This past June, I had the opportunity to attend the 74th annual Congress of the Guild of Carillonneurs of North America (GCNA) at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. In spite of my inexperience as one of Cornell’s newest chimesmasters and a first-time GCNA attendee, I felt surprisingly at ease among the many other Cornellians attending the congress. This year, Judy Ogden ’71, MPS ’75, JD ’77, Keith Jenkins ’93, Jennifer Lory-Moran ’96, MAT ’97, Erica Ho ’13, Bryan Chong ’13, MEng ’14, Ilia Karp ’15, Emily Graf ’16, Joshua Chan ’18, and I all made it to the congress, many of us for the first time. It was a refreshing change of pace to sit and enjoy the music of Harkness Tower’s 54-bell carillon with Cornellians so used to performing.

At this congress, there was a huge push for original arrangements, transcriptions, and compositions for the carillon. The Yale University Guild of Carillonneurs commissioned “50 for the 50th”—50 original carillon pieces to celebrate Harkness Tower’s 50th birthday. These original pieces came in part from the Twilight Concert contest, which enjoyed nearly 40 submissions. One of the most exciting submissions to us chimesmasters was Jennifer Lory-Moran’s arrangement of “Pure Imagination” by Bricusse and Newley from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, which won first-place arrangement! It was such a pleasant surprise to be greeted by Jen’s award-winning arrangement in the GCNA welcome packet on our first day.

Miscellaneous GCNA highlights for me included connecting with other bell enthusiasts, particularly those from Yale and Berkeley (there were lots of college-age carillonneurs in attendance this year), watching Erica and Ilia playfully duet “Arrival in New Haven” on Harkness’s practice stand, enjoying a dramatic read-aloud of the Yale Guild’s original children’s book Rosie Meets the Carillon, and climbing all the way up Harkness Tower with Josh on the last day.

What stood out to me most at GCNA was the infectious passion everyone shared for not only bells, but music in general. It really inspired me, as a new chimesmaster, to channel that very passion into my own performances at Cornell.

I would like to thank those who have given to the Cornell Chimes for making this experience possible for so many of us. Thank you for your generosity—we could not have enjoyed such a wonderful week at GCNA without you!
The annual chimes competition this past year was run by Charlie Xu ’16, head chimesmaster, and Emily Graf ’16, competition coordinator. The competition seemed to kick off as usual until we found out only seven compets had signed up for the silent audition. This year the new competition coordinator, John Lee ’18, has come up with several different methods of advertising the competition, including producing an advertising video and reaching out to orchestras and bands on campus. Our fingers are crossed that we receive a large number of compets who successfully overcome the barrier of the “Rag!”

As the incoming head chimesmaster, I was worried when we said goodbye to four wonderful chimesmasters in May 2016. Although many of us still miss Keiran (Cantilina ’15), Emily (Graf ’16), Ren (Karen Ortega ’16), and Charlie (Xu ’16), this has been another exciting year with two passionate new chimesmasters Josh Chan ’18 and Billie Sun ’19.

In the summer, the bells kept ringing thanks to the remaining chimesmasters on campus, including Ilia Karp ’15, Julia King GR, Keith Jenkins ’93, Jennifer Lory-Moran ’96, MAT ’97, and Gretchen Ryan ’97. Ilia served as summer chimesmaster, handling a large number of concert requests, including 15 wedding concerts and four specialty concerts. One of the highlights of the summer was the on-campus wedding of Ren and Keiran. Despite the burning heat, it was a great day to catch up with many of the recent chimes graduates who made a trip to Ithaca to celebrate the wedding together.

When the fall semester began, things picked up quickly with the Chimes Advisory Council meeting in September. In addition to our regular playing, we had three wedding concerts, four specialty concerts (two of which were for marriage proposals!), a parents’ weekend open house, the 52nd Annual Halloween Concert, and the Christmas vespers concerts. We also had visits from alumni chimesmasters and from members of the University of Rochester Carillon Society. We’ve had many fun times with the bells, but we also faced some minor challenges, one of which was debating when to change the color of the clock faces to recognize causes and events. As this issue involves the larger Cornell community and a university landmark, it will be addressed by a committee meeting to develop a sound policy.

It feels unreal to me that this is my last semester with the chimes. Frankly, sometimes I took my time with the bells for granted; I got so used to playing the bells regularly that I no longer remembered the excitement I had when I first played the bells out loud as a first-year student. Now that I am almost near the end, every minute with the bells feels special.

I look forward to greeting the new batch of compets in a few days and to seeing their excitement as they get to know the instrument. Although I still won’t enjoy waking up for morning concerts and marching up Libe Slope covered with snow, I know I will cherish every minute at the top of the tower. I thank Marisa LaFalce, program coordinator, Jen Lory-Moran, chimes advisor, and the rest of the chimes family for offering me this unique experience at Cornell. I will never forget the bells. Thank you!

Serim An is a senior in the College of Arts and Sciences, studying Biology. She hopes to pursue a career in medicine after graduation.
I like to find songs in the database that nobody has played in a long time and try to play them. We have so much music in our files, and it’s fun to explore what is there.

Billie Sun ’19 and Josh Chan ’18 absorbed in the music.

Spotlight on Josh Chan ’18

Marisa LaFalce

I met with Josh Chan (JDC), a junior, who became a chimesmaster in April 2016. It was a blustery December day at the end of the semester.

“Hi Josh, where did you just come from?”

“I was in the clock tower.

“So not far in this weather! Were you studying? Working?”

“I actually played the midday concert. I was procrastinating a little and making edits to the new song I just arranged for the chimes.

“What song is that?”

“How Far I’ll Go,” from Moana, the new Disney movie. I saw the movie over Thanksgiving break. It was great. I also liked the short little five-minute clip before the actual movie.

“Glad to hear you’re adding to our arrangements. Tell me about your exam schedule.

“I have one on Wednesday, and then I have two more at the end of next week. So I have a big break in the middle. Plus two final projects that I’ve been working on a little at a time.

Remind me of your college and major.

“I am an Engineering student, and I am studying Computer Science [CS].

“How was your semester? What did you take?”

“I guess this semester I have taken some different classes, not just the standard CS classes. I took some courses that I thought would be fun, like Intro to Civil Engineering—I looked forward to building the pasta bridge from the beginning of the class. We made a bridge out of spaghetti. It was really fun!

“I also took Intro to Japanese—that was great. They taught it so well that it didn’t feel like I had lots of memorization…just working through conversations and stuff, so it’s been fun (and easy to learn).

“Have you had any exposure to Japanese before?”

“I’ve just watched a few animes but that doesn’t count for much! Japanese uses Chinese characters, and I know a tiny bit of Chinese…maybe that helped…but I learned a lot more in my one semester of Japanese [at Cornell] than in four years of Chinese in high school.

“You took Chinese as part of your high school curriculum? That’s interesting.

Where did you go to high school?

“I went to Bridgewater High School. I am from (Bridgewater), New Jersey.

“Did any classmates from your high school come to Cornell?”

“A decent amount, maybe four my year…one of them is a close friend; we’ve lived together for the past few years.

“Tell me about Computer Science. What interests you?”

“I first started CS when I was a junior or senior in high school. I found it really interesting to do cool things by typing in a few lines of code into a computer.

“I would like to do something in graphics and game design. I am hoping to take the game design class next semester. There is a big game design showcase at the end of the semester where students from all over campus come to play games. Hopefully I will get in [to the class].

“So do you play a lot of video games yourself?”

“Yes, I play a lot of games. I tried to get into competitive gaming last winter break. I play mostly Hearthstone and League of Legends.

Continued on next page
I always like to ask about instruments because the CMs tend to be very musical.
My whole family is musical. My parents had us all learn piano. I have three sisters, and they also learned clarinet, flute, and violin (respectively), and my brother is really tiny. He hasn’t learned anything but piano yet.

So are you the oldest? Are any of your other siblings in college?
Yes, I am the oldest. My oldest sister just started college this year. She is at UC Berkeley. I have another sibling who is a junior in high school, then a much younger brother and sister.

What made you choose Cornell?
I guess my first choice was really MIT, but I didn’t get in, so scratch that! I applied to a bunch of schools and took campus tours on many campuses. I really liked Cornell’s campus, very scenic. And the clock tower was memorable. I remember being on a campus tour on Ho Plaza and heard the story about the pumpkin, and the chimesmasters playing “Let It Snow” in summer, and that sounded really cool. I was trying to decide in the end between Cornell and CMU (Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh). They have a great CS department, but the campus is smaller, and I felt like I would have more options to study outside of CS at Cornell, so I came here.

Do you feel like you’ve had time yet to broaden your experiences beyond CS?
Yes, this semester especially. The CS classes are a lot of work, so I try to spread them out. I like the PE (Physical Education) classes. They are really fun and help me relax. I’ve taken four of them now.

So what PE classes have you taken? Anything unusual?
I took bowling my first semester here. Then swing dancing with my friends—that was really fun—fencing, and this semester I took ice skating. That was fun too. I learned how to skate backwards, which is something I’ve always wanted to do.

The PE classes here are so diverse, it’s a great way to learn something new.

I want to take archery my senior year. That is on my list of classes to take, along with Introduction to Wines... although I think wine tastes awful, so I don’t know how well I will do in that class!

Perhaps it will give you an appreciation… Hopefully, if I can learn to taste it!

So you learned about the tower and chimes during your first campus tour, but how did you get really connected and decide to do the competition?
I always thought it sounded interesting, but I kind of forgot about the chimes until I got a quarter-card about the competition in my residence hall mailbox during my first year. I went to the tryouts and didn’t get in my first year but tried again last year and was accepted as a sophomore. I was super excited.

What gave you the motivation to come back the second year after not making it as a first-year student?
I guess I really wanted to get in and be a part of the chimes, I have always had that motivation. I was really disappointed the first time, so I figured I will try my best the second time. I found it a lot easier because I already knew the music. So the first four weeks of the competition I picked it up a lot more quickly the second time through. It made a real difference. I felt a lot more comfortable.

The first year I was so worried about making a mistake. The second year I was focused on making great sound, not on making mistakes.

You mentioned you’re working on a new arrangement now. What else have you arranged for the chimes, if anything?
Over the summer I arranged a bunch of songs. My first song is “When You Believe” from the movie, Prince of Egypt. That’s the song I’ve spent the most time on. It’s a bit hard to read, but the tempo is slow so it looks harder than it is. Some of my other arrangements don’t work as well on the chimes. I tried to arrange something from the movie, Tangled, but it’s just too fast, I am probably going to hide that piece in my folder!

What pieces do you like to play?
I play a lot of Disney music. If you look at my song history in the database, you’ll see lots of Disney music played. I also like the original compositions from Keith Jenkins ’93 and Dick Lee ’81. Those pieces just sound so nice on the chimes, and they are not that difficult to play. You just need to put a lot of emotion into them.

I also like to find songs in the database that nobody has played in a long time and try to play them. We have so much music in our files, and it’s fun to explore what is there.

Tell me some more about life outside of chimes.
Most of my free time is spent playing music and games. This semester, getting the club started has been a lot of work…getting an advisor, getting sponsorship from a gaming organization (that will give us prizes for tournaments), etc. Right now we are trying to stream our games with a web service. Working through that process is taking a lot of time.

That and trying to get an internship over the summer.

So your internship hunt has already started?
Thank you to our generous alumni and friends for their gifts to the Cornell Chimes last year (fiscal year July 2015–June 2016). Your gift today will make an immediate and lasting impact on the chimes program.

Yes, I started at the beginning of the school year. I haven’t found one yet.

Where are you looking?

I have gotten some rejections, some applications I haven’t heard back on yet. I am looking mostly at game design companies. It is a little harder without having taken the game design class yet, and so I have no experience.

So it’s the old you need experience to get a position, but can’t get a position because you don’t have experience?

Yeah.

On a typical weekend, like this past weekend, do you spend it gaming with friends?

No. Mostly I study in the library…my house WiFi isn’t very good so I need to go to the library to get my work done. I also play a lot of chimes because all of my concerts were scheduled on the weekend this semester.

And the Sage Chapel Christmas vespers were this weekend. Did you play?

Yeah. We played yesterday and will play again tonight. That was really fun, playing Christmas music was really fun. We played through all of our Christmas songs. I will have to find some more for tonight.

One last question I didn’t get a chance to ask you yet. You went to the GCNA at Yale this past June. How was your GCNA experience, especially as a brand-new chimesmaster?

It was really interesting. I didn’t know what to expect, but I figured I had this great opportunity so I should go. I didn’t know there were so many people related to the carillon guild. It was so big it surprised me. And, wow! The carillon was so high pitched compared to a chime. They played a lot of new music. Jen’s (Lory-Moran) arrangement was really nice. It was a treat to meet the Yale Carillonneurs.

Yeah, they were really friendly.

I am so glad you had a good experience at GCNA and that you stuck with the chimes to come back to the competition a second year. Thanks for talking with me, Josh.
In this edition of the alumni notes, we continue to discover that the Cornell Chimesmasters are truly a global citizenry. Crystal Cun ’07 wrote, “On my first night in Morocco, I randomly ran into someone I hadn’t seen in years, chimesmaster Ryan Fan ’10! As a “Chinois” (the generic word for any Asian) speaking fluent Arabic, Ryan turns heads like a cartwheel. Though he had only been in Fez for a couple of months, watching Ryan walk through the medina and greet every baker, waiter, and musician was a dizzying sight. Hanging out with Ryan also meant we could break free of the typical tourist menus of tagine and couscous. Suddenly, we were facing a bucket of snails, simmering in a broth laced with wormwood, musk, sage, and paprika. Harira soup, thick with chickpeas, while two tomcats fought under the table. Cow udder, unsurprisingly squishy … it was a good reminder that doors will open when you speak a common language and keep an open mind.” Fan is in Morocco studying on a Fulbright Scholarship.

Also on the global front, Renee Setter ’13 and Erica Ho ’13 visited Bryan Chong ’13, MEng ’14 in Malaysia this past summer, where they ate tons of delicious food, visited the Petronas Twin Towers (no chimes get-together is complete without a tower visit!), and completed an obstacle/ropes course high up in the trees. Erica also wrote, “I started my PhD in clinical psychology at Yale this fall, which also gave me the opportunity to try my hand at carillon for the first time. I participated in Heel, the nine-week audition (sound familiar?!?) for the Yale Guild of Carillonneurs, and I’m overjoyed to share that I was accepted! It’s so great to be close to a bell tower again, and I’m so excited to learn carillon and continue my bell journey.”

Keith Jenkins ’93 had his international debut as a composer last year, when Andrea McCrady, the Dominion Carillonneur of Canada, performed one of his compositions on the Peace Tower Carillon in Ottawa. She performed “Night,” which was originally written for the Cornell Chimes. Dr. McCrady first heard the music a few years ago when she visited Cornell to lead a master class for the chimesmasters.

Congratulations are in order for Keiran Cantilina ’15 and Ren Ortega ’16, who got married on June 20 in the Sesquicentennial Grove at Cornell, in sight of McGraw Tower. The wedding ceremony was, of course, followed by a chimes concert. Many current and recent chimesmasters were in attendance,
Chimesmasters gather in Ithaca to celebrate the marriage of Kieran Cantilina ’15 and Karen (Ren) Ortega ’16.

Cathy (Jordan) Longley-Cook ’03 performs for Newton’s anniversary concert.

PHOTOGRAPHER UNKNOWN

including Serim An ’17, Weijia Chen ’14, Bryan Chong ’13, MEng ’14, Emily Graf ’16, Erica Ho ’13, Ilia Karp ’15, Julia King GR, Barrett Smith ’14, and Jenny Xia ’13.

In another celebration, Bob Feldman ’66, PhD ’75, together with Cathy (Jordan) Longley-Cook ’03, MAT ’05, Kathryn Barger PhD ’08, and Scott Silverstein ’08, celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Newton chime that Bob regularly plays. Bob wrote, “Shades of Cornell’s renovation celebration were seen, including an audience on the lawn, ice cream, and a special piece commissioned for the event, ‘Tower Antiphonies,’ by Carson Cooman, church organist.

Prior to composing the piece, Carson observed Cathy, Bob, and another chimer playing the bells, and then Carson wrote: “Each of the three players has a distinct style, I have written a set of three pieces that intends to take advantage of what I observed from their different playing manners.” After the first practice, Cathy remarked, “Bob’s part is so Bob; Paul’s part is so Paul; and I love my part!”

Many alumni chimesmasters returned to Cornell for the annual Chimes Advisory Council meeting in September. However, one council member was noticeably absent: Kristen Simpson ’98, who sings in the top choral group at the University of Southern California, where she is also getting her PhD, was with her chorus performing backup to the Rolling Stones.

Other alumni who returned this year to visit or play the bells include Ivana Thng ’12, Renee Setter ’13, Michael Maltenfort ’91, and Connie (Smatlak) van Hoesel ’93, MS ’95—her four boys helped her play the hour bells. We also had a visit from Peter Ryde, who performed several concerts during his visit.

Jen Lory-Moran ’96, MAT ’97, Renee Setter ’13, and Gretchen Ryan ’97 ran the It’s a Wonderful Run 5K in Seneca Falls in December. “We toured the It’s a Wonderful Life Festival and the Women’s Rights National Historical Park before the run. The park/museum was a wonderful place to keep warm and fuel up with some history before the run. Seneca Falls is known as the likely inspiration for the town of Bedford Falls in the movie, It’s a Wonderful Life, and the run started and ended at the bridge near the main street. Racers wore bells, and thousands of angels got their wings that night!” wrote Jen.

Gretchen Ryan ’97, Renee Setter ’13, and Jen Lory-Moran ’96, MAT ’97 find bells even while running for the It’s a Wonderful Life celebration.
Cornell as a Start-Up

Compiled by Daniel Zlatin MS ’80

As we get ever closer to the 150th anniversary of Jennie McGraw’s gift of the bells to the university, I have dipped once again into the historical record.

Imagine the university in those early days, when it was in “start-up” mode. The importance of various roles would certainly not be as they are today. I have two examples of where the chimes stood in those early years.

The Cornell Era, the first Cornell University student newspaper, is online and searchable in the Cornell University Digital Archives at ebooks.library.cornell.edu/c/cuda. Its April 19, 1872 issue, Vol. IV, No. 23—ends with lists of what are presumably “official” university positions. For example, “Faculty” include Andrew D. White, President; Professor of History; and Willard Fiske, MA, PhD, Professor of North-European Languages. “Assistant Professors” includes one William E. Arnold, MA, Mathematics and Military Tactics—an interesting combination. “Special Lecturers—College of Agriculture” include people in areas such as ornithology, economic entomology, and cultivation of the potato.

So where does the chimesmaster show up, if at all?—in a list of “University Officers.” Searching again through the Digital Archives, we find the “Proceedings of the Board of Trustees of Cornell University, including the Minutes of the Executive Committee, April 1865—July 1885.” In an entry from Oct. 21, 1882, only 14 years into the university’s existence, we find a list of “Appropriations, 1882–83.” Is it reassuring to know that “Bell Ringing” had a larger appropriation than “Conchological?” What about “Free Hand Drawing?”

Doing some quick math, at this time the chimes was receiving more than 0.15% of the entire university budget.

Fast-forward 140 years. The university is no longer a “start-up.” The chimes is no longer listed among university officers. Nor does its budget come anywhere close to 0.15% of the university budget. But we cannot help but think that its social importance to the university has not diminished, as it continues to mark the hours, seasons, and ceremonies of the campus.

Master Class

Jennifer Lory-Moran ’96, MAT ’97, Chimes Advisor

This year’s master class was taught in January 2017 by Sharon Costianes, a local music teacher and Feldenkrais practitioner. It was a completely different experience than previous master classes, where the focus was on musical interpretation or arrangement. This time our work was dedicated to looking at our movement. As Sharon said at the beginning of the day, “Musicians move for a living.”

The Feldenkrais Method is used to increase awareness of your usual neuromuscular habits and explore new ways of moving. There are two parts to Feldenkrais instruction—group work on specific movement patterns and individual work to with help manipulating your body in different ways. Our master class structure included both.

We started our day in a comfortable space in Willard Straight Hall, lying on yoga mats and exploring different movements of the pelvis and arms. Sharon chose exercises that would specifically apply to the very unique ways that we need to stand and contort our bodies when we play the chimes. I found it fascinating the way that the smallest movement of my hips affected how easily I could rotate my extended arms. That was something I did not expect!

In the afternoon, we went to the tower to do individual work with Sharon. Each of the chimesmasters shared the types of motions that cause us pain or stress in our playing.

There were a number of us with legs and hips that hurt after standing on one foot for a long time. Many people talked about tension in their arms. Some of us had more of a musical goal than a physical one (like playing chords softly or conquering those parallel thirds), and Sharon then worked with each player on ways to change our movements to address those difficulties.

It is a refreshing change to focus on our movements so intently. I’ve never thought about my playing in this kind of detail. And I am proud to work with a group of students that was willing to take risks in the class. Master classes can be intimidating. To stand up in front of your peers and say, “this is something that I struggle with” takes courage. To have everyone focus on your physical choices, in addition to your musical ones, can make one feel very vulnerable. Thank you to the chimesmasters for being such willing participants, and thank you to Sharon for bringing a unique and useful perspective to our playing!

Educational opportunities such as master classes and road trips happen annually thanks to the support of the Monica Novakovic Chimes Program Endowment.
Planned Giving at Cornell University

Justine Guariglia, Gift Planning Officer

The Cornell Chimes Program relies on the generous support of Cornell alumni and friends. While gifts of cash provide the majority of our philanthropic funding, did you know giving cash is only one way to make an impactful gift to support the Cornell Chimes?

There is a dedicated office at Cornell, the Office of Trusts, Estates, and Gift Planning, that is available to help you with the logistics of making gifts of any size to the Cornell Chimes. This could include exploring different assets, like appreciated stock, to make your gift in a way that takes advantage of our tax code to reduce the net cost of a gift to you. It could also involve utilizing an income-producing charitable vehicle, like a charitable trust or charitable gift annuity, to both make a gift and provide income to you or to loved ones.

Another impactful way to make a gift to the Cornell Chimes is by including the program as a beneficiary in your will, living trust, or on a retirement account. You make annual gifts because you care deeply about the chimes program. Including the Cornell Chimes in your estate plans would allow you to also impact the future of the program in a meaningful way. Estate gifts are a remarkable way to leave a legacy and ensure the longevity of a part of Cornell that means a lot to all of us.

Please know that the team in the Office of Trusts, Estates, and Gift Planning is there to help and be a resource to you. They believe in thoughtfully selecting ways to give that meet your personal philanthropic goals and want to partner with you to provide information, answer questions, and support you without any obligation on your part.

They can be reached at:
Cornell University
Office of Trusts, Estates, and Gift Planning
Phone: (800) 461-1865
Email: gift_planning@cornell.edu

Chimes Competition 2017

John Lee ’18, Competition Coordinator

Our annual chimes competition is set to begin the first week of February, and the first official day of practice for compets is February 6. In previous years, we’ve held the preliminary information sessions on two consecutive days, but this year we’ve decided to hold them with a day in between (January 31 and February 2). The hope behind this change is that it will give more time for word to get out about the second session after the first meeting is held. The difference this makes in our numbers might be marginal, but this is one of several efforts being made to raise the number of our potential compets.

In my semesters on campus, I’ve found that posters were the most effective way to get me thinking about the upcoming event, or better yet, talking about it. In addition to the scheduling change, I’m hoping that we can cover the campus with print advertisements about the chimes competition once the semester starts. Complete saturation would be great, but I think moderate coverage will be sufficient.

As for the actual competition, elements that have been added in recent years will be maintained and improved upon if necessary. These include holding Tower Hours in the first round, offering mini-lessons in the second round, and using Google Sheets for compets to sign up for practice time throughout the competition. Additionally, any strategies that might help in retaining compets will be adaptively integrated throughout the competition.

The concerted efforts that have been and will be made for this year’s competition should amount to success. I’m excited to see the compet pool we receive, and I am looking forward to a great chimes competition.

In Remembrance

The Cornell Chimes were a part of the campus memorial for Cornell’s 13th president, Elizabeth Garrett, who passed away last March.

The full story is at news.cornell.edu/stories/2016/03/cornellians-come-together-remember-president-garrett.
Chimes Advisory Council (CAC) 
Annual Meeting 2017 Update

Erica Ho ’13, Council Co-chair

Chimes Endowment Information and Contribution Solicitation Committee (CEICSC)

The Unrestricted Chimes Program Endowment was established in 2011 and has now grown to a principal of more than $210,000. In June 2016, members of CEICSC held the third annual Donor Appreciation Concert, which was live-streamed to Facebook (where the video is still available). Many thanks to Scott Silverstein ’08, Taras Czebiniak ’06, and Jenny Xia ’13 for their performance.

Chimes Outreach Group (COG)

Another goal of CAC, spearheaded by the COG subcommittee, is to increase community involvement with and awareness of the chimes. A primary focus this past year has been to reconnect with alumni chimesmasters who have not been spotted in the tower in recent memory. In this major outreach effort led by Daniel Zlatin MS ’80, CAC members made phone calls and sent emails to inactive chimesmasters, inviting them to share stories about their chimes experiences. Among the topics discussed were

• stories about their most recent trip atop the tower,
• thoughts about how the university should celebrate the chime’s sesquicentennial, and
• poignant memories from their time as a current chimesmaster.

My favorite correspondence was with an alum who quipped, in response to sesquicentennial ideas, “If anyone suggests playing the ‘Rag’ 150 times, please stop them right away.” Darn, so much for the Rag Marathon idea!

Chimes Sesquicentennial Planning Committee

With the 2018 Chimes Sesquicentennial approaching, CAC has established a new subcommittee dedicated to planning a celebration and chimesmaster reunion. We have just begun a series of monthly meetings in which we are establishing the framework for the event and coordinating with various campus groups. Many thanks to meeting attendees and COG outreach respondents for contributing a rich set of ideas and suggestions; this has been invaluable in guiding our early decision-making. We welcome input from the greater chimes community as our vision is a celebratory weekend with broad appeal (not to mention 100% chimesmaster attendance!). Please share your thoughts by emailing chimes@cornell.edu.

On a personal note, I am delighted and honored to take on the co-chair position from Scott Silverstein ’08 (SAS). Scott has tirelessly served CAC for the past five years. A huge thanks to SAS for always going above and beyond, and for inspiring me to stay involved as an alum in the first place!

Billie Sun ’19, Serim An ’17, Erica Ho ’13, and Lauren Casey ’02 enjoy the chimes concert during Chimes Advisory Council weekend.

PHOTOGRAPHER UNKNOWN
Connections and Collaborations

Jennifer Lory-Moran ’96, MAT’97, Chimes Advisor

In April 2016, we had a visit from Margaret Angelini and four of her carillon students from Wellesley College during their spring break road trip. They had a whirlwind trip across New York State, playing at University of Rochester, Alfred University, and here at Cornell. We haven’t had a road trip to Wellesley yet ourselves, but we are always finding ourselves at the same gatherings with that group—they are frequently at GCNA congresses and have been at the same towers as us on two of our road trips! Kindred spirits, indeed.

I was fortunate to be able to attend last year’s GCNA Congress at Yale, and I was glad that so many of the chimesmasters, both current and alumni, were there as well. One of the most interesting events for me was a concert featuring carillon and other instruments—carillon with handbells, with a dancer, with a singer, with trumpet, and with a viola/trombone quartet. I was impressed that so many different collaborations were attempted in one concert, because each combination showed a unique set of challenges that had to be considered in planning this type of performance. A number of our current and alumni chimesmasters have been hoping to work on some collaborations between the chimes and other instruments in the near future; therefore, this concert was both educational and relevant. Some of the issues that must be negotiated in this sort of concert include where to situate the audience and the non-bell instrument(s) so that the volumes of the different performers have the correct balance for the audience, whether to use microphones to achieve that balance, whether it is possible to have the non-bell players located at the top of the tower, communication between performers, and finding instruments that musically blend with bells. All good things to keep in mind if we want to do our own collaboration concerts in the future!

During my Thanksgiving break, I had the chance to play somewhere new. I met Joseph Maher at GCNA and discovered that he plays at a carillon just a few miles from my Arizona in-laws. He invited me to visit the 25-bell carillon in Scottsdale, Arizona, the next time we were out there visiting family. The carillon is small and light, and is located in a tower with a playing cabin just a few feet off the ground. Joseph was so generous in letting me play his instrument for as long as I liked. Performing at the carillon was one of the highlights of my vacation! It is a miracle we made it to family dinner that evening. Though it was a carillon playing stand, the Cornell Chimes music that I brought to play fit on it perfectly. The fine residents of Scottsdale have now been exposed to some nice Dick Lee ’41 and Keith Jenkins ’93 compositions, and Joseph and I played a few duets as well.

If you are interested in finding chimes and carillons near you, visit the towerbells.org website. It is a useful resource for finding bell instruments all over the world. Entries include location, contact information, and technical statistics (number of bells, history, bell founder, type of playing stand).

Your Gift Matters!

Did you know the Cornell Chimes relies entirely on the support of alumni and friends to fund our program?

Consider making your gift today to the Cornell Chimes General Fund (#362303) or the Unrestricted Chimes Program Endowment (#0007341).

Learn more at chimes.cornell.edu/giving.html.
Mark Your Calendar

February 5–April 30
Annual chimesmaster competition

March 26–April 3
Spring break: concerts infrequent

May 11
Classes end; study period schedule begins

May 28–29
Commencement weekend: concerts, open house, and senior recital

May 30
Summer schedule begins: concerts infrequent

June 9–12
Cornell Alumni Reunion Weekend: many concerts to be performed, including our chimes Donor Appreciation Concert. Alumni chimesmasters are encouraged to play!

August 23
Classes begin: regular concerts resume

Costumed chimesmasters dress the part for the annual Halloween concert.