

Twice Tolloed Tales

AGEHR AREA II

www.area2agehr.org

Nov 2008

Message from the Chair

Chris Braden



From the Chair:

What a beautiful time of year we are currently experiencing! Fall brings cool, crisp days and nights and glorious colors on the trees and the fall flowers. Each day brings a new surprise as more trees turn and the colors change. As you get further into your bell program year, I hope that you and your choirs are enjoying the “colors” of the music you are ringing. Music is so much more than ringing the correct notes and rhythms that are on the page. We must constantly strive to be sure we are including the beautiful “colors” of the music.

I am reminded of an experience we had at the 2007 Festival Conference. That conference was held at the University of Oswego, NY overlooking Lake Ontario. The hockey rink where the ringing was held had large windows on one side overlooking the lake. The director, Tim Waugh, was facing that window as he was rehearsing a reflective piece. Suddenly, he stopped and asked the ringers to turn around and face the window. There they experienced a spectacular sunset over the lake. After watching for a few moments, Tim then asked the choir, to “ring what you just saw”.

Experiences like this await you and your choir at next summer’s festival conference at the University of Scranton. I hope you are making plans to attend. Even if only a few members of your choir can attend, they will be enriched by the experience and bring knowledge back to your choirs, and your programs will grow from it. (more information about the conference is elsewhere in this newsletter.)

I wish you a season filled with joyous colors both this fall and as we enter into the seasons of Thanksgiving and Christmas. May your ringing enrich the lives of both your ringers and those for whom you ring.

Chris

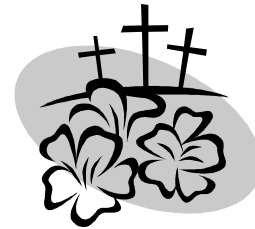


PHE Mourns Death of Longtime Member

I wanted to inform you all of a special event happening in the lives of the Philadelphia Handbell Ensemble ringers. Some of you know that we lost one of our charter members to ovarian cancer last year at the age of 29. Cynthia Drenth was a seriously devoted member of PHE who contributed to the group in so many ways beyond her ringing.

Upon her death, PHE established a memorial fund in Cynthia's honor to be used to commission a handbell arrangement in her memory. The response was overwhelming, and the excess donations will be used to further PHE's outreach mission, something Cynthia also supported in a huge way. We commissioned Dr. John Behnke to create an arrangement of "Give Me Jesus," the background music her husband, Joe, used to create a video celebration of Cynthia's life for her memorial service.

PHE is proud and honored to be debuting this wonderful, creative work at Cynthia and Joe's home church, the First Baptist Church of Doylestown, at 4 PM on Sunday, November 23, 2008 as part of a public concert. More information can be found on PHE's website, PHEBells.org.



NEW MEMBERS

We would like to take the opportunity to welcome all of our new members to Area II.



<p>Rochelle Mulholland Varrie, Ontario</p> <p>Joel Levy East Meadow High School East Meadow, NY</p> <p>Steven Cherry Heritage Tower Retirement Center Doylestown, PA</p> <p>Rene Herbert Manilus , NY</p>	<p>Sosy Maral Shishmanian Armenian Presbyterian Paramus, NJ</p> <p>Joann Lewis McMurray, PA</p> <p>Harriet Herbert Silvercreek, NY</p> <p>Deborah Jenks First Presbyterian Church Northport, NY</p>	<p>Michael Bodnyk New York, NY</p> <p>Paul Eisener Islip Terrace, NY</p> <p>Grace Lutheran Church Royersford, PA</p> <p>First United Methodist Mount Union, PA</p> <p>IC Bell People Ithaca, NY</p>
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AGEHR AREA II BOARD MEMBERS 2007-2009

ELECTED OFFICERS:

Christine Braden
328 Queens Court
Ridgewood, NJ 07450
Home: (201) 447-2751
Work: (201)447-6232
Fax: (201-251-9171
Email: bradenc@aol.com

CHAIR-ELECT

Jim Rossetti
104 Woodberry Rd.
Baden, PA 15005
Cell : (412)913-5728 call after 9:00pm
Email: jdrmaestro@comcast.net

PAST CHAIR

Kathie Bittenbender
465 Rich Valley Road
Carlisle, PA 17015
Home: (717) 697-6257
Email: rbittenben@comcast.net

TREASURER

Christina Lenti
762 Hightower Way
Webster, NY 14580
Home: (585) 671-4363
Email: clenti@thirdpresbyterian.org

SECRETARY

AnnaCarol Buffington
1142 Smithfield Circle
State College, PA 16801
Home: (814) 234-9069
Email: ACBuffington@adelphia.net

APPOINTED OFFICERS:**NJ STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

Shelley Giaier
22 Parsonage Lot Rd.
Lebanon, NJ 08833
Home:(908)832-7957
Email: belshell66@embarqmail.com

NY STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Susan Guse
53 Marges Way
Hopewell Junction, NY 12533
Home: (845) 227-7696
Email: sguse@frontiernet.net

PA STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Martha Alford
128 Hunt Club Lane
Newtown Square, PA 19073
Home: (610) 355-7683
Email: mkalford88@msn.com

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Judy Dinkler
1300 Salem Rd.
Burlington, NJ 08016
Home: (609)386-5770
Email: jdinkler@verizon.net

FINANCIAL ADVISOR

Margaret Zabo
615 N. Meadowcroft Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15216
Home: (412) 341-1356
Email: mزابو@yahoo.com

AREA II HISTORIAN

Lee Morgan
200 Shady Lane
Marlton, NJ, 08053
Home: (856) 983-9217
Email: mmarlton@juno.com

WEBMASTER

John Braden
328 Queens Court,
Ridgewood, NJ 07450
Home: (201) 447-2751
Email: j.braden@worldnet.att.net

CHIME CHAIR

Jeremy Peters
171 Meigs Street, Apt 1
Rochester, NY 14607
Home: (585) 233-1451
Email: psbfan@rochester.rr.com

NJ CHIME REPRESENTATIVE

Jon Hinkson
64 Catesville Rd.
Pemberton, NJ 08068
Home: (609)894-0682
Email: tubateacher@gmail.com

NY CHIME REPRESENTATIVE

Bob Ward
99 Sunny Brook Circle
Highland, NY 12528
Home: (845) 691-2124
rjwardny@optonline.net

PA CHIME REPRESENTATIVE

Eileen McIntyre
2 Gerald Dr.
Ashton, PA 19014
Home: (610) 494-3697
Email: ehandbell@comcast.net

MENTORING COORDINATOR

Bobbi Schmid
213 Kings Cross Rd.
Lititz, PA 17543
Home: (717)627-0196
Email: thezoo213@dejazzd.com

WORKSHOPS COODINATOR

Jackie Anderson
337 Allenboro Dr.
Webster, NY 14580
Home: (585)265-9054
Email: Anderson@pa.net

ENDOWMENT FUND CHAIR

Peggy McNamee
5 Highland Dr.
Pittsburgh, PA 15202
Home: (412)761-8910
Email: peggymc@malachy.com

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Lynn Rapp
39 Honeysuckle Drive
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
(717) 795-0627
Email: klsrapp@msn.com



www.area2agehr.org

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TWICE TOLLED TALES is published four times per year for the membership of AGEHR Area II. Publication dates are February, May, September and November. The deadline for articles and photos is the first day of the month prior to the publication date; these will be included as space permits.

It is preferred that articles be sent in the format of Microsoft Office 2000 Publisher as an email attachment. Articles may also be sent in hard copy form, typewritten. Photos should be in black and white and be labeled on the back. A SASE should be included for those wishing to have their photos returned.

All information for publication and advertisements should be sent to the editor: Lynn Rapp 39 Honeysuckle Dr. Mechanicsburg, PA 17050 klsrapp@msn.com

Light Up Your Holidays!

SiteLiteII

We proudly introduce SiteLiteII, the great new light whose features and ease of use make it a must-have for any ringer!

- LED- no bulb to replace
- Clips securely to any music stand
- Full, even illumination of sheet music
- 20 hour battery life (uses 3 AAA batteries)
- Rugged construction
- Compact, adjustable design
- Includes dimming filter
- Two pivot points to better illuminate music- one behind the light and one just above the clip



3165 SiteLiteII \$39.95

Mighty Bright Sight Reader Light

This versatile and affordable light is perfect for those ringers who need a lightweight, small, portable light for ringing. With a sleek, portable design, storage and use is a snap. Its unique clamp design allows it to sit securely on almost any surface, and its adjustable head aims wherever you need. The Mighty Bright Light runs on four 1.5V, AA batteries or an optional AC/DC adapter, and its bulb is a 4.8V, 0.3A base flashlight bulb.



3190	Mighty Bright Light, Black	\$11.95
3191	AC/DC Adapter	\$11.95
3192	Single Replacement Bulb	\$1.95
3193	Two-Pack Replacement Bulbs	\$2.95
3194	Ten-Pack Replacement Bulbs	\$9.95

Clip-On Light

The fully adjustable black hood and nickel plated extension arm directs light onto your music. Uses a 15 Watt bulb or a tube type 25W or 40W bulb. Includes a 6-foot cord. Bulb not included.

Dimensions: 7-1/8" x 9".

3150	Clip-on Light	\$19.95
3151	Clip-on Light Socket replacement	\$3.50
3154	Clip-on Light Replacement Bulb	\$3.25



1-800-JHS-BELL

www.HandbellWorld.com

Jeffers Handbell Supply, Inc.

Handchime Lending Update

In the last issue of *Twice Tolloed Tales*, we announced the nine recipients of our Handchime Lending Program. Since that time, one of the recipients was able to purchase chimes with a memorial gift. Therefore, we are happy to report that Paul Elsener and Calvary Lutheran Church of Happauge, NY was able to receive a handchime set. Remember, applications for 2009-2010 will be accepted starting March 1st.

How does your choir raise money for equipment, concerts, festivals etc? Are you tired of bake sales and car washes? Send your fundraising ideas to *Twice Tolloed Tales*. We'd love to get and share ideas with you. You can email Lynn Rapp at klsrapp@msn.com. Place fundraising in the subject box.



Check out the "NEW" national website at AGEHR.ORG.



Festivals Are Fun....Come See Why!!!

Why should you attend?

It's a great bonding experience for choirs. From the hours spent learning the music, to traveling and sharing meals together, your choir will get to know each other better than you ever thought possible. Relationships within your choir will likely grow, building a more cohesive choir which in the long run will make for better music.

There's nothing like experiencing handbell music with 400 or more ringers.

Your entire choir can't attend so you think you can't come? Orphan choirs will be offered at the Tins, Coppers and Bronze levels.

Make new friends with others who share the same passion and joy of handbells that you do and re-new friendships with those you haven't seen since the last festival!

Network with others and share ideas about what works for you or where you need help, whether it's working with youth, directing a choir, starting a new program; whatever it is, someone has "been there, done that".

A chance to improve your skills by attending some of our many class offerings.

Earn Professional Development credits.

See and hear others ring - some of our participants will perform at a solo concert. In addition, you'll hear soloist Susan Carscadden-Mifsud and the quartet *Bellissima Ringers* in concert. Our Master Class and Genesis Tracks will also present "mini" concerts. And, the *Raleigh Ringers* will present our opening night concert

You've never attended a festival before and your ringers are intimidated by the whole idea of massed ringing? Why not give our *Genesis Track* a try this year?

The Genesis Track is designed for the "first" time festival attendee. It's for those choirs who have never attended a festival because they are intimidated by the whole massed experience and/or they feel they aren't ready to learn the 7 pieces (3 division pieces, 4 massed pieces) required for the main festival. The Genesis Track will provide a smaller massed experience with fewer pieces to learn. All pieces are a very achievable level 2 or level 3-. (See page 7 for details) The music has been chosen to give you maximum use in your church programs. All attendees in the Genesis Track will have access to all classes and concerts that ringers in the "main" festival have.

What will I get for my registration fee?

All expenses paid including 3 nights in air conditioned suite-style dorms and 10 meals

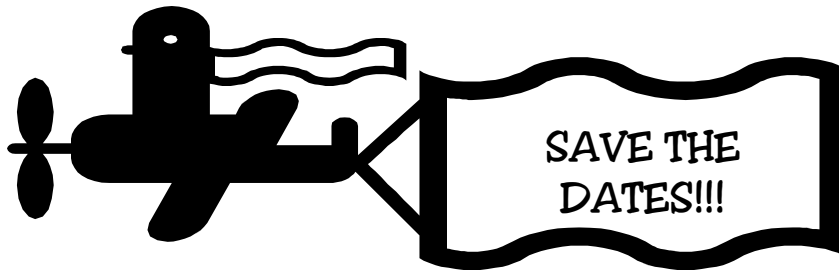
Working under top-notch conductors including David Harris, Fred Gramann, or Greig Ashurst

Classes, classes, and more classes

Concerts

A t-shirt and a pin

And a ticket to the *Raleigh Ringers* concert



Area II Festival Conference 2009

University of Scranton

Scranton, PA

Festival Conference June 27-June 30

Young Ringers Conference June 30-July 1

Festival Conference Conductor - David Harris of the Raleigh Ringers

Master Class - T.B.A. (Fred Gramann has notified us that he is unable to teach for personal reasons)

Genesis Track - Grieg Ashurst

Young Ringers Conductor - Kathleen Wissinger



Opening Concert to be Presented by *The Raleigh Ringers*

Classes include:

Technique classes with practical application

Reading sessions

Rhythms

Music Theory

Conducting

Boomwhackers and cup stacking

Solo/Ensemble

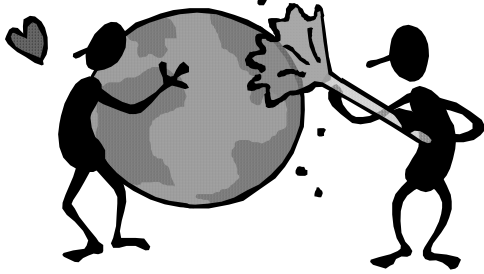
AGEHR Level 1 Certification Testing

And many more!!



Questions?

Email Chris Braden bradenc1@aol.com (subject line-- bell festival)



New This Year at AREA II Festival Genesis Track

New to a festival?? Feel a little intimidated?? Join us in 2009 for the Genesis track. All pieces are level 2-3. Come join the fun. You'll like it once you try it!!!

Genesis Music List

Calming Peace	Cathy Moglebust	CGB438	2-3 oct.	L2
		CGB439	3-5 oct	L2
Praise to the Lord, The Almighty	Kevin McChesney	HP1499	2-3 oct	L3-
		HP2180	3-5 oct	L3-
O Sacred Head, Now Wounded	Arnold Sherman	HP1732	3-5 oct	E
Patapan	Martha Lynn Thompson	HP1704	3-5 oct	E
Gaudio Exultans	Valerie Stephenson	AG35208	3-5 oct	L2

Call for Nominations for Area II Board for 2009-2011

On behalf of the Nominating committee and the Board of Directors of Area II, AGEHR, you are invited to play an important role in identifying the Area's leadership by nominating officers for the 2009-2011 term.

As you consider your nominations, please keep in mind the following:

1. The elected officers of Area II are the Chair, the Chair-elect, the Treasurer/Registrar, and the Secretary.
2. The term of office (except for Chair-elect) is 2 years beginning Oct. 1, 2009.

3. There will be two nominees for each office. All candidates must be members in good standing of Area II and must give their consent to be nominated.

4. The Chair-elect position involves a term of six years, two as chair-elect, two as chair, two as past-chair.

Please submit your suggestions for nominations by January 15, 2009. The names will be reviewed by the nominating committee which is chaired by Kathie Bittenbender. The slate of officers will be presented to the Area membership for vote in the spring of 2009.

Thank you for your participation in the nominating process.

Kathie Bittenbender, Past-chair

rbittenben@comcast.net

717-697-6257

Tins

2009 Festival Music

<u>Title</u>	<u>Composer</u>	<u>Arranger</u>	<u>Publisher</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Octaves</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Instruments</u>
Abide With Me	William H. Monk	Susan Geschke	Agape	2423	3-5	2	opt. 3/4 oct handchimes
Song of Gladness	Arnold Sherman		Red River	RRHB006 4	2-6	2+	
The Gospel Train		Valerie Stephenson	Lorenz	20/1382L	3-5	2+	Train whistle

Coppers

<u>Title</u>	<u>Composer</u>	<u>Arranger</u>	<u>Publisher</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Octaves</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Instruments</u>
Laudation	Arnold Sherman		Flammer	HP5306	3-5	4	
Morning Has Broken	Gaelic Melody	Joel Raney	Agape	2430	3-7	3+	opt. 3-7 oct handchimes; synth & percussion
Rise Up Shepherd and Follow	Spiritual	Cynthia Dobrinski	Agape	2415	3-6	3	opt. 3-6 opt handchimes; opt. clarinet
Staccato Giocoso	Cathy Mokebust		Choristers Guild	CGB538	3 or 5	3	

Bronze

<u>Title</u>	<u>Composer</u>	<u>Arranger</u>	<u>Publisher</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Octaves</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Instruments</u>
A Mighty Fortress is Our God	Martin Luther	Cathy Mokebust	Choristers Guild	CGB362	3 or 5	4	
God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen	Traditional	Kevin McChesney	Jeffers	JHS 9329	3-5	4	
Prelude on Herzliebster Jesu	Various	Fred Gramann	AGEHR	AG47002	4-7	5	
Wedding Day at Trolldhaugen	Grieg	Betty Garee	Shawnee	SPHP5057	4-5	Adv.	

Massed

<u>Title</u>	<u>Composer</u>	<u>Arranger</u>	<u>Publisher</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Octaves</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Instruments</u>
Bwana Asifiwe	Cathy Mokebust		Choristers Guild	CGB 367; Full Score CGB366	3-5	3+	African percussion
Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken	Franz J. Haydn	Linda McKechnie	Shawnee	SPHP5137	3-5		Brass/organ
Fantasy on Kingsfold	Kingsfold	H. Dean Wagner	Agape	2134	3-5	2+	opt. 3 oct handchimes
Soar Like an Eagle	Dan R. Edwards		Choristers Guild	CGB530	3 or 5	2+	
On the Winds of the Morning	Mark Jonathan Schiffert		AGEHR	AG35287	3-5	3	opt. 3 oct handchimes

2009 Young Ringer Music

Division A

<u>Title</u>	<u>Composer</u>	<u>Arranger</u>	<u>Publisher</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Oc-taves</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Instruments</u>
Come to Christmas	Various	Linda Lamb	Ring Out	RO3253	2-3	1	
Simple Gifts	Traditional	Valerie Stephenson	Choristers Guild	CGB347 CGB348	2-3 3-5	1	

Division B

<u>Title</u>	<u>Composer</u>	<u>Arranger</u>	<u>Publisher</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Oc-taves</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Instruments</u>
Grand Celebration	Derek Hakes		AGEHR	AG35271	3-5	2	opt. 2-5 oct hand-chimes
Savior of the Nations, Come		Cathy Mok-lebust	Choristers Guild	CGB 173 CGB 300	2-3 3-5	2	Percussion

Massed

<u>Title</u>	<u>Composer</u>	<u>Arranger</u>	<u>Publisher</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Oc-taves</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Instruments</u>
Processional	TBA						
Many and Great	Plains Melody	Kathleen Wissinger	Composers	CP7032	2-3	1	
Ring Praise O My Soul	Margaret Tucker		Choristers Guild	CGB 400 CGB 401	2-3 3-5	1+	
Toccata	Michael Helman		Choristers Guild	CGB 335 CGB 336	2-3 4-5	2	* Division A rings choir 2; Division B rings choir 1
Groove in G	Greg Underwood		AGEHR	AG23033	2-3	3	opt. percussion



Have you noticed that our composition winner “Groove in G” is a level 3 piece? Are you concerned that your young ringers may not be able to handle it? This piece has been assigned this level because of its “groovy” rhythm. Our Board is sure that once this repetitive rhythm is taught, your kids will pick it up quickly and have lots of fun ringing the piece.



Westminster Ringers

a Maryland Community Ensemble



Winter Concerts – Legends & Legacies

Friday, December 19, 2008 - 7:30 PM Saturday, December 20, 2008 – 7:30 PM

Scott Theater, Carroll Community College Milford Mill United Methodist Church

1601 Washington Rd., Westminster, MD 901-915 Milford Mill Rd., Pikesville, MD

Advance Sell - \$10 Adults/\$8 for Seniors over 60 and Children 5 - 12/Under 5 Free

At the Door - \$12 Adults/\$10 for Seniors over 60 and Children 5 - 12/Under 5 Free

Young Ringer's Festival Synergy - for advanced handbell choirs/community choirs

For children in grades 2 through 12 Full or partial choirs, observers and roadies may attend

Saturday, March 21, 2009 Friday, March 27 through Sunday, March 29, 2009

Clinician: Larry Henning Clinician: William A. Payn

Cranberry Station Elementary, Westminster, MD New Windsor Middle School, New Windsor, MD

Fee: \$20 ringer; \$7 per chaperone before 2/14/09 Fee: \$45 ringers, \$30 observers, \$20 roadies before 1/27/09

Fee: \$25 ringer; \$7 per chaperone. before 2/28/09 Fee: \$50 ringers, \$35 observers, \$25 roadies before 2/27/09

Fee: \$30 ringer; \$9 per chap

For more information about any of the above workshops/concerts,

please contact: Debbie Henning

410-848-5482 * director@thewestminsterringers.org

Does your *Twice Told Tales* get lost in a pile of papers before you can read it? Do you prefer your incoming information to come electronically versus the written page? Or perhaps, you're interested in helping to "save a tree". If so, you may prefer to read your issue of *TTT* on-line instead of receiving a hard copy. If you save your issues into a file on your computer, it will be easily found compared to if it's filed away somewhere. If you would prefer not to receive a hard copy of *TTT*, please let us know. You will receive notification by email when the current issue is available to you on the website. Please send an email to bradenc1@aol.com indicating that you would prefer to have electronic notification of each issue of *Twice Told Tales*. Regardless of how you receive your newsletter, we hope you are sharing it with all your ringers. They are considered members under your membership number (if you are a director) and it is our hope that you are keeping them informed, too.

Deadline for the next newsletter is Jan 15th



What actually is an Endorsed Event?

Do you know that Area II has grant funds available to groups who would like to start a festival in their local area? Are you currently holding an annual handbell event such as a festival, workshop, or reading session?

AGEHR endorses educational events such as festivals, conferences, seminars, workshops & reading session.

What does it mean to endorse your event?

Endorsed events receive the following benefits:

1. **Liability Insurance:** An endorsed event is covered by the AGEHR liability policy. If the facility requires a form to include additional insurance, there is a \$35.00 fee, payable to AGEHR.
2. **Borrowed Equipment Insurance:** Equipment that is borrowed for the event, including classes, is covered against loss due to theft or disaster by an AGEHR umbrella insurance policy. There is a \$1,000 deductible. This insurance does not include bells used in massed ringing.
3. **Professional Development:** Area II on your endorsed event entitles your participants to a certificate of Professional Development.
4. **Performance Royalties:** Under the AGEHR license agreement with ASCAP, performance royalties for the event will be paid by AGEHR.
5. **Mechanical Royalties:** Making audio recordings of concerts during your event are approved by the handbell Industry Council (HIC). This applies only to official recordings made by your event sponsor, not to recordings made by individuals. All other audio and video recordings constitute an infringement of US copyright laws. You must, following your event, send statutory mechanical royalties and the Royalty Form to the publishers involved.
6. **Advertising:** The event will be listed in *Overtones*, in our Area II newsletter, on the National and Area websites. All your advertising must state that your event is endorsed by the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers.
7. **Mailing labels:** AGEHR will provide labels at no cost for the market region of the event.

Dishonesty and Site Insurance: Individuals who handle money for the event in an official capacity are covered by an AGEHR insurance policy. A rider may be purchased if your site requires its name and facility appear on the policy.

How does an event become endorsed?

You may endorse your event by downloading the application from the National website (www.agehr.org). Submit the application to the Area II chair. Following the event you submit a report to National and send a check for the endorsement (participation) fee to Area II.

What is the endorsement (participation) fee and how is it used?

The endorsement fee is based on how many participants you have.

1 to 99 paid registrants	\$.75 per registrant per day
100 to 499 registrants	\$1.00 per registrant per day

Currently, all participation fees go into the Area II endowment fund.

We strongly urge all groups holding local educational handbell events to have your event endorsed.

“Handbells are for everyone”

Everything You Need to Get Non-music Readers to ring!

A workshop to encourage and motivate the Special Needs community to consider handbells as a viable musical enrichment/performance opportunity (specifically for people with functional disabilities and aging populations)

This workshop presents a unique avenue to inspire others to realize that they can “make a difference in this world”. New music programs can be launched that would raise expectations and enhance the quality of life for those who live with a challenge: to include after school programs, senior adult community centers, and organizations that work with people with functional disabilities. An extensive experience in musical training or handbell/handchime ringing is not a requirement.

Date: January 16-17, 2009

Friday: 5:00-8:00pm

(tours and registration 2:00-5:00 pm)

Saturday: 9:00am—5:00pm

Location of workshop:

The Brookwood Community

1725 FM 1489, Brookshire, Texas 77423

(outside Houston, Texas)

www.brookwoodcommunity.org

For further information and registration contact:

Linda McKechnie 713-722-0808

Linda@lindamckechnie.com

There are numerous approaches and teaching skills with this special community. During the workshop, there will be two specific and different methods presented by the clinicians. Although the ringers do not read standard music notation, it is exciting to realize that they can make music using creative direction.

Director adapts the music, writing color coded letters on a scroll which correspond to the assigned colors on the bells and then points to the chart in desired rhythm. The director should have some basic knowledge of music notation and handbell ringing. Motivation and understanding of this special community is mandatory.

Director uses pointing, hand cues, and sign language. Depending on the complexity of the music and the size of the group, one or two directors may be needed. It is important to memorize the music to direct the ringers which are positioned in key board order. The director should have extensive music experience, some handbell knowledge, and a love for this special community.

Clinicians:

Cathy Taylor is the director of the *Woodson Handbell Choir* which is part of the specialized music program for developmentally disabled students in the Abilene, Texas school district. Cathy also directs the *Bell Peppers*, a new bell choir at DRI (Disability Resources Inc.) www.driabilene.org DRI provides residential and vocational services for adults with developmental disabilities. The groups use a system of adaptive music notation on roll charts that utilize color-coded letters .Cathy is the secretary of the Area IX board of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers.

Sue Graves and Joyce Klinck are co-directors of the *Joybells* at Melmark, a caring community in Berwyn, Pennsylvania that provides residential, educational, therapeutic, and recreational services for children and adults with special needs. Under their joint direction, the handbell ringers, who do not read music, are both taught and directed by hand cues and sign language. www.melmark.org Sue is a music therapist and music teacher at Tempo! Music Therapy Services. Joyce currently serves on the Area II American Guild of English Handbell Ringers Board as the Special Group Liaison.

This workshop is an endorsed event by the AGEHR, INC.

Professional Development Credit for Area II Educators

The Committee on Handbells and Handchimes in Music Education (CHiME) is happy to announce that Area II educators can request professional development credit for any Area II or AGEHR endorsed event in which they attend. *Request for Professional Development Credit* forms will be available at all events from the event coordinator. Each educator, music or classroom, then fills out that form and returns it to the event coordinator and the coordinator will mail it to the Area II CHiME Chairperson.

After the CHiME Chairperson receives the requests, credits will be processed. If you teach in New York, you will receive a certificate that you can take to your school or district to prove you attended an event. It is then left up to the discretion of the individual school or district to grant credit for our events. If you teach in New Jersey, you will

receive a NJ certificate that you file with the state for credit. Finally, if you teach in Pennsylvania and have registered for a Professional Personnel number through the PA Education Department, the CHiME Chairperson will submit the credits on line for Act 48. Pennsylvania educators will also receive a small survey that will need to be returned to the CHiME Chairperson at their earliest convenience.

It is very important that each educator that would like to receive professional development credit fill out a request form. We need to keep records on file for a few years. It is also important that educators are truthful in what they request. Area II would like to continue offering this service to educators in the Area and wouldn't be able to anymore if we were to be found fraudulent.

If you have any questions, please contact Jeremy Peters at psbfan@rochester.rr.com.

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16th Annual Nittany Valley Handbell Festival Scheduled for April 2009

The Nittany Valley Handbell Festival will be held on Saturday, April 4, 2009 at the State College Area High School North gymnasium - our usual spot.

The Nittany Valley Festival was begun 16 years ago, at the suggestion of our local office of the American Cancer Society. After a few years when it didn't raise as much money as they hoped, they went on to other things. But we continue to find it a wonderful, education experience. In the early years we always had 22-25 choirs from Central PA. In the last 5 years we are averaging more like 18. Several groups have been with us from the beginning. We all find that it is so incredibly enriching for our choirs!!

Our director this year - Ron Bellamy from Lancaster!! We are so lucky that Ron is branching out and will be directing our Festival. Ron has brought

his choirs to Nittany Valley for many years, so he knows our group, and knows what good music we can ring!

We rehearse from 9 - 5 that day on music that you have learned at home. We still need to work together to present a musical concert! We present a concert for the public that evening and charge \$5 per person to come and hear us. That helps us to pay festival expenses.

Our registration cost is \$70 - for the whole choir! There is also a box lunch available if you'd like to take advantage of that. We will have handbell items available from Handbell Services in Detroit. It is so much fun to shop and see handbell items that you have never seen before! We also have t-shirts available with a new, original logo every year.

Questions? Contact Gail Ritchey at: ggritchey@verizon.net. We'd love to have you join us!



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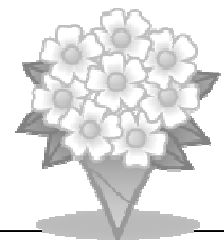
David M. Harris, Director

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A community handbell choir

The Area II Board recently received word of the passing of one of our members. Dee Roode died earlier this year. She served as the PA State Representative from 1997-1999. Our condolences go out the family.



Bits & Pieces

For Sale

5 handbell cases. Name your price. For info contact:

Bev Buddle

Area II

District Coordinator

hbbuddle@verizon.net

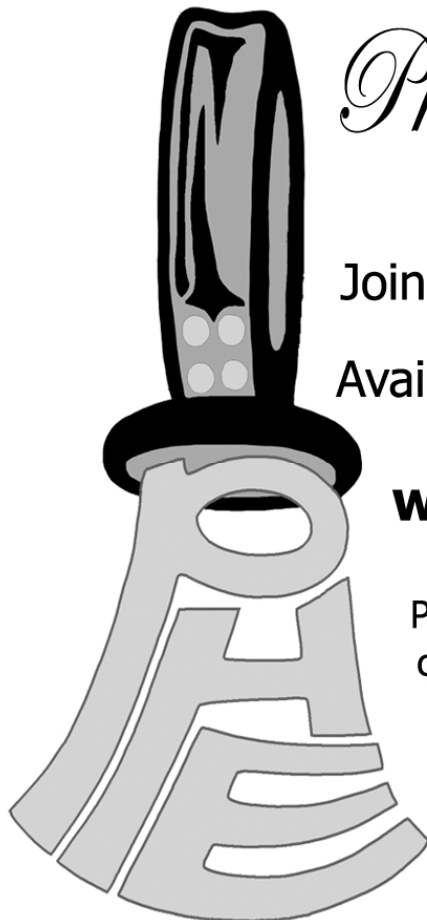


- If you've had a change in your email address, please inform National by emailing Kschlegel@agehr.org

Don't forget, one of the many benefits of being a member of AGEHR is that you can access membership info online through the National website.



Do you have a long standing handbell event in your local area?? (Area II has some that have been in existence for 30 years!) Have you just held your first event? We would love to hear from you. Send us an article about your event for a future issue of *Twice Told Tales*.



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A Fun-filled View of the National Seminar

Hello everyone.

This summer I was fortunate enough to receive one of two W.D. McKeehan Scholarship awards for AGEHR's National Seminar in Orlando, FL, at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort (very close to many of the area attractions). National Seminar is of course an annual AGEHR event, originally designed for handbell directors, but now is attended by any who feel themselves to be a handbell enthusiast.

Here is an opportunity to meet the people behind the names you see who composed the music you ring as well as to learn from the best of the best in the handbell world. Here, one gets to see and hear the art of handbell ringing at it's finest. Tons of stuff one can learn and only 17 classes to squeeze in during the 4 days there. In my brief (3 years) experience with handbells, it's definitely been an event like no other.

This year's National Seminar 'dovetailed' on the end of the 13th International Handbell Symposium, whose final concert was National Seminar's opening concert. This concert gave me an opportunity to get a brief taste of Symposium's wonderful biennial event, with its 850 ringers attending from 6 guild nations. A highlight for me at that concert was hearing 4 selections from Carl Orff's 'Carmina Burana' performed on handbells with the Orlando Concert Band under the direction of Debbie Rice, AGEHR's outgoing President. I'm glad I was privileged to have been there for it!

While there are a few similarities to massed ringing events via some 'read and ring' classes, and concerts to attend each night, what IS different, and one of the biggest draws, is the intimate feeling of family one begins to sense as the days progress. There are many that attend this event yearly, and you can tell they've come to know each other quite well when one clinician plays a good natured practical joke, then quickly departs, leaving the whole class in stitches, and the clinician befuddled!

Although classes to attend are the norm throughout the day, and by the end of 4 days you feel like your head is like a pin cushion with all the information you're trying to gather in, other things are happening at the same time. Between one area of the convention center, where we attended classes, and the other, where we attended evening concerts, was the biggest collection of the Handbells Industry Council you could hope to see! All three handbell manufacturers were there, along with many of the handbell music publishers, a travel agency, handbell item vendors, etc. A boxful of prizes were drawn daily. There was also a concert for our first 'provided' lunch with Ron Bellamy performing solo with Michael Joy accompanying on piano. Then the Tampa Day School, a special school for students with learning disabilities played their first performance outside of their school. To end this concert, Barbara Brocker play solo on her MASSIVE bell tree (we are NOT talking a single pole with a couple of branch extensions here!!!) Most of the pieces she played where her arrangements. Ron joined her on the last piece.

Though there were fewer numbers at Seminar this year, it really turned out to be more an 'INTERNational Seminar (rather than National) with some staying over from the Symposium. It gave me a chance to see what the fuss over the Oriental choirs was all about. The Kinjo Gakuin University choir, from Japan, conducted by Toshikazu Yoshida, played for our final concert. Totally blew us away! I would never have believed running 32nd notes could be played that fast and so precise. Un-be-liev-able! I think my jaw was on the floor most of the time. This performance was followed by an immediate standing ovation by all, begging for more. They completely made up for a particular, almost unmentioned, event experience the night before.

Orlando was my second National Seminar, after Dallas last year. I want to go again! (Is this the start of an addiction???) It was so much fun. As with both Seminar's that I attended, the amazing thing that struck me right away about the attendees, clinicians, composers, and National Officers was the 'genuiness' of these people. They are real. They are open and approachable, truly glad to see you and happy that you are there. It makes one feel appreciated and accepted, adding greatly to the overall experience. People really are the 'gem' of handbells.

Next year's Seminar will be in Tucson, Arizona. Then, if I'm not mistaken, I believe I heard the one following will be in Las Vegas! Oooooo! You think we can get a train load of us to go to that one??? We could all be singing, "Wasn't that a Party!" at the end of that one, I'm sure. Here's to dreaming about going again!

Kenneth Gray

Bulletin Board

11/08/2008

Area II Young Ringers'
Workshop

Host Chris Lenti

585-271-6537

Third Presbyterian
Church

Rochester, NY

11/15/2008

NJ Youth Handbell Festival

Host: Shelley Giaier

908-328-8818

Liberty Corner Presb.
Church

Liberty Corner, NJ

11/15/2008

Greater Pittsburgh Fall
Ring

Host: Nancy Lutz

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Clinician Debbie Rice

1/9-12/2009

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2/28/2009

Ring to Spring 2009

Host Gail Posey

856-784-4441x1158

Vorhees, NJ

Clinician: Michael Joy

3/07/2009

ACM Handbell Festival

Host: Martha Alford

610-355-7683

Church of the Good
Samaritan

Paoli, PA

Clinician Tim Waugh

4/18/2009

Western PA Handbell Festi-
val

Host: Susan Simmons

724-962-5125

Community UMC

Harrison City, PA

Clinician: Rich Pinkerton

06/27-30/2009

Area II Festival Confer-
ence

Registration Opens:
01/01/2009

Scranton University,
Scranton Pa

Packet Release

December 2008

06/30-07/02/2009

Area II Young Ringers
Conference

Registration Opens:
01/01/2009

Scranton University,
Scranton Pa

Packet Release

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