



Notes from *The Raleigh Ringers*

Spring 2003

The Raleigh Ringers Inc • 8516 Sleepy Creek Dr • Raleigh NC

The Raleigh Ringers – ON TV!!

If you thought you saw The Raleigh Ringers on TV last December, you were right! That's when *One Winter Evening at Meymandi – A Holiday Special* had its premiere on UNC-TV, the public television station for North Carolina. The program, an hour-long version of our new concert video, first aired as a part of the station's holiday pledge drive. We had the honor of being shown not once but twice during Prime time on December 14 and 15. The Sunday broadcast even featured our own Dave Harris as an on-air commentator! Then, on

December 22, the program aired again as a part of UNC-TV's holiday programming.

To build on the success of these broadcasts, The Raleigh Ringers are submitting the program for possible national distribution on American Public Television (APT). We are hopeful that the Holiday Special will be shown on a public television station near you this winter. Stay tuned for further information and visit our website at www.rr.org for future details.

The Raleigh Ringers Spring Concert

**Saturday, June 14, 2003
7:30 pm**

**Meymandi Concert Hall
Raleigh, NC**



Reserved seat tickets are on sale now. Tickets purchased in advance are \$10 for adults, \$7 for senior citizens and children (12 and under). Tickets purchased at the door will cost an additional \$2 per ticket. Tickets may be purchased at the BTi Center Box Office located in the lower level of the A.J. Fletcher Opera Theatre. This is adjacent to Shaw University in the 700

block of Wilmington Street. The Box Office is open from 10 AM to 5 PM, Monday through Friday. Group tickets will also be available at the Box Office. You may also purchase tickets through Ticketmaster at all Ticketmaster outlets, on-line at www.ticketmaster.com or by phone at (919) 834-4000. A service charge will be added by Ticketmaster.

Thank You For the Kind Invitation!

Since the beginning of Raleigh Ringers Time in 1990, folks have constantly asked, “How do hosts find out about you and invite you to perform?” Increased name recognition in church and handbell circles has certainly resulted in concert opportunities over the years, thanks to the burgeoning community choir phenomenon. However, nothing can compare to the sudden popularity The Raleigh Ringers has experienced since North Carolina public television aired the group’s one-hour special, *One Winter Evening at Meymandi*, last December.

The prize for all that hard work? People who had never heard handbells before are inviting The Raleigh Ringers to perform as part of their prestigious Artist/Concert series. Arts programmers are providing the group with opportunities to bring handbell music to upscale concert venues, as well. Just look at some of the performances booked for the 2003 season:

- ◆ a concert in Concord, NC, as part of St. James Lutheran Church’s Dunford-Ridenhour Concert Series

- ◆ the last concert of The Performance Series, sponsored by Jordan Lutheran Church in Orefield, PA
- ◆ an evening performance on the stage of Harrisburg, PA’s famed Whitaker Center, sponsored by First UCC of Carlisle, PA
- ◆ an 8 PM concert at the Tryon (NC) Fine Arts Center, by invitation of the Tryon Fine Arts Council
- ◆ an afternoon concert sponsored by the Lincoln Community Concert Association in Lincolnton, NC
- ◆ a Marlboro Arts Council-sponsored concert in the Marlboro (SC) Civic Center
- ◆ a concert in the J.E.Broyhill Civic Center, part of the Caldwell Community College/ Technical Institute Performing Artist Series (Lenoir, NC).

We’re always open to suggestions for future performance venues. If you or anyone you know is interested in hosting The Raleigh Ringers as part of an Artist/Concert Series, feel free to contact David Harris at rringer@rr.org or call (919) 847-7574. Who knows what the future holds—especially if *One Winter Evening at Meymandi* goes national on public television!

Capital Area Young Ringers’ Festival 2003

What do you get when you combine 282 kids, 6 hours of ringing, and one fiery director? The 2003 Capital Area Young Ringers’ Festival of course! For this 10th anniversary year, a record-breaking 282 young ringers had the opportunity to work with Jason Wells (of Ring of Fire fame) on Saturday, February 8, 2003. In talking to the kids after the event, the thing we heard most was “he kept us going non-stop, but I

learned a lot!” The music selection included *A Festive Celebration*, which was commissioned from Howard Starks for this year’s event. A special thanks goes out to Jason Wells for the awesome job he did with the kids that day, and to the ringers and directors for all of their hard work leading up to and during the festival. You’ve certainly ‘raised the bar’ on this event!

The Raleigh Ringers Appear at a National Hockey League Game!

On December 18, 2002, The Raleigh Ringers were invited to perform at the Eastern Conference Champion Carolina Hurricanes game versus the Tampa Bay Lightning. Between periods, the group performed four tunes, including the popular *Christmas Eve (Sarajevo 12/24)* and The RR classic *Linus and Lucy!* 15,236 spectators responded enthusiastically as the ringers performed from the Ledge Lounge area in full view of the crowd. This was the first time the group had performed in front of a live audience of this size! The Raleigh Ringers would like to thank the entire Hurricanes organization for their wonderful treatment—we had a great time!



Is Your Hair Dyed Yellow?

Said by Talulah Bankhead: “If I had my life to live over again, I’d make the same mistakes, only sooner.” I’m sure we can all relate to that statement, so when Ellen Williams approached The Raleigh Ringers and asked us to play *Hell’s Belles* with her, we didn’t hesitate to go where we had never been before. We didn’t want to make the mistake of missing out on the opportunity to work with Ellen in this type of setting.

Said by Billy Jean King: “Be bold. If you’re going to make a mistake, make it a doozy...” We made our share during the first few hours of practice. But as the weeks passed by, the pieces came together. We used our primary set of Malmark bells for the entire piece.

The final recording took place in March and will appear on the Albany Records label in the future.

The full movement was set to music by Libby Larsen. Ms. Larsen is one of America’s most prolific and most performed living composers. Her music has been commissioned and

premiered internationally by major artists and orchestras and is prized for its dynamic, deeply inspired and vigorous contemporary American spirit.



So, if someone catches you off guard and leaves you speechless, you can always quote the words of Gertrude Stein: “There ain’t no answer. There ain’t going to be any answer. There never has been an answer. That’s the answer.”

Friends of The Raleigh Ringers

Founding Friends

- Mr. & Mrs. G. B. "Jack" Boddie
- Ben & Laveita Brinson
- John & Amy Gaydos
- David & Kristina Harris
- Doug & Connie Harris
- Theodore & Marsha Havens
- Mr. & Mrs. T. Hopkins
- IBM Corporation
- IBM Funds for Community Service
- George & Claire Latham
- Barbara & Robin Marley, *In memory of Bob & Sarah Marley*
- Cindy Massey, *In memory of my Beatsy*
- Mr. & Mrs. George E. McGregor
- David Metz
- Richard & Elaine Mueller, *In memory of Betty Garee*
- Sara Perkinson, *In honor of my family and The Raleigh Ringers*
- Linward & Beverly Shivers
- Howard & Margaret Tiano
- Emily & Byron Williams
- Anonymous
- In appreciation, Grace Community Church
- In honor of David M. Harris and his many years of dedicated service to The Raleigh Ringers
- In memory of H. Hawkins Bradley
- In memory of Mr. & Mrs. A. Foster Williamson
- To the Riordan Family, *In memory of Stuart H. Riordan, given by a friend*

Director's Circle (\$1000+)

Eight Season Tickets (Spring & Holiday concerts) & Free Parking, Invitation to Reception, Autographed Video or DVD

- Richard & Elaine Mueller

Sustainer (\$250 – \$499)

Four Season Tickets (Spring & Holiday concerts), Invitation to Reception

- Doug Amaxopoulos
- David & Ruth Brown
- Chamblee Graphics
- Chattie Byrd
- Ellen & Allan Dickson
- Albert Dornseif
- John & Amy Gaydos
- Dick Graham, *For purchase of new tutu & cigar*
- Glenn & Susan Grigg
- JAECO Engraving
- Barbara Kuekes
- Harold & Lois Lauffenburger
- Pettyjohn's Oriental Rug Spa
- Capt. Dennis & MaryCraven Poteat
- Mr. & Mrs. B.B. Roberson
- Linward & Beverly Shivers
- John & Sue Stevenson
- William & Jane Wilken
- Anonymous, *In honor of Don Allured, whose 80th birthday was 9/14/02, and Mrs. Elizabeth Currier (grandmother of David and Andrew Metz), whose 100th birthday was 9/19/02*

Patron (\$100 – \$249)

Two Season Tickets (Spring & Holiday concerts)

- Judy Auman
- Bill & Sandra Boyd
- Terry & Sandra Brummeyer
- William & Victoria Chadwick
- Michael Glasgow, *In honor of Karen Philibert*
- Nancy Greer
- Paul Heidepriem
- Sue King
- Dr. & Mrs. Dan & Fran Krautheim
- Karl & Sophie Lawrence, *In memory of Howard Frank Tiano*
- Ann Legarde, *In honor of The Raleigh Ringers' work with the Farmington Woods Elementary School Handbell Choirs*
- The Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Nagle, *In honor of the Christ the King Lutheran Church handbell choirs*
- Frances S. Vaughan
- Jim & Chien-Hsin Wagner
- James & Alice Ward
- Elaine & Malcolm Williams

Donor (\$50 – \$99) Two Spring Concert Tickets

- Terry & Sharon Freeman
- Thelma Stansell
- Joyce Wolfe

Contributor (\$25 – \$49)

- Susan Caines
- Cindy Cothran

As of April 7, 2003

The New Friends Annual Donation Program

Since its inception in 1995, the Friends of The Raleigh Ringers program has raised over \$59,000, which has enabled us to considerably build up our diverse collection of handbells and chimes. As much as the The Raleigh Ringers itself has evolved over the past 13 years, it also became evident it was time for the Friends program to be updated. On February 1, 2003, the new Friends of The Raleigh Ringers annual donation program went into effect. The new program has a greater focus on covering administrative expenses—a vital part of the organization that has increased significantly over the years—in addition to purchasing

handbell equipment. In design, the program has changed to include expanded giving levels, adjusted benefits, and a way for out-of-state Friends to receive benefits.

As with all of our endeavors, the new Friends program is designed to help us work toward the goals of conducting workshops, commissioning music, presenting concerts, and spreading the art of handbell ringing throughout the country and the world. For more information on the new program, see the website at www.rr.org or email Friends@rr.org.

If you would like to become a Friend of The Raleigh Ringers, please complete the information below and mail to Friends Program, 8516 Sleepy Creek Drive, Raleigh, NC, 27613.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Check Visa MasterCard Name on Card: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Contribution Amount: _____

(Contributor: \$25-49 Donor: \$50-99 Patron: \$100-249 Sustainer: \$250-499 Benefactor: \$500-999 Director's Circle: \$1000+)

Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____

Dedication Line (optional): _____

Beginning Ringers Workshop Saturday, October 4, 2003

Additional information will be posted at www.rr.org as it becomes available. If you would like to receive information via email, send an email to begringers@rr.org.

15th Annual Capital Area Handbell Festival

Saturday, November 8, 2003

Raleigh Civic and Convention Center

Raleigh, NC

Guest Conductor – Fred Gramann

For more information and registration forms, see our website at www.rr.org.

What Others Are Saying about *One Winter Evening at Meymandi*

The Raleigh Ringers released *One Winter Evening at Meymandi* in video in October 2002 and followed it in November 2002 with the release of the DVD version. Sales skyrocketed after an hour-long portion of it was aired three times in December on UNC-TV (PBS) throughout North Carolina and parts of Virginia and South Carolina ~ over 1200 copies were sold by the end of December! It was extremely gratifying to receive so many positive and enthusiastic comments about the video after the months of work and tens of thousands of dollars that went into producing it. Thank you everyone who has already purchased a video or DVD!

If you don't have your copy yet, here's what others are saying about it:

"I enjoyed the video **immensely!** Absolutely stunning performances in all aspects, of all selections. Superb camera work, too!"
Don Allured, *Nationally acclaimed Handbell Conductor & Clinician*

"Don't walk to your computer, RUN to get this DVD ordered if you haven't already! This is such an incredible product to showcase our art! Nothing like bells in digital video - crisp - clean - and snazzy!"
Jason Wells, *Director of Ring of Fire, Oregon*

"Never have I seen such precision or heard such musicianship from a bell group. Fascinating!"
Larry Keesler, *Minister of Music, Mount Airy First Baptist Church, North Carolina*

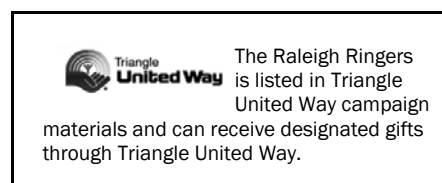
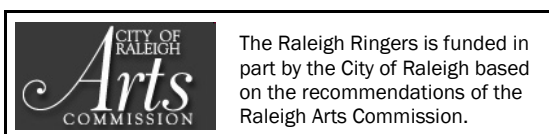
"From concert to behind-the-scenes, from bonus tracks to demonstrations, the versatility and EXTRAordinary abilities of the group captured my soul. I thought it to be just wonderful, beyond my wildest expectations. Crisp, clear sound. Clean picture. Gorgeous music and incredible performer ability."
Mark Sylvester, *Handbell Ringer, New Jersey*

"You have a wonderful showpiece, from the opening menu to the closing credits. Yours is a class act through and through."
Greg Leslie, *Video Editor for Winnercomm, Oklahoma*

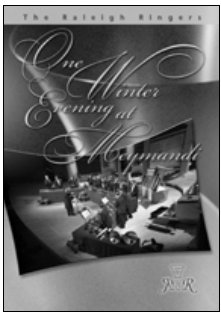
"They've captured the true nature of The Raleigh Ringers' musical passion and technical precision and it's just an incredible concert!"
Michael Kastner, *Touring Handbell Soloist, Handbell Festival Clinician, Director of the Bells of the Rockies, Colorado*

"The Raleigh Ringers, using many different types of bells, create one masterpiece upon another of incredible handbell texture beyond anything I could have imagined."
Kathleen Nickodemus, *Handbell Director, St. Lorenz Lutheran Church & School, Michigan*

"It leaves me in awe every time I watch it".
Wayne Hicks, *Handbell Ringer, Virginia*



Recordings



Item	Quantity	Price	TOTAL
DVD: <i>One Winter Evening at Meymandi</i>		\$25.00	
VHS: <i>One Winter Evening at Meymandi</i>		\$25.00	
CD Boxed Set (all 3 CDs)		\$40.00	
CD: <i>MORE</i> (double CD!)		\$20.00	
CD: <i>The Raleigh Ringers</i>		\$15.00	
Cassette: <i>The Raleigh Ringers</i>		\$12.00	
CD: <i>Impressions of the Season</i>		\$15.00	
Cassette: <i>Impressions of the Season</i>		\$12.00	
Shipping: add \$1.50 for each CD or cassette, \$2.00 for each VHS or DVD, and \$4.50 for each CD boxed set			
		Sub-Total:	
		NC Residents add Sales Tax	
		TOTAL AMOUNT DUE	

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Credit Card # _____

Signature _____ Exp _____

Method of Payment

- Check
- Visa
- MasterCard



Mail your order to: The Raleigh Ringers, 8516 Sleepy Creek Dr., Raleigh NC 27613 or **fax** to (919) 847-RLRG.

You can also order online at www.rr.org.



8516 Sleepy Creek Dr • Raleigh NC 27613

NON-PROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
RALEIGH, NC
PERMIT # 1315

Upcoming Concerts

June 21, 2003—7 pm

Jordan Evangelical
Lutheran Church
Orefield, PA

June 22, 2003—4 pm

St. Paul's United Methodist Church
Wilmington, DE

June 23, 2003—7:30 pm

Sunoco Performance Theater at
the Whitaker Center
Harrisburg, PA

June 24, 2003—7 pm

East Brunswick High School
East Brunswick, NJ

June 25, 2003—7 pm

Avon High School
Avon, CT

June 26, 2003—8 pm

University of Massachusetts Fine
Arts Center
Amherst, MA

August 16, 2003—8 pm

Tryon Fine Arts Center
Tryon, NC

August 17, 2003

Lincolnton, NC

September 6, 2003—7 pm

St. Matthew's United
Methodist Church
Annandale, VA

September 7, 2003—4 pm

Chestnut Memorial United
Methodist Church
Newport News, VA

November 15, 2003—7:30 pm

Marlboro Civic Center
Bennettsville, SC

November 16, 2003—3 pm

Ocean Drive Presbyterian Church
North Myrtle Beach, SC

Check www.rr.org for more information on these events.