Hi Everybody,

Here is a quick overview of the Congress held at St. Stephen’s Church in Cohasset from June 13-17.

Highpoints of this Congress will include a recital of the music of Sally Slade Warner, featuring music she arranged and composed played by people who know her: Andrea McCrady, Dave Hunsberger, Julianne Vanden Wyngaard and George Gregory. Sally was a treasured member of our carillon community for decades, and influenced the Guild of Carillonneurs in ways that can still be felt today. She used to say that the Guild was her family, and her warm nature, as well as her skill on the instrument, inspired many of us. She was Carillonneur at St. Stephen’s for many decades, from 1985 to 2009. Hosting the Congress in her home church community gives us an opportunity to take a look at her music, and to hear the carillon that she was responsible for expanding to its current size of 57 bells, repitched from its original transposition down a minor third to concert pitch when Sally expanded the bells in 1989.

The Congress will also stress New Music for the Carillon, and many of the performers will be playing music recently created and published by composers all over the world. In addition, the winning works from the Franco Composition Contest will be featured in one of the recitals, and the performers who created them will be invited to speak at a Round Table to discuss their work, and to give us insight into writing music for the carillon.

There will be seven recitals, each recital shared among members of the Carillon Community, with performers playing music following the theme of each concert. 32 players will be performing during the Congress, as we will be following the model where each recital is shared between several performers.

Four of the concerts will be paired with workshops and seminars. The Sally Slade Warner recital will be paired with a seminar discussing the role women played in the development of the carillon in Massachusetts. The concert featuring Music for Church and Synagogue will be paired with a workshop titled Biblical Bronze: Databases of Liturgical Hymntune Suggestions and Instances of Hymn Tunes in Published Carillon Music, led by John Widmann.

In addition, the Recital titled Women and the Carillon will be paired with the workshop of the same title led by Tiffany Ng, based upon the work she has done over the past several years. And, finally, the Franco Competition Winners recital will be paired with a seminar featuring the winning composers, presenting a roundtable discussion of composing for the carillon, and will give insight into how each composer approached their work.

In addition, two Masterclasses will be held, one led by Alex Johnson discussing Tremolo Techniques, and another featuring Laura Ellis, discussing practice technics. Both have asked that attendees prepare music to play for discussion. Attendance will be limited to 10 people in each session, with preference given to students.

Other seminars and workshop presentations will be presented by Ellen Dickinson, discussing Planning Programs for Recitalists; a paper by Frances Newell titled *Bringing the Wonders of China into Carillon Composing and Arranging*; a discussion led by Lisa Lonie, *On using the Tablet In Place of Music*. There will also be a workshop titled on Carillon Maintenance titled *Maintenance 101, A primer in caring for the carillon: how to provide the best long-range care for the instrument in your charge*. This is a topic that resonated with the Planning Committee, who all felt that their own personal knowledge of how to care for a carillon was an important thing that we all need to know more about, including those who are just getting started in their partnership with the carillon.

We will send information to registrants in mid-May offering them a chance to sign up for the Masterclasses and workshops.

We hope you plan to join us. We plan to work hard, but also have some fun: lunches will be on-site, and the Banquet, held on Thursday evening, is at a very nice location, with a good chef, within walking distance of the church itself. There will be a cash bar for those who wish a cocktail, with wine during the meal provided. We are also planning a Tea and Crumpet Reception on Friday evening, and of course the Welcoming Reception on Tuesday evening, which follows Tuesday’s Opening Recital, performed by members of the Planning Committee.

See you in Cohasset!

The Members of the Planning Committee:

 John Whiteside, Coordinator

 Margaret Angelini

 Jennifer Herrmann

 Lee Leach

 Thomas Lee

 Christina Meyer

 Margaret Pan