

For Release: January 2009

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**Woodstock Chimes® Celebrates 30 Years “Powered by the Wind”**

*The company’s 30<sup>th</sup> year is set to be its strongest yet*

(Shokan, N.Y.) – Thirty years ago Garry Kvistad, owner and CEO of Woodstock Chimes, had a dream of bringing music to people’s ears in a non-traditional form. With his strong will and impeccable ear for music, the Northern Illinois University professor found himself tromping through a landfill in search of “treasures” to create his masterpiece. It was there he found his first source of materials, a pile of discarded lawn chairs. Using the tubes from the lawn chairs, Kvistad crafted a metallophone, a xylophone-like instrument made with metal instead of wood. From there, Woodstock Chimes took form as Kvistad’s precision-tuned windchimes flourished in popularity, never once slowing down over the past thirty years.

“To this day I’m still amazed at how my original dream took shape to become what it is today,” says Kvistad. “When I first started, I would literally wipe out a local hardware store’s entire supply of 1-inch aluminum tubes, just to keep up with demand.”

After an appearance on NPR’s *All Things Considered* in early 1980 and on the *Today Show* in 1983, Garry was devoting all of his energy to making and selling his windchimes. In the late 80s, Woodstock Chimes were being sold in all 50 states and distributed internationally. In 1990, two custom sets of Woodstock Chimes were commissioned for a special performance by the Boston Symphony Orchestra commemorating the 100th anniversary of Carnegie Hall. In Woodstock Chimes’ 20th anniversary year, 1999, the company moved from West Hurley into its current 108,000 square-foot facility in Shokan, N.Y.

In addition to its windchimes, Woodstock Chimes’ unique line of musical instruments and gifts from around the world, have proven to be extremely popular with its customer base. Originating from Garry’s desire to make quality musical instruments available to all ages, the award-winning Woodstock Music Collection™ is a fabulous assortment of instruments that can be easily played with little practice. One of the first instruments in the collection, the *Chimalong*, was inspired by Garry’s original metallophone and remains a best seller today.

“My love of music and enthusiasm for playing instruments are what lead me to create products that not only entertain young minds, but help foster the development of unique skills,” notes Kvistad. “The music collection has added great depth to Woodstock Chimes, and I intend to continue bringing specialty instruments to our customers and their families.”

Most recently, Woodstock Chimes acquired Asli Arts and created *Asli Arts by Woodstock Chimes*, a new line of environmentally friendly, bamboo and capiz chimes featuring Asli Arts signature designs, which debuted with immense success at the 2009 winter markets. The company has also recently made major advancements in its Canadian distribution by partnering

with Design Home Gift & Paper for distribution of its windchimes division and Playwell Enterprises for the music division.

Additionally, the company is celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a new tagline “powered by the wind for 30 years.”

“Our new tagline embodies what has truly helped bring the melodic sounds of our chimes to the open ears of our customers,” says Kvistad. “Thirty years is a major achievement for any company, and this tagline is just the beginning of our yearlong celebration of this milestone.”

For more information on Woodstock Chimes®, please visit [www.chimes.com](http://www.chimes.com).

**Company Name:** Woodstock Chimes, 167 Dubois Road; Shokan, NY 12481  
800.422.4463, [www.chimes.com](http://www.chimes.com)

**About Woodstock Chimes:** Woodstock Chimes is a leading manufacturer of precision-tuned windchimes, award-winning musical instruments and soothing home and garden décor. Grammy® recipient Garry Kvistad and his wife, Diane, created their first product 30 years ago in New York’s Hudson Valley, where the company continues to design gifts and accessories using superior materials found around the world. The result is a unique collection of over 200 different products that bring joyful sounds to people of all ages. Popular collections include: Asli Arts, Precious Stones, Woodstock Gongs, Inspirational Chimes, Temple Bells and, of course, its Classic Chimes. For more information on Woodstock Chimes, visit [www.chimes.com](http://www.chimes.com) or call (800) 422-4463.

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