On a spectacular summer weekend in late July more than 50 current and alumni Chimesmasters, their families and friends gathered for the second- ever Cornell Chimesmasters’ Reunion.

The weekend kicked off with a Welcome Back Barbecue at the Big Red Barn where Chimesmasters reacquainted with old friends and new. Rick Glassco ’76 brought his tubular Chime with notes to match Cornell’s bells, which provided the Chimesmasters with a musical outlet that did not require climbing steps, and added musical accompaniment to the evening!

Saturday’s full slate of events began early with a light breakfast and a Chimes Advisory Council meeting open to all alumni. The Council Co-Chairs, Dick Haggard ’58, ’65 and Kristen Simpson ’98 welcomed everyone to the meeting. David Yeh brought alumni up to date on campus activities highlighting the multiple construction projects, which include two North Campus residence halls and a community center, Duffield Hall on the Engineering Quad, and the newly renovated Lincoln Hall. The Council was initially formed around the time of the first reunion in 1991 with the goal of getting the bells tuned. With the renovations complete, and the bells sounding beautiful, the council is now focusing on future efforts including Chimes outreach locally and nationally; improving tower technology such as recording concerts and closed caption video for visitors who cannot climb the tower; and producing a new compact disk.

After the meeting many alumni enjoyed a historic walking tour of the Cornell campus with a special stop at the newly remodeled Lincoln Hall. Many of our musical alumni were impressed with the new facilities and practice rooms. The tour finished at the base of the tower in time to enjoy a box lunch, accompanied by a prolonged Chimes concert featuring the performances of multiple generations of Chimesmasters!

After lunch, alumni Chimesmasters, friends and former colleagues of Monica Novakovic all joined on the terrace adjacent to McGraw Tower for
“Monica’s Concert.” This special concert, in honor of the late Monica Novakovic and the newly established Chimes program endowment in her name, featured songs connected to her life and heritage.

Following Monica’s Concert, Chimesmasters gathered inside to enjoy some time out of the sun and to watch the newly released video “Ringing Changes.” Introduced by the McGraw Tower Renovation Project Manager Jim Bucko ‘86, the video is produced and distributed by Cornell’s Media Services, and features a delightful documentation of the 1998-1999 McGraw Tower and Chimes Refurbishment projects.

After some down time (for a few, others just kept playing the bells!) Alumni gathered for the pre-dinner Chimes Recital. This concert was arranged to highlight the talents of the current Chimesmasters and to showcase the improved sound of the bells since the tuning project. The recital included Arrival in New Haven and Lament, composed by Cornell Chimesmasters Keith Jenkins ‘93 and R.H. Lee ‘41 (respectively), as well as The Moldau, Toccata and Fugue in Dm, and of course, the Cornell Evening Song.

Alumni then gathered for a cocktail reception and banquet dinner at the Statler Hotel, raving about the amazing performance they had just heard! The spectacular playing by the current Chimesmasters was highlighted by the wonderful remarks made by R. H. (Dick) Lee ‘41 about each piece. The evening concluded with closing remarks from Vice President Susan H. Murphy ’73, ’94, but the Reunion did not end after dinner!

On that beautiful, starry, Saturday evening the Chimesmasters, both young and old, played late into the evening as the clock face colors swirled. It was a delightful weekend for all!

Chimesmaster’s Corner
Lauren Marino ‘02

My name is Lauren Marino, and I am the new Head Chimesmaster for the ‘01-’02 academic year. It is an honor and privilege to have been selected for this position and I am looking forward to a great year! Becoming a Chimesmaster has been one of my greatest accomplishments at Cornell, and I am proud to be able to carry on such a grand tradition. When I am not spending time in the tower, I am studying business, and plan to pursue a career in finance after graduation. For the past four years I have been a member of the Varsity Women’s Swim Team and was elected captain for this season. I also play flute and piccolo in Cornell’s Symphonic Orchestra.

The popularity of the Chimes seems to grow each year. Since the start of the semester, we have hosted sixteen tours of the Chimes and McGraw Tower. Some of the groups we hosted include Engineering classes, Resident Advisors and their students, and local school groups. The months of August, September and October also brought fourteen wedding concerts. All of the Chimesmasters have dedicated much time and energy towards preparing for these events, and I am proud of how well they represent the Chimes and the University.

We have also seen a lot of interest in the Chimes from prospective compets. The Chimesmasters participated in the Campus Services Event, an information fair during Orientation week in August to encourage freshmen to try out in the spring. This event also gave the Chimesmasters an opportunity to speak with families about our program. The exposure from the event brought many visitors to the tower that weekend, and we spoke to numerous freshmen looking forward to the competition in the spring.
This year, the annual Halloween concert tradition was carried on proudly by all eight chimesmasters. On October 31st, from 10 p.m. to midnight, spirits ranging from The Statue of Liberty to a callipygian beauty played for a large and enthusiastic crowd. The fiber optic lights in the clock faces were turned a brilliant orange, and the decorations were just plain spooky! Guests enjoyed drinking from the bubbling cauldron of apple cider and eating plenty of candy and cookies.

The amount of advertising done for the Halloween concert varies from year to year. Sometimes we rely solely on word of mouth and sometimes poster around campus. But this year’s chimesmasters went above and beyond the call of duty. On the afternoon of the 31st, Cathy Jordan ’03 and Alan Erickson ’03 dressed up in clock tower costumes and walked around campus ringing xylophone bells and handing out invitations to the party. Apparently, they were quite a hit in Day Hall! Cathy’s costume might have been recognized by chimesmasters from a few years ago as the one built for a Halloween concert by a certain engineer/chimesmaster. It was quite a sturdy costume, and has been in the tower for about 6 years, waiting for the chance to shine again. The tower Alan made for the occasion was bigger than he was, and was such a hit that one of the Big Red Bear mascots skated around Lynah Rink in it during the hockey game a few days later!

You will all be happy to hear that the tubas from the Big Red Marching Band still climb the tower to serenade the campus at the conclusion of the Halloween chimes concert. (I will never cease to be impressed by their ability to maneuver those instruments up and down the stairs of the tower!) For the past few years, the tubas have combined their Halloween visit with fundraising to fight cancer. When they finish their concert from the belfry, they go the bottom of the tower and play to raise money. Audience members throw change into the bells of the tubas to support them in Alpha Phi Omega’s Ugly Man on Campus competition. (If they raise more money than their competitors, they are declared the Ugliest, and they have been reigning champs for several years. Proceeds go to the American Cancer Society). The tubas always bring a large audience with them for the Halloween concert, and we are thrilled that they continue to join us for this annual event.

“Towers” Alan Erickson ’03 and Cathy Jordan ‘03, along with Lauren Marino ’02, pay a Halloween visit to Day Hall!
Satisfy your longing for the bells...with a book, CD, or the newly released “Ringing Changes” video* from the McGraw Tower and Chimes Refurbishment projects.

“Remembered Chimes,” recorded by the Chimesmasters in 1998

The Cornell Chimes, by Ed McKeown
This book is filled with history, lore, and photographs of the chimes, chimesmasters, and the tower.

All items are available through the Cornell Store.

Book $24.95
CD $15.00
Video $19.95

Tax & shipping not included.
For mail order, call 1-800-624-4080.

*The video was produced by Cornell Media Services. All proceeds from the CD and book sales support the Chimes program.

Chimes Advisory Council Update

Greetings from the Chimes Advisory Council! We hope that you and your family are doing well in the midst of the turmoil the United States is experiencing now.

This past July we celebrated a Chimesmaster Reunion, ten years after the first organized reunion in 1991. As expected, the reunion provided an opportunity for new and experienced chimesmasters to meet and swap favorite stories about the chimes and play their favorite songs on the now tuned bells.

During the reunion we held a short Chimes Advisory Council meeting for everyone attending the reunion, CAC members and non members alike, for an update to the chimes activities over the past year. Please email chimes@cornell.edu for a copy of the minutes prepared by Betty Allen ’45.

The Council has enjoyed the leadership of Dick Haggard ’58 for many years as one of its co-chairs and at the end of the reunion he stepped down to enjoy a more laid-back position on the council. Thank you for all of your leadership to date, Dick! We look forward to your continued help on the Council in its future ventures.

Judy Ogden ’71, ’75, ’77 is stepping up to serve in his place and the Council is very excited to have her leadership.

Judy and Kristen have discussed a restructuring of the committees on the Council now that the reunion committee has successfully served its purpose. It is our intent to reform the following committees:

-Fundraising
-Visitor Experience
-Outreach to the Cornell community: Ithaca Area, Outside of Ithaca
-Outreach to other Chimes programs

We are in the process of establishing chairs for each of the committees with the hope of defining some of the committee goals. All Council members are asked to join the committee(s) about which they feel the most passionate. After the new committees are established, a structured calendar schedule will be set up to review the progress of each committee and post that information to the rest of the Council. For each example, reports could be due by January 15, April 15, July 15 and October 15, with published reports (either email or paper or both) on the first of the month following each submittal.

Please contact us for additional information at any time regarding the committees, their goals, or their organization. We would be happy to talk with you.

We wish you a happy holiday season and hope you return to Cornell to play the chimes again in the near future!

-Judy Ogden ’71, ’75 ’77, Chimes Advisory Council Co-Chair
-Kristen Simpson ’98, Chimes Advisory Council Co-Chair
...Alumni Notes

This summer’s second-ever Chimesmaster Reunion brought many alumni back to campus, from the class of ‘41 to the class of ‘03, there were more than sixty generations of Chimesmasters in attendance! We want to thank Jennifer Lory Moran ’96, ’97, the current Chimesmasters, Robert Feldman ’66, ’75, and the Reunion committee for all of their efforts on this terrific event.

Recent graduates who attended included Allegra Schaefer ’99, Kristen Simpson and Amy Winkle both class of ’98, and Grace Jean ’00, her parents - consummate Chimes fans- also attended. Grace is working for NBC Dateline, and one of her pieces on Driver’s License Fraud just aired in October! Other recent alums in attendance included Rich Olson ’97 and recently married Joe Dalaker ’95 with his wife Helen Starkweather.

Speaking of wedding bells, Jennifer Turney ’89, announced that she and Harry Stanton were married April 14! Courtney Kimball ’01 is also getting married, to classmate Matt Zimmerman ’01. They were engaged in August with plans for a 2002 wedding. Both are in the Air Force, and are looking forward to being stationed together in Texas, beginning in January. Congratulations to all of you!

We were thrilled to welcome back Daniel Zlatin ’79, ’80 and Maura Flatley ’81 who are back in Canada after two years in England, and Keith Jenkins ’93 and his wife Stephanie, who spent the year in Bangladesh. The Jenkins’ are now in Boston where Keith is pursuing a Masters in Library Science while Stephanie continues her graduate studies at Tufts University. Joining them from the New England region were Bob ’66, ’75 and Sue ’64 Feldman, Nancy Kierstead ’49, Dina Friedman ’78, and Rich Johnson ’80. Rich reported that he was able to enjoy a lot of travel during the spring and summer.

The longest travel award goes to Nancy Grambow Brown ’85. She and her family live in Germany, but stopped by since they were visiting family nearby! Travel commendations also go out to our friend Bill Sibal ’64, coming in from the West Coast, Denise Tennen ’81 and her family-in from Minnesota, and Compet Leaf Turner ’63 and his wife Ruby, from New Mexico.

We had wonderful representation from our large alumni base in the Maryland/DC/Virginia area including Grace, Allegra, Joe, Karen Mohlke ’91, Rick Glassco ’76 and his wife Sarah, Lane McClelland ’70, ’73, ’74, Dick Lee ’41 and his wife Laurie, and Mike ’55 and Rose ’56 Mage. We saw the Mage’s on campus the week following the reunion when they attended a CAU program.

Throughout the weekend, Chimes music rang non-stop from the tower, with bell playing from all generations of Chimesmasters, such as Connie van Hoesel ’93-who also made a return trip in October, Christine Wang ’88, George Ubogy ’58, John Hoare ’56, ’57, and Phyllis McClelland ’43. What a delight it was to see (and meet) so many alumni during the weekend, including Joe Conte ’82, Amy Hirshfeld ’92, Paul Lyon ’64 and his wife Louise, Frank Russell ’58, ’60, Chuck Swanson ’49 and Betty Allen ’45.

Thanks to Dick Haggard ’58, ’65 and his family for all his dedicated work as Chimes Advisory Council Co-Chair, and welcome to Judy Ogden ’71, ’75, ’77 as our newest Co-Chair, joining Kristen Simpson ’98.

We also want to thank the alumni who were unable to attend the Reunion but took the time to send their questionnaire or some interesting bell information, they include Leon Blostein ’38, ’42, Bruce Netschert ’41, Ken Campbell ’44, Phil Gottling ’52, Gardiner Powell ’54, Tom Costich ’67, William Drabkin ’69, Martha Rose ’75 and Amy Viveiros ’79.

Courtney Kimball ’01 with Dick and Connie Haggard ’58. Courtney is the 2001 Marshal Case Haggard Award recipient. An honor given by the Haggards to a Cornell member of the American Society of Civil Engineers for outstanding community service.
Notes From the Chimes Advisor
Jennifer Lory-Moran '96, 97

At the end of the spring semester, we welcomed new chimesmasters Alan Erickson '03 and Melody Hung '03 to our ranks. Their enthusiasm and hard work have been an inspiration to us all.

The GCNA Congress in June was a great opportunity for us to make connections with carilloneurs and chimesmasters from around the country. In August, Janet Tebbel, Corresponding Secretary of the GCNA, visited Ithaca and the tower. She said many nice things about our chime and our arrangements, and mentioned repeatedly how difficult it is to find good arrangements for under three octaves of bells... We also met members of the Yale Guild of Carilloneurs at the Congress, and those connections led to our trip to New Haven in September. With the GCNA trip, our Yale visit, and the Chimesmasters' Reunion, it has been a busy couple of months.

Chimesmasters and carilloneurs seem to be everywhere I go!

We are currently laying the groundwork for recording a new CD, and much of the spring will be spent working on that. The head bellringer from Wells College and I are going to be scheduling a weekend when the bellringers from Wells can visit the Cornell Chimes. And of course, the competition will be starting soon to choose new chimesmasters.

On September 11th, when the world changed in a heartbeat, I resisted the urge to call or write to everyone I know to tell them how much I love them. I’m not sure what stopped me. I would like to take this opportunity to say how much you all mean to me. Current chimesmasters, you are an outstanding group of people – you are committed and passionate and musical and crazy and you care more about these chimes than I would ever think possible. Alumni, I have always felt welcome by you. From the moment I became a chimesmaster, it has been a privilege to meet all of you, hear your stories, and play duets together. What is it about the chimes that makes us like one big extended family? It is an amazing feeling to be part of this never-ending line of chimesmasters. Thank you to the chimesmasters who took a chance and welcomed me into this family. I hope you all know how special you are to me.

Chimes Help Connect Community During Tragedy
Lauren Marino ’02

In the wake of the September 11, 2001 tragedy, the Chimes were called upon to create a connection for the Cornell community. The Chimesmasters played a significant role in planning and performing for several campus events to mourn the losses of the World Trade Center attacks. Thoughtful planning went into creating sensitive memorial programs. The Chimesmasters never hesitated to provide their services. Each night for a week the chimes tolled for fifteen minutes prior to the memorial events, calling the community to join together in remembrance. The Chimes contributed greatly to the cohesion of the campus community during this time of mourning.

The Chimesmasters were proud to be involved with the memorial events. It gave us a sense of purpose to be able to use our talents to help unite the community and console others. The music of the Cornell Chimes will always be an important part of campus life. The role the Chimes played at these important memorials will help bring new meaning to the spirit of the Chimes to this generation of Cornellians.

“...the lives of those who listen are influenced by the Bells of Cornell ringing forth clearly at morning, chiming at midday with the life of the university at its flood, playing gentle tunes at eventide, pealing exultant at times of victory, caroling on Christmas Eve, and ringing in the New Year. This music of the bells becomes a part of the emotional memory of Cornellians; and when they return, the first sound of the bells brings back unforgotten days.”

-Albert W. Smith, class of 1878
Chimesmasters Attend GCNA Congress
Lauren Marino ‘02

This summer, Cornell University sent Chimes Advisor Jennifer Lory-Moran ‘96 MAT ‘97, and Head Chimesmasters Courtney Kimball ’01 and Lauren Marino ’02 to the 59th Guild of Carillonneurs in North America (GCNA) conference in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. The conference was held at the beautiful Kirk in the Hills church with its 77-bell carillon, the largest in the world. It was an unforgettable weekend, and the first time any of us had visited or played a carillon.

The members of the GCNA welcomed us and provided a weekend of interesting activities. From touring the church to listening to the beautiful carillon music, we were always entertained. The concerts performed that weekend were absolutely amazing. Dennis Curry, the carillonneur at The Kirk, provided us with a tour of his carillon.

Chimesmaster and Guild member, Judy Ogden ’71, ’75, ’77 invited us to visit the carillons at the University of Michigan, where she works, since the campus is only an hour away from The Kirk. We toured the campus and actually played the carillon there! The GCNA will hold their summer 2002 conference at the University of Michigan. As an added bonus for the avid Chimes fan, there is a smaller chime (the Kerrytown Chimes) in one of the shopping malls close to the University of Michigan. Of course, the three Chimesmasters from Cornell made a guest appearance at a Kerrytown Chimes concert. Judy gave us copies of some of our own chimes music and we played at the mall. We were a hit, and invited back anytime we are in town.

We want to thank Cornell for giving us this great opportunity to learn more about bells and make contacts within the carillon community. It was an exciting weekend of music and fun, and I am looking forward to taking another trip this summer!

Did you know that your annual support for Cornell University can be directed to the Chimes?

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This summer when Lauren, Courtney and I went to the GCNA Congress in Michigan, we met carilloneurs from all over the country, but we made the strongest connection with the group of carilloneurs from Yale University. When we left Michigan, both groups kept saying, “We’d really love to visit your tower and see how you play YOUR bells!” So…

… the weekend of September 21-23, five of the chimesmasters went on a road trip to New Haven, Connecticut to visit the Yale carillon and meet the members of the Yale University Guild of Carilloneurs. Lauren Marino ’02, Liz Wallis ’02, Victor Lin ’01, Alan Erickson ’03, and I were all able to make the trip.

The weekend started with tours of campus and Harkness Tower and a very impressive carillon concert by our GCNA friend Frecky Lewis. Then we went to the Cornell-Yale football game, unfortunately Cornell lost, and we stole Alan away from the marching band so that he could join us for the rest of the weekend. We returned to the tower for another carillon ring, and that evening enjoyed a party at Frecky’s apartment where we got to meet many of the more than 20 carilloneurs that play at Yale. We spent the evening sleeping on the couches and spare beds of some of the gracious Yale carilloneurs. At the Sunday afternoon ring, we got to play! I made it through about half of the Rag, and Alan and Victor tried the Cornell Alma Mater. We also saw some impressive improvisation and playing by more of the Yale Guild members.

Simply put, it was a great weekend. We all learned a lot about carillons — it was the first time many of our chimesmasters had seen or played one — we got to compare our competition processes, meet some wonderful people, get inspired, and forge what will hopefully be a lasting bond with musicians on another campus. We are all hoping that the Yale group will be able to visit us sometime soon so that we can share with them what chime-playing is all about.

To learn more about the Yale University Guild of Carilloneurs, visit their website at www.yale.edu/carillon/.