

Twice Tolloed Tales

AGEHR AREA II

www.area2agehr.org

Sept 2009

Message from the Chair

Chris Braden

From the Chair:

This is my last letter to you as the Chair of Area II. Where did the two years go?! It has been a pleasure to serve you. I hope that you have taken advantage of one or more of the many opportunities that the area provides including our larger summer events/festivals, fall technique workshops, spring reading workshops, the chime lending program, our endowment grants and scholarships, participation in a sponsored local festival or attendance at one of many concerts around the area. Was there something that you would have liked to see happen that didn't? Please don't hesitate to let us know what kind of events and programs that would be useful to you and your programs.

I want to thank all the Board members who have worked hard in their respective positions the last two years and especially for all their work at the Festival Conference. It would not have run so smoothly without their assistance. Thank You. Special thanks to those who are going off the board: Kathie Bittenbender, Anna Carol Buffington, Lee Morgan, Susan Guse and Martha Alford. I'm sure we'll be seeing them at various activities around the area.

I also want to say thank you to Lynn Rapp who has done an outstanding job as our editor of the *Twice Tolloed Tales*. This is her last issue.

I wish you a very successful start to your fall ringing season and I hope to see many of you at future events.

Chris



New Area 2 Board Installed

As of our next meeting on September 25, 2009, your Area 2 Board of Directors will be officially assuming their duties. I first want to thank all of the retiring Board Members whose terms have expired and are stepping down from their duties:

Past Chair - Kathie
Bittenbender

Secretary - Anna Carol
Buffington

Treasurer - Christine Lenti

Pennsylvania Representative -
Martha Alford

New York Representative -
Susan Guse

Workshop Coordinator -
Jackie Anderson

New York CHiME
Representative - Jeremy Peters

Historian - Leona Morgan

Financial Advisor - Margaret
Zabo

All of you have performed an outstanding service to your fellow bell ringers and directors. My first two years on the Board as Chair-elect, have been a wonderful learning experience and all of you have been excellent teachers. On behalf of all Area 2 members I want to express my sincere gratitude for your dedicated service to Area 2 and to AGEHR.

And now, the rest of the story. I would like to introduce those who will be serving you on the Area 2 Board for the remainder of 2009 until the fall of 2011. These are the people who will be planning and executing the 2010 *Vibration Vacation* (formerly known as the Read and Ring) and the 2011 Festival Conference and Young Ringers Conference.

Chair – Jim Rossetti

Chair-elect – Jackie Anderson

Past Chair – Chris Braden

Secretary – Christine Lenti

Treasurer – Jeremy Peters

Membership Chair and Ontario
Representative – Judy Dinkler

Mentoring Chair – Bobbi
Schmid

New York Representative –
Cynthia Reineke

Pennsylvania Representative
– Maggie Montgomery

New Jersey Representative –
Shelley Giaier

CHiME Chair and New York
CHiME Representative – Bob Ward

Pennsylvania CHiME
Representative – Eileen McIntyre

New Jersey CHiME
Representative – Jon Hinkson

Financial Advisor – Peggy
McNamee

You may have noticed that there are a couple of positions missing from the 2009-2011 Board. As of this writing we are still looking for 2 people to step up and serve as Workshop Coordinator and Historian. If you think you have what it takes, then please email Jim Rossetti at JDRMaestro@comcast.net and I'll be in touch.

When It's Time To Talk About Bells...

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AGEHR AREA II BOARD MEMBERS 2009-2011

ELECTED OFFICERS:

CHAIR

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

CHAIR ELECT

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

PAST CHAIR

Christine Braden
328 Queens Court
Ridgewood, NJ 07450
Home: (201) 447-2751
Work: (201)447-6232
Fax: (201)251-9171
Email: bradenc1@aol.com

TREASURER

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

SECRETARY

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

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

Cynthia Reineke
1 Gillign Rd.
East Greenbush , NY 12061
(518)477-9693
turtle5210@excite.com

PA STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Maggie Montgomery
114 Botanic Ct.
Upper Darby, PA 19082
ringerabel@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

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

FINANCIAL ADVISOR

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

AREA II HISTORIAN VACANT

WEBMASTER

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

CHIME CHAIR

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

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.
Aston, 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 VACANT

ENDOWMENT FUND CHAIR

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

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR VACANT



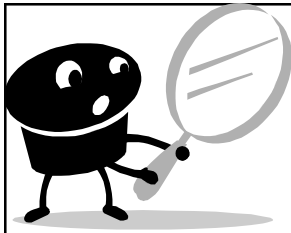
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TWICE TOLLED TALES is published four times per year for the membership of AGEHR Area II. Publication dates are February, May, September and November. The deadline for articles and photos is the first day of the month prior to the publication date; 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: Kathie Bittenbender rbittenben@comcast.net

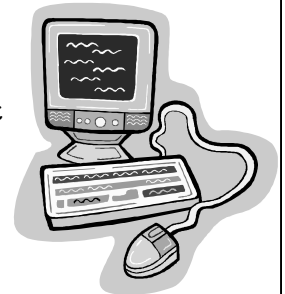


Calling All Directors

New Hackensack Reformed Church on Route 376 in Wappingers Falls is looking for a Director of Handbells for its three active choirs – one adult, one youth and one in training. The church has a long history of handbell ringing dating back to 1971. The youth choir (The Klokken Ringers) have traveled and concertized in many parts of the USA and worldwide. The job requires rehearsals for each group once per week during the school year, ringing for worship services monthly and special services such as Christmas and Easter, occasional outside concerts and traveling to and participating in annual festival conferences. Experience with handbell ringing is desired but not required. Interested persons may contact Roger Eddy, Chairman of the Worship & Music Council by e-mail at rmeddy@optonline.net or by phone at 845 297-7799 after 5:30pm.

Hanging Up My Pen... I mean Mouse!

I just wanted to take the time to let Area II know that after this addition I will be hanging up my mouse. Thanks to all the board members and Area II members I've worked with over the last couple of years. I also wanted to let you know that the position of editor is open. Kathie Bittenbender will be helping co-ordinate the communications but will not officially be the editor of the newsletter. If you would like to have this high paying position please let Kathie know. You can email her at rbittenben@comcast.net Thanks for reading!!!



NEW MEMBERS

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



Nativity of Our Lord Monroe Township, NJ	Catholic Community of St. Matthew Somerset, NJ	Barb Jacoby Seven Valleys. PA
St. Alphonsus School Maple Glen, PA	St. Peter's Church in the Great Valley Malvern, PA	Libery Charge United Methodist Church Liberty, PA
St Mary Roman Catholic Church Elmira, NY	Leon Whilden Newfield, NJ	Glen Ridge Congregational Church Glen Ridge, NJ
Chestnut Grove Independent Church Punxsutawney, PA	St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church Hanover, PA	
Chiques Church of the Brethren Manheim, PA	Irvin Rubincam Mississauga, ONT	

Scranton Festival - Lost and Found



Several items were left behind and others are missing after the Festival Conference at the University of Scranton. If you are missing the following or if you went home with something "extra", please contact Chris Braden at bradenc1@aol.com

Lost

1 Handbell hand cart labeled "St. John's Lutheran Church"

1 "Cabela's" hat

1 carpeted dolly

Found

2 mallets - Malmark marked for E6 and above

2 mallets - labeled "ACW" - Schulmerich (1 for F-B4 and 1 for C-A#5)

1 clear acrylic music riser/stand

Polishing rags

Black (cotton) table covers

1 pair black gloves (dots & Velcro)

1 pair black gloves (Isotoners?) labeled "C"

3 navy cotton sheets (twin)



Announcing....

2011 Young Ringer and Festival Conference

At the University of Kutztown, PA

July 5-7, 2011 Young Ringers

July 7-10, 2011 Festival Conference

Watch for announcements of conductors and music lists in upcoming issues of TTT.

Obituaries

Ray Paradis, an active member of Area II, passed away in May. Ray was the Special Groups liaison on the Area II Board in the 1980's and 1990's. He organized bell choirs at First United Methodist Church, the Path Finder Village and Upstate Home for Children. Some of us who have attended Festival Conferences for many years will never forget seeing his "special" group from the Path Finder Village ring as part of a solo concert.

National has announced the recent passing of Richard Litterst. Richard's interest in handbells led to his being one of the earliest members of AGEHR. He was a composer and arranger of handbell compositions and served as AGEHR National President from 1967-1971. His choir, The Martin Ringers, from Rockford, IL was a featured choir at the Area II festival in 1985 at Geneseo, NY.



Do you have a favorite piece of music you'd like to be considered for the 2011 festival? Would you like to serve on the music selection committee for one of the divisions for festival? Contact Chris Braden, bradenc1@aol.com, with your suggestions or interest in being on a committee.



Festival Memories

Attending a summer festival, as part of a choir or as an individual, builds many memories. Memories of new friendships made, knowledge learned in a class, pride in accomplishment, a funny moment, experiencing an outstanding concert, building lasting relationships within your choir ...the list goes on.

My first festival was as a ringer at the 1978 Area II festival. In the years since, I have attended all the Area II festivals (and some National ones) in a variety of roles. After several years participating as a ringer in an adult choir, I started attending as a director of a high school church choir. Little did I know then how special those festivals would be. The “Youth Ringers” of the Ridgewood (NJ) United Methodist Church had a tradition through the late 80’s and 1990’s of building a summer concert tour around the site of festival. Those Youth Ringers were a “family”, not only in the sense of the handbell choir, but they literally were family members. At one point the group included 3 brothers, 3 sisters, 2 sisters and a brother, a brother & sister, and 2 brothers.

As the years went by, the ringers graduated and moved on. But from the 1990’s until Christmas 2008, the now “Alumni Ringers” returned to their home church to ring at the Christmas Eve service. When this special group heard, that as an Area II chair, I would be conducting one piece at the festival, they made plans to once again go to festival. What a special memory for me to look out and see 8 of those ringers (with children in tow)! Among many festival memories, this one is the best!

Many thanks to Courtney Williams Volski, Katherine Lavery, Judith Lavery Rozic, Elizabeth Lavery Hartman, Jim Braden, Jeff Braden, Mary Macdonald Shaffer and Janette Macdonald Merrill for honoring me in this way...and for your help with the chapel service!!

I hope that if you have attended a summer festival, you, too, are storing special memories, and if you haven’t been yet, put 2011 on your calendar; you won’t regret it!

Chris Braden





Westminster Ringers
A Maryland Handbell Ensemble

You won't want to miss this!

Season's Greetings by Special Delivery
An evening of seasonal music and memories

Saturday, December 12th 7:30 p.m.

Scott Center at Carroll Community College
1601 Washington Rd., Westminster, MD

Tickets available in November at Coffey Music
or Carroll Arts Center, Westminster,
or by calling 410-848-5482.



Discount with advance purchase!

The Westminster Ringers are always looking for new members. If you are interested in joining, please contact the director to set up an audition.

*For more information and additional concert dates, please visit our website or contact:

Debbie Henning 737 Holland Lane Westminster, MD 21158 410-848-5482

director@thewestminsterringers.org

www.thewestminsterringers.org

The Westminster Ringers, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

Events for full or partial choirs and individuals

There is still time to register!

Ringer's Workshop *

Saturday, Oct. 3, 2009 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Westminster Baptist Church, Westminster, MD
Guest Clinician: Cathy Moklebust

Sign up now for the lowest prices!

Young Ringer's Festival - New Format! *

Saturday, Mar. 20, 2010 Westminster, MD

9:30 am - Set-up, rehearsals, classes

4:00 pm - Music sharing

Clinician: Larry Henning No required repertoire.

Trying to raise interest in a youth choir?

Bring your young *non*-ringers and turn them into young *new* ringers!

You "otter" come ring with us!

Cruise of the Bells XI



Bells of the Cascades
July 31-August 7, 2010

Join Bells of the Cascades on July 31, 2010, for a 7-night Alaska Inside Passage voyage aboard the ms *Zuiderdam*, featuring guest clinician William Payn!

This roundtrip itinerary from Vancouver includes calls in Juneau, Skagway, & Ketchikan and the scenic cruising of Tracy Arm Fjord and Glacier Bay!

• Inside from \$1,462 • Oceanview from \$1,712 •
• Verandah from \$2,312 •

Price includes all Bells of the Cascades' activities, a hosted cocktail party, meals and entertainment aboard the ship, and all taxes and port charges.

For more information, visit www.azumano.com/bells or contact Azumano.

The Raleigh Ringers

David M. Harris, Director

8516 Sleepy Creek Drive • Raleigh, NC 27613

phone/fax: (919) 847-7574 • email: rringer@rr.org • web: www.rr.org

A community handbell choir



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bells@azumano.com
www.bellsinthecascades.org

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Rates are per person, based on double occupancy, subject to availability, and may change without notice. Rates do not include airfare, government taxes, fees or surcharges unless otherwise noted. Other restrictions apply. Participants must book their cabin through Azumano Travel to take part in any bell ringing activities.

AGEHR AREA II 2009 FALL WORKSHOPS

Fall Workshops

Contact Person: Jackie Anderson (585) 265-9054 anderson@rpa.net

**Register for a Fall Techniques Workshop
as an individual or come with other members of your choir.**

Beginning Techniques: This year's fall workshops will be a little different. Again we will have a section for those people who want to work on techniques at the beginning level. Topics covered will include the proper techniques for straight ringing, stopped techniques (such as malleting, marting and plucking) echoes, swinging, and an introduction to the singing bell technique. The group will prepare one or two pieces of level 1+ music using the various techniques.

Intermediate Techniques and Ensemble Ringing: The second section will focus on an intermediate level of all the above mentioned techniques. Also the ringers will work on ensemble style ringing, applying the different techniques in an ensemble setting. This intermediate group will prepare two pieces of music, one an intermediate level piece of music and the other an ensemble piece.

The scheduled workshops are from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM on the day and at the place noted:

Saturday, September 26, 2009

Mount Hope United Methodist Church

4020 Concord Road

Aston, Pennsylvania 19014

Church Phone Number (610) 459-9349

Hostess: Eileen McIntyre

e-mail: Ehandbell@comcast.net

Saturday, November 14, 2009

Webster Presbyterian Church

550 Webster Road (Rte 250)

Webster, New York 14580

Hostess: Betsy Barr

Phone: 1-315-524-3816

e-mail: WTBarr@hotmail.com

Saturday, October 17, 2009

First United Methodist Church

135 W. Simpson St.

Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania 17055

Hostess: Kathie Bittenbender

Phone: (717) 697-6257

e-mail: RBittenben@comcast.net

Information about a workshop in the **Guilderland NY area** will be mailed later.

There will be a workshop at **Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Johnstown PA**. Date to be determined. Contact Jackie Anderson, e-mail: anderson@rpa.net for further details about either workshop. Flyers will be mailed to AGEHR members in those areas at a later date.

AGEHR Area II

State Workshops 2009

Please make a copy of this form for your records.

Reg-

Office Use Only

Reg. # _____

Postmark _____

Check # _____

Registration Form (Please Print)

(Please copy a separate form for each individual registering.)

cost: \$25 per person

Name _____ AGEHR M/S No. _____

Preferred Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____ E-mail _____

Church/School/Organization (if applicable) _____

_____ I am interested in receiving a Professional Development Certificate

Check one: _____ Beginning Techniques _____ Intermediate Techniques/Ensemble Ringing

_____ September 26 Aston PA (registration postmarked by September 15)

_____ October 17 Mechanicsburg PA (registration postmarked by October 7)

_____ November 14 Webster NY (registration postmarked by November 4)

If interested in the workshops in Guilderland NY or Johnstown PA for date information

Contact Jackie Anderson

Phone: (585) 265-9054

e-mail: anderson@rpa.net

I can bring _____ octaves of hand bells. Manufacturer _____

I can bring _____ octaves of chimes. Manufacturer _____

I can bring _____ feet of foam padding and
_____ feet of covers.

Make check out to AGEHR
Area II, Inc.

Please mail registrations to:

Jackie Anderson

337 Allenboro Drive

Webster, NY 14580

Memories of Scranton



First timers!!!



Festival 2009



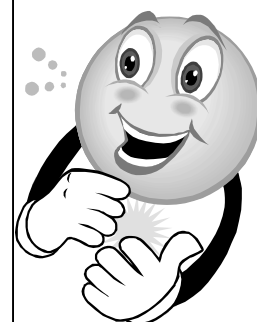
Handchime Lending Program is a Success

Congratulations to the following recipients of Area II's Handchime Lending Program. There is still one unloaned set. If you, or someone you know, might be interested, please check out the information on our website at www.area2agehr.org under Programs.

Diego Badilla	St. Rose of Lima Church	East Hanover, NJ
Leona Schmouder	St. Paul-Navoo UMC	Liberty, PA
Jeanne Cherniak	Bainbridge FUMC	Bainbridge, NY
John Bennett	Bridgehampton School	Bridgehampton, NY
Janice Holwig	Trinity Lutheran Church	Steelton, PA
Sandra Powers	Trinity Episcopal Church	Chambersburg, PA
Katie Menhorn	Berlin Brothersvalley School	Berlin, PA
Ruth Naomi Floyd	Spruce Hill Christian School	Philadelphia, PA

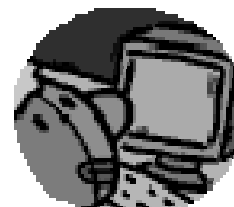
Many Thanks!!!!

Thank you to Marguerite Manning for her donation to the Handbell Endowment Fund in honor of the ImmanuBells of Webster, NY. Donations such as yours make our festivals possible! Thanks again!



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 Nov 15th



October 17 & 18
2009



Cynthia Dobrinski
leads a choir handbell workshop
in Oneida, NY

Bell a Deux
leads ensemble workshop in
Rome, NY

Falling Leaves

Handbell Festival

First Presbyterian Church
Presents
Bell a Deux
Handbell Concert
In Rome, NY

Saturday, October 17, 2009
Handbell Workshop - 10:30 AM to 4:00 PM
Bell a Deux Concert - 7:30 PM

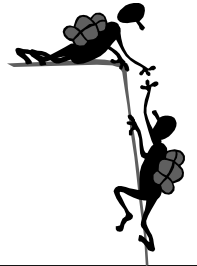
Sunday, October 18, 2009
Ensemble Workshop - 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

www.fpresbyt.com/news/bells/



Get by with a Little Help From Your Friends at Area II

It's springtime and everything is growing. With help from the endowment fund your ringers can grow too. Did you know that the endowment fund helps ringers in Area II? With money from the endowment fund, your ringers might be able to attend a festival. What about starting a new festival in your area? We can help you with that too. The fund also helps promising directors get to new festivals locally and nationally. Why not donate to the endowment fund and help plant a seed?



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Betty Garree Scholarship Winner, Kendra Parker Shares her Conference Memories

It was a beautiful sunny day as I set off for Scranton, PA. I was a little nervous and a little excited, not knowing what to expect from my first Festival Conference. I arrived on schedule, got settled in the room and promptly attended a hands-on class and a massed rehearsal (with approximately 250 other ringers). It was then that I realized I was in for something very special! We ended the first evening with a concert by the Raleigh Ringers, which was a truly amazing experience that took me to both ends of the spectrum – in awe of the musicianship displayed and laughing out loud at the clever antics they performed.

There is nothing like a Festival Conference to set your imagination in high gear. The classroom

experiences were first rate, taught by some of the best in the business. The rehearsals, led by David Harris, music director and conductor extraordinaire of the Raleigh Ringers, were like mini-lessons in rehearsal techniques where we learned the importance of communication through the light hearted, gentle corrections of our director. I left Scranton with new ideas, fresh resolve, a renewed excitement for the handbells and a host of memories for which I am truly thankful. The following are some words that describe what I saw at the festival:

Excellence – having fun is not an excuse for not playing to the best of your ability

Good habits – the bad habits show up fast when you play this much

Friendship – Juanita and Mary Rita were soooo much fun

Commitment – demonstrated by the mother who attended rehearsals with her baby strapped on her back

(not necessarily recommended, but still shows commitment)

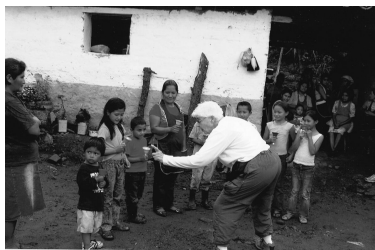
Adventure – to the couple who celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary on day 3

Determination – by the person who kept up with every body even with only one leg

Teamwork – there is no “I” in “team” and with hundreds of people playing together we had to work together for the common good

Success – a fun concert at the end of the weekend that was enjoyed by all in attendance

I would like to thank the Betty G. Garee Scholarship Committee for this amazing opportunity and encourage anyone who has not attended this conference to apply for the scholarship in 2011. You will not be disappointed!



The Hills of Honduras are Alive with the Sound of Music

High in the mountains of Honduras a small red metal handbell rings. This past summer I was on a Heifer International Study Tour which took us to villages where Heifer was working. One afternoon was spent at Hogar Diamante, a home for boys ages 7-14, who had been living on the streets. Extreme poverty pushes the boys into the streets to look for food, to obtain work, and beg for their families. This was the first time the bells came out of my plastic bag. I rang one and many

boys left the soccer field to see what made that sound. We were able to play a scale, chords, and a simple tune. There I had the advantage of someone who could speak Spanish. This would be my first bell group in Honduras!

Later in the tour we went to a village high in the mountains and saw women preparing vegetables to be sent to market. Again, a bell sounded and the community came to see what made the sound. It was important that some adults knew what to do with the bells, if they ever had bells. My greatest joy came with the children, the youngest being four years old. They were terrific. They watched, they "cut off" together, and even through the rain we rang our bells. I hadn't even realized I was getting very wet. I spoke no Spanish and they no English. Yes, music is an international language and with facial expressions, hand and arms, it all works together. We rang simple tunes and the first line of "Joy to the World"

Villages had no water, no electricity, no gas, but people were vibrant and accepting. The children have to walk two miles to school each day. In spite of all this there was joy, and an eagerness to ring the bells. When we left the four year old came to me with his mother to shake my hand. I found a home for the bells, and yes, this was the highlight of my Honduras trip.

Story by Millie Fischle



Bulletin Board

10/17/2009-10/18/2009

Falling Leaves Handbell Festival

Oneida & Rome NY

Call 315-794-7159 for more information.

11/7-11/8

Oil Region Handbell Festival

Titusville, PA

Contact: Rosemary Winton
withbellson@kinzua.net

11/14

Greater Pittsburgh Fall Ring

Pittsburgh

Host: Nancy Lutz

Phone 412-341-1404

Clinician: David Weck

11/23/2009

Martins on tour

Bells around the World

Shannondell at Valley Forge

Audubon, PA

Call 800-669-2318 for concert times

4/17/2010

Western Pa Handbell Festival

Wilson Christian Academy

West Mifflin, PA

Contact: Kay Hayes

See Area Website for information

7/5-7/10/2011

Area II Handbell Festival

Kutztown College

Kutztown, PA

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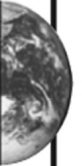
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