

# A Rare Musical Treasure is Coming to Sarasota

(if it finds a loving home!)

A set of 48 carefully-tuned bells called a CARILLON is arriving in Sarasota County soon. Made in the Netherlands, it is one of only three traveling carillons in the Western Hemisphere. If you have ever been to the Bok Tower in Lake Wales, you have certainly heard the ethereal sounds of the bells wafting over this natural setting.

As the cultural capital of Florida, it is fitting that Sarasota County should also have its own carillon. That is the goal of the Sarasota Carillon Foundation.

- **What kind of music can the carillon play?** It is capable of playing a wide range of music, from Christmas tunes and hymns to folk and popular music – anything from Bach to the Beatles. Its music is suitable for festive occasions (weddings and fairs) as well as solemn ones (funerals, religious observances) - either alone or with bands or choirs.
- **How often will it be played?** FREE recitals will be played by qualified carillonneurs (bell-ringers) year-round, excluding summer, on a mutually-agreed schedule for the benefit of the general public. It will also be played during teaching sessions for students of the carillon art.
- **What kind of setting is suitable for the carillon?** As an outdoor instrument, it only requires space to accommodate it and an audience – basically, a site the size of a tennis court. This site should be away from residences, so that the sounds of the practice sessions don't reach neighbors. The site should also be secured when the carillon is idle to protect this valuable instrument from mischief-makers.
- **Who am I?** I am a resident of Florida, living in Sarasota County. I became a certified carillonneur in 1977 and served as the University of Chicago's carillonneur from 1984-2016, as well as the President of the World Carillon Federation from 2006-2017.

If you or someone you know can suggest a suitable location for this musical treasure for the next few years, please contact me as soon as possible.

I look forward to offering the sound of bells to the Sarasota County community for many years to come. Thank you!

Wylie Crawford  
847-334-2333  
Wylie@Crawford.net

(over for a photo and more details on this carillon)

The range of this traveling carillon is four octaves – 48 bells - from the 2,000 pound, 46-inch diameter Bourdon bell, tuned to F natural, skipping the lowest F# semitone, and then continuing with a fully chromatic series from low G to the highest F natural. The keyboard is transposed to C and includes 19 pedals attached to the largest bells. It includes an automatic player system attached to the mechanical action keyboard.



Weight of the bells alone – 10,000 lbs.

Weight of the instrument – 26,000 lbs.

Length – 23.25 feet

Height – 13.5 feet

Width – 8 feet

To see and hear this instrument in action, go to one of the following links:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A4wEWfvl8Nw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AY1T72WYUWY>