

COOL YULE

presented by the

SEAWAY VALLEY SINGERS

conducted by

Robert Jones

accompanied by

Margaret Whisselle

Sunday, December 6, 2015
at 3:00

Gerry Rosenquist (Master of Ceremonies)

**Iroquois United Church,
Iroquois, Ontario**

Programme

All: Hymn 28 <i>Herald! Sound the Note of Gladness</i>	Descant by Robert Jones
Advent Noel (accompanied by the Winchester Handbell Choir)	Patrick Liebergen
Shout to the North (Winchester Handbell Choir)	Martin Smith
Gabriel to Mary Came	David Willcocks
My Soul Rejoices (solo by Rhonda Schneckenburger)	Lloyd Larson
Sing, Choirs of Angels (see insert for text)	arr. Jay Althouse
A Child Is Born in Bethlehem	Malcolm Archer
Ring the Bells! (accompanied by the Winchester Handbell Choir)	Valerie MacKenzie
Noel Medley (Winchester Handbell Choir)	Valerie Stephenson
One Small Child (Benjamin Vreman, <i>treble</i>)	David Meece
All: Hymn 91 <i>The First Nowell</i>	arr. John Stainer and Healey Willan
Here We Come A-Wassailing	John Rutter
'Twas the Night Before Christmas	Irving Berlin (arr. Mac Huff)
Mele Kalikimaka	Alex Anderson
Cool Yule	Steve Allen

Please join us downstairs for refreshments following the concert.

Our spring concert will be held at the
Christian Reformed Church in Williamsburg
on Friday, May 7th at 7:30 p.m.
It will feature a medley from *The Sound of Music*.

THE SEAWAY VALLEY SINGERS

Robert Jones, conductor

Margaret Whisselle, accompanist

Sopranos: Eleanor Allison, Anne-Marie Carmoy, Viv Charbonneau, Marianne Coligan, Lorna Driscoll, Elizabeth Irwin, Linda LaFortune, Joan McGinn, Minnie MacKay, Monique O'Rourke, Barbara Pilkington, Rhonda Schneckenburger, Madeleine Sisk, Suzanne Strader, Judy Veinotte, Susan Wells, Mary Ann Whittaker.

Altos: Dawn Atwood-Ouellette, Carol Barkley, Nancy Bresnahan, Harriet Clarke, Isabelle Delage, Alice Douma-Howland, Jill Dumaresq, Colleen Howard, Lorraine Howard, Nancy Jordan, Annette McRae, Marni Marriott, Christine Petrimoulx, Elizabeth Temple.

Tenors: Roger Boake, Bob Gilroy, Volker Gruetzner, Sid Irwin, Bob Ruddock, Shawn Snider, Manfred Staebler.

Basses: David Black, Ab Carr, Dan Edwards, Randy Lacey, Doug MacKay, Mike Ouellette, Peter Ross, Chris Rowntree, Gary Unsworth.

Absent: Sydney Smith.

Established in 1993, *The Seaway Valley Singers* is a non-profit organization based in Williamsburg. Its members, as their title suggests, come from throughout the Seaway Valley: Avonmore, Chesterville, Cornwall, Finch, Ingleside, Iroquois, Mariatown, Morrisburg, Mountain and South Mountain. The first director of the Seaway Valley Singers was Michael Goodwin. Alex Thomson took over as conductor in the fall of 2000; Mark Ehlebracht—who served as the accompanist for the 2001-02 season—served as the conductor for 2003-04, and Robert Jones has been their conductor since the fall of 2004. Our purpose is to provide our members with the opportunity to improve their singing skills by learning and singing choral music, both sacred and secular for the entertainment of the general public. As a charitable organization, we welcome and depend on donations from individuals and the corporate community. Donors are listed in each concert programme and on the web site. Rehearsals are held at the Christian Reformed Church in Williamsburg (12436 County Road 18, ½ km. east of County Road 31) every Wednesday evening (7:30-9:30), and new members are welcome. **Rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, January 6, 2016.** For more information, please phone our president Chris Rowntree at (613) 543-4288 or visit www.seawayvalleysingers.ca.

Robert Jones is a graduate of the University of Windsor and the University of Western Ontario and he has also studied at the Royal School of Church Music (Croydon, England). He also holds the Associateship and Choir Master diplomas from the Royal Canadian College of Organists. Bob has been the Organist and Choir Director at St. Luke's Anglican Church (Somerset Street) since 1999. He also plays for the Saturday mass at St. Basil's Church. This is Bob's twelfth season as conductor of the Seaway Valley Singers. From 2004-12 he directed the two handbell choirs at Winchester United Church; from 2004-15 he was also the conductor of the Bytown Voices (Ottawa). He has lived in Chesterville since 2001.

Our accompanist **Margaret Whisselle** graduated from Queen's University in Kingston with a Bachelor of Music degree. She was the original Seaway Valley Singers' accompanist (1993-2000) and returned to us in September 2010! She sang vocal solos with SVS and was a member of the "Renaissance Voyces" choir. Margaret has been the Organist/Choir Director at Iroquois United Church since 1987 and before that, fulfilled the same function at St. John's Evangelical Parish in Riverside Heights. She has been teaching piano, vocals, and theory privately since 1986 in this area. In addition to her own private music students, she is teaching piano/vocals at Rock My House Music Centre in Kemptville. She has been a performer at Brockville's "First Night" celebrations and has appeared on television for interviews twice, in connection with this event. Margaret has performed in off-Broadway type shows at Upper Canada Playhouse. Margaret is working on upcoming concerts in association with Christopher Coyea, Alex Fleuriau Chateau and Ottawa's Maple Leaf Brass Band. She will be appearing with this group in a production of Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* (accompanied by brass band) in 2016! Margaret comes from the Ingleside area and is the mother of five.

In 2002 Winchester United Church purchased its three-octave set of handbells manufactured by Malmark (of Pennsylvania). The **Winchester Handbell Ringers** ring periodically for services at Winchester United Church as well as at various churches throughout the Seaway Valley. Colleen Howard—who recently retired as the band teacher at Maple Ridge Senior Public School in Chesterville—took over from Robert Jones as conductor in 2012. Colleen has started a new handbell choir for beginners. New members would be most welcome. If you are interested in learning how to ring handbells, please speak to Colleen.

HANDBELL RINGERS OF WINCHESTER UNITED CHURCH

Lowest bells to highest: Harvey Blais, Corinne Graham, Ron Porteous, Heather Rose, Kathy Spruit, Margaret Reid, Lorna Driscoll, Valerie Flowers, Helen Kerr, Arlene Nesbitt, Matthew Graham.

Director: Colleen Howard