

F A L L 2 0 2 0



The Peal

The Official Newsletter of the Alberta Guild of English Handbell Ringers



Handbell Musicians of Canada (HMC) is a new, nationally incorporated non-profit organization, that creates community for Canadian ringers, conductors, composers, sponsors, and community partners from coast to coast to coast, regardless of whether you belong to a provincial guild. The website went live over our COVID Summer and after only one month, there are over 80 members from sea to sea! If you haven't already joined, hurry as there is a contest to award the 100th member of HMC!!!

Thinking about back-to-school and everything that it entails? Like most of us, you have probably missed everything about bells since the spring and are itching to get back at it...but HOW?? Check out page 6 for some ideas...and remember, we're all in this together...

#bekind
#staywell
#wearyourmask

Save the Date!

Pandemic Practices
Fall 2020 (maybe?)
Guess the best answer is "depends"

Ring in the Season!
Oct 15-16, 2021
Ok, so we're planning early!

20th IHS Nashville 2022
Aug 1-6, 2022
Click [here](#) for all the details!! Wow, we are REALLY planning ahead...

Presidential Pandemic Ponderings

OK – Hands up those of you who have lost your spouse in an Alberta provincial campground during a Covid19 summer. Not a remote backcountry campground in the boreal forest but one closer to home, admittedly with a couple of boggy, mosquito-enriched, somewhat remote trails. Well, I did! We had taken two of our grandchildren for their first camping-with-Grandma-and-Grandpa experience. First mistake: I bought them each a little pot of play slime. Don't do this. I won't elaborate but just don't do it. Second mistake: I allowed them each bring their llamas (not real) with an orifice that you can fill with liquid and which then empties by a second orifice. (Photos provided on demand). This can create a soggy space in a short period of time in a small camper. Third mistake: not communicating clearly with a hard-of-hearing spouse. Fourth mistake: allowing spouse to leave his cell phone at home.

On the last day we decided to take the grandchildren on a nature hike before checking out. Beatrice (age 3), the budding entomologist, insisted on inspecting every flying, crawling and buzzy insect encountered. In detail. Branwen (age 5), the budding gymnast, was more intent on going to the beach playground to demonstrate her athletic prowess on the monkey bars. The distance between Grandpa-Beatrice and Grandma-Branwen increased and I yelled to Grandpa against the wind that we should meet up at the beach playground. After an hour or so at the playground, there was no sign of Grandpa-Beatrice. Checkout time approached – and went. I was getting distinctly worried 1) Beatrice had drowned in the lake 2) Spouse had a heart attack/stroke/broken leg and Beatrice had wandered off 3) abduction of both by aliens. After a fruitless search of the campground and trying desperately not to let Branwen see my increasing panic, I decided to report them missing.

The park staff at the concession called the RCMP. The RCMP asked for some details. RCMP: 'Can you describe your husband?' Me: '68 and bald.' RCMP: 'What was he wearing?' Me: 'Umm.' Branwen: 'He's wearing a blue T-shirt'. RCMP: 'Can you describe your granddaughter?' Me: 'A 3-year-old redhead'. RCMP: 'What was she wearing?' Me: 'Umm.' Branwen: 'She's wearing a pink T-shirt with little yellow flowers on it.' The RCMP were despatched, apparently using an ATV. The lovely park staff reassured me that all would be well, and we sat down to wait. No more than five minutes later, my spouse walked nonchalantly into the concession, Beatrice fast asleep on his shoulder. 'Sorry, I know it's well after checkout time, but I seem to have misplaced my wife.' I was too relieved to say anything at all.

It's been a strange summer but the handbell season approaches. Some of us are fortunate to be able to join our choirs again next month but in an altered environment. Kudos to those directors who have strived to make arrangements for social distancing and handbell juggling. I guess that one advantage of wearing a mask while ringing is that your grimace when you have played a wrong note will be invisible. Unfortunately, not all gathering spaces can meet Covid19 requirements and some choirs will be silent for the time being.

After a few months of YouTube church services, I have realized that listening to music is no substitute for participating in it. Singing in a choir, you are conscious of your harmony (or not) with your fellow singers, trying not to rustle your music, watching the conductor's attempts to make you look at her and trying not to breathe until the end of a phrase. Similarly, I miss being in church – watching the sun's shadow across the ceiling, noticing the dust motes and hearing the faint whirr of the fans during a minute of silent reflection, the muffled coughing and throat clearing during the sermon, and the invisible oneness of the congregation.

As you will have heard, **Discovery 2020** has been postponed and re-morphed into **Discovery 2021** with the same music program to be held **in Lethbridge on 15-16 October 2021**. Thanks to Fiona Miller and the Discovery 2020 organizing team for putting together an exciting and stimulating music program and for their wisdom in making the decision on postponement. However, we are still planning for the virtual ALGEHR AGM on Saturday 17 October – more details to follow. Being of the pen and notepaper generation, I have not fathomed on how this will happen, but other members of the Board have those skills and I will be leaning on them. One of the important items for discussion will be the updated Bylaws. Many thanks to Annie Hergott, Sharon Vogrinetz and Fiona Miller in taking the lead on this.

On a sad note, many of you will know of the passing of Joan Schaufele in July. Thanks to Fiona Miller for writing about Joan's life and her contribution to handbells in Alberta.

Finally, thanks to Emmy for her skill and effort in assembling **The Peal** this month.

Fiona

Fiona Bamforth
President, ALGEHR



Remembering Joan G. Schaufele

March 3, 1957 – July 1, 2020

Joan G. Schaufele was a well-known handbell director and sought-after clinician. Joan grew up in Southern Alberta and trained as a nurse. After a serious car accident, she gave up nursing and went back to school to become a teacher.

For many years she taught at the Glenmore Christian Academy (GCA) in Calgary and it was during that time that her passion for handbell ringing grew. She originally was an excellent trumpet player and when she had to give that up she looked around for another musical outlet and became enthralled with the beautiful sounds created by handbells and melody chimes.

She purchased her own 3 octave set of bells so she could start a choir at GCA until the school was able to purchase their own. Her choirs were well known and made several exceptional recordings. She also took on the role of Director of Handbells at Calgary 1st Baptist Church. She was a much loved and admired director of several different levels of choirs at the church but in particular **Acclamation**.

In 2006 Joan was diagnosed with multiple myeloma, but following her successful treatment, unfortunately had to give up her teaching. After some consideration she chose to move to Lethbridge to be closer to her very large extended family. Joan often mentioned that her decision to “downsize” and move south was the best thing she could have done. She moved into a large house and immediately turned the whole basement into a quilter’s paradise – her other passion. I would receive weekly reports of a new quilting project complete with photographs and many who knew her are lucky to have been blessed by one of her handmade gifts, as was I.

After she moved to Lethbridge, I invited Joan to join me as the co-director of the **Chi-Rho Ringers**, a long established but aging bell choir based out of St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church. With a few of Joan’s contacts the choir was rejuvenated and grew to be a wonderful and hardworking ensemble. Joan became my mentor, colleague, walking partner, and most of all, my friend. As we alternated who was conducting each piece, we laughed a lot at the difference between being behind or in front of the baton. Joan was a very exacting director who pushed us to do better and create the sound she was looking for, but as a ringer she whined just like everyone else that it was too fast, or too difficult or there were too many notes in her section.....

Joan served for a combination of 13 years on the ALGEHR Board, covering many positions in that time; VP South, Membership Secretary, the Fred Merrett Competition for New Compositions and Member-at-Large. As well, she served as “Joyful Joan” in the preparation of the **RingLink 2011 “Ring at the Round-up”** in Calgary as part of Sheriff Emmy’s Posse. Joan’s wealth of knowledge, mathematical genius and immaculate file keeping were huge assets to the Board.

Her wonderful outlook on life was so welcoming, encouraging and infectious. She embraced every day to make it the best day she could and rarely turned down any opportunity to socialize or meet new people.

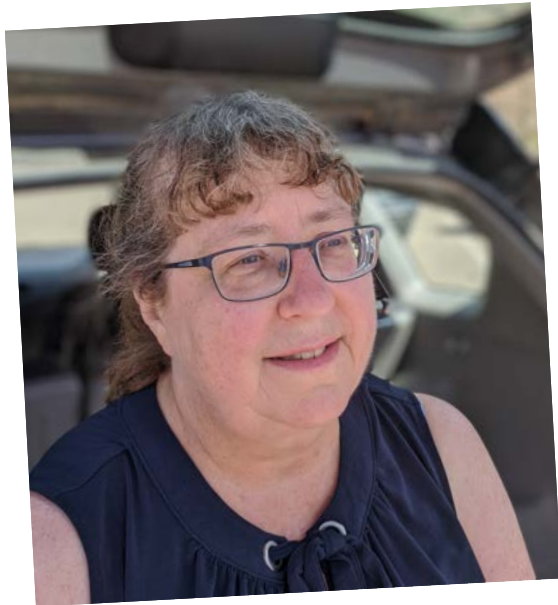
The ruthless disease that had changed her life 14 years ago returned in late 2019. Despite further treatments and a fierce battle, Joan passed away on July 1, 2020 and will be greatly missed by all her family and friends. Joan often reminded all of us that her fighting will and faith had bought her many more years than she should have had in the first place and never forgot to tell everyone

so gleefully how she had beat the odds.

Due to the pandemic, only Joan's family were able to attend her funeral in Bow Island but her friends including many ringers gathered and formed an honour guard as the funeral procession left the funeral home in Lethbridge to the sound of bells ringing and bagpipes playing.

Anyone who wishes to acknowledge Joan's passing is encouraged to make a donation noting her name, to the ALGEHR scholarship funds.

Submitted by Fiona Miller



You will be missed...

Ringling in COVID Times

So the ringing world (like the rest of the WHOLE world) is seeing some drastic changes in our realities, whether it be preparing and rehearsing, socializing over those oh-so-yummy-baked-by-Tara snacks during breaks or arguing over performance wear. Now we will not only be able to debate over the merits of “all-black” versus colourful attire, but trying to find masks in the SAME shade of “festive” red will become our latest challenge...

All jokes aside, hopefully your ensembles have been able to figure out a way to pick up where everything had stopped so abruptly and cold-turkey just 6 months ago...or perhaps you are still waiting for the green light to even access your instruments or rehearsal space...we have seen all kinds of creative and innovative ways to overcome all our current “obstacles” and limitations in the name of music. Some groups have been fortunate enough to rehearse and perform outdoors on a regular basis. Others have adjusted to much smaller ensembles to adequately social distance while still ringing in worship services (albeit to fairly empty sanctuaries). Still others are finding virtual ways to continue their passion for bells and to stay connected. We would love to hear and see what YOU have come up with! Please send to peal@algehr.org so that we can all continue to share and learn virtually even if we cannot be physically together in Lethbridge in October.

Here is something I found online (and perhaps other have had the same idea, too) – a simple way of minimizing high-touch areas such as shared bells. Composer Cathy Mocklebust offered a [list](#) of her compositions that do NOT require positions to share.

<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=10221017060670512&set=pcb.10221017082311053>

Handbell Music of Cathy Mocklebust – NO BELL SHARING/BELL CHANGES/TABLE TECHNIQUES

Title	Tune	Publisher/Number	Avail.	Oct.	Lev.	Year	Other Inst.	Season
1. All Things Bright and Beautiful (repro. coll.) *All Things Bright and Beautiful *Thee We Adore *Kyrie *Processional on All Glory Laud and Honor	Royal Oak Adoro te Devote Original St. Theodulph	Choristers Guild CGB941	Y	2-3	2+	2015	Perc	Lent/Easter/General
2. All Things Bright and Beautiful (repro. coll.) *All Things Bright and Beautiful *Thee We Adore *Processional on All Glory Laud and Honor	Royal Oak Adoro te Devote St. Theodulph	Choristers Guild CGB942	Y	3-5	2+	2015	Perc	Lent/Easter/General
3. Be Thou My Vision	Slane	Lorenz 20/1849L	Y	3-5	2	2015		General
4. Bells of Christmas, The (coll.) *Rejoice, Believers! *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child *Away in a Manger *The Bells of Christmas	Haf trones lampa fardig Tempus adest floridum Cradle Song Emmanuel	Choristers Guild CGB146	Y	2	2	1993		Advent, Christmas
5. Celebrate the Season (repro. coll.) *Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus *What Is this Lovely Fragrance? *Away in a Manger *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly	Jefferson Quelle est Cette Odeur Agréable Cradle Song W Zlobie Lezy	Choristers Guild CGB785	Y	2-3	2	2013	Perc	Advent, Christmas
6. Celebrate the Season (repro. coll.) *What Is this Lovely Fragrance? *Away in a Manger *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly	Quelle est Cette Odeur Agréable Cradle Song W Zlobie Lezy	Choristers Guild CGB786	Y	3-5	2	2013	Perc	Advent, Christmas
7. Cold December Flies Away	Lo Desembre Congelat	Jeffers JHS9170	Y	2	3	1996	Perc	Christmas
8. Cold December Flies Away	Lo Desembre Congelat	Jeffers JHS9560	Y	2-3	2+	2017	Perc.	Christmas
9. Come and Adore (repro. coll.) * Jesus Jesus Rest Your Head * Gentle Mary Laid Her Child	Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head Tempus Adest Floridum	Choristers Guild CGB975	Y	2-3	1	2016	Chimes	Advent, Christmas
10. Come and Adore (repro. coll.) * Jesus Jesus Rest Your Head * Gentle Mary Laid Her Child	Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head Tempus Adest Floridum	Choristers Guild CGB976	Y	3-5	1	2016	Chimes	Advent, Christmas
11. Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus	Jefferson	Choristers Guild CGB266	Y	2-3	2	2002	Perc	Advent
12. Creator of the Stars of Night	Conditor alme siderum	Choristers Guild CGB268	Y	2-3	1	2002	Chimes	Advent
13. Gentle Mary Laid Her Child	Tempus adest floridum	Choristers Guild CGB686	Y	2-3	1	2011	Chimes	Christmas
14. Gentle Mary Laid Her Child	Tempus adest floridum	Choristers Guild CGB687	Y	3-5	1	2011	Chimes	Christmas
15. Good Christian Friends, Rejoice (Now Sing We, Now Rejoice)	In Dulci Jubilo	Choristers Guild CGB1176	Y	2-3	1	2020	Perc	Christmas
16. Good Christian Friends, Rejoice (Now Sing We, Now Rejoice)	In Dulci Jubilo	Choristers Guild CGB1177	Y	3-5	1	2020	Perc	Christmas
17. Holly and the Ivy, The	The Holly and the Ivy	Choristers Guild CGB1030	Y	2-3	2	2017	Chimes	Christmas
18. I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve	Je ger saa glad	Choristers Guild CGB685	Y	3-5	2	2012	Chimes	Christmas
19. I Wonder As I Wander	I Wonder as I Wander	Choristers Guild CGB761	Y	2-3	2	2012	Perc	Christmas
20. I Wonder As I Wander	I Wonder as I Wander	Choristers Guild CGB762	Y	3-5	2	2012	Perc	Christmas
21. Infant Holy, Infant Lowly	W zlobie lezy	Choristers Guild CGB222	Y	2-3	2	2002	Chimes	Christmas
22. Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head	Jesus Jesus rest your head	Choristers Guild CGB240	Y	2-3	1	2001	Chimes	Christmas
23. Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head	Jesus Jesus rest your head	Choristers Guild CGB444	Y	3-5	1	2006	Chimes	Christmas

24. Repeat the Sounding Joy (repro coll.) * Savior of the Nations, Come * The Bells of Christmas	Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland Emmanuel	Choristers Guild CGB1116	Y	2-3	2	2019	Perc	Christmas
25. Repeat the Sounding Joy (repro coll.) * Savior of the Nations, Come * The Bells of Christmas	Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland Emmanuel	Choristers Guild CGB1117	Y	3-5	2	2019	Perc	Christmas
26. Ring in the Holidays (repro coll.) * Deck the Halls * O Christmas Tree * Jingle Bells * Jolly Old St. Nicholas * We Wish You a Merry Christmas	Nos Galan O Tannenbaum Jingle Bells Jolly Old St Nicholas We Wish You a Merry Christmas	Choristers Guild CGB1185	Y	2-3	2/2+	2020	Chimes/Perc	Christmas
27. Ring in the Holidays (repro coll.) * O Christmas Tree	O Tannenbaum	Choristers Guild CGB1186	Y	3-5	2/2+	2020	Chimes/Perc	Christmas
28. Rise Up Shepherd and Follow (coll.) * Come thou long-expected Jesus	Jefferson	Choristers Guild CGB184	Y	2-3	2	1997	Perc	Christmas
29. Savior of the Nations Come	Nun komm der heiden heiland	Choristers Guild CGB173	Y	2-3	2	1996	Perc	Advent
30. Savior of the Nations Come	Nun komm der heiden heiland	Choristers Guild CGB300	Y	3-5	2	2003	Perc	Advent
31. Still Still Still	Stille, Stille, Stille	Choristers Guild CGB210	Y	2-3	2	1999	Chimes	Christmas
32. Still Still Still	Stille, Stille, Stille	Choristers Guild CGB644	Y	3-5	2	2010		Christmas
33. That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright (On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry) (What Star is This with Beams So Bright)	Puer Nobis	Choristers Guild CGB281	Y	2-3	1	2002	Chimes	Advent, Epiphany, Easter
34. That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright (On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry) (What Star is This with Beams So Bright)	Puer Nobis	Choristers Guild CGB870	Y	3-5	1	2014	Chimes	Advent, Epiphany, Easter
35. Thee We Adore (coll.) * Thee We Adore	Adoro te devote	Choristers Guild CGB166	Y	2	2	1995		Communion, Lent
36. Thee We Adore, O Hidden Savior	Adoro te devote	Choristers Guild CGB372	Y	2-3	1	2004		Communion, Lent
37. Thee We Adore, O Hidden Savior	Adoro te devote	Choristers Guild CGB714	Y	3-5	1	2011		Communion, Lent
38. Thy Holy Wings	Bred dina vida vingar	Choristers Guild CGB665	Y	3-5	2	2010	Chimes	Baptism, General

If you or your ensemble is still wondering how to move forward given our current circumstances, here is a link that will give you some guidelines and get you started:

<https://handbellindustryCouncil.org/covid-19-information-2/>

HOME HIC MEMBERS & SERVICES ▾ JOIN HIC PHOTO GALLERY COVID GUIDELINES ▾ MEMBERS ONLY ▾ CONTACT US

Handbell Industry Council (HIC) was approached by Malmark calling for research and then to issue a document regarding ringing safely in COVID-19 times. Information from several panel discussions that have discussed what group singing will/will not be in the future was provided. It was sobering.

Additional comments from Malmark:

- We can ring while wearing a mask.
- Ringers may be separated by six feet.
- Gloves and table coverings can be washed after every rehearsal.
- Performance may not be possible for now but preparation of music can be accomplished along with the many social and emotional benefits.
- Nylon handles of handbells, mallet shafts and handchime tube may be disinfected with a disposable wipe after rehearsal.

HIC has compiled several documents that can serve as a guideline to churches, schools, and ringing ensembles when they are ready to ring again.

- [QUICK GUIDE](#)
- [HANDBELLS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC](#) – Linnette Rodriguez-Figueroa, PhD
- [A DIRECTOR'S PERSPECTIVE](#) – Amy Maakestad
- [RESOURCES FOR RINGING](#) – Sondra Tucker
- [THE USE OF NON-MEDICAL MASKS \(FABRIC MASKS\) DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC](#) by Linnette Rodríguez-Figueroa, PhD

It is hoped these guidelines will encourage ringers and directors to reach out and provide an alternative to the singing community. Let's get those bells out of the closets.

Submitted by Emmy Okazawa-Bortolin, Editor, Peal

It's September and Membership Renewal Time!

It's time to renew your ALGEHR membership!

It's been rather a difficult year for handbells and we have missed festivals, concerts, workshops and of course, will miss **Discovery 2020**. Despite this, I would like to remind you that your ALGEHR membership is still valuable and important. We are very fortunate in having wisely invested endowment funds which allow ALGEHR to finance awards for our members: the *Fred Merrett Award for New Compositions* and the *Symposium Endowment Fund Grant Program* which provides funds for individuals and ensembles for music, equipment, attending symposia etc. ALGEHR also supports the *Stan Morris Excellence in Teaching Award* and the *John Nelson Scholarship Award*, assists in sponsorship of youth and adult handbell events, community music festivals, handbell education in schools and the annual **Discovery** ringing event. Membership also provides you with the opportunity to keep abreast of local, national and international handbell opportunities. However, like all organizations we have administrative costs to cover - website costs, virtual meeting platform fees, software for managing finances and fees, and even the odd postage stamp. Your subscription helps us with these costs which as a Board, we are careful to minimize. Our membership numbers are decreasing sadly, but handbells are still thriving in Alberta. Please consider renewing or joining ALGEHR. For more information, please contact me at president@algehr.org

Submitted by Fiona Bamforth, President

Do You Want to Make a Difference?

Handbell Musicians of Canada (HMC) is a brand new national organization, replacing the former Handbell Guilds of Canada (HGC) and representing and supporting Canadian handbell musicians from sea to sea to sea. With virtual elections taking place on October 21, 2020 for the inaugural board of directors, it offers the opportunity for forward-thinking, enthusiastic and dedicated people to get in on the ground floor of this new entity and have a vital hand in building HMC's dynamic, healthy future.

Nominations are now open for the key positions of Chair, Chair-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary and up to seven (7) Directors at Large. An Interim Board of Directors is currently providing leadership to support the transition from HGC to HMC.

Consider joining the Board of HMC — be part of something new and important! Share your vision, make a difference. Contact Emmy Okazawa-Bortolin, the Convenor of the Nominations Committee, at peal@algehr.org to discuss this opportunity and address any questions.



Editor's Encore

Well, this was definitely a different summer on so many levels! For some, it may have been the first time with NO bell road trip involved, for others, it may have been the first time for VIRTUAL bell experiences....still others finally got lots of sun – like swimming in a lake where one had only skied and skated on just a few months before!!

As we head back indoors again (boo) with an uncertain future, please share your ideas and plans on how things will be “business as not-quite-usual” in your neck of the woods. Now more than ever, we need to reach out and keep in touch with our fellow ringers across the province to support and encourage each other!

Good luck with back-to-everything!



Photo credits: Fiona Bamforth, Fiona Miller and Emmy Okazawa-Bortolin

Contact your Board!

Fiona Bamforth	President	president@algehr.org
Vacant	VP North	vpnorth@algehr.org
Jayne Martin	VP South	vpssouth@algehr.org
Sharon Vogrinetz	Treasurer	treasurer@algehr.org
Anne Marie Telford	Secretary	secretary@algehr.org
Lucy Graham	Membership	membership@algehr.org
Vacant	Education	education@algehr.org
Cathy Larson	Fred Merrett Award	composer@algehr.org
Rhoda Murray	SEF Grant	sefgrant@algehr.org
Emmy Okazawa-Bortolin	Peal/Social	peal@algehr.org / social@algehr.org
Emmy Okazawa-Bortolin	Past-president	pastpres@algehr.org

Next Peal deadline!! Nov 15, 2020~ Please send me your submissions by this date!!!