

FUNDAMENTAL TONE

Newsletter of Area I, Inc.

American Guild of English Handbell Ringers

Atlantic Provinces, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont

Volume XV, No. 3

June 2001

AGEHR Area I Officers

Elected Officers

Chair:

Ed Henderson

(978-851-3024)

chair@agehrarea1.org

Chair-Elect:

Sue Chamberlin

(603-942-7884)

chairelect@agehrarea1.org

Area I Rep:

Karen J. James

(802-483-2087)

arearep@agehrarea1.org

Secretary:

Debra LeBrun

(978-692-1309)

secretary@agehrarea1.org

Treasurer:

Marie M. Loeffler

(603-359-2309)

treasurer@agehrarea1.org

National Liaisons

Handbells In Education:

Bunny Stanley

(207-549-5187)

education@agehrarea1.org

Handbells for Special

Groups:

Nancy Reynolds

(802-748-4760)

specialgroups@agehrarea1.org

Notes from Ed

The elections are over and the results have been tabulated. Last February, I asked in this column that you make a statement with your vote to confirm that yes, in fact, the Guild is important to you. My thanks go to so many members for taking the time to cast their ballot. We had a record turnout and there wasn't a "chad" in sight!!!!

Please join me in thanking those members who were committed enough to our organization, to run for elected office. But in particular, my hat is off to those who were not elected because without these good folks, you would not have had a choice and the process would not have worked. Everyone will remember the winners of the election, but I ask that you acknowledge, and thank, those that took the same chance as those that won. My personal thanks go to Nancy Reynolds, Joan Fossum, David Warfield, and Dan Moore for taking that chance.

Also based on my request last time, a number of folks have stepped up to volunteer on specific projects and we appreciate that as well. We will be in touch!

The excitement is building as over 800 ringers and directors have registered to attend our upcoming Festival/Conference and Young Ringers Festival to be held at the University of Vermont in Burlington June 28–July 1. New instructors, new classes and three incredible "massed directors" will make it a memorable event, I'm sure. Personally, I can't wait to hear the incredible sigh of relief when we get through "A New Gloria" and say "Yes, we can do that!!" If you can't be part of the event, or have never participated in this sort of thing, you need to attend the final concert on Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. to see and hear what it is all about.

I'm extremely pleased to tell you about the new program which your Board of Directors has developed over the past year. There are now monies available

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to provide seed money to groups that want to hold an event and have no resources to pay the bills in advance. See the related article and contact your Chair-elect Sue Chamberlin for more information.

Lastly, as my two year term as Area Chair draws to a close, I need to thank each and every member of our Board of Directors for their tremendous support and dedication. You need to know how hard they work for you. It is truly amazing how much time they put in on your behalf. And to the members of Area I, you need to know that serving as your Chair and Chair-elect for the past four years has been a wonderful ride. I appreciate your confidence and support and I look forward to representing you now at the National level.

Ed Henderson, Your Chair

New Officers for Area I

The votes are in and tallied! Congratulations to our new Area I officers who will begin their term in October.

Chair	Sue Chamberlin (moving up from Chair-elect)
Chair-elect	Debra LeBrun
Secretary	Susan Menzel
Treasurer	Susan Henderson
Area Rep	Ed Henderson

Thanks to everyone who willingly agreed to be on the ballot! It was great to have a full slate of very qualified nominees. Thanks to all the members who took the time to vote!

Cynthia Hamburger, Nominating Committee

Reports from Liaisons and State Chairs

Connecticut

April 28 — Connecticut “Spring Ring Thing” was held at the Masters School in W. Simsbury. Registration was 102 plus committee members and clinicians.

Workshops included:

Area I Concert Music practice — Vern Koch
 Basic Techniques — Dayna Drake
 Creative Ringing — Beverly Simpson
 Solo/Ensemble Ringing — Linda Henderson and Marty Bernardi.

Richard Wood led the ringing at the opening, grace at lunch, and the closing activities.

Videos were available in the lounge and in classes on Bell Maintenance, the Basics and Solo Ringing.

First Church, Bethlehem, under Rick Wood, managed the Guild Store.

The Grand Finale was an improvised, informal program of, by and for attendees.

Offerings included both things learned that day and pre-planned things. The latter included a mixed-age choir and an ensemble that rang both a quartet and a trio.

Submitted by Beverly Simpson and the CT Steering Committee.

Jean Degan, CT State Chair

More AGEHR Area I Officers

State/Provincial Chairs

<i>Atlantic Provinces (Canadian):</i>	Joy Miller (902-893-0193) canchair@agehrarea1.org
Co-Chairs	Elizabeth MacLaren (902-895-1743) canchair@agehrarea1.org
<i>Connecticut:</i>	Jean Degan (860-583-1369) ctchair@agehrarea1.org
<i>Maine:</i>	Bunny Stanley (207-549-5187) mechair@agehrarea1.org
<i>Massachusetts:</i>	Martha Goodman (781-255-7769) machair@agehrarea1.org
<i>New Hampshire:</i>	Cindy Headley (603-437-2983) nhchair@agehrarea1.org
<i>Rhode Island:</i>	Lori Kast (401-727-4585) richair@agehrarea1.org
<i>Vermont:</i>	Phil Brown (802-748-8150) vtchair@agehrarea1.org

Appointed Officers

<i>Festival/Conference</i>	Jerilyn Bergdahl (802-425-2177)
<i>Chair</i>	fcchair@agehrarea1.org
<i>Historian/Archivist:</i>	Daniel K. Moore (401-438-4299) historian@agehrarea1.org
<i>Membership:</i>	Jane Nolan (860-464-2873) membership@agehrarea1.org
<i>Guild Store Manager:</i>	Nancy Steffen (802-442-4795) store@agehrarea1.org
<i>Publications:</i>	Ruth H. Bowers (978-922-8137) editor@agehrarea1.org
<i>Video Librarian:</i>	Wendy Lewis (508-668-3726) video@agehrarea1.org

Maine

This past month has seen a flurry of handbell activity in Maine. April 28 was the Maine Spring Ring. 107 ringers attended it, the eldest being 78 (Roy Huval born December 23, 1922) and the youngest 12 (Erica Parlin born November 21, 1988)!

A multitude of gratitude goes to Karen Leland for the excellent job of organizing this event. Her willing helpers were members of the Parish Ringers, members of other choirs attending the Brunswick Parish Church, and members of nearby bell ringing groups. Many thanks to all who helped make this event a success.

Special thanks goes to Ray Cornils and Jackie Frisk for the conducting skills they shared with the group. There were approximately 200 individuals who attended the final concert!

Two weeks after the Maine Spring Ring (May 17-19) the Maine Music Teachers Association had their conference at the Lewiston High School. Handbells were represented at this conference for the first time in over 25 years (see the report of the Education Liaison for more details).

Several handbell choirs are looking forward to attending the June ringing event in Vermont. The Parish Ringers will be performing a mini-concert during this festival. They will also be discussing future Maine ringing events.

Bunny Stanley, ME State Chair

Massachusetts

Over the past few months, most of my activities have focused on special projects for the Board. For instance, all the state chairs have been investigating suitable locations for an adult ringing event that we plan to debut in the fall of 2002. This time around, we have selected a location in another state. More information will be made available at Festival/Conference. If you are aware of any reasonably priced hotels or resorts in your community that the Board should consider for future events, please do let me know.

Within the next month or so, Massachusetts members will have an opportunity to share news and information through a Web group hosted by Yahoo!Groups. The service and guidelines for use are being set up now. Unlike the Handbell-L with its national membership, wide-ranging topics and very high message volume, you can expect our Massachusetts group to generate a much more manageable message volume and to focus more on topics of immediate interest and concern, such as concert announcements, searches for ringers, directors and substitutes, requests to borrow bells or music, and the like.

When the group is ready to be launched, I will send an invitation and complete subscription information via e-mail to all Massachusetts members for whom I have an e-mail address. You will need to subscribe with Yahoo!Groups (there is no charge to subscribe) in order to participate. Please be aware that the database we receive from the National Office has very few e-mail addresses included; to be certain that you receive an invitation, please send a message to MAchair@agehrarea1.org with the words "Yahoo Bells" in the subject line. No other information is required.

I feel it's important to mention the activities of the New England Ringers, since that group rehearses in Massachusetts. New England Ringers includes members from Massachusetts, Vermont, and Connecticut. Thirteen ringers perform on five octaves of handbells and three octaves of handchimes. Members from Massachusetts are Cyndi Arbour, Asako Burr, Chas Burr, Sue Henderson, Debra LeBrun, John Leonard, and myself. We rehearse for three hours twice a month in Amherst, and our repertoire includes some of the most exciting and challenging music composed for handbells. As Ed Henderson, our director, takes every opportunity to mention, this group is unique in our area — an auditioned, community-based ensemble seeking to perform a challenging repertoire to a professional standard. In this respect we are catching up with other areas which have had such ensembles for some time. It's interesting to contemplate how this group, and other similar ensembles which we are sure will follow, may influence the perception of our art here in New England.

Finally, the "Coffee and Conversation" meetings have been on hiatus but are scheduled for revival in the fall. If you are interested in co-hosting or attending a meeting in your area, I'd love to hear from you.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at Festival/Conference on June 28.

Martha Goodman, MA State Chair

Rhode Island

Rhode Island's Fourth "Spring Ring" was held on Saturday, March 31, 2001 at Mt. St. Charles Academy in Woonsocket, RI. Seventeen choirs (105 ringers) - from Rhode Island, Connecticut and Massachusetts - were represented at this wonderful ringing event. A special thanks goes to Karen James, who directed this event for the second year in a row. The public concert held at 3:00 p.m. featured four massed ringing pieces ("One Small Child", "Spirit Song", "When the Saints Go Marching In" and "A New Gloria") and selections provided by three choirs and one duet. Rhode Island's

Fifth "Spring Ring" has been tentatively scheduled for Saturday, March 30, 2002 - put that on your calendar! The RI Directors' Roundtable, will be the first one ever conducted entirely through e-mail. Rhode Island member - please be sure to respond when the "conversation" begins in early June. The agenda will include: selecting repertoire to ring at the September Friday night session of "Back to Bells"; identifying classes for that event and instructors; and determining a host and host site.

Upcoming events in Rhode Island include a Repertoire Reading Session, to determine the repertoire for the "Spring Ring", on Friday, September 28, 2001; we will sight-read 8-10 pieces and select 3-4 for the Spring Ring. "Back to Bells" will be held on Saturday, September 29, 2001. The location is to be determined.

Look for more information regarding the development of a Community Handbell Choir in Rhode Island!

Rhode Island participated in the Chime Loan Program, with a grant award to the Saylesville Elementary School (Lincoln, RI) in February, 2001 (director: Lori Kast). The afterschool music enrichment program includes chorus, violin and now handchimes! The semester was wrapped up with a concert on Wednes-

day, May 23 at 7:00 p.m. for parents, families, teachers and friends.

Lori Kast, RI State Chair

Education Liaison

Handchime Loan Program

The two recipients for the Handchime Loan Program for the February – June semester were Lori Kast from Saylesville Elementary School, Lincoln, RI and Lei Grismer from East Corinth, Vermont.

Lori reports success in her after school program and shares that the school was the recipient of grant monies allowing them to purchase chimes for the Saylesville School. Congratulations Lori.

Lei reports that the sixth grade students performed for middle school and fifth grade students in a District Art Festival at the end of April. She also used the chimes in the K-5 classrooms teaching ringing through chords. Lei, however, is returning to church music work and will not be at the Waits River Valley School after June. Like so many other educational institutions, this wonderful country school has a limited "arts" budget. They are hoping to establish a band and choral pro-

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gram but are very appreciative for the loan of the handchimes. She will return the chimes to us during the Vermont Ring in June.

Ross Thompson, recipient of the handchime program the first semester, reports: "The handchime loan program came to my attention through a parent at Port Williams Elementary School, where I taught last year. Upon application our school received a set of Malmark chimes that spanned C4-C7. The chimes were used in the following ways: chordal accompaniment to songs at the grades two-five level, intramural activities for grades 3, 4, and 5 involving more challenging work with melody and accompaniment, melody reading at the grade four and five level, for teaching fundamental concepts of high and low and their relationship to same, as impromptu science lessons- discussing vibration, pitch, and so forth.

"The chimes were presented several times at our weekly assemblies by various classes. I noted that the boys, who are sometimes slow to respond, were very eager to play. It was a further bonus that an entire class could participate if the songs were carefully chosen to include enough chromatic harmony.

"The parents at our school are very excited about the chimes. They were a popular feature of our Winter Concert. The chimes were so favorably received that the PTA provided the necessary funds to purchase a comparable set for our ongoing use. I see this as one of the main advantages of this loan program. Once parents have seen their children enjoying the chimes they want their children to continue having this opportunity. However, it is a critical first step to actually have the chimes for the students to use.

"Prior to this program, I had no particular interest in these instruments. I am now thoroughly convinced that they are an extremely useful tool in an elementary school music program. This loan program has won many new converts, the children, their parents, my principal, and myself. I want to thank the Guild and their representatives for the loan and for the ongoing support that was provided. Ringing has come to New Minas. Thank you!"

Bells at MMEA

For the first time in over twenty-five years, The Maine Music Education Association had handbell/handchime representation at their conference held at the Lewiston High School on May 17, 18, and 19. Several Maine teachers attended a presentation outlining the values of these instruments in the general music classroom and possible ways of preparing bell/chime music for the student's success. David Stadig, representative of Schulmerich Bells, attended the last portion of this

class and was in the venter room both Thursday and Friday answering any questions teachers might have. AGEHR was promoted and applications for the Education Loan Program were available.

I have been contacted by several individuals who have had difficulty with accessing the application for the chime program off the Internet. I have also been concerned about the quality of the layout of the application. I have taken the time to retype the application and have included it with this report for your use. If you know of individuals that would benefit from this program and are willing to process the form etc, please feel free to provide them with an application.

Bunny Stanley, Education Liaison

Special Needs Liaison

Since the January meeting, I have submitted an article to the Fundamental Tone addressing the issue of pain. I co-taught Basics for Bodies and Bells with Karen James at Vermont Spring Ring. I had been approached to present at the Connecticut Spring Ring, but was unable to accept due to conflict of dates with the Vermont Spring Ring.

Presently I am preparing for my classes at this year's Festival/Conference at UVM, entitled Stretching With Nancy. This will prove to be an interesting challenge, since I will not be using bells at all in the class. I will facilitate a Round Table Discussion on ways to address the special needs of ringers. It is my hope that this class will assist directors in including people of varying abilities into their programs in meaningful ways.

While I will continue to try and be creative about writing articles for Fundamental Tones that will heighten awareness of how the position of Special Needs Liaison can be helpful to our membership and all ringers, I do not feel that is enough. I continue to look to you for information about the types of concerns and issues you hear about in through your capacity on the board, or that you struggle with in your personal roles as directors, so that I can better meet the needs of our constituency. Perhaps you feel you know how to address those issues and concerns, but perhaps I could offer a new perspective that might spark some new and creative ways to address them.

Nancy Reynolds, Special Needs Liaison



Report of the National Board Meeting

February 15-18, 2001

Submitted by Karen James, Area I Representative to the National Board

Highlights of interest to Area I from the meeting:

The first order of business at this meeting was to introduce our new Membership Director, Sara Smith, a wonderful addition to the Dayton staff. Sara gave us a power point presentation of who she is and her immediate, next and long range goals for the AGEHR membership.

Among other details, she mentioned that when State Chairs and the Membership Chair see a Gift Membership on the roster, it should be a RED FLAG. These are the ones given by the manufactures. There could be details left out that could be corrected by a phone call: They might not have the correct information for the actual handbell director, a church or organization may not know what AGEHR is and the membership get lost, or any number of other pieces of missing info. So,

State Chairs and Membership chair, please follow through on all gift memberships.

I was fortunate to spend lots of time with Sara. She is a fascinating person who hopes to get to visit all the Areas. I hope you get a chance to meet her!

One suggestion I made note of when the Areas share their happenings is from Area II (our neighbor). They decided to reach out more to grassroots and have some Level I & II events. These proved to be successful and they will do more. Maybe Area I could also?

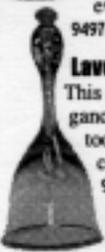
There is a new Blue CHIME brochure available from the Dayton office.

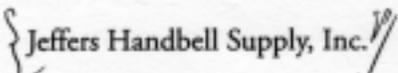
Scholarships are now available for Distinctly Bronze, Fall 2001, and for Pinnacle, June 2002. These are based on the same guidelines as the scholarship for Handbell Spectacular. Please make sure all your constituents are aware of these events and scholarships! (ringers, too!)

A committee was appointed to continue to evaluate the Participant Fee.

The new Marketing Funding Plan was voted upon and

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 <p>Rose Heart Bell This mouth blown, handcut, Gold Pantographed Crystal Bell is perfect for any occasion when love is in the air! 6 inches in height, it makes a beautiful gift for any loved one. 9495 Rose Heart Bell \$24.95</p>	 <p>Mother's Day Bell Show her your appreciation with this gorgeous Crystal Bell. 7 inches in height, with a charming etched bouquet that will last forever. Rich blue crystal with silver etching. 9497 Mother's Day Bell \$24.95</p>
 <p>Blue Snail Bell Is that eclectic person in need of a gift? Just under 5 inches tall, this is a favorite in our Art department. Yellow with royal blue handle. 9404 Blue Snail Bell \$16.95</p>	 <p>Lavender Gold Ball Bell This lovely 6 inch bell, adds a touch of elegance to any room or any collection! Decorative, but not too flashy- makes for a perfect gift. Lavender crystal with gold ball in handle. 9401 Gold Ball Bell \$24.95</p>
 <p>Murano Gold Bell Made of Italian Crystal and covered in 24 kt gold, this bell is one of a kind. Ornate yet understated, this bell is for special occasions or special ringers. 9407 Murano Gold Bell \$36.95</p>	 <p>Optical Crystal Bell This mouth blown, hand cut, 24% lead crystal bell makes a great gift or conversation piece. 7 inches in height, it is sure to be perfect for that valuable ringer, director or chaperone on your list! 9408 Optical Crystal Bell \$14.95</p>



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passed by the Board. Stan is asking everyone to give him suggestions of names of 'Bell Angels' to help get this campaign off the ground. These 'Bell Angels' are potential donors able to pledge \$5-10 thousand per year for the next 5 years to support the program and mission of AGEHR. If you know of any such person, let Stan Schmidt, Treasurer of AGEHR know. Thanks.

In December, Jeanette Finkham will have given 20 years of service to AGEHR!

As chair of the Logo Contest, I had the pleasure of presenting the 5 entries selected by the committee for the Board to vote on. Over the course of the days, Board members could peruse the entries and vote for their selection. There was a clear winner. Allan Berry's entry was chosen, and he received the \$1,000 winning prize.

There was no provision in the contest rules for runners up, however, the Board decided to give the 2 runners up prizes also. The first runner up was Beth Ann Edwards, receiving a \$100 gift certificate from the guild store; and Maria Webster was second runner up, receiving a \$25 gift certificate.

To increase the pool and expand the membership of the Past Officers Council, Mike Keller made a suggestion that all past elected and appointed Area and Sub Area officers be included. The Board passed this.

The granting of an Honorary Life Membership in the AGEHR is reserved "for those who have made outstanding contributions to the art of handbell ringing. This status is to be deemed the highest honor which the AGEHR can bestow, and is to be reserved for individuals of the highest caliber." The Honorary Life committee presented 2 names to be added to this prestigious list: Michael Keller, for his exceptional service in the area of curriculum development for handbells; and Martha Lynn Thompson, for her contributions as a master teacher and her many publications.

The next National Board meeting (and my last) will take place immediately following Handbell Spectacular in Palm Springs, July 29-30, 2001.

In closing, I would like to express my deep appreciation to the Area I Board and all the Area I members who have placed their confidence in my abilities to represent them on the National Board. It has been a pleasure beyond belief to have had the opportunities to meet, exchange ideas, and look to the future with so many others who share the same passion for handbells. Area I was wise to

separate the National Rep position from the Chair position, as this division of responsibility makes the tasks set before them clear-cut and more readily attainable, especially since we are all volunteers.

The past 10 years that I have served on the Area I board, first as Vermont State Chair, then as Chair-elect and Chair, and now as Area I Rep to

the National Board, have truly been an educational as well as inspiring time.

Many opportunities have arisen for me to travel, learn and share with other handbell ringers far and wide. Now that my time on the board is coming to a close, I would once again like to get back to the grassroots people, and hope that directors and ringers in Vermont and the remainder of Area I

will call upon me to continue to share some of my newly acquired skills with local choirs.

I look forward to continue 'advancing the musical art of handbell/handchime ringing through education, community, and communication' on the grassroots level.

Karen James, Area I Rep to the National Board

Fourth Annual Family Handbell Camp

Don't forget our Handbell Camp for all ages at Camp Ogontz in Lisbon, NH, August 4-8. The registration form was in the last newsletter and is also available at our web site. If you have any questions contact Debra LeBrun, Chair, at lebrun@ma.ultranet.com or (978) 692-1309, or Linda Lamb, Registrar, at Islamb@empire.net or (603) 886-1512.



From the Historian's Trunk...

The good news is that there were no incorrect answers to the history quiz question in the last issue. The bad news is that there weren't any responses at all! The question was : Who was Edward R. Street, and what was his connection to the world of handbells? The answer: Mr. Street owned one of several small and not-too-successful companies manufacturing handbells in the 1880's. His company was in Hartford, CT!!!

Apparently that question was too obscure so here's an easier one (ha, ha): Who was president of the New England Guild of English Handbell Ringers in 1971, and where was the festival held that year? To win the prize, E-mail your answer to historian@agehrea1.org.

To learn more important facts about the history of the New England Guild and Area I, visit the Historian's table at F/C '01 Burlington, VT. See you there!

Dan Moore, Historian

Handchime Loan Program Report

Saylesville Rockin' Ringers "IN CONCERT"

"Today is photo-day, get your chimes, line up for photos, have a snack, 6 minutes to rehearsal..." And so began the last rehearsal of the "Saylesville Rockin' Ringers" before their concert debut! It had been a fast 12 weeks of lessons, but the dozen ringers had finally arrived - and were they ever ready for their "show"!

When the announcement came that the Saylesville Elementary School (Lincoln, RI) had been awarded a Chime Loan Program (C.L.P.) three octave set of chimes, the After-School Music Enrichment program welcomed its third instrument. Chorus - violin - and now, chimes! Twelve daring students - second through sixth graders - volunteered for the new team, with only two having prior handchime experience. We started off using the materials provided by the C.L.P., and the ringers quickly picked up on the basics of counting, differentiating the treble from the bass staff, recognizing their own notes, and learning that the "damping" part is more important than the "ringing". They quickly progressed from "London Bridges" (a simple melody/choir version) in Lesson 2 to "March of the Chimes" (Hollander, Ring Out 3236, Level 2) in Lesson 6. Needless to say, by the time Lesson 12 rolled around,

the kids were playing an arrangement written just for them by this author: "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" - complete with percussion instruments (a "whip" for the bat and a "whistle" for the sound of the ball), chanting ("hey, batter, batter, swing!"), and athletic caps (placed on heads at the designated point in the piece)!

The final Spring Concert held on May 23 to a packed gymnasium of parents and friends featured all of the After-School Music Enrichment participants - chorus, violins and chimes! The solo chime pieces were: "Yankee Doodle", "March of the Chimes", "Take Me Out to the Ballgame", and the chorus and chimes jointly performed "Give My Regards to Broadway" as a finale! It was wonderful to see 50-60 children dressed in performance black and white - just makin' music! As you can imagine, they just loved performing - AND the applause!

Thanks to the Chime Loaner Program and the door that was opened through this grant program at Saylesville, the school purchased a 4 octave set of handchimes in March! Since the purchase, several classes have been using the chimes regularly in their weekly music instruction. Discussions have been held with the school administration to expand Saylesville's After School Music Enrichment Program (chorus, chimes and violins) to three more elementary schools in the system next year...just imagine what the 2002 spring concert might look like! I can only imagine.....

Lori Kast, Director, The Saylesville "Rockin' Ringers" of the Saylesville Elementary School, Lincoln, RI

Seed Money Grant Program

Do you have an idea for a new ringing event that you would like to try? Do you want to "plant" that idea and see if it will grow? Do you need some financial support to help you get started? The Area 1 Board of Directors has created a **Seed Money Grant Program** to make monies available for the purpose of helping first time events get up and running.

There are some restrictions - the event must take place in Area 1 (Sorry, we won't fund your bell choir's trip to Europe.) The applicant must be on the organizing committee and must be a member in good standing of AGEHR. The use of the money is restricted to the event budget and cannot be used to purchase equipment. The event planner is required to apply for Endorsement by AGEHR, if eligible.

To apply for a Seed Money Grant at any time, submit a

description of the event, including target audience and goals, as well as a detailed budget, to the Chair-Elect of Area 1. Each application will be considered when it is received. The Area 1 Board of Directors will make the final decision.

Northwood, NH. Karen James, directing.

Southern Repertoire Reading Session – Saturday, October TBA, 2001

Whitinsville, MA. Debra LeBrun, directing.

Adult Ringers Weekend

In the planning stages for November 2002 is a weekend event for adult handbell ringers. More to come on that as plans progress.

What is a Repertoire Reading Session?

Each fall, usually in October, Area 1 hosts two Repertoire Reading Sessions, one in the northern half of the Area and one in the southern half. There have been some questions about who should attend these sessions and what is their purpose.

Repertoire Reading Sessions are workshops where ringers and directors have the opportunity to play and hear a lot of bell music. Many times, a piece of music will only be played once. The director may decide to go over some pieces or some sections of a piece more than once so that the participants can get a better feel for the music. But the session is not a rehearsal to work on music. It is a sight-reading session designed just to expose people to new repertoire.

So, who should attend? Directors who want a chance to try out some new music. Ringers who enjoy sight-reading and want the opportunity to play. Although anyone is welcome to come and listen (indicate on your registration form if you only want to listen – it will make a difference in determining how many sets of bells are needed), these sessions are not designed for beginners or for people who have a hard time sight-reading. If you have a choir that enjoys sight-reading, they are welcome to come as a choir. But Repertoire Reading Sessions generally use several sets of bells played by individual ringers from a lot of different choirs.

If this sounds like something you want to do, mark your calendar. Registration forms will be mailed in August.

Northern Repertoire Reading Session – Saturday, October 20, 2001

Coming Events

June 28-July 1, 2000: Area I Festival Conference at the University of Vermont in Burlington, VT.

July 5, 2001 at 7:30 p.m.: Walsh Memorial Handbell Choir from the Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains, NJ at the Woburn United Methodist Church, 523 Main Street, Woburn. Call Ruth Bowers (978-922-8137) for more information.

August 15, 2001: VT Directors' Summer Meeting.

September 21-22, 2001: Fall meeting of the Area I Board of Directors in Loudon, NH.

September 28, 2001: Repertoire Reading Session, to determine the repertoire for RI's "Spring Ring."

September 29, 2001: RI's "Back to Bells." Location TBA.

October 20, 2001: Reading session at Northwood, NH.

October TBA, 2001: Reading session at Whitinsville, MA

November 10, 2001: High School Ring Out at the Wachusett Regional High School, in Worcester, MA with Rick Wood as conductor. Contact Jeffery Heath for more information.

February 1-2, 2002: Winter Directors' Seminar, Sheraton, Nashua, NH. Jim Smith of Texas is the clinician.

March 30, 2002: Tentative date for Rhode Island's Fifth "Spring Ring".

April 27, 2002: Vermont Spring Ring in Barre, VT.

Area I Web Site

Visit the Area I Web site at:
www.agehrarea1.org

Note that "agehrarea1" contains the numeral "1" and not a lowercase "l."

CRUISE OF THE BELLS VI

Bells of the Cascades



Caribbean Cruise

Cruise of the Bells VI
January 5, 2002

Itinerary

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San Juan, Puerto Rico
St. John/St. Thomas, US Virgin Is.
Nassau, Bahamas
Return to Ft. Lauderdale

Contact

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Bells of the Cascades:
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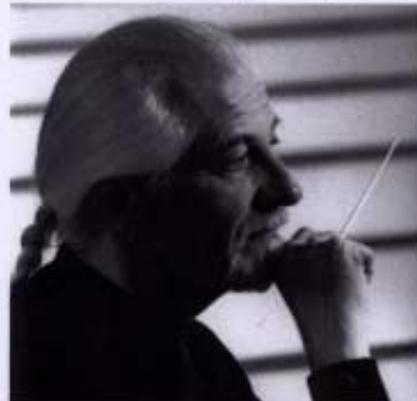
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THE FUNDAMENTAL TONE
Newsletter of AGEHR Area I
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Deadline for Fall
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