

FUNDAMENTAL TONE

Newsletter of Area I, Inc.
American Guild of English Handbell Ringers

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

Volume XIX, No. 4

Summer 2005

AGEHR Area I Officers

Elected Officers

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specialneeds@agehrarea1.org

The Chair Chimes In

I hope you are all enjoying a wonderful summer! This issue of the Fundamental Tone brings you valuable information about Area I's Fall events. I hope that all you directors are planning on attending our newly formatted Directors' Seminar. You can also register online for this event at our website, www.agehrarea1.org. We will be offering the AGEHR Level 1 Director's Certification test. The cost to take the test will be \$25. Dan Moore will also be offering classes about the Level 1 and 2 Certification Tests. If you have high school aged ringers, I strongly recommend that you attend the Area I High School Ring Out so they can learn from one of the best – Jason Wells!! If you have ringers in your church who are still working on developing good basic ringing skills, even if they may have been ringing for a long time, then make sure they know about the Skill-Building Workshop.

We had a fantastic Biennial Festival/Conference with about 760 people in attendance! Thank you to all of you who attended and a special thanks to all the directors who worked so hard to prepare their choirs for the massed ringing. One bit of exciting news from the Festival is that we raised almost \$3000 for our Bradford Scholarship Endowment Fund. Thank you to all who gave generously during our Sunday morning collection and the collection taken during the final concert. A special thanks to Diane Gaucher for organizing the raffle of a beautiful quilt made from handbell t-shirts! As I read the Evaluation Forms from Festival I am reminded about how valuable an experience Festival is for people and I am glad that in Area I we are able to provide some financial aid for new attendees.

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

In October, Nancy Reynolds will be taking over as the new Chair of Area I. I will continue on as the Past Chair. I am also pleased to announce that our new Chair-Elect will be Sue Henderson, our new Treasurer will be Holly Cerullo, and Linda Lamb has been re-elected as Secretary. We also have a few other new faces on the Board: Griff Gall as the new Education Liaison and Jeannie Cushman as Special Needs Liaison. You will hear more about these people in the fall newsletter. I have enjoyed my term as Chair immensely and I look forward to continuing to serve in a new capacity.

You will be receiving another ballot in the fall to approve our new bylaws. We have had to make some additional changes at the request of the National Board. We hope this will take care of our bylaws for quite a while.

I look forward to seeing a lot of you at our fall events!!

Debra LeBrun, Chair

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News from Vermont

The summer directors' meeting was held on Wednesday, July 13 at Karen James' home in Pittsford, Vermont. The meeting agenda included: final reports for Spring Ring 2005; discussion of Vermont Youth Ring 2005; discussion of Area-I events; planning for Vermont events through 2006 and beyond.

The Vermont Spring Ring 2005 was held for the first time in Newport, VT, less than five miles from the Canadian border. Named "Bells on the Border", Spring Ring was a very successful event. Ringers representing 21 choirs attended a friendly, musical and rewarding day filled with excellent opportunities for ringing and learning. Clinician and current AGEHR president, Deborah Rice, was extremely well-received and over 350 attended the afternoon concert.

Planning is already underway for the Youth Ring and Spring Ring to be held in April, 2006. Lee Afdahl has agreed to direct the Spring Ring to be held April 28th and 29th, 2006 in Bellows Falls, VT. The host committee has been formed and members include: Co-chairs Mary Jane Bosworth and Don Maher; Marilyn Distleberg, registrar; Barbara Hoag, publicity; the choirs from Keene, NH, W. Brattleboro, and Center Church, hospitality. Repertoire has been selected. Vermont Youth Ring will be in a different location this year and committee members planning the event are Phil Brown, Averill Tinker and Jerilyn Bergdahl.

Directors and ringers were saddened by the death of a dear friend and long-time ringer, director and teacher, Peggy Goldyn, in a tragic traffic accident while she was on her way to play the organ at one of the churches where she was organist June 19, 2005.

(Continued on page 9)

More AGEHR Area I Officers

Appointed Officers

Festival/Conference Chair: **Debra J. LeBrun**
fcchair@agehrarea1.org

Historian/Archivist: **Barbara Bussart**
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Vermont: **Jerilyn Bergdahl** (802-425-2177)
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AGEHR, Area 1, Inc.

High School Ring Out 2005

AGEHR, Area I, Inc. is proud to announce the 6th annual Area I, High School Ring Out. Souhegan High School in Amherst, NH will host the event on Saturday, November 5, 2005 from 9:00 am to 3:00 p.m. All Area I high school ringers and choirs are encouraged to participate in this exciting and growing event. The day will include rehearsals with an exciting guest director, lunch, a closing concert with an opportunity for individual choirs to present solo pieces and plenty of time to get to know other ringers.

Date: Saturday, November 5, 2005 — This is probably an SAT date. If you're communicating with your Junior and Senior ringers over the summer remind them to take their SATs in October.

Location: Souhegan High School, Amherst, NH — The school is located on Boston Post Road just outside of Nashua. It's centrally located and easy to find. Specific directions will be sent in a confirmation letter or at <http://www.sprise.com/shs/>. We guarantee it will be worth the trip. There are numerous hotel options in the area if you want to make an overnight of it.

Cost: \$10.00 per ringer covers building use fees, administrative costs and helps with the clinician honorarium. The Area I board has committed to underwriting this event if necessary so we could bring Jason Wells to New England for our high school ringers! Due to the added expense and the terrific opportunity to work with Jason we are asking directors and chaperons who want to ring to also pay the registration fee. Non-ringing directors/chaperons attend free. You must provide one adult chaperon for each 6 youth ringers.

Repertoire:

- 1) LAUDATION by Arnold Sherman; HP-5306; Level 3 (3 - 5 Octaves)
- 2) THE ROAD TO JERUSALEM by William Gross; HP5431, Harold Flammer Music; Level 2 (3 - 5 Octaves)
- 3) CAPRICCIO by Kevin McChesney; AG3513, AGEHR Publishing; Level 5 (3 - 5 Octaves)

All music must be original purchased copies. NO PHOTOCOPIES CAN BE ALLOWED. All music needs to be sufficiently rehearsed ahead of time so as to allow for polishing for performance, not note learning, to be accomplished at the event. Time is at a premium.

Bring: Each Ringer should bring gloves, comfortable shoes and a bag lunch. If your choir has a uniform or concert dress you are encouraged to wear it for the day or the performance.

Each choir should bring bells, mallets, tables, foam, table covers and music stands. We do not have access to rental tables.

Schedule:

9:00 - Registration; 8:30 - Early arrival
9:30 - Opening bell, announcements, stretches. (All choirs set up and prepared to ring.)
9:45 - Rehearsal I
10:45 - Break / snacks
11:00 - Rehearsal II / Directors' meeting
12:00 - Lunch (Each ringer / choir must provide their own lunch) / Solo Rehearsals
12:45 - Rehearsal III
1:45 - Dress Rehearsal
2:30 - Concert - Open to the public. Invite everyone you know !!
3:00 - Pack up and depart for a safe trip home

Sharing: We invite your choir to share a "solo" selection during the concert. Please fill out the appropriate information on the registration form. This must be done in advance for planning and programming. Time will be at a premium, we reserve the right to limit the number of solo selections. You will be assigned ten minutes during lunch to run through your piece one time in the performance area. Please be prompt and courteous to other groups.

Registration: Complete the Registration Form on the reverse of this page and make a copy for your records. Enclose the original Registration Form together with a check for the full registration amount made out to "AGEHR, Area I, Inc." and mail to: Phil Brown, Registrar - High School Ring Out, P.O. Box 53, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819.

High School Ring Out 2005

November 5, 2005

REGISTRATION

Deadline: October 5, 2005 !!

Director: _____ AGEHR member #: _____
 Evening Phone: _____ Day
 Phone: _____
 School/Church: _____ E-mail: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____, State: _____, Zip: _____
 Choir Name: _____ Floor space needed for
 tables: _____ feet
 _____ We would like to share a selection during the afternoon concert
 Title: _____, Comp/Arr: _____
 Publisher: _____, Publication #: _____

Registration deadline is October 5, 2004. Groups will be assigned floor position and concert rehearsal time according to postmark on the envelope containing their completed registration forms and payment in full. Any registrations postmarked after October 5, 2004 may not be honored. Questions should be directed to Phil Brown at the address below. If you are bringing individual ringers rather than a full choir, please use the "Bells Played" column to indicate bell assignments you desire and we will try to "create" a choir for you. You will be contacted to finalize these arrangements. Registration confirmation letters with directions will be mailed October 15.

	Ringer, Director or Chaperon name as it will appear on name tag. Please print clearly.	R(inger), D(irector), C(haperon)	Non-ringing Adult	Bells Played
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				

Youth Ringers @ \$10.00 = _____
 Adult Ringers @ \$10.00 = _____
 Adult non-ringers @ \$0.00 = \$0.00
 Total Enclosed _____

Make checks payable to AGEHR, Area I, Inc.

Send completed registration and payment to:
Phil Brown - High School Ring Out
P.O. Box 53, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
 For questions or information:
 802-748-3894 (h), 802-748-8150 (wk)
 kbpb@togther.net



Skill-Building Workshop For Newer Ringers
Saturday, October 15, 2005
First Congregational Church
Essex, CT

Program

This event will be a skill-building workshop and sight reading session for beginning ringers and/or choirs who would like help developing their skills in a low-pressure environment. This event is for you if you are a beginning ringer or a ringer who has been ringing for a while, but still does not feel comfortable with reading music or interpreting how to do the various techniques required. Topics covered will include the following:

- Warm up activities to prepare for ringing properly
- Developing a "perfect" ringing stroke
- Handbell terminology and the anatomy of the handbell
- Notation of special bell techniques and how to properly execute them
- Developing your sight-reading skills

Details

Date: October 15, 2005 9:00 am - 3:00pm (set up at 8:30 am)

First Congregational Church, Essex, CT

Emergency Phone (day of event only) 860-227-7302

Attendance is limited to 50 registrants

Cost: \$15.00 per Ringer – includes lunch

(Financial assistance available upon request; contact Registrar)

Music

The music rung during the event will be Level 1 and 2 music and will be provided for use on that day. No advance preparation is required.

Clinicians

Clinicians are all well known directors or ringers in Area 1 and the Bell Ringing community, including Ed Henderson, Debra LeBrun, Jane Nolan, Nancy Reynolds and Andy Wallace, among others. All have extensive experience as musicians, ringers, directors, and/or clinicians. We look forward to working with them.

Equipment

Attending choirs are encouraged to bring their own equipment: bells, foam, covers, music binders/stands, mallets, gloves, etc. Individual ringers are very welcome. Tables will be provided. Please loan if you can! You will be notified if your bells and foam are needed by October 1.

Registration Form

Skill-Building Workshop - Oct 15, 2005

Church/School/Group: _____

AGEHR Membership #: _____ (Individual or choir#)

Directors Name: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Attendees:

	Name (as it will appear on name tag)	Years ringing experience
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		

I can bring _____ octaves of bells & _____ feet of foam and to use in the workshop
(You will be contacted if your equipment is needed by October 1)

Registration Fees: _____ ringers @ \$15 each = \$ _____

Send completed registration form with a check for total cost (**payable to "AGEHR, Area I"**), postmarked by **September 15, 2005** to:

Cheryl Harger, Registrar
 24 Pond Meadow Rd.
 Ivoryton, CT 06442

Attendance is limited to 50 registrants, so get your form in early. Registrations will be honored on a first come first served basis up to the 50 attendee limit. Those postmarked after September 15 may not be able to be honored. Cancellations made in writing and received prior to Oct 1, 2005 may receive a full refund of the registration fee. No refunds will be made after that date.

If you have any questions, contact Cheryl: phone (860) 767-3423 (H) or (860) 577-7073 (W) or e-mail hargerfamily@comcast.net

Directions to the church and for set up, for those bringing equipment, will be provided after you register.

Please mail a copy of this registration form and make a copy of all information in this flier for your records.

Announcing a New Area I Event For Directors

September 23-24, 2005 – Directors' Seminar
Holiday Inn Boxborough Woods, Boxborough, MA

This event will be a workshop for both beginning directors and experienced directors. Classes will include the following:

- Repertoire Reading sessions throughout the event
- Conducting Classes
- Tips for the beginning director
- How to properly teach techniques
- Selecting Music for your choirs
- Ringing Assignments
- Incorporating new ringers into your choir
- Caring for the physical needs of your ringers
- The National Directors' Certification Test

Please note that this event replaces the 2005 Winter Directors' Seminar and Fall Repertoire Reading Sessions. It is hoped that this event will meet more of the needs of our members by offering a variety of classes that meet directors' individual needs. You will choose which classes you want to attend and there will be continuous massed repertoire ringing in the main hall. The event will run from Friday evening through Saturday with three delicious meals being provided by the hotel. Keep an eye out for more information in our upcoming newsletters and on the Web site.

For more information contact Sue Henderson (135 Green Meadow Drive, Tewksbury, MA 01876) or see the Area I Web site (www.agehrarea1.org).

A registration form is on the reverse side of this page.

Directors' Seminar Registration

Holiday Inn, Boxborough Woods
September 23-24, 2005

Registration information:

- Each participant must fill out a separate form
- Registration \$120
- Please make check payable to AGEHR, Area I, Inc.
- Includes dinner, breakfast, and lunch
- Send this form (with check) to:
Sue Henderson
135 Green Meadow Drive
Tewksbury, MA 01876

Rooming fees and information:

- Single room: \$95 **per room**
- Double, triple, or quad; \$105 **per room**
- You must reserve a room by August 23, 2005 for the guaranteed rate
- Call (978) 263-8701 now to reserve your room

Contact information:

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Address: _____ Day phone: _____
Evening Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Membership #: _____

Equipment loans:

Foam: # of feet _____ Bells: # of octaves _____ Chimes: # of octaves _____

Special housing needs? Special dietary considerations? Special access?

Describe:

To register, complete this page and send to registrar (Sue Henderson, 135 Green Meadow Drive, Tewksbury, MA 01876) with payment. Make checks payable to AGEHR Area I, Inc.

The Bronze Ambassadors, a high school choir from Newport, Vt and directed by Kim Strepka, gave the opening concert for the Area IV Festival/Conference.

Upcoming Vermont Events: Vermont Directors' Roundtable, Jan. 28, 2006 and "Think Spring Mini-Rings" in several places in the State during February and March, 2006.

Jerilyn Bergdahl,

Vermont Chair

Area I New Members

Please welcome these new members to Area I:

Connecticut

Blessed Sacrament Church, Waterbury, CT Cecelia Stevens, Director)

Hartford Area 7th Day Adventist School, Hartford, CT (Dr. Daniel Amfo, Director)

Rotella Elementary School, Waterbury, CT (Brenda Westervelt, Director)

Somers Congregational Church, Somers, CT (Helen Lelievre, Director)

United Church of Christ, Milford, CT

Union Baptist Church, Stamford, CT (Beverly King, Director)

Massachusetts

Church of the Good Shepherd, Acton, MA (Jay Lane, Director)

Holly Cerullo, Chelmsford, MA

St. Camillus Parish, Tyngsboro, MA (Marianne Vrotsos, Director)

Rhode Island

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, East Greenwich, RI (Philip Martorella, Director)

Maine

Foreside Community Church, Falmouth, ME (Brian Wilson, Director)

Rhode Island

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Bristol, RI (Lisa Moreno, Director)

Area I Election Results

Chair-Elect – Sue Henderson

Treasurer – Holly Cerullo

Secretary – Linda Lamb

Congratulations! Thanks to all who ran for office and for all who participated in the election process!

All the Songs You Need for the Christmas Ringing Season!

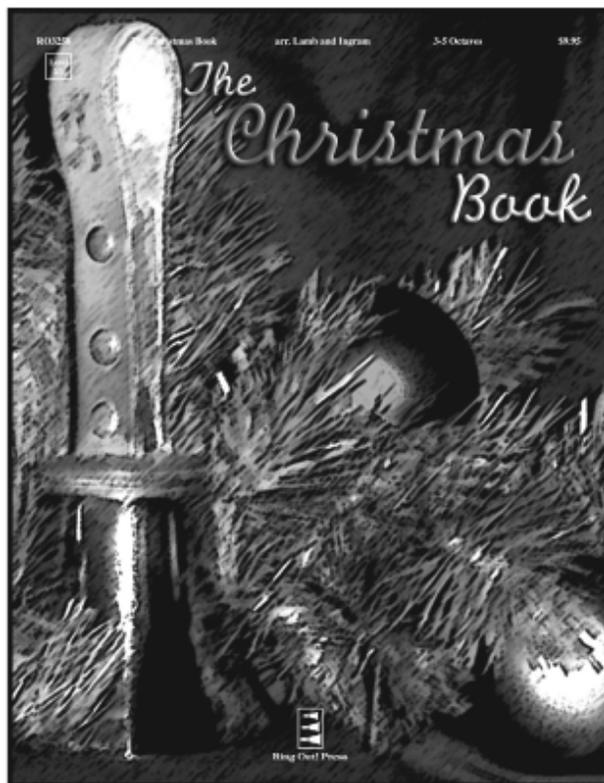
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~~~~~

The Fundamental Tone is published four times a year (on the first Monday of February, May, August, November) by Area I 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 (Ruth.Bowers@comcast.net or call 978-922-8137). Advertising rates:

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|------------|---------------------|---------------|------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
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| Half page: | \$50.00 (7" X 4.5") | Eighth page:  | \$20.00 (3.25" X 2.2") |                |                   |

The preferred format for an ad is as a .jpg file. DO NOT send it as a .PDF file.

ageHr

Deadline for next  
issue: October 18, 2005

*FIRST CLASS*

*The Fundamental Tone  
Newsletter of AGTHR Area I  
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