# Fundamental Tone

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

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

Volume XVIII, No. 2

February 2004

# The Chair Chimes In

## AGEHR Area I Officers

#### **Elected Officers**

Chair: **Debra LeBrun** (978-692-1309) chair@agehrarea1.org

Chair-Elect: Nancy G. Reynolds (802-748-4760) chairelect@agehrarea1.org

Area I Rep: Ed Henderson (978-851-3024) arearep@agehrarea1.org

Secretary: Linda S. Lamb (603-886-1512) secretary@agehrarea1.org

Treasurer:
Sue Henderson
(978-851-3024)
treasurer@agehrarea1.org

#### **National Liaisons**

Education: **Bunny Stanley**(207-549-5187)
education@agehrarea1.org

Special Groups: Nancy G. Reynolds (802-748-4760) specialgroups@agehrarea1.org

Chairs and appointed officers listed on page 2.

Happy New Year to all our Area I directors, ringers, and handbell enthusiasts! There are many handbell events happening throughout Area I over the next few months. Please make a special effort to attend an event – learn something new and meet some fellow Area I members. I know that I always come away from handbell events thinking, "Wow, handbell people are really wonderful people!" During this difficult time in the world it is nice to be reminded about the positive aspects of our society: the freedom to come together and share ideas, the affirming experience of working together for a common goal that we can not achieve alone, the willingness of people to lend a helping hand, and the freedom to express ourselves with music!

Take a close look at the calendar in this newsletter and visit the website for more details and registration forms. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, which has its roots right here in New England. Many of our Area I events this spring will recognize the anniversary in a special way. For example, at the Massachusetts Youth Spring Ring we will have a birthday cake and banner, and we will educate our young ringers about AGEHR. The National celebration of the 50th anniversary will be held in Norfolk, Virginia July 22-27. I encourage you to attend this event which is for ringers and directors. Information and registration forms were recently published in Overtones. Some of our Area I board members are busy preparing a historical display for this event and Area I has made a substantial contribution toward a printed compilation of Overtones, 1986-2003, which is being prepared by the national office. I hope to see many Area I ringers and directors in Norfolk.

I wish you all Happy Ringing in 2004!! Debra LeBrun, Chair

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### Reports

#### Connecticut

Several Connecticut residents, including myself, contacted the Connecticut public television station requesting that they air the Raleigh Ringers' "One Winter Evening at Meymandi" special during the recent holiday season. I know that when I initially contacted the management and programming area of CPTV, I was told that the programming for the holiday season had already been set (this was in August!) and that my request would not be considered; I know this was the response some others had received also. Imagine our surprise when in November they announced that indeed the special WOULD air - so those of us in Connecticut who have CPTV were treated to a very special hour on December 20. So our collective voices were heard after all!

Heather Rupy, the Music Director at the Ledyard Congregational Church, notes that they will be hosting a chamber music concert of Argentine music performed by a piano and flute duo on February 28th at 7:00. The concert is free and all are welcome!!!!

One of our former CT State chairs, Beverly Simpson, reports that the Wheeler School Concert Ringers will be performing at the First Congregational Church in Southington, CT during the evening of March 13. Many of you know that this group is under the direction of the Rhode Island State chair, Dan Moore. The Southington performance is the last stop on their northern New England and Canada tour prior to their return to Providence.

Beverly also reports the sad news of the passing of Willard Markey on January 16. Willard was very active in promoting handbells throughout the country and was a constant presence at handbell events. Up until a few weeks ago, he reported to work daily - at the age of 93!!! Memorial contributions can be sent to the following address:

Willard H. Markey Scholarship Fund c/o First Savings Bank of Perkasie 1129 N. Fifth Street, P.O. Box 176 Perkasie, Pennsylvania 18944

Sue Wilber, CT State Ch

#### Massachusetts

The Shrewsbury Ringers of the First Congregational Church of Shrewsbury were pleased to host the most recent meeting of the Area 1 Board of Directors on Saturday, January 10th.

The 12th annual Massachusetts Youth Spring Ring will take place on Saturday, March 13, 2004. For more information, please contact Cheryl Kraley (781-862-2209, Cheryl@kraley.com) or visit www.agehrarea1.org and click on "Events".

To support the fundraising efforts of the 50th Anniversary AGEHR celebration, each state has been asked to assemble a gift basket and donate it for auction in Norfolk, Virginia. We have chosen the theme: "LIGHT-HOUSES". If you have any ideas or would like to donate an item for the basket (remember, it must be from Massachusetts!), please contact us. All items must be collected by April 30th.

If you'd like to spread the news about activities in your church or school, please let us know! And, be sure to check out www.agehrarea1.org for the latest concert

### More AGEHR Area I Officers

#### State/Provincial Chairs

Atlantic Provinces TBA

canchair@agehrarea1.org

Co-Chairs TBA

(Canadian):

Connecticut:

canchair@agehrarea1.org Susan Wilber (203-407-4189)

ctchair@agehrarea1.org

Maine: **Christine Madsen** (207-865-0278)

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Massachusetts Marianne McVoy (508-845-6060) Co-Chairs:

machair@agehrarea1.org Linda Chadwick (508-842-0541)

New Hampshire: **Emlee Kohler** 

nhchair@agehrarea1.org

Rhode Island: Daniel Moore (401-438-4299)

richair@agehrarea1.org

Jerilyn Bergdahl (802-425-2177) Vermont:

vtchair@agehrarea1.org

#### Appointed Officers

Festival/Conference TBA

Chair fcchair@agehrarea1.org

Historian/Archivist: **Barbara Bussart** historian@agehrarea1.org

Jane Nolan (860-464-2873) Membership: membership@agehrarea1.org

Guild Store Bobbie Fillioe (802-438-2974) Manager: store@agehrarea1.org

Publications: Ruth H. Bowers (978-922-8137)

editor@agehrarea1.org

Webmaster: Linda S. Lamb (603-886-1512) webmaster@agehrarea1.org

news and director information.

MA Co-Chairs:
Marianne McVoy (508-845-7286,
mmcvoy@fccsm.org)
Linda Chadwick (508-842-0541,
chadwick@townisp.com)

#### **Vermont**

Several activities are planned in Vermont, and it is always exciting to look ahead.

Vermont Directors Roundtable: The Directors Roundtable will be held Jan. 31, 2004 in West Lebanon, NH. Averill Tinker will host the event and Karen James and Jerilyn Bergdahl will direct Spring Ring 2004 repertoire. Directors will have a chance to share successes, discuss future events and make suggestions.

Spring Ring 2004: Plans continue to go forward for the 2004 Spring Ring to be held April 23 and 24 in Manchester, VT with Michael Helman as the clinician. The registration deadline is not until the end of January, but registrations are starting to come in. A second planning meeting was held Nov.9, 2003 in Rutland, VT, a more central location for committee members. Status reports from the committee members were presented and another meeting date was set for a final site visit in Manchester.

<u>Spring Ring 2005</u>: Deborah Rice was contacted and has agreed to be the clinician for Spring Ring 2005 to be held in Newport, VT.

Vermont Youth Ring 2004: The committee met Nov. 16, 2003 in West Lebanon, NH to finish planning Vermont Youth Ring 2004 to be held April 3 at Dothan Brook School, Hartland, VT. After discussion about possible solutions to increase attendance at the event, several changes were made in the agenda for the day. It was agreed to shorten the rehearsal time due to the very young age of some of the participants and to increase time for interaction and games among the participants in order to develop and foster new friendships around handbells. A pizza lunch will also be provided. Repertoire was chosen to meet the needs of the broad range of age and experience of the youth. The directors for the day will be: John Leonard, advanced ringers; Phil Brown, intermediate ringers; and Kathy Luzadar, beginning ringers.

Jerilyn Bergdahl, VT Chair

## Is your Membership Information Accurate?

Do you or a ringing friend of yours think that publications, newsletters and other written information are not reaching you? Some of our newletters are being returned. In researching the possible causes, I have discovered a number of very simple mistakes in members' addresses. If would be VERY helpful if each of you would check your information on the national website to be sure it is accurate and if not, YOU can change it yourself.

The Web site is www.agehr.org. The first screen will have a place for "member's log in" in the top right hand corner. Put in your member's ID. Under it you will be asked for a password.

If you don't have a password, just press enter at this point. When the screen comes up, click on "Request Password". When the next screen comes up, just follow the very easy directions to acquire a password.

If you already have a password, write it in the Password box and press enter. A Members Only Menu will appear. The first selections is "View/Modify your AGEHR Contact Information". Click on that and your contact information will appear.

Check it carefully to be sure all information is accurate. If not, please change the incorrect information and press "Save Changes".

Thank you for your time. Both National and Area 1 will be better able to serve you if your contact information is accurate.

Jane Nolan, Membership Chair

# Second Adult Ringers' Weekend Shaping Up

Plans are well underway for the second AREA I Adult Ringers' Weekend at the Mount Washington Hotel November 12-13, 2004. The Hotel is anxious to have us back and working to make our time there even more enjoyable. Our Clinician, Michael Kastner, co-founder of STEP, former AREA I Chair, and well known solo and ensemble ringer, is deciding on the repertoire. We have put in our order for perfect weather, and the committee is handling all the details necessary to make such an event happen. Now all we need are our adult ringers, that amazing group of people who love to have bells in their hands and be with each other.

If you did not attend the last Adult Ringers Weekend, we encourage you to consider attending this one, and bring along your spouse or a friend. This event is designed to provide an opportunity for adults to ring and socialize. It is designed for our non-ringing family and friends to share; to come and meet the people behind the names they have been hearing and meet others like them who provide the support that makes it possible for us to do what we love to do, ring. While we are busy with Mr. Kastner, the Hotel and surrounding area provides a myriad of activities, from learning to make crepes to hiking, to keep them amused and busy.

We will arrive on Friday afternoon, Nov. 12th, anxious to get our first look at the music we will be asked to make. While seeing the music for the first time upon arrival may be daunting for very new ringers, Mr. Kastner is looking for music that will be enjoyable for both those with limited ringing experience and those who have been ringing for several years, music that will provide a learning experience for all of us. We also receive our bell assignments, based on our stated preferences, and have time to locate where we will be on the ringing floor. We may even get to meet the people who will be ringing around us. Following a sumptuous buffet, we get to meet Michael Kastner and he gets to see the task he has ahead of him. While he decides how he will work his magic, we get to relax and enjoy the ambiance of the hotel.

With the gorgeous Mount Washington as our backdrop, Saturday is our day, under Michael's kind and encouraging eyes and hands, to actually turn those notes into that music. We end our time together opening the doors to the ballroom (our ringing floor), for an open rehearsal for the hotel guests, so they can see how all that music they have heard floating out over the lobby all weekend is created.

This is a special time and a unique event. We encourage you to join us. Registration begins on Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>. If you would like more information, visit agehrarea1.org, or contact Nancy Reynolds, Event Chair at 748-4760 or chairelect@agehrarea1.org.



#### Clinician

Michael Kastner has been active in handbell ringing for 36 years as ringer, director, arranger, soloist, and clinician. Currently he directs the Bells of the Rockies, an auditioned community group, and is the handbell director at Mountain View United Methodist Church in Boulder, Colorado.

Michael is a well-respected director, and clinician at the area, district, national and international levels.

In addition to directing, Michael has co-authored the book, "Solo Ringing! Musically", with Kevin McChesney, a comprehensive discussion of the tools used in solo, ensemble and choir ringing. They have also founded "STEP", an organization that specializes in music and the techniques for solo and ensemble ringers.

Michael is well known in Area I, having served as the Massachusetts State Chair to the AGEHR Board from 1984-88 and as Area I Chair from 1988-91.

We are pleased to be able to welcome him back home.

### The Mount Washington Hotel and Resort

Since the turn of the century people have come to the breathtaking Mount Washington Valley of New Hampshire seeking a special place to relax and rejuvenate. Many choose to stay at the grand Mount Washington



music especially suited to handbell musicians in small ensembles. Limited permission to photocopy the master score for your group maintains low cost. Many of our publications have options such as solo/dust or trio/quartet and will fit a variety of changing needs in your handbell program. Back issues are available any time to members only. Rehearsal and accompaniment CDs are available to help your learning and presentations. The annual cost is just \$47 ° for six issues (over 15 titles are guaranteed). Even if you use less than half of the titles, your savings are substantial over traditional sources of quality published music.

For more information, or to join STEP, visit our web site at www.steproject.com - Sign up on-line using your credit card. Or, simply send a check for \$47\* along with your name, address, telephone and Email to:

STEP, 1797 Peregrine Lane, Broomfield, CO 80020

<sup>\*</sup> for subscribers outside the U.S., the cost is \$57 per year.

Hotel, a National Historic Landmark, built in 1902 by railroad tycoon Joseph Stickley.

Noted for its magnificent European style masonry and woodwork, panoramic views, and gourmet dining, the Hotel retains its original atmosphere of elegance. It is located at the center of the Bretton Woods Resort and is an idyllic setting for exploring the Mount Washington Valley and participating in a myriad of year round recreational opportunities including hiking, golf, tennis, riding, and skiing.

Located in Bretton Woods, NH, the Hotel is 165 miles from Boston; 220 miles from Hartford, CT.; and 90 miles from Portland. ME.

# Scholarships

Scholarships are available for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in Norfolk

The Area I Bradford Scholarship Fund provides scholarships for directors to attend a national educational event. This year directors can receive a scholarship to attend the 50th Anniversary event in Norfolk, VA. The deadline is supposed to be January 31, but we will extend the deadline to February 28, 2004. To be eligible you must be a director who is attending their first national educational event and you, or your choir, must be a current member of AGEHR. To apply, write a paragraph about yourself and explain how attendance at the seminar will enhance your local choir and/or the Area I handbell community. Applications can be emailed to scholarship@agehrarea1.org, or you can mail your application to Debra LeBrun, 68R Stony Brook Rd, Westford, MA 01886. Scholarships typically cover only a portion of the expense of attending the seminar.

### In Memoriam

Willard Markey, Vice President and Secretary of Malmark, Inc., Bellcraftsmen, passed away January 16. He was 93 years old. He joined the Malmark team in 1974, 5 years after it had been founded by Jake Malta. He served as vice president and secretary of Malmark from 1974 until his death. Willard traveled the country representing the company at festivals and workshops, big and small. He loved his work and took great pride in Malmark handbells and Malmark products. When he wasn't traveling, he could be found at his desk every day up to the past holidays of 2003. He

never retired.

Willard Markey lived a very full life. He was an active church member, active in civic affairs, a private pilot, a vocalist and front man for a popular orchestra in the 30's and 40's. He is survived by his wife, 2 daughters, 5 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

Willard Markey hired me as a consultant and company representative in 1980. I was very impressed by this man. He was knowledgeable, courteous, patient, and funny; a personable tease with a great sense of humor. He represented the company well and helped me in every way possible to get started.

Mr. Markey was a member of the Music Educators National Conference. In1980 he was awarded an honorary life membership in the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers for his contributions to the art of handbell ringing. Gifts in memory of Willard may be made to the Willard H. Markey Scholarship Fund. Details have not been worked out at this writing but the purpose will be for the promotion of handbell ringing. Contributions may be sent to: Willard H. Markey Scholarship Fund, c/o First Savings Bank of Perkasie, 1129 N. fifth St., P.O. Box 176, Perkasie, PA 18944.

Beverly Simpson



Twelfth Annual Massachusetts Youth Spring Ring Saturday, March 13, 2004

It's that time again! Hooray!!! The Twelfth Annual Massachusetts

Spring Ring!!! Don't miss out!!! A great day of ringing fun for kids from all over New England! Learn new music and techniques! Meet new friends and visit with old ones! Find other people who LOVE to play bells!

Registration packets will be available by request only. They will be mailed after January 1, 2004, to those who request a packet.

Request your registration packet by one of the following methods:

Email: cheryl@kraley.com

subject line: MYSR Registration **US Mail:** Cheryl Knaley, MYSR Registrar

5 Fax Run Lane Lexington, MA 02420

Phone: 781-862-2209 Web Site: www.agehraneal.org

We need:

Your name, church or school name, Address to send the packet Evening phone number

The registration packet will also be available on the Area I Website after January 1, 2004 for downloading.

### New Members

Please welcome these new members to Area I:

Handbell Director, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Gales Ferry, CT David Erwin, Greenwich, CT Daniel Kehoe, Suffield, CT

James Strand, Cape Elizabeth, ME Gene Thomas, Danaruscitta, ME

Betsy Chipman, Haverhill, MA Father Mike Guarino, Revere, MA Ellen Kilicarslan Westwood, MA Tambre Knox, Hudson, MA Jean Mattoon, Lexington, MA

Lisa Stanziani-Griffith, Barrington, RI

Lucy Sherrill, Stamford, VT Frances Marino, Manchester, VT Heidi Tucker, Bethel, VT

### Bulletin Board

#### **Bell Choir Director Wanted**

Pilgrim Congregational Church (United Church of

Christ) in Lexington is searching for a qualified Bell Choir Director to direct an adult handbell choir and develop and direct a bell choir for children/youth. The job will require preparing and conducting a weekly rehearsal for each choir (to be scheduled at a time agreeable to both the director and the church), and leading the ensembles in the 10:30am Sunday worship service once per month. Additionally, the director will meet at least once a month with the Minister of Music.

Compensation will be in the range of \$50 to \$75 per week depending on hours and experience. Contact person: David Mislin, Director of Music, Pilgrim Congregational Church, 55 Coolidge Avenue, Lexington, MA 02420. Phone: 781-862-0357. E-mail: pilgrimlex@aol.com

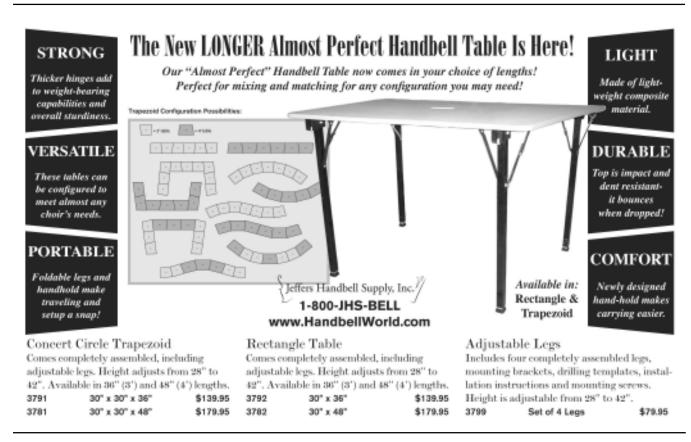
#### Wanted: Bell Ringing Group

I found Area I on the AGEHR Web site and wonder if you can help me.

We have just told we are being transferred to the Boston area. I have no idea where we will live, but I don't mind driving to play with a good group.

I am looking for a choir to play with. I have played bells

(Continued on page 9)



Adult weekend ad

Adult weekend ad

since 1963. (I was very young). I was a woodwinds major at college.

- Read Bass and treble. Prefer playing in the middle. Don't want to play little bells.
- Sight-reading skills are above average.
- Currently play with a community bell choir in Schenectady which plays level 3 and 4 music. I believe that I could play level 5 or possibly 6.
- Some 4-in-hand experience.
- Played a solo once
- Dependable and flexible
- Available most days
- I will substitute. No problem.

Other instruments: I play soprano and tenor recorder. I also play a Yamaha WX5 wind synthesizer.

Could you direct me to someone who is looking for someone with my skill set?

Thanks,

Vicki Moroski <vmoroski@earthlink.net>

## Coming Events

<u>February 14, 2004</u>: A "Think Spring Mini-ring" at Phil Brown's church in St. Johnsbury, VT for northern Vermont choirs to practice the Vermont Sprint Ring music. It's an event for ringers and we hope you'll encourage them all to participate so they can prepare for a wonderful Spring Ring in Manchester on April 24.

March 13, 2004: The twelfth annual Massachusetts Youth Spring Ring. Contact Cheryl Kraley (781-862-2209, or Cheryl@kraley.com) for more information. For registration packets please go to the Area I Web site (www.agehrarea1.org) and click on "Events".

March 20, 2004: Merrimack Valley English Handbell Festival at Tewksbury Memorial High School in Tewksbury, MA. Anyone wishing to participate may contact Ed Henderson 978-851-3024 / EdSueHend@aol.com or Karen Leonard 978-256-8404 /wcumckel@aol.com.

March 27, 2004: Rhode Island Spring Ring at St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich, RI.

March 27, 2004: Maine Handbell Festival at Orion Center for the Arts, Topsham, Maine. 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. A full day of rehearsals and classes, culminating in a public concert at 4:30. Directors are Karen Leonard and Karen Leland. Groups from other states welcome. For more information, call 207-865-0278.

April 3, 2004: Vermont Youth Ring at the Dothan Brook School in Hartland, VT. Directors are: John Leonard, advanced ringers; Phil Brown, intermediate ringers; and Kathy Luzader, beginning ringers.

April 23-24, 2004: Vermont Spring Ring at the First Congregational Church and Manchester Elementary School in Manchester, VT. Michael Helman will be the clinician. Contact Lynne Welsh for more information.

May 18, 2004: Perkins Handbell Festival at the Old South Church, Copley Square, Boston, MA.

<u>July 22-27, 2004</u>: The national celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Guild, in Norfolk, Virginia.

August 7-10, 2004: Family Handbell Camp at Camp Oguntz, NH. For information and the registration form campers can go to http://www.agehrarea1.org/FHC/index.html. For information contact linda.s.alamb@verizon.net or Luara Arbour at laura523@juno.com.

November 12-13, 2004: Adult Ringers Weekend at the Mount Washington Hotel. Michael Kastner will be the clinician.

MALMARK AD

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

Membership Form—The American Guild of English Handbell Ringers		
☐ Platinum Membership	Mailing Information	
☐ Ringer Membership	Address: City/State/Zip:	
☐ Senior Citizen Membership (65+) \$37.00 Individual membership, may not represent a group. ☐ Full-Time Student Membership \$37.00	Is the above a (check one) ☐ Personal Address or ☐ Organization Address	
☐ Business Membership	Daytime Phone:	
□ International Membership	E-mail:  Name of Business/School/Church:	
postage rates for your address.  *  A. Overtones at Printed Matter rate.  *  B. Overtones at First Class rate.	Is this a ☐ New Membership or ☐ Renewal  Membership #:	
Mail to: AGEHR, Inc. 1055 East Centerville Station Road Dayton, Ohio 45459-5503	Credit Card Information  Usa  MasterCard	
Make check/money order payable to:The AGEHR, Inc.  Payment enclosed \$(U.S. Funds)  All returned checks will incur a \$25 processing fee.	Signature:	

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**Return Services Requested** 

FIRST CLASS