

CURRENT REPERTOIRE

Holiday for Strings (for Handbells) – Rose/
Glasgow
The First Noel – arr. Brenda Austin
Ding Dong! Merrily on High – arr. Dobrinski
Angels We Have Heard on High – arr. Brengle
News of Great Joy – arr. Sherman
Ukrainian Bell Carol Fantasy – arr. Dobrinski
A Charlie Brown Christmas – Guaraldi/
McChesney
White Christmas – Berlin/Dobrinski
Silver Bells – Livingston & Evans/Dobrinski
Gloria Hodie – arr. Turner & McChesney
The Christmas Song – Tormé & Wells/Wagner
Bugler's Holiday – Anderson/Morris
'Twas the Night Before Christmas – Darby &
Simeone/Tucker
Sleigh Ride – Anderson/Thompson

CAPITAL CITY RINGERS

Director: Nicole Leppala

Ringers: Natalie Blunt, *Corlie Eldred, Kim Finison, Lindsay Finison, *Lorraine Finison, Marty Herman, *Rick Hobrla, Marcia Hollopeter, Melissa Klamer, Gary Masters, Michelle Ridley, Laura Sparks, Shannon Spasova, and Stuart Talsma

Narrator: Rich Weingartner

*section leaders



Ring Tones

Newsletter of
The Capital City Ringers

Fall

2016

UPCOMING CONCERT SCHEDULE

CCR's 33rd Annual Holiday Concert, "Ring in an Open Sleigh," features songs of the season and favorite carols (and more!) in the format of an old-fashioned radio show! See the repertoire list on the back page of this newsletter. In addition to handbells and handchimes, the concert features a vocal soloist and a variety of percussion instruments, plus a cast of real "characters." The script, written by our director, Nicole Leppala, is based on an episode from the *My Favorite Husband* radio show broadcast on Dec. 23, 1949, titled "The Sleigh Ride." Come and join us for some holiday music and entertainment at these venues:

- **First United Methodist Church**, 3827 Delta River Dr. (at Waverly Rd.), Lansing 48906; Saturday, Dec. 3, at 7:00 p.m.
- **St. Paul Lutheran Church**, 3383 E. Lake Lansing Rd., E. Lansing 48823; Sunday, Dec. 4, at 4:00 p.m.

Donations will be gratefully accepted at our Lansing-area concerts. For directions, maps, and complete concert information, go to the Concerts tab on our website, www.capitalcityringers.com.

THANKS, CORPORATE SPONSORS!

CCR thanks our current corporate sponsors:

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CCR is seeking additional sponsors for 2016-2017. For a minimum \$50 annual donation, we will include your business card-size advertisement in our local concert programs and on our website. If you would like to become a sponsor, contact Lorraine Finison at 321-3221 or visit CCR's website at www.capitalcityringers.com.

Please Note! We've gone green! Except for Friends of CCR and those who request paper copies, we have switched to email communications only. Send an email to the above address to provide your email address or to be removed from our list. Call 321-3221 if you need to receive paper mailings.

Capital City Ringers
info@capitalcityringers.com
1104 Alexandria Drive
Lansing, MI 48917

BECOME A FRIEND OF CCR

Thanks in large part to our Friends, CCR now has **seven** octaves of Malmark handbells, the largest set in the area. Our next purchase will likely be the lower 7th octave handchimes (C2 to F#2), costing about \$6800. Of course, you never know what's going to happen. . . like last December when we suddenly had to purchase a new trailer to replace our old one which was no longer safe!

We appreciate the donations of our many Friends. Please consider becoming a Friend of CCR, if you aren't already. We have enclosed a form for your tax-deductible contribution. Your name(s) will be listed on our website, in the **Ring Tones**, and in our Lansing-area concert programs.

QUILT RAFFLE RESULTS

CCR's Marcia Hollopeter is a master quilt-maker. She designed and created a beautiful teal and purple quilt, named "Rhapsody in Blue," which she generously donated to CCR to raffle as a fundraiser. The drawing was held Dec. 13, 2015, and Pat Eenigenburg of DeWitt was the winner. We made \$2503 on the raffle. Thank you very much, Marcia!

REHEARSAL SPACE UPDATE

After investigating many, many possibilities for new rehearsal space, we are working on two options and hope to be moved into our new space by Jan. 1. Many thanks to Mayflower Congregational for allowing us to "crash" in their social hall for the last year while we searched for a new home.

The Sound of the Season

Fall 2015 marked the debut of CCR's new music director, Nicole Leppala. At Nicole's suggestion, much of the repertoire consisted of selections nominated by the ringers. The program was ably narrated by the voice of CCR, Rich Weingartner, who maintained his composure despite frequent and not-so-helpful interruptions as Gary attempted to assist with terminology. The program featured many "classics," including *God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen*, *Adeste Fideles*, and *Here We Come A-Wassailing*. *Night of Silence*, a counter melody to *Silent Night*, challenged the bass section and showcased CCR's large aluminum bells. The program ended with *A Christmas Festival*, a classic medley that includes snippets from almost every Christmas song ever written (kidding!).

The season opener was "iffy" due to an early-season blizzard, but we safely made our way to Hemlock to perform at Zion Lutheran. The trip home that night was long, slow, and prayerful. The next day, in weather that was much improved, CCR went north again to Central Mich. Univ. to perform at Christ the King Lutheran Student Chapel. The next week we played in Marne at St. Mary's Catholic.

The next performance was a joint concert with the DeWitt Community Concert Band at DeWitt H.S. Two CCR members, Nicole and Kim, are members of DCCB (playing French horn and trumpet, respectively) and did double duty during the concert. The season concluded with performances at Our Savior Lutheran in Delta Township and Faith Lutheran in Okemos.

CCR TRANSITIONS

- While searching for a "permanent" position 11 ringer, we were glad to be able to welcome back **Eileen Ellis** last fall and **Cricket Young** last spring. Both did a fabulous job!
- **Aggie Steiner** and **David Hafey** are on sabbatical this season.

Let's Dance!

Dance was the theme for our Spring 2016 concerts. The repertoire featured a series of dance-related pieces that ran the gamut from 17th century ballroom dance music (*Pavane and Galliard*) through rock and roll (*Rock Around the Clock*). Audiences were entertained by the swing classic *In the Mood* and the South African hymn *Siyahamba*. The program featured some interesting percussion instruments with the "Kick the Bucket Boys" (Kim and Rick) on plastic buckets during *Beach Spring Stomp*. Later in the program Dave played the anvil (a percussion instrument--not the real thing!) on *Firefest Polka*. One of our ringers, Shannon Spasova, made her debut as a director with the piece *Morningdance*. The show closed with a rousing version of *Sabre Dance*.

The group began the concert season with our first-ever tour to the Upper Peninsula. The weather was surprisingly cooperative for mid-April and the group opened to a highly enthusiastic crowd at First Presbyterian in Escanaba. The next day featured a tour of the historic carillon at St. James Episcopal in Sault Ste. Marie, followed by an afternoon concert. The tour concluded with another afternoon concert at St. Ignace United Methodist, which was within sight of the Mackinac Bridge.

CCR played three local concerts in the spring season: at Delta Presbyterian in Delta Township, at University Lutheran in East Lansing, and at Martin Luther Chapel in East Lansing. The finale of the season was special a performance for the Haslett Women's Club in appreciation of all of their charitable work.

And, so ended a great first year under the baton of our new music director, Nicole Leppala!

MEET CCR'S NEWEST RINGERS

- **Natalie Blunt** (a.k.a. *Harmonious Bell*) joined CCR this fall after subbing for two years. Since 1986, she has rung or directed bells in five churches in Michigan. She rang for three years with Compana, part of the Embellish Handbell Ensemble "family" in Grand Rapids. In 2014 she began directing bells at Okemos Community Church, where she enjoys singing in the Chancel Choir. Natalie is a Western Mich. Univ. graduate with a music degree, studying piano as her major instrument. In 2008 she received a degree from Baker College as a Physical Therapist Assistant and currently works in this field. Natalie enjoys spending time with her husband, Rick, and keeping up with the activities of her grown children. She also enjoys playing the piano, reading, and watching the TV show *Chopped* on the Food Network.

- **Melissa Klamer** (a.k.a. *English Handbell Ringer*) has been ringing since age 10 in church and college choirs and is honored to join CCR this fall. She attended Concordia Univ., Seward, Neb., where she graduated with dual degrees in Education (instrumental music concentration) and English. She earned her M.A. in English in 2012 from Central Mich. Univ., and is currently is a PhD student in English at Michigan State Univ., where her research interests and graduate assistantship focus on Victorian women's life writing texts, particularly letters and diaries, as well as digital editing. In 2004 Melissa married her husband Lance, associate pastor at Hope Lutheran in DeWitt, and they have two daughters, Lydia (6) and Christiana (4), both of whom are already enjoying ringing handbells in a children's choir.

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Mail completed form and
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Capital City Ringers
 1104 Alexandria Drive
 Lansing, MI 48917

Capital City Ringers Merchandise Order Form

CCR MERCHANDISE

The following CCR CDs are available for purchase via the attached order form, at our concerts, or through our website (www.capitalcityringers.com):

"Aurora Bronzealis," a recording taken from live holiday concert performances and featuring Christmas and winter-related songs, including Trans-Siberian Orchestra's "Christmas Eve Sarajevo" and "Wizards in Winter" as the first and last tracks.

"Season of Wonder" includes carols and holiday songs, featuring a beautiful rendition of "I Wonder As I Wander" as track 1.

"It's Showtime!" features show tunes of all eras, from George M. Cohan to Henry Mancini to John Williams.

Several other CCR logo items are available at our concerts. Check out the merchandise table and see our cool "stuff"!

To order by mail, complete the attached order blank and mail your check or money order to: Capital City Ringers, 1104 Alexandria Dr., Lansing, MI 48917. Add \$2.00 *per order* for shipping and handling.



CCR FRIENDS 2016

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 Eileen Ellis

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 Kim and Lorraine Finison

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 Robert Bappert
 Bryce and Judy Forester
 Mark & Marcia Hollopeter
 Barbara Marley
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Friends of Capital City Ringers

Contribution Levels	
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Silver	\$250 - \$499
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Capital City Ringers
 1104 Alexandria Drive
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