



THE CORNELL
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 NEWSLETTER

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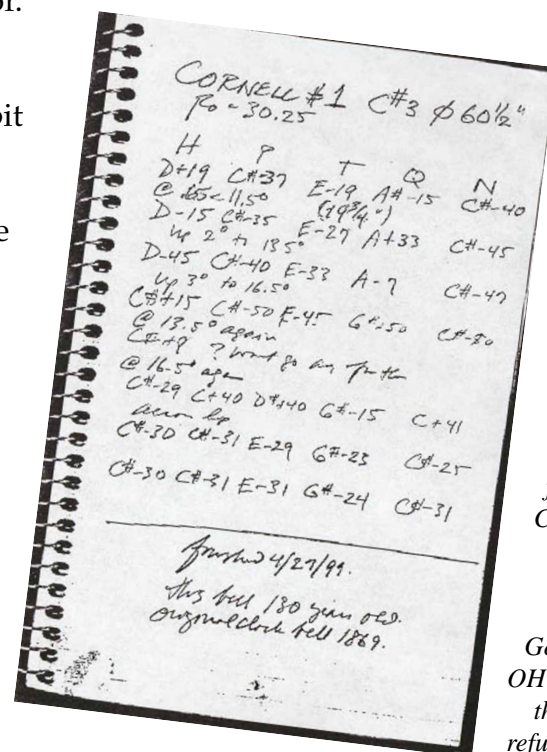
Physics + Bells + Pizza = Party!

Catherine Jordan '03

Whoever said physics isn't fun? When you add bells to anything, it's a great time! This February we had the good fortune to meet with Edith Cassel, Professor of Physics, who teaches a course "The Physics of Musical Sound." Each year, as part of her course, she brings her class to the tower for a tour and Chimes concert. She also participated in a panel discussion on the Physics of Bells during the Chimes Rededication Celebration in 1999.

For our special session, Professor Cassel came armed with diagrams, charts, bell models, xylophone bars, mallets, and a great sense of humor. For the next hour we explored the size, shape and composition of bells, and how they produce the beautiful music that we take for granted. Quite a bit of the material was pretty confusing – for example, why is it that a larger and more massive bell produces a lower pitch than a smaller and less massive bell, yet, when you remove mass from a bell by tuning, it lowers the pitch? The pitch of a bell is related not only to its mass but its rigidity, and the thinning of the bell's shape with tuning makes the bell less rigid, and therefore it has a lower pitch.

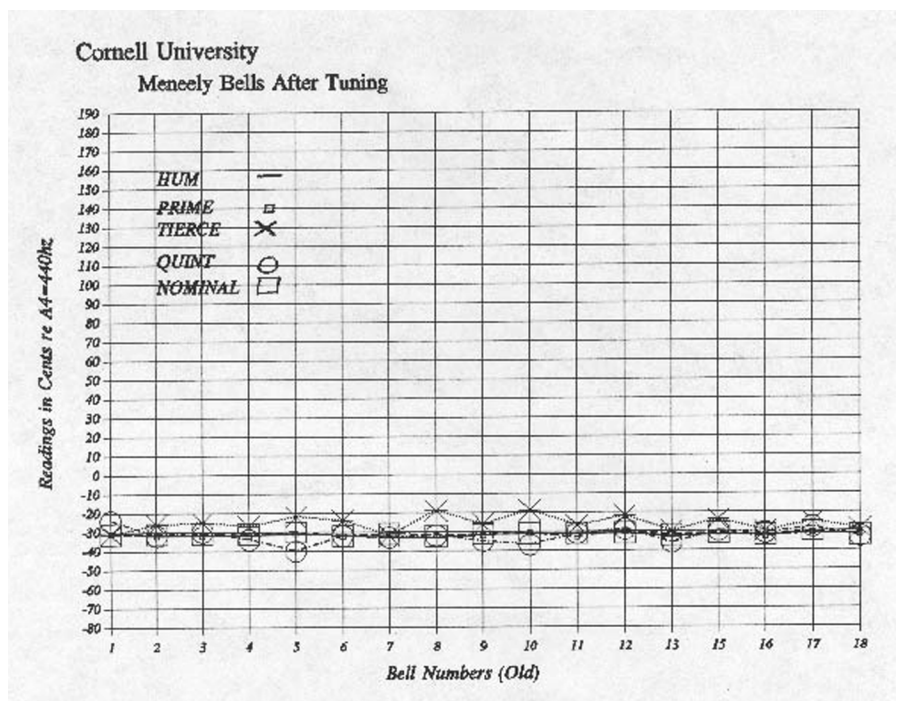
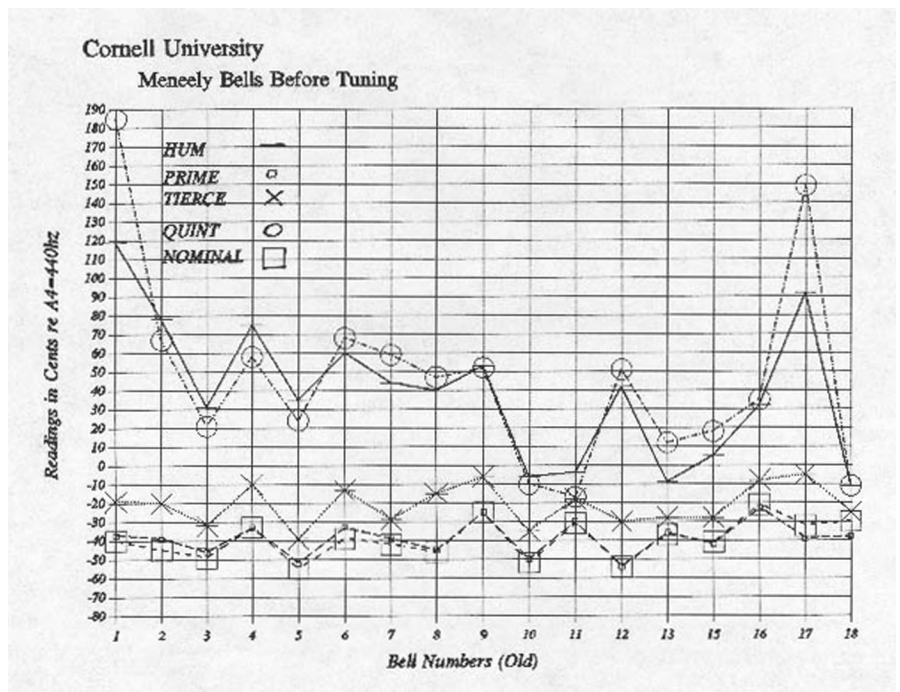
I could go on with the fun bell facts we learned! Did you know that the perceived pitch of a bell is not determined by the primary strike tone as much as the overtones at an octave, twelfth, and upper octave above the strike tone? Did you know that to tune the "tierce" mode, at a minor third above the strike tone, you remove material



A page from Rick Watson's journal containing notations from the Cornell Chimes tuning project. This page for the low C hour bell. Meeks, Watson & Co., Georgetown, OH completed the 1998-99 refurbishment.

from the bell's rim, while to tune the "quint," which is a perfect fifth above the strike tone, you remove material from the bell's waist? Even more striking was examining the sound profiles of our bells before and after tuning. The next time a visitor asks, "Is there really a big difference in the sound of the bells from before the renovation to now?" I'll show them the diagrams – before tuning, with the partials radically different from where they should be, and after tuning, with all of the partials nearly perfectly lined up along the axis where they should be. The improvement is incredible!

Not only was this lecture a great experience for the Chimesmasters to learn more about our instrument and how it works, but we also made a connection with a fascinating and friendly faculty member in an informal setting. And, as college students, any opportunity for eating pizza is appreciated!



Tuning charts from the Cornell Chimes and McGraw Tower Refurbishment 1998-99.

This is Jeopardy!

"I'll take Colleges for \$400 Alex."

The clue: "To play the chimes in this Ithaca university's McGraw Tower, one must be able to read music and climb 161 steps."

The answer: "What is Cornell?"

Thanks to Esther Koblenz '72 for sharing this Chimes fact with us from the 2/10/03 episode of Jeopardy!

The Cornell Chimes Far Above Cayuga's Waters

Introducing the newest compact disk in the Cornell Chimes collection and the first full-length recording since the bells were tuned in 1999. Featuring Cornell songs, classical favorites, Chimesmaster original compositions, and more!

Available beginning May 27 at the Cornell Store and by mail order at 1-800-624-4080.

For additional information, visit:
www.chimes.cornell.edu.



...Alumni Notes

Richard (Dick) Lee '41 reports that he spends most of his time composing music for "Transparency in Song Volume 3, More Inspirational Solos" which is expected to be released in two years. Dick and his wife Laurie, produced a double CD of Dick's original compositions called "Transparency In Song Volumes 1 & 2, 24 Inspirational Solos," and accompanying sheet music of the same name two years ago. They produce music under Dick's own record label and publishing company: "ForeverEndeavor". Visit www.TransparencyInSong.com to hear some of the solos, learn more about the music or obtain information on ordering the double CD or songbook. Dick would love to hear from fellow Chimesmasters, please give him a call at (202) 244-7669!

Grace Jean '00 writes, "**Allegra Schafer '99** and I have been learning how to ring bells Quasimodo-style with the Washington Ringing Society (WRS) since late January. (Yes, ropes!) While it's nothing like the chimes, it has its own set of challenges, and we're happy to be striking some bells. The WRS rings at the National Cathedral tower and at the Old Post Office building tower in downtown Washington, DC. Both towers have a set of 10 bells, and the ringers themselves are a bunch of terrific bell enthusiasts, who are very similar to the Chimesmasters- passionate about what they do, thrive on

challenging pieces and methods, search for bells to ring in their travels and always love having visitors at the top! We enjoy it but we also miss the chimes." When she's not ringing bells, Grace is freelancing for the Washington Post. She recently had a beautifully written article published about the Arlington Symphony!

On another bell-related note, **Bob Feldman '66, '75** has been doing quite a bit of traveling for his work, which recently took him to Naperville, IL. While there, Bob met the Millennium Carillon carillonneur, Wiley Crawford, and got to go up in the tower for the 6:00-6:30 concert. "They have 72 bells! It was nice to go out to dinner afterwards, where we discussed (of course) carillons and chimes. Wiley is VP of the GCNA, and he is currently lobbying various folks in NYC to try to get a carillon as part of the new World Trade Center design. If anyone has NYC contacts and wants to help Wiley, his e-mail address is: Crawford205@attbi.com." On another trip, Bob passed through Ithaca during Cornell Spring Break in March. During what is typically a quiet week on campus, it was delightful to hear his Chimes duets with **Lisa Ngai '05!** Maybe his work travels will take him near the GCNA Congress in Kentucky this June?

April showers bring visits from Alumni Chimesmasters! We

were delighted to run into **Judy Ogden '71, '75, '77** in the practice room of the tower one day. Judy made a quick trip back to campus in early April for a wedding, but we're glad she at least had time for a little practicing! Chimesmasters and compets also welcomed **John Hoare '56, '57** and **Charles (Chuck) Swanson '49** who both visited the tower in April accompanied by their grandchildren.

During April we also saw former compet **Leaf Turner '63**. Leaf and his wife Ruby joined us for the Chimesmaster Reunion in 2001. This time Leaf and his daughter Rima, a high school junior, made the trip to Ithaca to visit Cornell, and of course, while they were here, made the climb for a Chimes concert!

Speaking of compets, **Thomas Singman's '59** daughter-in-law was one of our compets this spring. His daughter-in-law is actually a law student, and will be graduating soon, so she is not eligible to compete. But she really wanted to learn how to play, so we allowed her to participate in the first four weeks of practicing since she is was so excited to be a part of the Chimes.

Finally, a great THANK YOU goes out to **Lauren Marino '02** who has made several trips to Ithaca this winter and spring to go through the University Archives looking for Chimes

and tower related items for the 6th floor museum. In October 2002 a valve on the 7th floor failed, causing a flood of water on the 6th and 7th floors, and irreparable damage to the museum displays. With Lauren and the Chimesmasters' help, we hope to have a temporary display in place for Commencement and Reunion of this year. In the future, we'll look to mounting a more permanent display in that area.

Stay connected with alumni throughout the year...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' email addresses). When a message is sent to the address of the listserve (chimes-alum-l@cornell.edu), the message is sent to all the people subscribed to the list. When a reply to a message is sent to the listserve, the response is sent back to the entire group.

This is a wonderful way to stay connected to the Chimes community as people can read discussions among chimesmasters and need only join in if they wish.

If you are interested in subscribing, or have additional questions about this list, email Alan Erickson at are4@cornell.edu.

A Word from the Chimes Advisory Council Co-Chairs

Greetings from the Chimes Advisory Council! We hope that you are enjoying the change of seasons as spring turns into summer (or as winter changes to spring in some parts of the country)! The bluebonnets and other wildflowers have been in full bloom along the Texas highways this year, signaling the full arrival of spring and steamy temperatures ahead.

Is this your reunion year? If yes, please join us for an informal meeting on Saturday, June 7th, 2003 from 3:30 to 5:00 pm in 163 Day Hall. Specific information regarding the meeting agenda will be posted at the tower entrance. If you are not currently serving on the Advisory Council we welcome your input and invite you to attend this meeting. The most pressing issues under discussion revolve around providing recording equipment for the chimesmasters as well as enhancing the visitor experience through the museums on the 1st and 6th floors.

If you are unable to attend the meeting Saturday afternoon, we hope that you still plan to attend (and play!) the Chimes concerts during reunion weekend (see the last page of this newsletter for the complete Reunion schedule). Remember - "once a chimesmaster, always a chimesmaster"! And don't forget to try out the "new" practice stand on the third floor if you have not done so since the renovation was completed in 1999.

We would like to officially welcome Connie (Smatlak) van Hoesel '93, '95 as our newest Chimes Advisory Council member. Connie has been able to join us for the last two meetings, and we are thrilled to have her as part of our team.

If you have any questions about the Advisory Council or would be interested in participating, please contact Judy or Kristen by emailing chimes@cornell.edu or calling (607) 255-2373. We would love to have you join us! Based on the comments from our last Advisory Council meeting, we will schedule our next full meeting for early fall. The final date will be announced shortly.

Happy Spring!

Judy Ogden '71, 75, 77 and Kristen Simpson '98
Chimes Advisory Council Co-Chairs

Chimesmaster's Corner:
the 2003 Chimes Competition
Cathy Jordan '03, Head Chimesmaster

As I sit here writing this, the ceiling is thumping and shaking and the office is pretty noisy. Earthquake? Thunderstorm? No...compet! With "Russian Sailor's Dance" as one of this year's required competition pieces, there has been a lot of jumping and banging going on in the practice room! It is amazing how the competition always changes the way the tower feels. The mix of emotions from having many friendly faces to get to know and advise to the threat that strangers have access to OUR tower. Or hearing the Rag played in swing and with B naturals during the first week, to hearing a compet attempt a truly challenging piece, like "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring," and thinking, "Hey, I still have a little trouble with that one, and they're trying it already?" It has been an adventure.

This spring the number of initial compets was down a little from the last couple of years. We started out with 26 compets, as opposed to our usual 40. However, the smaller number of compets ended up being advantageous, as each compet got more practice time, and the first auditions were quite strong. Following tradition, this audition was performed silently on the main playing console and consisted of the Rag, Alma Mater, Evening Song, and a sight-reading piece.

We accepted 6 compets to the second round, and they are progressing very well. Judging is about to begin and we are very excited, not only to get up in time for the morning concert 6 days a week, but also to see what the compets can do. This year's competition pieces are "Russian Sailor's Dance," by Gliere, and R. H. Lee's "Lament." I am particularly excited about the required pieces this year because they are the same as when I tried out in 2000, so they are near and dear to my heart.

The most exciting thing about the competition is that by its end we will (hopefully) have at least one or two new Cranium players (I mean, chimes players) to add to our team!

The Cornell Chimesmasters welcome

Taras Czebiniak '06
and
Kenny Lim '05

to the Cornell Chimes family and a part of the university's oldest musical tradition!

"I've Been Playing HOW Long?"

Jennifer Lory-Moran '96, '97, Chimes Advisor

Another competition season
forces me to count
the years I've played the Cornell Chimes.
(The years are starting to mount.)

I know I've played a long, long time
from the look on a visitor's face.
When he asks how long I've played the chimes,
my answer makes him gape.

Oh me, oh my. Ten years gone by.
I can't pretend I'm young and spry.
The stairs get taller every time
I come to play these lovely chimes.

So many chimers have joined our staff.
(I've played with twenty-eight!)
They've all been great and I'm proud to say
I can still keep all of them straight.
I've met alums (about thirty-one)
who come back to visit and play.
And there's nothing like seeing Phyllis McClelland
use her knee to play middle A!

It's been fun to watch the chimesmasters
become such a social bunch.
They play games and take trips and
hang out all the time,
and they're always meeting for lunch.

It started during the renovation
when we had no bells to ring.
We bonded and flew out to visit our bells,
and we all came to my house to sing.

Accident victim, Arabian dancer,
the ghost of Jennie McGraw,
My Dear Aunt Sally, The Cat in the Hat,
and the best nun you ever saw.
A flapper, a gardener, a sock (that was tricky!),
and, this year, a watering can.
Ten years of chimes costumes for ten Halloweens.
Every year they get harder to plan.

And I'll never forget "The Pumpkin" that stayed
and stayed and stayed and stayed and stayed.
That pumpkin simply will not die.
Every month someone asks me
"How? Who? and Why?"

So many memories from so many years.
I know how lucky I've been
to be a chimesmaster all this time.
I'd do it all over again.
In ten years I've learned to stand on one foot,
to play dynamics and three-note chords.
But ten years just doesn't seem quite long enough.
To be great, I'll need at least ten years more!



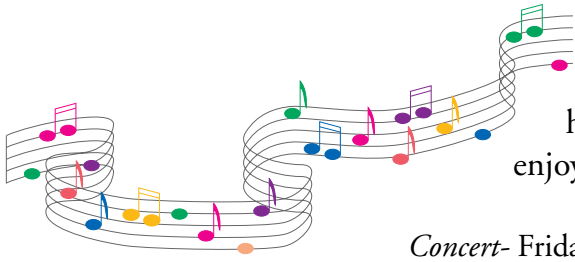
Future Chimesmaster and Cornellian Class of 2024? Jennifer '96, '97 and Mark Lory-Moran's daughter Fiona. At the tender age of 6 months she has already attended numerous Chimes concerts including Halloween and judged competition!

The Cornell Chimes and Planned Giving

Increasing your income. Reducing taxes. Providing for your family after you're gone. Finding the resources to support the Cornell Chimes. You have so many objectives-how do you reconcile them?

Fortunately, you have a helpful resource in the Planned Giving Office of Cornell University. While it is true that the Cornell Chimes program needs current support, it is sometimes the case that outright gifts may be difficult to fit in with your own financial plans. A planned giving officer can help you achieve your own goals, such as increasing your income or enhancing the net estate for you heirs, while continuing your support for the Cornell Chimes and Chimesmasters, who in turn enrich the experience for all listeners and visitors to McGraw Tower.

To discuss these options, contact Chris Reilly, Planned Giving Officer at (800) 481-1865 or cr85@cornell.edu. The staff will be happy to answer your questions or send information.



Are you returning to campus for Alumni Reunion Weekend June 5-8? If yes, please visit us in the tower, we have an exciting array of Chimes events planned and we always enjoy visiting with alumni!

Concert- Friday at 8:45 a.m., 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Saturday at 10:40 a.m., 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Sunday at 10:40 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Open House- The Chimesmasters will be hosting their annual McGraw Tower open house on Saturday from 12:00-2:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served for those who climb all 161 steps, and Chimesmaster alumni are always welcome to return and play the bells!

For the first time ever! Golden Oldies Requests and Sing along Chimes Concert-
Presented by the Class of 1958 with Chimesmasters Dick Haggard '58, '65, Frank Russell '58, '60, and George Ubogy '58. Saturday from 2:00-3:00 p.m. at McGraw Tower. Alumni from all classes are welcome!

Chimes Advisory Council Meeting- Saturday from 3:30-5:00 p.m. in 163 Day Hall.
All returning Chimesmaster alumni are invited to attend.

For additional information, please contact the Chimes office or visit www.chimes.cornell.edu.

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Cornell Chimes

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