

CLAPPER CHATTER

April 2016

Clapper Chatter is Back!

After a two-year hiatus, Clapper Chatter is back in publication. We extend a huge thank-you to those who answered our survey about the relevance and content of the newsletter. The majority opinion is that Clapper Chatter still has a role to play, since it can disseminate material that would be too long for the weekly emails.

This edition pretty much follows the format of the last one published (Feb 2014), but in future editions you will likely notice changes, as we figure out what works best. The current plan is to publish three times per year, in October, February and June. However..... much depends on you, the reader. A newsletter thrives or dies based on its content, so we need your submissions! Do you have a concert coming up, a review of a performance just accomplished, a significant event in the life of your bell choir, or a favourite piece of music that you would like to recommend to others? Send it in! Anything is fair game (subject to editorial review.) Accompanying photographs are encouraged, as they really liven things up. Please refer to submission formats on the next page.

Clapper Chatter will be published in two formats: in full colour on the website, with a link sent out via the email tree, and hard-copy in black and white mailed out to those who are not on the email list. If you are one of the latter, why not sign up for the email tree and get the full Clapper Chatter experience?

And now that we're back, we want your feedback. Let us know what you like, or don't like, or would like to see, by emailing Helen at hcoxon@sympatico.ca

Submission deadline for the next issue: May 31, for publication June 15

HIGHLIGHTS

- OGEHR AGM announcement
- A first peek at Festival 2017
- 200 years of musical memories at St John's York Mills

PUBLICATION INFORMATION

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SUBMISSIONS

Clapper Chatter welcomes your submissions. All submissions must be received by the following deadlines: September 15 (October issue), January 15 (February issue), May 15 (June issue).

FORMAT

Text in Microsoft Word and high resolution colour photos in .jpg format are preferred.

REPRINT PERMISSION

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DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in Clapper Chatter are not necessarily those of the Ontario Guild of English Handbell Ringers, nor does the appearance of products or services in advertisements constitute an endorsement by OGEHR.

ADVERTISING

Ad sizes and rates are available on request. Advertising must be submitted by the submission deadlines listed above. All final ad artwork must be saved in Adobe Acrobat PDF format. When preparing ads, use high resolution images and fonts, and set the Acrobat Preferences to embed the fonts and images at their original high resolution quality.

CLAPPER CHATTER EDITOR

Please send all submissions to: Helen Coxon —Clapper Chatter Editor hcoxon@sympatico.ca 416-420-9660

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A Clapper Chatter subscription is included with Individual, Honorary and Group OGEHR Memberships. Affiliate Members of OGEHR may also receive their own copy of Clapper Chatter by purchasing a subscription. To subscribe, Affiliate Members may contact the Membership Secretary: J.-C. Coolen, 12 Coomer Crescent, Ajax, ON L1T 3B6, 905 683 5757, iccoolen@sympatico.ca

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE ONTARIO GUILD OF ENGLISH HANDBELL RINGERS (OGEHR)

(a federal corporation)

Notice is hereby given of the Annual Meeting of OGEHR:

Date: Saturday, May 14, 2016

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Place: Applewood Hills Room, Burnhamthorpe Community Centre

1500 Gulleden Dr., Mississauga, ON L4X 2T7

The following items of Business will be conducted:

- Receive a report from the Board
- Receive the 2015 Financial Statements
- Elect Directors and other Officers

Other special business as may be required

Details on the above items may be viewed on our website http://ogehr.ca.

Barbara Neal, Secretary April 5, 2016

OGEHR AGM and Gala Dinner

NEWSFLASH!!! REGISTRATION DEADLINE EXTENDED!!!

We couldn't bear for you to miss out on this fun event and so the *NEW* deadline for the OGEHR AGM and Gala Dinner is Saturday, April 30th, 2016. There will be no dinner tickets available at the door. Please e-mail Barb Cogan at barbcogan@hotmail.com if you are interested in participating.

You are welcome to register as a single attendee or with a small group of bell buddies. We are still accepting choirs/ensembles/solo ringers to perform.

Add in Saturday May 14, 2016, 4 p.m. to your calendar, and it's just a hop, skip and a jump off the 401 to Mississauga. You'll be home before bedtime - we promise! You don't have to perform to be a part of this fun evening, just sign up.

Please e-mail Barb Cogan (address above) if you have any questions or you would like to register. Can't wait to see you there!

FESTIVAL 2017



May 25-27, 2017 McMaster University, Hamilton

We hope you will join us, and hundreds of ringers from Ontario, with internationally acclaimed director and composer Michael Glasgow, who will be our Massed, Bronze and Copper Choirs, and our very own Terry Head, who will direct the Tin Choirs.

The naming of the bi-annual festival is one of the first responsibilities of the incoming Festival Committee. It is important for the theme to reflect something about our host city, but also something about us as ringer musicians. Hence UNITED WE RING FROM C to C to C. Hamilton's growth throughout the decades has been in part because of the strong presence of the Steel worker unions. As Hand Bell ringers, being united in our efforts to create beautiful music is crucial. 2017 will be Canada's sesquicentennial (150 years). As proud Canadians, we live from sea to sea to sea. As proud OGEHR members, we ring from C to C to C.

This festival will no longer have its own designated website as it is now found in the OGEHR website. All information will be sent out electronically so please bookmark http://www.ogehr.ca. Watch for updates there and on the email OGEHR email tree.

Welcome, New and Reinstated Members

We welcome new and reinstated Members of the Guild! We're glad to welcome you, or welcome you back, into the Guild family.

We encourage all Members of the Guild to reach out to the new Members in your vicinity. Welcome them personally, and offer your support, encouragement and assistance to them as they grow and develop as handbell musicians.

J.-C. Coolen

OGEHR Membership Secretary

New Members - Affiliate

East

Edith Rankin Memorial United Church (Kingston ON)

Charmaine Bullett (Odessa ON)

Emmanuel United Church (Ottawa ON)

Margaret-Anne Park (Ottawa ON)

Grace-St. Andrew's United Church (Arnprior ON)

D Hyacinth Chatterton (Arnprior ON)

Gail Hayes (Arnprior ON)

Sarah Lewis (Arnprior ON)

Deborah Prescott (Arnprior ON)

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (Ottawa ON)

June Collins (Orleans ON)

St. Barnabas Anglican Church (Pierrefonds QC)

Megan Horvat (Châteauguay QC)

St. Paul's United Church (Perth ON)

Barbara Bolte (Perth ON)

Trinity Presbyterian Church (Carp ON)

Robin Tropper (Kanata ON)

Central East

St. Andrew's United Church (Peterborough ON)

Margaret Allen (Peterborough ON)
Tom Keeton (Peterborough ON)

Trinity United Church (Cobourg ON)

Meredith Ender (Cobourg ON)

Amber Gourd (Cobourg ON)

Dianne Plaskon (Cobourg ON)

Central

Aurora United Church (Aurora ON)

Paula Bell (Aurora ON)

Scott Tanner (Aurora ON)

Richmond Hill Christian Community Church (Richmond Hill ON)

Helen Chan (North York ON)

Yvonne Chang (Richmond Hill ON)

Catherine Lai (Thornhill ON)

David Lam (Toronto ON)

Tiffany Leung (Richmond Hill ON)

May Ng (Markham ON)

Margaret Wong (Richmond Hill ON)

Rosina Wong (North York ON)

Beracah Yeung (Richmond Hill ON)

Central West

Christ Church (United Church of Canada)

Andria Daoust (Mississauga ON)
Alison Forde (Mississauga ON)

St. John's United Church (Oakville ON)

Brenda Chisholm (Oakville ON)

Sheena Curran (Oakville ON)

Susan Eadie (Oakville ON)

Margaret Godefroy (Oakville ON)

Svetlana Kotliarenko (Oakville ON)

Jane McGuigan (Oakville ON)

Karen Slayer (Oakville ON)

Westminster United Church (Orangeville ON)

Nikki Hughson (Orangeville ON)

Nancy Sicsic (Orangeville ON)

Jennifer Sutoski (Orangeville ON)

South

Dublin Street United Church (Guelph ON)

Jennifer Bower (Moffat ON)

Timothy Mitchell (Guelph ON)

Knox Presbyterian Church (Guelph ON)

Sara McEachern (Guelph ON)

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (Guelph ON)

Barbara Penn (Guelph ON)

Wellington Square United Church (Burlington ON)

Susan Evans (Burlington ON)

Jill Loosley (Burlington ON)

Cathy Mitchell (Burlington ON)

West

First-St. Andrew's United Church (London ON)

Pat Skidmore (London ON)

Wesley-Knox United Church (London ON)

Sharon Ferreira (London ON)
Dianne Woolridge (Bracebridge ON)

North East

Bracebridge United Church (Bracebridge ON)

Moira Dunn (Bracebridge ON)

Joybells (Barrie ON)

Debra Barden (Coldwater ON)

Trinity United Church (Collingwood ON)

Carol Schell (Collingwood ON)

Wasaga Beach United Church (Wasaga Beach ON)

Marjory Allpress (Wasaga Beach ON)

Marianne Buzza (Wasaga Beach ON)

Beth Dobson (Wasaga Beach ON)

Patricia Duberry (Wasaga Beach ON)

Norene Hayward (Wasaga Beach ON)

Amy Lawrence (New Lowell ON)

Enid Lennox (Nottawa ON)

Irene Sunderland (Wasaga Beach ON)

Reinstated Members

Individual

Central East

Barbara Breckenridge (Whitby ON)

Central

Margaret Johnson (Newmarket ON)

South

Gloria Berg (Kitchener ON) Joyce Hambly (Ayr ON) Diane Knyf (Dundas ON)

Affiliate

East

Bridge Street United Church (Belleville ON)

June Boudreau (Trenton ON)

Wendy Djuric (Peterborough ON)

Connie Gallupe (Belleville ON)

Terry Head (Belleville ON)

Judy McKnight (Belleville ON)

Moira Nikander-Forrester (Belleville ON)

Mary O'Flynn (Belleville ON)

Bob Pennycook (Tweed ON)

Susan Reid (Belleville ON)

Grace Sine-Lough (Belleville ON)

Harvey Tremeer (Belleville ON)

Ken Whatman (Belleville ON)

Grace-St. Andrew's United Church (Arnprior ON)

Elaine Adams (Arnprior ON)

Susan Brassington (Braeside ON)

Susan Gillan (White Lake ON)

Jeanette Grant (Arnprior ON)

Elaine Hughes (Arnprior ON)

Janet Murray (White Lake ON)

Barbara Smith (Arnprior ON)

Central East

Trinity United Church (Peterborough ON)

Christine Annett (Peterborough ON)

Miriam Bennett (Peterborough ON)

Joan Boehme (Peterborough ON)

Karla Buckborough (Peterborough ON)

Alwyn Evans (Peterborough ON)

Patricia Evans (Peterborough ON)

Shelley Evans (Peterborough ON)

Sherrill Fatum (Peterborough ON)

Stacey Fletcher (Peterborough ON)

Robert Grandy (Port Hope ON)

Noreen Headon (Peterborough ON)

Mary Hinan-Grose (Peterborough ON)

Rachelle Hunter (Peterborough ON)

Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church (Brighton ON)

Carole Anderson (Brighton ON)

Mitchell Cox (Castleton ON)

Thian Hall (Brighton ON)

Susan Moritz (Brighton ON)

Sharen Pocknell (Brighton ON)

Linda Reckenberg (Brighton ON)

Sonja Rundle (Brighton ON)
Anne Thomas (Brighton ON)

Central

Aurora United Church (Aurora ON)

Susan Ennis (Aurora ON)

King City United Church (King City ON)

Ingrid Elliott (Alliston ON)

St. John's York Mills Anglican Church (Toronto ON)

Janet Benedict (Thornhill ON)

Stephanie Brander (Toronto ON)

Pat Burford (Toronto ON)

David John Downie (Toronto ON)

Yvonne Gettins (Toronto ON)

Lian Hall (Toronto ON)

Susan Johnson (Toronto ON)

Diana Kennedy (Pickering ON)

Tracy Lewis (Toronto ON)

Carolyn Martin (Thornhill ON)

Ginny McMullen (Markham ON)

Jo Millar (Toronto ON)

Susan Mole (Toronto ON)

Catherine Orser (Toronto ON)

Victoria Panos (Toronto ON)

Carolyn Parkes (Toronto ON)
Millie Raulfs (Newmarket ON)
Elizabeth White (Toronto ON)

St. Matthew's United Church - Bells of St. Matthew's (Richmond Hill ON)

Laura Gray (Richmond Hill ON)

Central West

St. John's United Church (Oakville ON)

Wendy Merson (Oakville ON)
Barb Milroy (Oakville ON)
Roy Oldfield (Oakville ON)
Pamela Rowledge (Oakville ON)
Patricia Russell (Oakville ON)

West

Bellissima Ringers/Bells Ablaze (Ingersoll ON)

Kathleen Cann (London ON)
Susan Carscadden-Mifsud (Ingersoll ON)
Adam Guthrie (London ON)
Anne Menzie (Guelph ON)
Man-Yee Sun (Waterloo ON)

Christ Church (Anglican) (Amherstburg ON)

Jill Beadow (Amherstburg ON)

Margita H Lange (Windsor ON)

Janis Maloney (Timmins ON)

Marilyn S Young (Windsor ON)

North East

Bracebridge United Church (Bracebridge ON)

Patricia Davidson (Bracebridge ON)
Beth Grimstead (Bracebridge ON)
Don McDowell (Bracebridge ON)

Joybells (Barrie ON)

Donna Brunner (Oro-Medonte ON)
Julie Dunaiskis (Barrie ON)
Marcia Dyer (Barrie ON)
Vicki Fraser (Elmvale ON)
Elizabeth Haley (Barrie ON)
Lena-Marie Haw (Barrie ON)
Mary Rose Stone (Barrie ON)

Wasaga Beach United Church (Wasaga Beach ON)

Susan Gutsell (Wasaga Beach ON)

Zion-Amabel United Church (Sauble Beach ON)

Marilyn Bannister (Sauble Beach ON) Delynne Gates (Hepworth ON)

North West

Handbells Etc. (Edmonton AB)

Camille Ream (Edmonton AB)



A fun-filled music concert for all ages

ADMIT ONE

Adults \$15/ Children \$5

Sunday, May 1st, 3:00 p.m.

St. John's York Mills Anglican Church
Doors open at 2:30 p.m.



St. John's York Mills is celebrating its 200th Anniversary this year and so for **MusicFest**, we chose **200** years of Musical Memories!

Come and Join us - MusicFest is a fun-filled concert, with bells, chimes, choir and band. We love seeing the smiles on faces in the audience and hope you will be there to bring your smile too.

MusicFest has also given us the ability to support many different charities over the years.

This year we will be supporting The Sandy Bay Primary School in Jamaica, Sleeping Children Around the World; and Refugees.

Please mark your calendar and join us on Sunday May 1 at 3 pm. I hope you can come.

An Unforeseen Hazard of Continuing Education

I am the worst ringer in my hand bell choir. This is not because I'm tone deaf or mentally subnormal. It's because I never learned to read sheet music.

Until I started ringing, my only encounter with sheet music happened in grade school. A teacher, whose name and face are long forgotten, although the memory of her wooden ruler still stimulates synaptic traffic, drew five lines on the board, then scribbled dots on the lines and sang doh-ray-me-faso-la-tee-doh. Being something of a musical prodigy, doh-ray-me was hardly a challenge for me. I'd been singing along with Hank Williams and Fats Domino on the radio ever since I discovered my vocal chords. I only had to hear a tune once to remember it, so didn't pay any more attention to music lessons. While I waited for my classmates to figure out the tune (so

I could hear it) I drew ponies on the fly leaf of the song book. (They were a particular passion of mine between the ages of seven and nine, when I finally sat on one and the infatuation died.)

Through the remainder of grade school, including five years in the school choir and a one year stint with a city-wide children's chorus, no one ever discovered my shameful secret. I learned to play guitar by listening to records. The doh-ray-me method enjoyed a short comeback as a way to record melody lines for the songs I wrote, provoking gales of laughter from the studio musicians who worked on my demo tapes. Other than this blow to my ego, I survived sixty years as a musical illiterate with no ill effects.

Then, about a year ago, my friend Wen tricked me into joining a beginners hand bell choir by assuring me the ability to read sheet music was not a prerequisite. She didn't lie. Wen's a very honest person. Strictly speaking, it not necessary to read sheet music to join a hand bell choir. It is only necessary if you want to ring the damn things.

At first I wasn't at too much of a disadvantage, even though everyone else in the group was either a choralist or pianist or some other kind of 'ist for whom musical literacy is a requirement. Hand bell sheet music is not the same as regular sheet music.

For one thing, the dots (the technical term for these is notes) are written in configurations regular dots don't normally assume. For another, all kinds of odd notations have been invented to document bell-related techniques for different ways to ring and stop ringing (technical term: damping). It was a learning curve for everyone and my illiteracy went relatively unremarked in the general kafuffle of matching new notations to new physical skills. It was further obscured by Terry, the choir director, who wisely concentrated his training efforts on those more likely to benefit from them.

I noticed that the big bells rang fewer times, so staked out my turf at the low end of the bell table. Initially, this seemed like a mistake, because it turned out there were two sets of lines (technical term: staffs) and my bells were on the lower one (technical term: bass staff) where the doh-ray-me method doesn't work. I was forced to learn the names of my notes – G and A – and what they looked like on the page.

As time passed, my decision to stake out the big bells bore fruit. With only two fairly infrequent notes to worry about, I gradually began to acquire a dim understanding of things like time signatures, note values, sharps and flats, rests and repeats, and the all-important frowny-dot, which means look at the conductor. I was still the worst ringer in the group, but the gap never widened much.

Then, last week, Terry handed out sheet music for a song I'd never heard before. It was in 6/8 time, which I'd no idea how to count; had two page turns, which are not easy when both hands are full of bells; and worst of all, there were G's and A's in every bar. I panicked. Ignoring Terry's general walkthrough of the piece, I concentrated on my two precious notes, reading through each bar slowly and carefully. Just as I was starting to relax, Terry moved Wen, who had been playing the station on my right, to a different location. This meant I had to move up to Wen's station. Before I could even get started panicking, Terry counted us in.

In 1990, a psychologist named (slightly redundantly) Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi published a book entitled *Flow: The Psychology of Optimal Experience*. I read it

a few years later during the pursuit-of-happiness phase of therapy. To oversimplify, and with apologies to Mihaly, a sense of extreme well-being is experienced when people are performing a challenging task at a high level of concentration with a definite goal and getting immediate feedback. At these times, a person becomes part of the task rather than standing outside it. They have a sense of control without striving for control. Their sense of self disappears, their sense of time alters, and they are in a state of flow. There was some pooh-poohing about the validity of this theory at the time. Today, I am pleased to announce, based on personal experience: flow absolutely exists.

I picked up my two new bells. I got the first bar right, mostly by accident, since I wasn't sure which bell was in which hand. I got the second bar right, boosting my confidence.

Suddenly, my universe collapsed into the B and C dots on the page. I couldn't hear the other ringers anymore. My hips started rocking with the one-and -ah two-and-ah rhythm of 6/8 time. I stopped ringing the bells and became the bells, sounding out in an eternal, joyous now. I don't remember turning the pages, but I must have, because I didn't miss a beat. At the end of the piece, when we got to the frowny-dot over the last note, I looked at Terry and held my B-bell aloft like an Olympian bearing the eternal flame.

The outside me just smiled. The inside me was higher than Alan Watts on a research grant. This euphoria lasted right up until I realized I had – finally - learned to read sheet music.

Now what excuse will I use for being the worst ringer in my hand bell choir?

Brenda L Baker

New Handbell Music Reviews

by Camille Ream



e love it when new releases come! It gives us a chance to find great new music to share with you. We hope you find some in this set of reviews that will soon be part of your choir's repertoire.

Dance of the Five (Danza de los Cinco)

Hakes

23 OR 345 octaves with second level 1 Choirchime choir and optional percussion Level 2

This original composition is music of fun and energy! Spanish style music inserts a few 2 beat bars amidst the 3 beat ones! Keeps everyone focussed. Adding a few marts, thumb damps and ring touches make it more exciting. THEN add a beginning chime choir and some percussion – the piece is alive and both ringers and the audience will enjoy!

Celebration and Grace

Mazzantenta 345 octaves opt Choirchimes® Level 2

This composition has become one of my ringers' favourites this year. We performed it in the fall for worship, at all our Christmas concerts and will keep in our

repertoire for the rest of the year. Suitable for all occasions! Really, it is a terrific piece. It plays like a level 2 but sounds like a level 3! This original composition is definitely an exciting piece of music! Ringers of all ages will enjoy it! Not only will it make you want to tap your toes, hum along, clap your hands - it might also make you want to dance!

Prelude on "O Sacred Head Now Wounded

Arr. Edwards

345 octaves optional D9 and C or Bb instrument and cello

Level 2

We have just completed Christmas music and now as church musicians we have to look at Lenten and Easter music! These Lenten words along with the haunting melody (Passion Chorale) paints a dramatic picture. It can stand alone but the addition of strings makes an even more dramatic presentation.

Morning Praise

Arr. Moklebust 345 octaves Level 2

This is the perfect piece to begin morning worship! It combines three well known hymn tunes — Bunessan (Morning Has Broken), Ratisbon (Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies) and Laudes Domini (When Morning Gilds the Sky). Easy to work up!

Easter and Beyond

Various arrangers – including Anna Laura Page, Michael Glasgow, Sondra Tucker, Michael Helman and more! 345 octaves Level 2 and 3

This reproducible book has been compiled by Michael Helman and includes music that can be used throughout the church year. It is great to have such a compilation that includes level 3 music as well as level 2! Titles include This Joyful Eastertide, Celebration on "Lancashire", Crown Him Lord, Come O Spirit Dwell Among Us, Come Down O Love Divine, Spirit of God, Holy God We Praise Your Name, Variations on "Holy Manna".

Down the River (Running the Rogue)

Krug 345 octaves Level 4+

Looking for a challenge? We rang this at Distinctly Bronze West 2015 where we could imagine an exciting trip on the Rogue River in Oregon. The rhythmic changes, the key changes and speed keeps you on an exhilarating adventure! A definite challenge for the advanced choir!

Peace Like a River

Arr. Waldrop 345 octaves optional Choirchimes Level 2+

Spirituals can work in any setting! This starts out with a delicate, peaceful feeling, moving to a verse filled with joy and percussive techniques, and closing with a joyful finale! Easy to ring and congregations will like it!

Let Us Break Bread

Arr. Helman 345 octaves optional Choirchimes Level 3

This piece combines the well known spiritual and the tune Holy Manna. It starts with the singing bell technique and suspended malleted bells for the melody. Chimes in chordal structure play the melody and accompaniment while the upper bells ring gentle running eighth notes.

On the Shore

By Childers 34567 octaves optional Choirchimes Level 3

This original piece works well for both sacred and secular settings. It is an ABA format. It starts Vivace with a syncopated rhythm, moves to a lilting 6/8 section with chimes, and then returns to the original theme.

Hallelujah Chorus

Arr. Behnke 3456 octaves Level 3

There are a number of Hallelujah Chorus by Handel arrangements currently in print. This one really captures the feeling of the music – the arrangement is full and will make you think there is an orchestra playing it! If you have been wanting to ring this piece, this is the arrangement that you should get.

OGEHR Board of Directors

Officers

President

Vacant

Vice-President

Vacant

Past President

Vacant

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Vacant

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Festival 2017

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North West Area Representative

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Finance—Audit Coordinator

Vacant

Handbell Guilds of Canada Representatives (Voting rep.)

Vacant

Handbell Guilds of Canada Representatives (Non-voting rep.)

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Handbell Guilds of Canada Representatives (Additional rep.)

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Programs—Music Lending Coordinator

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Programs—Fall Workshop Coordinator

Vacant