

Schulmerich “Americana” Bells (Coronation bells and Celeste), Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly, 1966-1967.

PA Staff Supervisor/Technician: Jim Roberts

Repair Representative: W.B. Shearer

AVA Staff, Carillonneur: Joe Hughes (played the two manual carillon keyboard in the B.W. Spillman Auditorium, next to the Baldwin organ, for the tower music system, when the main roll player unit was unavailable.) Hymns played on the tower music system, announced meal times and “lights out” at 11 P.M.

By listening to the hymns several times each day, I was able to learn to play with the fine nuances and legato sweeping touch on the keys, that was required for an electronic carillon, which is different from playing an organ or piano. Also, there was the delay from the time you played on the keyboard and the sound reached the tower. Being inside the auditorium, it was helpful when the side doors were open (the auditorium was not air-conditioned, due to the natural mountain breeze). All the hymns were two verses in length, except my favorite, “Amazing Grace,” which had three, and included half-step key changes that I learned to perform in order to sound exactly like the roll player. I was glad to be able to practice on the console speaker before switching to the tower outside. It’s hard to cover up mistakes made on a system that could be heard over several hundred acres! It was a privilege to be asked to play the carillon.



Schulmerich Bells

Electronic Carillons • Cast Bells • Handbells

MelodyChime® and MelodyWave® Instruments

Carillon Hill • PO Box 903 • Sellersville, PA

“Columbia the Gem of the Ocean”

“Hail the Red, White and Blue”

“Grand old Flag”

“I Am an American”

“The Star-Spangled Banner”

“My Country, ‘Tis of Thee”

“O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”

“The Holy City”

“The Lord’s Prayer”

“How Great Thou Art”

“O God Our Help in Ages Past”

“Blessed Assurance”

“I Walked today Where Jesus Walked”

“A Mighty Fortress”

“All Hail the Power of Jesus Name”

“O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

“Wonderful Words of Life”

“The Doxology”

“The Church’s One Foundation”

“Come Thou, Almighty King”

“Saviour Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

“Amazing Grace”

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

“Living for Jesus”

“O Master Let Me Walk With Thee” (incomplete)