will...Ontario chimer Peter Ryde, created the home practice stand (above) using a couple of planks from an old picnic table for the base and foam water pipe insulation for levers. He hopes to add pedals later this year.

Chimesmasters Corner

Lisa Ngai '05

Hi! I'm Lisa Ngai, a senior in the School of Hotel Administration, and the Head Chimesmaster for the 2004-2005 academic year. Here at McGraw Tower, the past few months have been very busy, but also very rewarding.

During Commencement weekend at the end of May we had over 1,000 visitors, and during Reunion weekend in June we had over 1,200 visitors. Overall, for 2004, we played 33 wedding concerts and gave 30 tours. In addition to all of the chimes playing, we found time for a couple of fun outings. In July, chimesmaster John Hoare '56, '57 and his wife Mary Jane hosted the chimesmasters in Ithaca for the summer at their home on Seneca Lake. We enjoyed sharing chimes stories while taking a boat ride, eating delicious food and watching a beautiful sunset. In September, we visited some bells in Rochester (see separate newspaper article). Thank you Karen Kamprath '05 for planning such a fun trip and being such a gracious host!

We currently have a staff of ten chimesmasters. Such a large group presents both opportunities and challenges. It's easier to find a duet partner to practice with and there seems to be a lot more "crashing" of concerts. However, my in-box gets flooded with emails every time I pose a question or raise an issue. Surprisingly, we had some difficulty scheduling chimesmasters to cover the 1:10pm concert on weekdays. The solution for Tuesdays is that Eric Hayes '05 and I share the afternoon concert. Eric opens the tower to visitors and plays a song or two before heading to class. After my 12:55pm class, I head to the tower to finish the concert.

With five of the current chimesmasters graduating in May 2005, the spring competition will be crucial to ensuring that we keep our numbers up. In October, we met to discuss potential changes to the competition structure and additional methods of advertising. Holding an "Open Chime Time" is one of the ideas that we discussed. On November 13 and December 5, we will be opening up the practice stand to any students who are interested in getting a brief introduction on how to play the Cornell Chimes. Of course, current chimesmasters will be available to demonstrate, instruct, and answer questions. We hope to reach a larger number of students by promoting the competition and creating interest during the fall semester. I will provide an update on the impact of our advertising and other changes in the spring newsletter.

Finally, there has been quite a bit of exchange and outreach to report. In July, Peter Ryde, a chimer at St. James' Anglican Church in Stratford, Ontario visited us in Ithaca. Although Peter usually plays an 11-bell chime, he dedicated his visit to becoming better acquainted with our set of 21 bells and even played an entire 15-minute concert on his own. When he heard that I was planning a trip to Toronto, Peter put me in touch with Rob Milliken, a chimer at St. George's Memorial Anglican Church in Oshwa, Ontario. During my trip I visited the 15-bell chime in Oshwa as well as a 21-bell chime at the Timothy Eaton Memorial Church in Toronto. I'm proud to say that I have played all three 21-bell chimes in North America. (The third is in Winchester, Massachusetts, which we visited last fall). All three chimes are quite different in their set-up, sound, and range even though they each have 21-bells.

Over the summer, Taras Czebiniak '06 visited some local chimes, including the First United Methodist Church in Endicott (11 bells), Christ Episcopal Church in Binghamton (11 bells), and St. James Catholic Church in Johnson City (15 bells). On October 30, nine people from Christ Episcopal Church spent a delightful morning with us touring McGraw Tower. Some members of the group had been part of a group that visited the tower 19 years earlier!

It's inspiring to see such enthusiasm and dedication to bells, and to be reminded that I'm part of not only a community of Cornell Chimesmasters past and present, but also part of a larger community of bell-ringers all over North America.

Visitors to McGraw Tower, October 2004 Top 10 Home States/Countries

10. Virginia & Maryland (tie)
9. Ohio
8. India
7. Texas
6. Colorado
5. Massachusetts
4. Florida
3. New Jersey
2. California

And the #1 most frequent home state/country
1. New York

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