

FUNDAMENTAL TONE

Newsletter of Area I, Inc.

American Guild of English Handbell Ringers

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

Volume XVI, No. 3

June 2002

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Chairs and appointed
officers listed on page 2.

Syllables from Sue

As I write this, I am looking forward to the end of the school year and to a summertime change in routine. I hope that all of you will have some time this summer to relax and to get rejuvenated, ready for all the church year and school year activities to begin again in September. But if you are anything like me, I know that you will spend time this summer at least thinking about the coming year and what you hope your bell choir will be able to do. I hope that you will include at least one Area I event in your plans —

- a repertoire reading session
- the new Adult Ringing Weekend at the Mount Washington Hotel
- High School Ring Out
- Director's Seminar
- a Spring Ring
- Festival/Conference '03

You will find more information about these events in this issue of Fundamental Tone. In August, you will receive more information and registration forms for several of these events. But start your thinking and planning now. I especially encourage you to plan to attend Festival/Conference in June. Full choirs, partial choirs, and individuals are welcome to attend. I experienced it myself, and I have heard others say it, F/C will change your choir — your ringers will learn new techniques and have a new enthusiasm for ringing. Your choir will gain about a year's worth of experience in those 4 days. Don't miss it!

At the Area I Board meeting on June 1st, we discussed ways to make the Fundamental Tone more helpful to all of you. In order for you to receive the FT more quickly, and to save printing and postage costs, we encourage you to sign up to have the FT e-mailed to you. The FT can also be e-mailed to ringers in your choirs so that more people will have the information about what is happen-

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ing in Area I. We are also changing to regular publication dates (rather than being based on the dates of Board meetings). This will allow you to publicize your concerts and other local events. The Area I Web site www.agehrarea1.org also includes a page of events — but you have to tell us what is happening in your area so that we can post it.

Area I is looking forward to a new event in the spring of 2004 — a multi-day Young Ringers Festival held separately from F/C. If you would like to be part of planning or running this event, or if you would just like to share some ideas, please contact me. We want to make it an exciting weekend for the youth in New England.

So, enjoy the sun. Relax. Read a good book. And start planning for next year.

Sue

Reports from State Chairs



I assumed my new responsibilities as Connecticut State Chair in February of 2002 and am still trying to get organized and “get the word out” to other Connecticut ringers. I am still trying to obtain a Connecticut membership list so I can do a mass mailing with a questionnaire to ascertain what events our member-

ship would like to see, what time commitment they can give, etc.

Connecticut will be the site of the “south” Repertoire Reading Session in the fall, to be held on October 19 at Spring Glen Church in Hamden (which happens to be my church!!). My own bell choir and church membership as a whole has been very supportive of this project, and we are looking forward to playing “host” on what we hope will be a beautiful fall day in southern Connecticut!!

Taking on the Chair responsibilities in Connecticut will be a challenge, but personally, I like a challenge and am looking forward to meeting my fellow Connecticut ringers and providing leadership for them and to the Area I board.

Susan P. Wilber, CT State Chair



Maine handbell choirs wish to report a successful 12th Annual Spring Ring held on March 23 at Bowdoin College in Brunswick. 149 individuals from 22 participating choirs were present!

The conductors, Dan Moore and Karen James, were warmly welcomed. Mr. Moore, from Providence, Rhode Island, is the author of *Ringin' Right! From the Beginning*. Karen James, from Vermont, has been ringing handbells since 1983. She has a Bachelor of Music

More AGEHR Area I Officers

State/Provincial Chairs

Atlantic Provinces (Canadian): **Joy Miller** (902-893-0193)
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Vermont: **Phil Brown** (802-748-8150)
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Appointed Officers

Festival/Conference Chair: **Lori Kast** (401-727-4585)
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Video Librarian: **TBA**

from Lowell, MA and serves on the AGEHR Board of Directors. Several ringers commented that what they enjoyed best about the Spring Ring was playing in a large group. This success is a direct result of the excellent conducting skills of these two individuals. Thank you both from the Maine handbell ringers.

Evaluations that were submitted showed a favorable response to the facilities, the schedule, and the lunch! Comments regarding the nine workshops disclosed the classes were "helpful and informative."

Plans for next year's Spring Ring are already underway. Are you thinking ahead to fall yet? Be sure to mark October 26, 2002 on your calendar. A Fall Reading Workshop is being planned for that Saturday. This will be conducted by Ray Cornils, director of the Parish Ringers from Brunswick. It will be hosted by the Bristol Consolidated School in Bristol, Maine. The school is located about five minutes from Pemaquid Point. Plan on a day to learn new music and enjoy the scenery as well. More information will be sent out soon.

Bunny Stanley, ME State Chair



Once again, most of my time has been spent primarily in three areas: 1) answering questions and providing support to individual members requesting assistance; 2) participating on the Adult Ringing Weekend committee; and 3) promoting, publicizing and moderating MassRinging, the YahooGroup for Massachusetts handbell enthusiasts.

I have responded to a number of e-mails and telephone calls. Among other things, I've been in touch with a couple of new directors; have assisted with an urgent search for a bell choir to play a memorial service and another for a group to play a wedding; and have helped a member to get the word out about a set of Whitechapel bells that was found in an attic when settling an estate and that is now for sale.

Beacon Hill Ringers

We have received some materials of historical interest: specifically, several cartons of long-playing records, sleeved and with jackets, of a performance by the Beacon Hill Handbell Ringers of Boston, along with the reel-to-reel tapes from which, as far as I can tell, the

records were pressed. These items date from the mid-1960s. I hope that our historian, Dan Moore, will tell you about the Beacon Hill Ringers and about this recording in the next Fundamental Tone, after he has had a chance to inspect the goods! Special thanks to Mary Jane Sawyer; without her willingness to collect a carload of heavy boxes from the Beacon Hill location at which they were stored, everything would have been lost to the dumpster. If you have a creative idea about what to do with all the records (clearly we only need to keep a couple of copies in the archive!), please do pass it along to a member of the Board.

MassRinging Off and . . . Walking

MassRinging, the YahooGroup for Massachusetts handbell folk, is in full operation. If you haven't joined yet, WE want YOU!

MassRinging is YOUR place to post information about upcoming concerts, ringers needed, substitutes needed, directors needed, and anything else of interest to handbell lovers in and around Massachusetts. We currently have 21 subscribed members, with others not subscribed but reading the message archive online. Membership has not yet reached the "critical mass" (no pun intended) needed to make MassRinging an active and vital list. This is why WE want YOU!

Invitations to join have been sent to e-mail addresses culled from the National membership list and other sources. In addition, the list was announced on the Handbell-L. We'll be sending another round of invitations to all the e-mail addresses in the newest incarnation of the National database this month in the hopes of getting people who just never got around to subscribing before—but for heaven's sake, if you're interested, don't wait for an invitation! You can find the group's homepage and subscription information at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/massringing>

Participation in MassRinging is FREE. Prior information published about MassRinging indicated that it was necessary to establish a Yahoo user account and profile to become a subscribed member, but I've recently come across some information that indicates that this might not be the case.

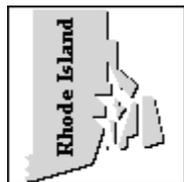
Please contact me directly at machair@agehrarea1 if you do not currently have a YahooGroups account and wish to become a subscribed member of the group.

Community Groups on the Rise

Massachusetts has always had community-based handbell groups—the aforementioned Beacon Hill Ringers, the Codman English Handbell Ringers and the Pudding Hill Ringers come to mind. New England Ringers, which rehearses in Amherst, has recently joined the club, and we hear that Karen Leonard is

preparing to start a group in the Chelmsford area. For more information on Karen's group, contact her at wcumckel@aol.com, or call her at 978-256-8404. We'd be interested to know about other community-based handbell groups, whether full choirs or ensembles.

Martha Goodman, MA State Chair



Rhode Island's Fifth "Spring Ring" was held on Saturday, April 6, 2002 at The Lincoln School in Providence, RI. Eleven choirs (78 ringers) - from Rhode Island, Connecticut and Massachusetts - were represented at this wonderful ringing event. A special thanks goes to Dan Moore, our guest conductor for the day, and to T. Michael Rock, our host at The Lincoln School. The public concert held at 3:00 p.m. featured three massed ringing pieces ("Amazing Grace", "Advent Celebration"

and "Festive Fanfare on the Ashgrove") and selections provided by four choirs. The day received glowing reviews from attendees, and we have tentatively scheduled Rhode Island's Sixth "Spring Ring" for Saturday, March 29, 2003 - put that on your calendar.

Rhode Island's Repertoire Reading Session, to determine the repertoire for the "Spring Ring", will be held on Friday, September 27, 2002. We will sight-read Rhode Island's Sixth "Back to Bells" will be held on Saturday, September 28, 2002.

Coming events in Rhode Island include a Repertoire Reading Session, to determine the repertoire for the "Spring Ring", on Friday, September 27, 2002; we will sight-read the Tins, Coppers and Massed music for FC '03 and select three or four for the massed ringing pieces for the "Spring Ring". "Back to Bells" will be held on Saturday, September 28, 2002. This skill building workshop will include ringing classes on Saturday, and a sharing session after lunch. Hosting this event is Ethel Thompson and the handbell choir at Woodbury Union Church, Warwick, RI.

Lori Kast, RI State Chair

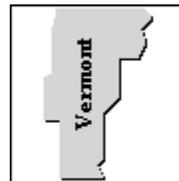
*When It's Time To
Talk About Bells,
Give Us A Ring.*

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At the Directors Roundtable held on January 26, 2002, 12 directors attended this annual event held in Barre, VT. Phil Brown and Karen James helped directors get a head start on the Vermont Spring Ring massed music. A sharing session was held over lunch to renew friendships and discuss concerns. The afternoon was devoted to pilot testing the Handbell Director Certification Exam. This was an interesting experience which proved a challenge to some.

The Vermont Youth Ring, chaired by Lynne Welsh, was held on Saturday, April 6, 2002 in Manchester, VT. Directors were Ed Henderson, Phil Brown and Sue Chamberlin. 56 young ringers attended and had a great day by all reports. Unfortunately, registrations were not sufficient to cover expenses so Youth Ring once again ran a loss. Luckily the directors of the state believe it is important to use Spring Ring income to subsidize Youth Ring expenses.

Vermont Spring Ring was held in Barre, VT on April 26 and 27, 2002. Paul McKlveen served as clinician for this year's event and was very well received. The

committee of Christine Litchfield, Kathy Brown, Bev Hutchins and Nancy Reynolds did an outstanding job. Evaluations were overwhelmingly positive. 24 choirs participated with a final attendance of 222 ringers.

There is interest in the Jericho/Underhill, VT area in starting a community auditioned bell group. Several ringers have been meeting to make plans, and now feel they're ready to "spread the word". Interested ringers or directors should contact Barb Blokland at blokland@sover.net.

Coming Events:

Summer Directors Meeting: Tuesday, July 15, 2002, Pittsford, VT. This annual planning meeting for Vermont directors will review the past year's events and plan for 2003 and beyond.

Vermont Youth Ring 2003 - (date to be determined). Averill Tinker has agreed to chair this event and host it in the West Lebanon/White River Jct. area. We are hoping that a more central site will attract a larger number of young ringers to this event.

Vermont Spring Ring 2003 - April 25 & 26, 2003. Spring Ring will be in the Essex Jct/Burlington area in 2003. A host committee is being formed including Sylvia Stebbens and Carolyn Harris. Contact has been made with the A. D. Lawton Middle School to use their facilities again. Jane Anderson from First Baptist Church in Topeka, KS has agreed to serve as clinician. Jane has been handbell clinician at the Colby College Summer Institute and was recommended by directors who worked with her there.

Phil Brown, VT Chair

Report of the Representative to the National Board of Directors

February 14 – 17, 2002 in Phoenix, AZ.

In addition to the usual reports and on-going discussions on various issues, the primary focus of the annual winter meeting was to continue the process of restructuring how the Guild does business.

Summary of *some* of the issues discussed:

- 1) As described in my last report, the Guild is in the process of changing our governance style. That is, under the new model the Executive Director will be responsible for all operational facets of the organization, and he or she will ensure that the Guild meets the goals set by the Board of Directors.
- 2) Computer system at the National Headquarters in Dayton – The computer system, and as important,

the software running at the Dayton office has been upgraded. Hardware and software are now in place to make it far more effective. Among other benefits the membership database will be available to members for editing/updating.

- 3) Our Membership Director, Sara Smith reports that our national membership numbers remain stagnant in the area of 9000 to 9100. A new promotion related to existing members bringing in new members is underway. Also, the renewal process has been modified and how we communicate with "dropped members" is being changed to provide more information. Clearly the ultimate goal needs to keep existing members! We look forward to the availability of on-line membership info as well as on-line membership renewals. Sara is willing to come to one of our Area Board meetings.
- 4) The face-lift for the Dayton office is nearly complete.
- 5) The National Guild Store continues to run in the red and will be phased out.
- 6) Finance
 - a) Participant Fees will be a thing of the past effective October 2002 and Endorsed Event fees will now stay 100% in the Area. Areas will no longer pay a share of the ASCAP and liability insurance costs but will also no longer receive a rebate from the membership fees.
 - b) The cost to produce and distribute Overtones continues to increase. The Board acknowledges the tremendous value of this resource but also feels obligated to be sure that the cost is in line with the benefit. Numerous possibilities are being considered to save money such as going from 6 to 5 editions per year, reducing the number of colors on the cover.
- 7) Events
 - a) Pinnacle was a great success.
 - b) Distinctly Bronze is scheduled for Oct 2002
 - c) A National Young Ringers event is being planned for Texas.
 - d) The national Directors Seminar '03 will be held in Hartford, CT! This will be a wonderful opportunity for Area I members to attend a national event. In addition Area I members will have the opportunity to serve the national organization as hosts and facilitators.

A new Executive Director has been hired. Jane Mary Tenhover started her new job on May 20, 2002. We are extremely indebted to Mr. William Griffin for agreeing to act as Interim Executive director until a new one was hired.

Ed Henderson, Area I Representative

Items of Interest from the Special Groups Liaison

Concern raised about the impact of bell music on hearing: At the recent Vermont Spring Ring, an individual asked me if I had any information about the long-term impact of bell ringing on hearing. She indicated that when ringing in large groups she sometimes experiences auditory distortion. Her solution is to back away slightly from the table, to literally distance herself from the sound around her. I have to say that I have experienced some discomfort, not from wrong notes, but from standing next to a taller ringer whose strike point is at my ear level. Add a shake or forte dynamic to that, and I have to say I have experienced ringing in my ears as well as my bells.

While I have not reviewed anything specific in the literature on this issue as it relates to bell ringing, I am told this topic was discussed in a back issue of Overtones. It makes sense that the sound emanating from a bell could be just as injurious, however beautiful, as the sound created by any musical instrument. Some of the same solutions, such as use of musician's ear-plugs, might be very appropriate and practical. If you experience discomfort because of the height of your ringing neighbor, you might want to ask your director to

switch your location, at least some of the time.

It makes sense not to ignore the potential for long term damage to your hearing and to arm yourself with any available technology to avoid harm. Here's to safe, sound ringing !!!

Nancy G. Reynolds, P.T.

Adult Ringers Weekend Taking Shape

The Mount Washington Hotel
Bretton Woods, N.H.
November 15-16, 2002

Remember, **now** is the time to register for Area I's first ever weekend for adult ringers. We are looking for all ringers, whether relatively new to ringing or more experienced, individual or group, with or without their choir director, to come and work on making music together un-

(Continued on Page 9)

The Raleigh Ringers Proudly Present: THE VERY FIRST DOUBLE CD IN THE HANDBELL WORLD!

You savored **THE RALEIGH RINGERS** and **IMPRESSIONS OF THE SEASON**. And, like fine food, they left you hungry for more. The Raleigh Ringers are now pleased to serve you just that - **MORE**, a double helping of everything you crave: original compositions, timeless classics and a generous slice of The Raleigh Ringers' trademark Rock & Roll! Two platters full of Payn, Gramann, Griffin, Moklebust... 94 minutes of music! Enough to share!

"The Raleigh Ringers combine a zeal for musical expression with sensitivity to not only the entertainment, but also the edification of the audience. I am an admirer of their rhythmic energy and vitality in performance."

David R. Davidson, Director, The Dallas Symphony Chorus; Director, The Dallas Handbell Ensemble
Director of Music, Highland Park Presbyterian Church, Dallas, Texas



May we take your order for MORE? Just mail your check to: The Raleigh Ringers, 8516 Sleepy Creek Drive, Raleigh, North Carolina 27613. Or, if you prefer, email your order via rringers@rr.org, or phone/fax your order by dialing (919) 847-7574. Each 2-CD set is - \$20.00 each set. Please add \$1.50 per item for shipping and handling. NC residents only: add \$1.29 tax per CD set.

Still hungry? Try these house specials:

The Raleigh Ringers - The original recipe, consisting of 75 minutes of handbell music prepared with a classical flavor and just the right touch of Rock & Roll.

Impressions of the Season - Twenty-six seasonal favorites sprinkled with familiar carols, contemporary selections and much-loved classics.

Compact Discs - \$15.00 each. Please add \$1.50 per item for shipping and handling. NC residents only: add \$0.99 tax per CD

MORE

Disc One

- 1 Rhapsody (from L'Alceste Suite No. 2) arr. Gantt
- 2 News, Payn
- 3 Prayer for Healing, Fuchsauer
- 4 Russian Sailors' Dance (from 'The Red Poppy') arr. Griffin
- 5 Prelude to O' Mine, arr. Smith
- 6 Pave Nails Ed. Impression
- 7 Nocturne No. 2, Molnar
- 8 Carillon, arr. Gramann
- 9 Bertram and Bailey's Baroque, arr. Moklebust
- 10 Come, Thou Almighty King, arr. Gramann

Disc Two

- 1 Tempest, McCleary
- 2 All Glorious Above, arr. Gramann
- 3 Aria, Howard
- 4 Pinnacle, Payne
- 5 Prelude from Symphony No. 2 in D Major for Organ, arr. Gramann
- 6 The Star and Stripes Forever, arr. Griffin

The Rockin' Raleigh Ringers

- 7 Old Time Rock and Roll (Bob Seger)
- 8 Carry On, Wayward Son (Kansas)
- 9 We Are The Champions (Queen)
- 10 Pinball Wizard (The Who)
- 11 Night on White Sails (The Moody Blues)

AREA I'S 2003 FESTIVAL/CONFERENCE ANNOUNCES....

GUEST CONDUCTORS, REPERTOIRE and OPENING CONCERT

If you have not thought about attending Area I's 2003 Festival/Conference - NOW is the time to do some serious thinking about it...you have less than 365 days to turn your thoughts into the REAL EXPERIENCE!

FACT: June 26-29, 2003 - UMASS/Amherst, MA - Awesome Location and Facilities!

FACT: Guest Conductors Karen Buckwalter and Tim Waugh - Exceptional Conducting!

FACT: Opening Concert by the "Raleigh Ringers" - Phenomenal Music!

FACT: New classes and tracks taught by our Guest Conductors and the Raleigh Ringers!

In this issue of the Fundamental Tone, you have all of the essential information to get your choir on the path to attend next year's Festival/Conference. We are packing in great instruction, new ideas, fun activities and challenging opportunities for each attendee at FC'03! If you are a new choir who has never been to a Festival/Conference or a well tenured choir, there will be plenty of "new stuff" for you - it is our plan that you come away from FC'03 with plenty of new ideas, great experiences and a desire to come back for more at FC'05.

The repertoire has been selected and is listed on the back side of this page. Tim Waugh will conduct the Tins division and the Massed ringing while Karen Buckwalter will conduct the Coppers and Bronze divisions. You should keep your eyes open for opportunities to ring the FC'03 repertoire at upcoming workshops and Spring Rings throughout Area 1 over the next year (a great way to prepare your choir for attending FC'03, also).

Costs for FC'03 will be up slightly from FC'01 for many reasons: the ringing arena is fully air-conditioned, the opening concert by the Raleigh Ringers is included in the cost of registration (tickets will be sold to the public for this opening night concert), and all classes will be held in one, air-conditioned building. At this time, conference registration will be approximately \$275 for a double occupancy.

So start planning the fundraising pasta suppers and car washes, take a look at the repertoire and see how it can fit into your plans for the next year, and get ready for a simply wonderful Festival/Conference in 2003.

P.S. Thanks to each person who turned in class evaluations from FC'01 - Each course has been reviewed and changes are being incorporated for FC'03

- Lori Kast, Chair, Festival/Conference 2003

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

Festival/Conference '03 Repertoire

Massed					
Title	Composer	Publisher	Number	Level	Bell Range
Come Thankful People	Waugh	Jeffers	JHS9174	L3	3-5 octaves
Grazioso	Sherman	RedRiver	HB0042	L2+	3-5 octaves
Praise to the Lord	McChesney	Agape	HP1499	L3-	2-3 octaves
	McChesney	Agape	HP2180	L3-	3-5 octaves
Osse Shalom	Nelson	AGEHR	AG35165	L3	3-5 octaves (opt. Bb2)
Tins					
Beautiful Savior	Ingram	Lorenz	20/1219L	L2	3-5 octaves
Let Us Talents & Tongues Employ	Helman	Augsburg	AU0800659937	L2	2-3 octaves
Past Three O'Clock	Waugh	Jeffers	JHS9109	L2	3-5 octaves
Coppers					
Processional	Sherman	Agape	2195	L3	3-5 octaves
Toccata for a Joyous Day	McKlveen	Jeffers	JHS9280	L3	3-5 octaves
Seasons of the Heart	Buckwalter	AGEHR	AG35197	L3	3-5 octaves
Bronze					
Festive Praises	Gramann	AGEHR	AG45043	L5	4-5 octaves
African Alleluia	Moklebust	ChoristersGuild	CBG229	L4	3-5 octaves
Soliloquy for Bells	Buckwalter	Shawnee	SPHP5175	L4	3-5 octaves
Froehlich Tanze/Joyful Dance	Buckwalter	AGEHR	AG35173	L5	3-5 octaves



WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE YOUR FUNDAMENTAL TONE BY E-MAIL?

Receiving your Fundamental Tone by e-mail assures that you will receive it in a timely manner and allows you to keep all of its valuable information on your computer. You can print out whatever you need when you need it.

Receiving your Fundamental Tone online also will help Area I to save postage costs and will help us all to conserve our natural resources.

If you would like to receive the Fundamental Tone by e-mail please send an e-mail to editor@agehrarea1.org. The newsletter will be sent as an attachment in PDF format which can be read by Adobe Acrobat Reader, a free program available on the Web.

DIRECTORS – DON'T FORGET TO PASS THE WORD ALONG TO YOUR RINGERS!

(Continued from Page 6)

der the gifted coaxing of Deborah Carr. We couldn't ask for a more inviting location - the Magnificent Mount Washington Hotel, gateway to the White Mountain region of New Hampshire. This historical hotel is renowned for its elegance, gourmet cuisine, and panoramic views. It provides access to a wide variety of outdoor activities, either on the premises or within a short distance. The hotel offers a beautiful indoor swimming pool, masseuse, workout facilities and numerous other amenities. Remember that the conference rate is available for an additional night if desired. The early bird registration rate is only available until September 1. Book your room directly with the Mount Washington Hotel as soon as possible.

The tentative schedule is as follows:

Friday, November 15, 2002

- **3-5:00 PM:** On site-registration. Pick up your event information, bell assignment and music. Register for your room at the main desk and settle in. (If you arrive after 5, register for your room at the main desk. You can pick up your materials at the first rehearsal.)
- **6-7:30 PM:** Dinner in the main dining room.
 - Men are required to wear a jacket and tie.
 - If you are arriving after 6, you can make your own reservations for dinner with the concierge upon arrival. The dining room is open until 10 PM.
- **7:30-9:00PM:** First rehearsal in the Ballroom.
- **9:00 PM:** Free time. Enjoy the indoor pool, or any of the other facilities available at the hotel.

Saturday, November 16, 2002

- **7-8:00 AM:** Breakfast in the main dining room.
- **8:15-12:00 Noon:** Rehearsal.
- **12-1:00 PM:** Lunch in the main dining room
- **1-3:00 PM:** Rehearsal
- **3-4:00PM:** Open rehearsal for the pleasure of hotel guests. Closing.¶

For further information, please contact Karen James, Registrar, at Kjamesbell@aol.com or FAX: 802-483-6167. Nancy Reynolds, Event Chair, at dnreynol@sover.net or Phone: 802-748-4760.

Chime Loan Program

AGEHR, Area I continues to support handchime and handbell ringing in the schools through the Area I Handchime Loan program. The Area I Board owns four 3-octave sets of handchimes to be loaned to schools and other educational institutions throughout New England and the Atlantic provinces. Requests for

loaner chimes can come from music educators, classroom teachers, parents, community members, or anyone who has a dream of using handchimes in an educational program. The minimum loan period is one semester which may be renewed for a second semester depending on demand.

The following comments are from the schools that have participated in the Chime Loan Program during the 2001-2002 school year:

LaMotte Elementary School, VT
Marilyn H. Havens, Music Teacher, Isle LaMotte Vermont, writes:

Thank you AGEHR. The loan of the three octave set of chimes from AGEHR, Area I has been a wonderful asset to our elementary school music curriculum. The children are so pleased and are learning to become musicians. We now have three ensembles composed of children from the second through the sixth grades.

During this school year with the efforts of the children and our small community we have secured enough money to purchase a 3 octave set of Malmark Chimes. The children participated in 2 fund raising events, and we were given a gift of \$500 from a local arts group. Other contributions were made by the fire department, the Masons, the Methodist Church, and two private citizens.

At the delivery of our two octave set we invited a member of the Island Arts Board to be present when we opened the box to celebrate the arrival of our new instruments. Pictures were taken, speeches were given and songs were played. The event was reported in the local paper, and has now been added to the Island Arts Web site: http://islandarts.org/artsboost_grants.htm

When the third octave arrived about a month later we invited a local cellist to be our guest for a joint concert. He played for us, we opened the chimes, and played for him and then together we played Dvorak's Largo from the New World Symphony and The Suprise Symphony theme by Haydn. We were all thrilled with the beautiful sounds we created together, musicians and audience.

What a delight it is to hear the children say after we have been working on a new piece, "may we go and get our teacher so she can hear us play?" And they love to play for each other during lunch hour. (our chime tables are in the lunch room).

The opportunity for cooperation, equal importance of all musicians, the value of learning to read music, combined with the rewards of creating

beautiful sounds is a combination that is to be celebrated. Even some of my students who have difficulty with school in general are doing very well playing chimes.

Last month we took our new chimes to a nearby school and played at their after school program. The performers were pleased with their ability and enjoyed inviting the audience to come up and be instructed in chime playing. Their music teacher now wants to include chimes in her curriculum.

The loan program is wonderful. I can't express my gratitude enough. I hope other schools will avail themselves of this opportunity.

Voluntown Elementary School, CT:
Brian Sturm from Voluntown Elementary School in Connecticut writes:

I used the chimes in general music classes from grades 1 through 5 as an introductory tool to instrumental music and to teach rhythm and notation reading skills. I had a group of 6th grade students who expressed interest in learning to play and perform on the handchimes. They rehearsed with me on their own time, during school hours for approximately 30 minutes per week (if we were lucky) during the months of February - May. These students were inexperienced with music and were unable to read notation at any level of competence. They performed two easy pieces on a concert, May 23, and were very well accepted by the audience. The performance was very successful and they had learned to read and perform basic rhythmic skills (whole, half, quarter notes & rests) and are beginning to grasp pitch notation.

Lonsdale Elementary School, RI

Stephen Carroll, a volunteer parent at the Lonsdale Elementary School in RI, did not respond to inquiries, but the school indicated that the chime program was implemented for the first semester only.

AGEHR now owns 4 sets of chimes for educational purposes. One set is being repaired but will be ready for fall semester of 2002-2003 school year. If you know of a school or music teacher that would benefit from this program, be sure to contact Bunny Stanley at 207-549-5187.

For additional information or to download an application for Area I's Chime Loan program, visit the Area I Web site at agehrarea1.org or write Education Liaison, Bunny Stanley, 599 Crummett Mountain Rd., Somerville, ME 04348 (E-mail: education@agehrarea1.org).

Fall Repertoire Reading Sessions

In October there will be two Repertoire Reading Sessions held in Area I. A reading session is an opportunity for directors and experienced ringers to try ringing a number of pieces to help them select new repertoire for their choir. Also, at the reading sessions, the music we ring through is available to be purchased at a discount. On October 19 there will be an Area I Repertoire Reading Session at Spring Glen Church in Hamden, CT, and on October 26 there will be one at the Bristol Consolidated School in Bristol, ME. Registration information for both of these events will be in the August mailing of the Fundamental Tone.

Send Us Your Event Information

We want to post your upcoming bell performances on the Web site so send us your information! We will even include information about upcoming worship services that will include handbell music. We do get e-mails occasionally from people interested in knowing when and where they can hear some handbell music. It is also a great way to keep your fellow AGEHR, Area I members informed about what you are doing in your handbell program. You can e-mail Steven LeBrun at webmaster@agehrarea1.org with the date, time, location, ticket price, if any, an e-mail address for whom to contact for more information, and any other pertinent information.

Seed Money Program

If you want to get a ringing event up and running in Area I we would love to help you out. You can apply for a Seed Money Grant which can be used to help fund a first-time ringing event. The money cannot be used to purchase equipment and the applicant for the grant must be a member in good standing of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers. The event must take place in Area I and the event planners must apply for Endorsement by the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers. If you are interested contact Debra LeBrun, Chair-Elect, with a description of the event, including a description of the target audience, goal of the event, and a detailed budget. You can contact Debra LeBrun at chairelect@agehrarea1.org, or at 68R Stony Brook Rd., Westford, MA 01886.

Coming Events

July 15, 2002 in Pittsford, VT, VT Summer Director's Meeting. Contact Phil Brown 802-748-3894
vtchair@agehrarea1.org

August 10-14, 2002 at Camp Ogontz in Lisbon, NH, Family Handbell Camp. Contact: Debra LeBrun 978-692-1309 chairelect@agehrarea1.org

September 6 and 7, 2002 in St. Johnsbury, VT, Area I Board meeting. Contact: Sue Chamberlin, 603-942-7884, chair@agehrarea1.org

September 27, 2002 in Warwick, RI, RI Repertoire Reading Session for "Spring Ring". Contact: Lori Kast 401-727-4585 richair@agehrarea1.org

September 28, 2002 in Warwick, RI, Rhode Island Back to Bells. Contact: Lori Kast 401-727-4585 richair@agehrarea1.org

October 19, 2002 in Hamden, CT, Repertoire Reading Session. Contact: Susan Wilber, 203-288-5847, ctchair@agehrarea1.org

October 26, 2002 in Bristol, ME, Repertoire Reading Session. Contact: Bunny Stanley, 207-549-5187, mechair@agehrarea1.org

November 9, 2002 in Holden, MA, High School Ring Out. Contact: Jeffery Heath 508-829-4981 lightsman@charter.net

November 15-16, 2002 at Mount Washington Hotel, Adult Ringers Weekend. Contact: Karen James kjamesbell@aol.com

Jan 31-Feb 1, 2003 in Nashua, NH, Directors' Seminar. Contact: Cyndi Arbour 413-774-2238 arbour@facil.umass.edu

March 29, 2003, Rhode Island Spring Ring. Contact: Lori Kast 401-727-4585 richair@agehrarea1.org

April 25-26, 2003 in Essex Jct, VT, Vermont Spring Ring. Contact Phil Brown 802-748-3894
vtchair@agehrarea1.org

June 26-29, 2003 in Amherst, MA, Area I Festival/Conference Contact: Lori Kast 401-727-4585
richair@agehrarea1.org

New Members

Welcome these new members to Area I:

Connecticut

Carol Kana, Riverside, CT
Fred Schoenfeld, Manchester, CT
Handbell Director, United Methodist Church, New Fairfield, CT

Massachusetts

Stephanie Harding, Rutland First Congregational Church, Rutland, MA
Kristy Kerins, Federated Church of Hyannis, Hyannis, MA
Linda Lozis, Noank Baptist Church, Noank, CT
Joanne Spring, New Milford United Methodist Church, New Milford, CT

New Hampshire

Elizabeth Barcomb, Hampton United Methodist Church, Hampton, NH
Ned Dahl, Union Congregational Church, Peterborough, NH
Emlee Kohler, Hancock, NH
Shirley Langlois, Seventh Day Adventist School, South Hampton, NH
Marilyn Schroer, Jefferson, NH

Vermont

Sarah Baugher, North Hero, VT
Barbara Brown, New Haven Handbell Choir, Bristol, VT
Suzanne Tall, Friend of Music, Rutland, VT

Bulletin Board

Wanted: Senior Center Bell Choir Director
The Rev. Larson Senior Center in Attleboro, MA, is seeking an instructor for a handchimes choir. The

The Fundamental Tone is published four times a year (on the first Monday of February, May, August, November) by the New England Guild of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, Inc. Deadline for submitting information for publication is the 18th of the month prior to publication. It is distributed from 25 Pine Road, Beverly, MA 01915. If you would like to place an advertisement in the Fundamental Tone, contact Ruth Bowers (RBowers@attbi.com or 978-922-8137).

Advertising rates are: Full page: \$80.00 (7" X 9.5")
Half page: \$50.00 (7" X 4.5")
Quarter page: \$30.00 (3.25" X 4.5")
Eighth page: \$20.00 (3.25" X 2.2")
Business Card: \$10 (3.25" X 1")

The advertisements must be camera ready although the preferred format is as a .jpg file.

person we are seeking must have some experience with working with senior citizens. This position is grant funded for a once a week 1 1/2 to 2 hour instructional program. If you would like more information, please contact Darlene Young, Assistant Director, The Rev. Larson Senior Center, 25 South Main Street, Attleboro, MA 02703 Telephone: 508-223-2235 Fax: 508-222-2581.

Our hope is that the instructor would be willing to give performances here at the Senior Center as well as outside agencies (i.e. nursing homes, assisted living facilities, adult day centers).

Wanted: Adult Bell Choir Director

Seeking experienced and enthusiastic director of 12-member Adult Bell Choir. Director would be responsible for weekly rehearsals and monthly worship performance, selection and purchase of appropriate music, recruitment of new members when necessary, and making bell assignments. This is an accomplished choir, regularly performing Level 3 and 4 music using a 5-octave set of Schulmerich Handbells. The Adult Bell Choir is the most experienced group in a handbell program that includes 4 choirs, ranging from junior high-aged kids through adults. It is part of a larger

music program which includes 5 voice choirs as well and a congregation that is enthusiastic and supportive of music in worship. An annual stipend is offered for this position.

Please send a resume and letter of interest to: Susie Allen, Acton Congregational Church, 12 Concord Road, Acton, MA 01720.

Special Note about Address Changes

All address changes and corrections are handled by the National AGEHR office in Dayton, Ohio. Contact Sara Smith, the Membership Director, at 1-800-878-5459, ext. 112, or by e-mail: membership@agehr.org.

The Fundamental Tone cannot make or process these changes or corrections for you. Please contact the National office directly with your changes or corrections.

Membership Form—The American Guild

Platinum Membership \$170.00
 Sterling Membership \$90.00
 Regular Membership \$55.00
 Ringer Membership \$22.00
 Must be affiliated with a choir of a regular member.
 Membership number of choir: _____

Senior Citizen Membership (65+) \$37.00
 Individual membership, may not represent a group.
 Full-Time Student Membership. \$37.00
 Business Membership \$110.00
 Canadian Membership add \$15.00
 to all membership categories to cover additional postage.
 International Membership *\$37.00
 + postage

*Please contact the office at (800) 878-5459 to find out the postage rates for your address.
 A. Overtones at Printed Matter rate.
 B. Overtones at First Class rate.

Mail to: AGEHR, Inc.
 1055 East Centerville Station Road
 Dayton, Ohio 45459-5503

Make check/money order payable to: The AGEHR, Inc.
 Payment enclosed \$ _____ (U.S. Funds)
All returned checks will incur a \$25 processing fee.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____
 Is the above a Personal Ad
 Daytime Phone: _____
 Evening Phone: _____
 E-mail: _____
 Name of Business: _____
 Is this a New Membership # _____

Credit Card
 Card Number: _____
 Signature: _____
 Expiration Date: _____

