

# Tips and tidbits

## MUSIC THEORY.aargh©

(For ringers: Session 1)

By Dr. Ona Pinsonneault

**W**asn't that a great convention in Rochester? We began many music theory questions there and this column will attempt to address some of them and serve as a place to pose other questions and further discussions.

Now, just what is "tonality"? Think of it as music having one pitch as the main focus and other pitches serve it. The pitch of focus is called "tonic". This pitch is used many times in the composition. It is placed in strategic locations, such as, at the beginning of a section or at the end of a section. It is a pitch that is of longer durations than surrounding pitches. It is an accented pitch, accented by being on the first beat of the measure or by having a special marking showing that it is louder than surrounding pitches. It is a pitch repeated many times in the composition or a section of a composition.

Tonic is stressed much in the same way as a person may decorate a room. One color or texture may be the main focus of a room with other colors providing relief, or diversion, without which the room becomes uninteresting.

Music having tonality has a tonic and the remaining tones all relate to it. The tonic is the point of relaxation, is the point towards which all other tones lead. When Red Skelton asks his band "What key are you playing in?" They each individually say "Eb", and he says, "Since when do we all play in the same key?" The "tonic" for the band was "Eb" and all other pitches used serve to focus the tonality on "Eb".

Much of the music played by Bell Choirs has tonality. It provides a way for composers to organize pitch.

Until next time,  
Dr. P  
November 2010

*(Further discussions and questions may be directed to the editor of Clapper Chatter, Judi Morton at [editor@areaviagehr.org](mailto:editor@areaviagehr.org).)*

## Concerts

**Arbor Bells** (Twin Cities handbell ensemble)  
**Friday, December 10, 6:30 - 7:00 and 7:30 to 8:00 p.m.**  
Ridgedale Mall • Minnetonka, Minnesota

**Sunday, December 12, 1:30 - 2:00 and 2:30 - 3:00 p.m.**  
Oswald Visitor Center  
Minnesota Landscape Arboretum  
3675 Arboretum Drive  
Chaska, Minnesota

(The concerts are FREE; however, there is a fee to the Arboretum of \$9 for adults, children under 15 are FREE.)

## Fundraising 101 *the road to Duluth and beyond*

From Anita Fraundorf, 2012 Festival Conference Chair

**Rummage Sale:** Although this is not our *favorite* fundraiser as it generally takes a lot of "sweat equity" to put on, but the result is pure profit and usually our biggest money maker. We solicit donations from the congregation, and if you have a storage area available, you can start collecting a month or two (or more) ahead of the sale. **Don't take ANY electrical or electronic items because if they don't sell, it will cost you to dispose of them.** Big items (e.g. furniture, exercise equipment) don't usually sell and are hard to dispose of as well. We do accept clothing but determine one price rather than marking each item (often 50 cents per item).

If possible, have a separate room for the good or collectable items with its own cashier during sale hours. We run our sale Thursday evening (6-8) and Friday (9-1). The last couple hours on Friday are usually bag sales (\$5 for everything you can get into a paper grocery bag).

### Things to do ahead:

- ✓ Advertise within the congregation for sale items, in the newspaper or online for customers
- ✓ Save plastic and paper grocery bags & newspaper for bagging
- ✓ Collect clothes hangers
- ✓ Make signs to hang indicating "departments" (housewares, clothing, etc)
- ✓ Contact Goodwill/Salvation Army to pick up the items that didn't sell (preferably the afternoon after the sale ends or arrange for people to haul it somewhere),
- ✓ Start setting up on Monday the week of your sale (it always takes longer than you think to get sale-ready!), set up cash boxes, have drinks and treats for the workers to take breaks on the days of set up and sale.

Have fun working together! It usually takes the whole choir to do this fundraiser but we always have a lot of laughs (and find some great white elephant gifts for our holiday gift exchange!).

Submitted by Northern Bell Chimes, Duluth, Minnesota

(If you have a fundraising tip/suggestion, send it to Anita Fraundorf at [anitabellchime@yahoo.com](mailto:anitabellchime@yahoo.com) and we'll include it in a future issue of *Clapper Chatter*)



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