

# It's So Quiet Around Here

*by Jackie Abbott*

What a change these “senior years” bring. My house is so quiet! Now I resort to the TV keeping a little noise in the background as my company. Of course, I talk to myself a lot, too... which makes me wonder about my mental stability at times.

I remember how it was hectic, exciting, and loud when my children were just kids. Two boys being bossed by a big sister or two boys teasing and antagonizing her. Of course – Me, the referee – had to step in and bring peace to the situation.



Later on, when the children were grown, married, and still living close by, there was an even more joyful racket. More joyful because with the grandchildren, I knew the noise was not to be “forever.” (In case, you didn't know... grandchildren are the most wonderful beings to be blessed with.) You can play with them, let them stay the night, but you can always send them home when they have robbed you of your last bit of energy.

Now, with the children and grandchildren not so close by, I miss having some fun and a little noise with the great-grandchildren.

But now, there is another noise that I miss. And it's always on Tuesday nights. What's so special about Tuesday night, you ask? That was the time for a gathering of music lovers to play the bells. Unfortunately, some that were a part of the gathering have moved away, had job responsibilities to interfere, or other situations to cause them to give up the “Joyful Ringers.” For a while, I could conduct and help with the ringing, but it soon was more than could be accomplished.

So now, there are three cases of bells just waiting for the clicking of the latches so they can come out and shine again. What a blessing it is when the Joyful Ringers can play music for the JOY congregation. And how we miss it...

So now, to the bottom line. We need ringers!!! You don't have to read music; if you can count, you can play. And we are not limited to women only playing... got some big, heavy bells for you guys! Give it some thought and a prayer... And I will be praying that those bells will soon see the light of day!