

Hi Gary: You listed digging up several sources of information on the Carillon Tower project. That is great. After over 35 years not thinking too much about the events leading to the dedication of the Carillon Tower, I'm not sure I can really add that much but I'll try.

President Spathelf contact me sometime about 1964 or 1965 about the idea of such an undertaking. He said a Ferris alumnu Norman Borgerson, retired deputy superiintendent of Public Instruction, had sent a check to the college to start a fund for a Carillon Tower on campus. He had always dreamed of one on campus.

Don Rankin, Dean of Students at the time, worked closely with All College Student Government (ACSG) and , I believe, dropped the idea to them about the worthiiness for such an undertaking.

Dean Rankin sought my input and invited me to participate. Essentially the core faculty-staff committee consisted of Dean Rankin, Max Smith and me. Rankin worked closely with Student Government leaders but it was the professional faculty-staff component with the important backing of President Spathelf that worked day in and day out on the project. While ACSG student involvement was vital and effective, after all their primary responsibilities were academic.

President Spathelf had set an estimated goal of \$25,000 for the project.

A Carillon Fund Committee was organized. I recall meetings with John Cook of ACSG. Later meetings of Rankin and Fred Lutzke, a pharmacy major, who initiated support of the Residence Hall Association and RHA's contribution of about \$1000.

The Alumni Office, Dean Rankin, the president, ACSG, Max Smith and I were actively engaged in raising the target amount of funds. Dean Donald Rankin was really the person who spearheaded the fund drive.

I was chairman of the Carillon Tower Design Committee. We sought designs from faculty and students. The design of James Shane, instructor of architectural drafting, was selected. His design, I believe, appealed to President Spathelf because the construction of the Tower could be built with bricks similar to many campus buildings at the time. At the time, considerable construction work was going on and I think Spathelf thought that we could use some of the workers on other projects to also take on the construction of Carillon Tower. This would also be a cost saving factor. Since the President had thorough grasp of cost and available resources, I believe the outcome was highly successful..

I was also in charge of selecting the Carillon sound system. Dean Rankin and I visited a couple of college campuses in the state and gathered information about the actual sound, operation and cost of installing a carillon sound system. I met with the manufacturer, I believe the company was Schulmerich, for the purchase and installation and so recommended it to President Spathelf.

Somehow or other, I was chosen to work with James Shane and Maintenance people for the design and construction of the Carillon Tower Plaza. I believe most of the work and materials was done "in house," i.e. with Ferris maintenance employees. This was another factor of cost saving and utilization of Ferris personnel.

Since I was extensively involved with programming cultural events, I was selected to spearhead the organization of the Dedication Ceremony.

I believe, in the end, the fact that President Spathelf was so enthusiastically supportive of the project , that fact contributed for its fruition. Rankin did an excellent job of getting ASCG to work on the project. Max Smith and I met formally and informally with Rankin to indentify problems and initiate solutions. Student Government involvement was important and valuable. I suppose the team work of faculty, staff, students and the leadership of the president all contributed to the successful outcome.

In 1998, Donald Flickinger, currently Head Department of Humanities and Arts, spearheaded a drive to raise funds to replace the original Carillon Tower sound system with a modern one. This was a particularly successful and ambitious project which was climaxed on Homecoming Day with an elaborate ceremony and outdoor dedication.ceremony at the Carillon Tower.

Gary, I hope this will help you on your up-coming speech assignment.

Dacho Dachoff 3.19.04

Ken Hicks - owner of Western Concrete gifted some bricks to finish the projects - Wanted no Regonization for Gift - Per Ken Hicks . 2009 - InConversation Mary Gallagher-Eustice