



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY SOCIETY OF CARILLON ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 1

SUMMER 2012

6 STUDENTS TAKE LESSONS SPRING 2012

Dr. Tam had a large group of students taking carillon lessons this spring. With three graduating seniors this semester, the obligatory *Bells of Iowa State* was played many times. Students played their final concert of the semester at noon on April 27th.

Students included:

- Carrie Cunningham, first semester carillon student freshman in Elementary Education
- Craig Cunningham, graduating senior in Biology
- Jeremiah Evans, graduating senior in Software Engineering
- Josh Hellyer, senior in Community and Regional Planning
- Curtis Meier, first semester carillon student and graduating senior in Mechanical Engineering
- Erin Reger, freshman in Pre-Business



UPDATED SOFTWARE

Are you watching the noon concerts?

The software used in carillon Live Webcasts has been updated. In addition to watching concerts at work or home on your computer, you can now watch with mobile devices.

www.music.iastate.edu/carillon/webcast/



FIELD TRIP TO THE ROCHESTER CARILLON BY ERIN REGER



On March 24, a group of six students, two alumni, and our carillon professor, Dr. Tin-Shi Tam, took a trip up to Rochester, Minnesota to visit the carillon located in the Plummer Building. I was one of the students who went on this trip. I was very excited for the trip because I had never been to a carillon other than the one at Iowa State. The only part of the trip I was not looking forward to was playing the carillon because I was nervous to play my piece on an unfamiliar instrument!

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ENJOY THE NOON CONCERTS EVERY WEEKDAY 11:50-12:10 ON THE WEB

<http://www.music.iastate.edu/carillon/>

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BEING MORE INVOLVED?

Both the [Society of Carillon Alumni and Friends](#) and the [Stanton Memorial Carillon Foundation](#) are looking for volunteers for outreach events and activities.

Contact Amy at abrandau@iastate.edu.

ROCHESTER FIELD TRIP CONTINUED



Jeff Daehn, Rochester Carillonneur describing the history to the Iowa State Carillon students.

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When we arrived in Rochester, we met Jeff Daehn, the carillonneur of the Rochester Carillon. He took us into the Plummer Building and up into the tower where the carillon was located. This carillon tower was a lot different than what I had been used to at Iowa State! It was just an addition onto the top of the building, so it was very large. We were able to take an elevator up most of the way. After the elevator, we climbed up a spiral staircase (MUCH wider than the one in the Campanile) and arrived in the practice chamber. The practice chamber was directly below the actual carillon. This was where Jeff Daehn's office was, as well as the practice console and some historical documents about the carillon. Mr. Daehn told us more about the history of the carillon and the tower, and we were able to look at some brochures and books. Finally, we went up to the carillon.

The setup of the Rochester Carillon was much different than the carillon in the Campanile. The playing console was located next to the bells instead of below. I found this very neat because you were able to see the clappers hitting the bells when someone was playing, and you were able to walk all the way around the bells to view all of them. The only downside to this set up was that it was extremely loud when the carillon was being played! The playing console was also different than the console room in the Campanile. This console was in a Plexiglas case that could only fit the console and maybe one other person. The console itself was different as well. The pedals were turned inward in a

more concave shape. The carillon batons were also much easier to strike, but they were also squeaky and rattled a bit.

Everyone who went on the trip had the opportunity to play the carillon at the noon hour. We had each brought up a song or two to play, and there was a very large variety of pieces! I played a Welsh folk song, and others played classical or modern pieces.

I ended up not being as nervous as I thought I was going to be because there was no one else in the playing console—that was probably what I liked the most about the Rochester Carillon! It was also really fun to be able to walk out on the balcony surrounding the tower and listen to the music being played while looking at the city of Rochester.

After we all had a chance to play the carillon, Mr. Daehn took us back into the Plummer Building and showed us the Mayo brothers' offices and conference room. We had the opportunity to see all of their diplomas from various medical schools as well as some of their personal belongings. We even got to see the first practice console that was used in the original carillon!

Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed the trip to the Rochester Carillon. It was a great opportunity to learn about other carillons and to experience what it is like to play a different carillon—no two carillons are alike!



Carillon Alumni Megan inside the "PlexiGlas case".



Mr. Daehn and the Iowa State students and alumni.

CUNNINGHAM FAMILY DUO

BY CARRIE CUNNINGHAM

When one thinks of Iowa State, some of the first things that come to mind may be: VEISHEA, Jack Trice, the campanile, or Hilton magic. During my freshman year at Iowa State University, I never imagined I would not only be a part of these traditions, but they would define adventure. My freshman year has been an unforgettable experience, and I am blessed I got to share this year with my older brother, Craig, who graduated this May with a degree in Biology.

Growing up, Craig and I took piano lessons, so from an early age we began supporting each other's music paths. Craig would have his lesson first, and I waited patiently for 30 minutes until it was my turn. Through years and years of literally following in his footsteps, at the end of this past fall semester, I followed my brother up into the campanile after his semester carillon concert. This was the first time I had ever seen a carillon. I was introduced to Dr. Tam, who encouraged me to take carillon lessons; if climbing up into the campanile was not enough to convince me, Dr. Tam suggested Craig and I could play a duet. With immense excitement, I began taking carillon lessons and quickly learned this was not a casual endeavor.

Fittingly enough, Craig and I had back to back lessons. After the first time I had a lesson in the campanile, I wanted to say to everyone I saw, "Did you *hear* that? That was *me!*!" Soon, Dr. Tam gave Craig and me our duet music. Weeks of practice finally paid off, and on April 21, we were

privileged to officially debut a Cunningham Carillonners' duet to Iowa State and those celebrating VEISHEA. Playing a duet requires meticulous timing and demands both players not only listen to their part but also to the others; two pairs of hands and feet requires close attention and special maneuvering. Working with Dr. Tam and my older brother on the duet



Craig and Carrie Cunningham

was an experience I will never forget. This year consisted of a lot of firsts for me, but nothing can compare to my first VEISHEA, my first carillon concert, and being able to say I was a part of the first sibling carillon duo in the history of Iowa State. I am truly privileged to be a part of this university. As my brother graduates, and goes on to medical school at the University of Iowa, I will continue to take lessons to further my abilities on the carillon. I will now have to be a solo act, but I would not have it any other way that my brother was right next to me on the bench for our debut.

STUDENT CARILLON SCHOLARSHIP FUNDED

In the last newsletter an endowed carillon scholarship was announced. This past April during the Stanton Memorial Carillon Foundation annual meeting, the scholarship was renamed the Beers/Doe Carillon Scholarship, in honor of descendants and long time Foundation members Margaret Doe and Douglas Beers.

This scholarship is awarded to current Iowa State students who study the carillon.

For 2012-2013, the recipients are Josh Hellyer, Carrie Cunningham and Erin Reger.

Congratulations!

Scholarship recipient Josh, playing for the Stanton Foundation members.



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VEISEHA EVENTS APRIL 21

This year's Carillon VEISHEA events started with the Alumni Society members giving campanile tours for the Alumni Association VIP tours. This was followed by the Society of Carillon Alumni and Friends Business Meeting.

At 3:00 PM, the ISU Society of Carillon Alumni and Friends, the Stanton Foundation, current carillon students, and guests of VEISHEA gathered together to hear a half-hour carillon concert during VEISHEA's Village Stage.

The concert began with *The Pink Panther*, played by Dr. Tam in



Reception

honor of the Christian Peterson *Panthers* art work being dedicated on campus.

The concert continued with carillon students performing solo pieces and duets. A TV monitor was rolled out from Music Hall so everyone could watch the performers.

After the performance, members of the Carillon Alumni Society, Stanton Foundation, and students met at a small reception. In addition, Carillon Alumni Society members provided campanile tours to the public.



VEISHEA visitors watching the student concert at the campanile.

STANTON MEMORIAL CARILLON FOUNDATION

Every year the Stanton Memorial Carillon Foundation meets on campus in April. The meeting includes descendants of the Stanton family, staff from the Alumni Association, University staff and other members interested in the legacy of the Carillon.



Dr. Tam and Stanton Foundation members during the noon concert.

This year the Stanton Foundation met on April 23rd in the Memorial Union. The day consisted of a general business meeting, the noon carillon concert presented by

Dr. Tam and the current carillon students, and a trip to the University Archives in the Library Special Collections department.

The general meeting included an update on the new landscaping around the campanile, a name change to the Student Carillon Scholarship, and brainstorming new ideas for carillon outreach.



Foundation members looking through the Library Archives.

The Stanton Foundation invites any former players who would be interested in serving as advisory members of the the Foundation to contact Amy Brandau.

ISU SOCIETY OF CARILLON ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

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EXCERPTS FROM THE PAST

Mary Jean Fowler, a descendant of the Stanton Family emailed me this story. It is the story of Mary Jean's Aunt and Uncle playing the bells.

Aunt Laura told it to me when I visited her in the early 1970s. She took a small, jointed brass key out of a glass display case and told this story. (The key is now in the Iowa State Archives).

When the bells were installed in the Campanile on the Iowa State campus, my uncle, Seaman Knapp, was fascinated. He followed the procedure carefully. Seaman's family lived on campus; the bells commemorated his aunt, Margaret McDonald Stanton, his mother's sister. Seaman played the bells the year he was a senior, 1908-1909.

In the spring of 1909, before graduating, he was dating Laura Storms and she would go up to the playing floor and play the bells along with Seaman. To ring a bell Seaman, or Laura, had to jump on the bell rope that hung down through the bell floor to the floor below. Laura played enough so she got to be quite good.

So, before graduating, Seaman wanted to make arrangements so Laura could play the bells the next year, during her senior year. Seaman asked his father, Herman Knapp, who was Treasurer, Vice President, many other positions at Iowa State and who was the one who decided who played the bells. Herman Knapp, typically, was doubtful, but open minded, and he arranged that Seaman and Laura would play a concert.

If Herman could not tell which pieces Seaman played and which Laura played, then Laura could play the bells the following year. And after the concert, Herman could not tell the difference between their playing, so Laura played the bells her senior year, 1909-1910. Seaman didn't stop playing bells.

When the bells were installed, one of the workman had a set of handbells. Seaman then got a set of handbells and played them for many years. When I was a little girl, I remember him playing at Christmas for his mother, Mary McDonald Knapp. Later Laura and her sister Florence helped play and the three of them would play Christmas concerts in the rotunda of Beardshear Hall.

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Four guest Carillonneurs are taking part in the 2012 Summer Carillon Concert Series.

All concerts take place on Central Campus. Bring your lawn chair!



Elizabeth Graves-Vitu, from Cathedrale Saint-Jean-Baptiste in Perpignan, France will perform Tuesday, May 29th at 7:00 pm.

Robert B. Grogen, from National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington DC, will perform Tuesday, June 26th at 7:00 pm.



Sue Bergren, from the Millennium Carillon in Naperville, Illinois, will perform Tuesday, July 24th at 7:00 pm.

Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, from Grand Valley State University in Allendale Michigan, will perform Tuesday, August 28th at 7:00 pm.



Programs and performer information can be found on the Carillon website at www.music.iastate.edu/carillon/SummerSeries/2012/Summer2012.php.