

FUNDAMENTAL TONE

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

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

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August 2008

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 8–11, 2008
AGEHR National Seminar 2008
Orlando, Florida

October 11, 2008
**Second Annual Massachusetts
Skill Building Workshop**
Trinity Lutheran Church
Chelmsford, MA

October 18, 2008
Rhode Island Handbell Workshop
Barrington, RI

November 1, 2008
High School Ring Out
South Merrimack Christian
Academy, Merrimack, NH

November 7–8, 2008
Area I Adult Ringer Weekend
Sunday River Resort, Newry, ME

November 15, 2008
NH Fall Handbell Festival
Laconia, NH

January 24, 2009
Rhode Island Handbell Workshop
Pawtucket, RI

February 6–7 2009
2009 Directors' Seminar
Sheraton Framingham Hotel
Framingham, MA

April 25, 2009
Rhode Island Invitational Ring
Westerly, RI

June 25–28, 2009
Festival/Conference '09
University of Maine at Orono



Monica McGowan's Words of Wisdom about Stopped Techniques in Massed Ringing

I was asked to prepare rehearsal notes to assist in your preparation of the repertoire for our exciting Festival Conference '09. Please do take some time to read, consider and incorporate them into your rehearsal plans. Your attention to these details will facilitate our ability to quickly work through the mechanics and technical requirements in our first rehearsal together. When we gather in Maine, we'll be able to create music, accomplish our goals, unite people through our musical art and share in the sense of accomplishment of a job done well!

To attain the successful and precise execution of stopped techniques in a massed ringing setting, I believe we need to adopt the same approach to techniques. Should some of these suggestions be somewhat different from what you currently do, I ask that we all proceed with the same approach for this particular event. Try it—you might even like it! For some of you, this may be a review or it may be new information. Whatever the case, let's be on the same page.

- **Thumb Damp.** Does your choir have a consistent sound throughout its range of handbells, length of tone and matched attack when playing sections of repertoire that call for Thumb Damp? An easy way to check for these elements is to simply have your ringers "thumb damp" a scale, bass to treble and treble to bass. Encourage them to listen to each other and match the length of tone from one note to the next. Adjustments will more than likely *(continued on page 2)*

IN THIS ISSUE

Bradford Scholarships for Choirs ..4, 6–8
Massachusetts Skill Building Workshop ..9
Festival/Conference '09.....10
State Reports12

High School Ring Out 2008.....13–16
Area I Directors' Seminar17
Area I Adult Ringer Weekend18–21

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

MONICA MCGOWAN...

(continued from page 1)

need to be made. Ringers in the lower bass bells will need to adopt the “hand damp.” Ringers in the bass bells section from C4 to C5 will need to incorporate the addition of an extended finger or two up the casting and/or around the crown. Battery bell ringers (B4 to B5) will find there may be slight variations needed between ringing positions and possibly even between the handbell in the right hand and the one in the left. Some of the smaller treble bells will need only the pad of the thumb to accomplish the right balance

between this stopped technique and retention of tonal sound. I find it necessary to periodically re-check this technique with my own choirs and perhaps you will, too.

- **Martellato.** This most percussive and potentially violent articulation of stopped techniques doesn't have to cause damage to the handbell or the ringer. If we take the **time** to prepare for this technique, control the **distance** in which the handbell travels to the padded surface and release the **energy before** its impact, we have done much to increase the musicality of this technique. Starting from a similar point of

execution, no more than three inches from the padded table, increases the precision of a unified tonal accent rather than a splattering of notes.

- **Mallet Technique.** I find it most helpful to think about what we are trying to do with the sound generated in using mallets. Are we driving the sound down into the table or trying to lift it out of the handbell? The grip and range of motion of the mallet in the hand, the axis point of the grip of the index finger and thumb and the placement of the head of the mallet in relation to the casting are the keys to lifting the sound out of the
- (continued on next page)

AGEHR AREA I OFFICERS

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chair@agehrarea1.org
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vtchair@agehrarea1.org

handbell. If the mallet head is positioned close enough to the casting and the mallet shaft is allowed to move within the “grip” of the hand, the strike of the mallet will allow the head to bounce away from the casting after it is struck. Think of it as pulling the sound out of the handbell. Allow the mallet head to return to its “close to the casting” position for preparation of the next malleted note.

- **Laissez Vibre (LV).** Encourage your ringers to let the sound stay connected through these LV passages. No damping allowed until the next LV or Ring notation. Ask your ringers to enhance those sections with the continuous movement of their bells through their ringing arc. “Parked” bells are not visually interesting or aurally stimulating. Our musical art combines the visual as well as aural components.



Please observe all markings included in the scores, such as dynamics: LV, R, *cresc.*, *decresc.*, *dim.*, *ritardando*, *molto rit.*, etc. Be diligent in their execution.

Prepare for the transitions between techniques: legato ringing to stopped sounds. For example: the key to successfully placing hundreds of marts together in our ringing is the preparation that takes place before them, such as moving the bell into position (near the table) before executing the mart, mart-lift or other technique. Encourage your ringers to “anticipate and prepare” for those articulations and their execution.

An approach I have found most beneficial in my teaching, coaching and workshops is the concept of three zones in our ringing sphere:

- ringing plane
 - stopped (or switching) plane
 - transition zone
1. Think of the ringing plane as that area of the body, to borrow a term from my Forest Service days, at diameter breast height (DBH).
 2. The stopped (switching) plane is the area directly above the padded table or on the pad itself. This is the area in which bells are placed for weaving and stopped sounds are executed.

3. The transition zone is simply that: the area in which we “transition” from ringing to preparation for articulations or switching bells.
4. Remember, you don’t “ring” in the transition zone. You simply move through that zone from either “plane.”

- When stopped technique sections appear (thumb damps, malleted bells on the table, plucks, marts), most ringers tend to “rush through” those sections, increasing the speed.
- Encourage yourself and your ringers to be diligent in tempo and not be tempted to fill up the space with sound. Silence requires its own space, place and time.

- **Transitions** are always challenging. Work through them, isolating the sequence. Look for those gathering spots...sections in the music where the eyes can look up, re-group and go on.
- Be diligent and deliberate in observing and correctly executing the various rhythms and note values as they occur.
- Work to bring out melodic lines (and octaves) when chordal structure becomes thick. Not all notes require the same emphasis. We don’t want to create a wall of sound at the expense of losing the melodic thought.

Be sure to read those footnotes and fine print that appear in your scores. If five octave choirs are ringing, we’ll double the notes. Where options appear for PL, TD or mallets, I shall indicate in the individual compositions which technique is preferred.

Should you need other clarification on any points in the repertoire or my explanations for the various techniques, feel free to email me at monica@handbells.org. I’d be glad to hear from you and will do all I can to assist you and your choirs in your preparations. 🛠️

Monica S. McGowan

Board Announces Bradford Scholarships for F/C '09

It won't be long before choirs will be packing up and heading to Orono, Maine for F/C '09. It is not too early for choirs to decide whether or not to attend and begin to make plans to participate. To assist choirs who are considering attending for the first time, Area I has a scholarship program to help make that decision easier. The Bradford Scholarship provides partial support specifically for choirs who are making their first trip to this major event.

The criteria for the scholarship

define a choir as a performing group of 7 or more ringers. The choir director or group must be a member of AGEHR Area I. The fact that the director or a single member of a choir has attended a Festival/Conference will not preclude eligibility. Preference will be shown to choirs having at least 75% of the members planning on attending the '09 Festival/Conference.

Established in honor of Elizabeth Bradford, the scholarship is dedicated to furthering the musicality of our art form and the cama-

raderie engendered whenever more than 800 handbell ringers gather together.

Dorothy Shippee, whose choir was a '07 recipient says, "Wow! How to describe Festival/Conference in 25 words or less! I think being there really expanded the horizons for our group. We all attended basic level workshops—the teaching and reinforcement of basic skills was excellent. Being part of the final concert with such a large group and seeing other groups present

(continued on page 6)



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Upcoming Concerts

Saturday, November 29, 12pm & 2pm — Bells of Boston
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, MA

Saturday, November 29, 7:30pm — Ste. Anne Roman Catholic Church
292 Jefferson Avenue, Salem, MA • Tickets: TBD

Sunday, November 30, 4:00pm — Rogers Center for the Arts
Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike Street, North Andover, MA • Tickets:
\$12 in advance, \$15 at door / over 65 or under 13: \$10 advance, \$12 at door

Friday, December 5, 7:00pm — St. Jude Parish, 301 Front Street,
Lincoln, RI • Tickets: TBD

Saturday, December 6, 12pm & 2pm — Bells of Boston
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, MA

Saturday, December 13, 6:00pm — Kennebunkport Christmas Prelude
South Congregational Church, Temple Street, Kennebunkport, ME
Tickets: TBD

Sunday, December 14 — Christmas in Newport • The Breakers
44 Ochre Point Ave., Newport, RI • Time and Tickets: TBD

Friday, December 19, 7:30pm — Trinity Church of Northborough
23 Main St., Northborough, MA • Tickets: TBD

Sunday, December 21, 5:00pm — South Congregational Church UCC
45 Maple Street, Springfield, MA • Tickets: TBD

Would your organization like to present an NER concert? Contact us at newenglandrings@aol.com, or call at 978-851-3024. Host venues are currently being sought in New England for the 2009 Season.

AGEHR Area I 2009 Festival/Conference June 25-28



Come one, come all to the 2009 Area I Festival/Conference at the University of Maine at Orono! This event will feature a public performance by 900 ringers who will perform the world premier of the winning piece of the 2009 Area I Composition Contest. The committee and the University are both hard at work planning a stunning event with world-class teachers, repertoire, and a new class/rehearsal schedule allowing for more divisional rehearsal time, more class time, and new programs offered on each of the **four** festival days!

Your 2009 Festival Conductors:

- **Monica McGowan – Tins and Massed**
 - Conductor of Twin Cities Bronze
 - Conductor 2007 VT Spring Ring
 - Conductor 2008 HS Ring Out!
- **William Griffin – Bronze and Copper**
 - Former AGEHR president
 - RENOWNED composer/arranger
 - Editor, Beckenhorst Press
 - Chair, International Handbell Symposium 2008

Featuring an opening concert by *EMBELLISH...*



...at the newly redesigned
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Read your spring *Fundamental Tone* for repertoire, rates, reasons to register, and really good rationale behind our new curriculum, HANDBELL YOU! If you have any questions about this FC, or are currently aimless and drifting without a Festival/Conference task, please email or call:
Patrick Gagnon, Chair-elect: PGa1820@aol.com, 978-604-8145.

BRADFORD SCHOLARSHIPS...


(continued from page 4)

their music was definitely uplifting. And the chance to meet so many other people who share the same interests was great."

If your choir would like to have this type of experience and to

be considered for the '09 Bradford Scholarship, the application is available in this issue of *Fundamental Tone* or on the Area I website. The application process is easy, and the potential benefits for your choir immeasurable. Accept the challenge and the opportunities provided at Festival/Conference and

the support available through the Bradford Scholarship program. Apply today.

For further information visit www.agehrarea1.org, or contact Nancy Reynolds, Scholarship Chair by email at scholarship@agehrarea1.org. 

The Glove Tree

Please look for the Area I **Glove Tree** at upcoming fall events. The **Glove Tree** has black, white, & tie-dyed gloves in various sizes available. Directors can save shipping costs by purchasing gloves for their choir through the **Glove Tree**. Checks are accepted made payable to AGEHR Area I. If you have any questions about the **Glove Tree**, please contact Pam Sturdevant at store@agehrarea1.org.

American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, Area I chime loaner program



Let AGEHR introduce the beauty of Handchimes to your school through our free chime loaner program.

What you will receive:

- A one year membership to AGEHR.
- Three octaves of handchimes to use for one school year.
- Quality teaching resources
- Mentoring by local music educators familiar with handchimes.

For more information visit us online at www.agehrarea1.org

AGEHR, Area I, Inc.

The Bradford Scholarship Application

INSTRUCTIONS:

AGEHR, Area I, Inc. established the Elizabeth Bradford Endowment Fund to provide scholarship assistance to encourage choirs to attend their first Area I Festival/Conference. In non-Festival years we also grant scholarships to directors to encourage them to attend their first national educational event. We hope that attending these types of events helps ringers and directors to develop their handbell skills and helps them to become more active in the guild. Only the income from the endowment is used for scholarships, but this is enough to provide partial registration assistance for several choirs/directors each year.

Choir Scholarships for AGEHR Area I Festival/Conference are available to Area I handbell choirs who are attending their first AGEHR, Area I Festival/Conference. *Please be aware that the scholarship awarded will only pay a portion of the registration fee for Festival.*

1. A choir will be defined as a performing group of 7 or more ringers.
2. Preference will be given to those choirs having at least 75% of their members planning to attend the Festival/Conference.
3. Prior attendance by a director or a single member of a choir will not preclude eligibility for this scholarship.
4. The choir must be a member in good standing in Area I.
5. You must fill out a registration form for Festival in its entirety and pay a \$100 deposit per person prior to the Festival's early bird deadline.

Director's Name _____ Number of years directing this choir _____

Group Name _____

Address1 _____ Address2 _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

AGEHR Member Number _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Number of ringers in choir? _____ Number planning to attend the Festival/Conference? _____

Have you ever attended an Area I Festival/Conference? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you ever attended any other Area or National events? ☐ Yes ☐ No

How many of your ringers have attended Area Festival/Conference before? _____

AGEHR, Area I, Inc.—The Bradford Scholarship Application (continued)

*The scholarship will only cover part
of the registration fees for your choir.*

How are you planning on funding the rest of the cost of the attendance? _____

We would like to know a little bit about your handbell program.

How long has your handbell choir been in existence? _____

Why does your choir want to attend Festival/Conference? _____

What are your expectations for attending the conference? _____

Applications must be postmarked by February 15.

You will be notified by March 15 of our decision.

Applications for scholarship should be sent to the address indicated below. Your Festival registration should still be sent to the Festival registrar. You must fill out the entire Festival registration form prior to the Early Bird deadline for all ringers who plan on attending, indicating on the form that you are applying for a scholarship and sending in a deposit of \$100 per person instead of the entire registration fee. After you have been notified about our scholarship decision you will be expected to pay any remaining balance of your registration fees.

Awards will be distributed on a per ringer basis. For example, if you receive an award of \$100 per person and you have 10 people attending, then you will receive \$1000 off your registration fee. If any of your ringers withdraws their registration your total scholarship will be reduced by the amount for one ringer unless another ringer takes their place.

Please mail this application by February 15, 2009 to:

Nancy Reynolds, Bradford Scholarship Chair

206 Boynton Ave.

St. Johnsbury, VT 05819

For questions, please contact the scholarship chair, Nancy Reynolds, at scholarship@agehrarea1.org

Massachusetts Skill Building Workshop

Saturday, October 11, 2008

Trinity Lutheran Church, 170 Old Westford Road

Chelmsford, MA 01824

9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

\$15 per attendee

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH ARE INCLUDED!!!

This is an event for beginning ringers, and for those needing additional skill development. Time will be spent learning and refreshing skills including: Stretching and warmup, music reading, bell notation, developing a perfect ringing stroke, stopped techniques. Repertoire will include pieces to be rung at our June 2009 Festival/Conference at the University of Maine at Orono.

Name _____

Organization _____

AGEHR Membership Number _____

If you are not a member of AGEHR, please join us! Visit www.agehr.org/member/join.asp and become a member of a wonderful organization!!!

Additional Attendees

Are you able to loan your... BELLS _____ (# of octaves) _____

CHIMES _____ (# of octaves) _____

4" FOAM _____ (exact # of feet) _____

Please enclose a check made out to AGEHR, Area I, with "MASBW" in the memo line.

\$15 x number of attendees = total due

Total enclosed = \$ _____

Complete this form, copy for your records, and mail with payment to:

David Wurth, registrar, MASBW
79 Proctor Street
Salem, MA 01970

Please email or call Patrick with any questions!
Patrick Gagnon, host – PGa1820@aol.com, 978-604-8145

FESTIVAL Conference

June 25–28 2009

The University of Maine
At Orono

William Griffin, Monica McGowan, Conductors

Festival/Conference Rates

	Early (3/15/09)	Regular (4/15/09)
Single	\$349	\$373
Double	\$309	\$333
Commuter	\$219	\$243
Chaperone (non-ringing)	\$199	\$218

Happy Summer to you all! I hope you are enjoying what is, for most of us, a spell away from bells. I'm beginning to see them everywhere. I dream about them and find that handbell terminology enters into my daily conversation. I find that this is confusing for people, but then I explain that I'm in the middle of planning our next Festival/Conference, and they understand.

I have in my hand a piece! *With a Bold Voice* by Dr. Michael Mazzatenta has been published four months early by AGEHR and is available directly from the Lorenz Corporation, and will be available soon everywhere bell music is sold. I was surprised to see that it was rated at level 2 instead of level 3, but the composer and the AGEHR music editor have made some modifications from the submitted piece which affect this level change. However, thinking about all of the music that needs to be

made with my four groups between now and June 2009, I can't say that I'm sad about the drop in level! It is very exciting to see the dedication line: *"Winner of the 2009 AGEHR Area I Elizabeth Bradford Composition Competition."*

We will ring this new composition as a massed selection in the final concert. This fact brings to my mind the facts about insurance coverage at massed ringing events. All bells

that we take in loan for classroom use and repertoire readings are covered by a national AGEHR insurance policy. This means that is something goes awry in a classroom with a bell, and it can be proven that "we did it," the policy will cover the loss of ringing equipment. HOWEVER, this policy does NOT apply to sets of bells in the massed ringing arena. This is where each church, school, or individual must carry what is called

"marine" insurance on these instruments. This term refers to the fact that you will be traveling with your bells and chimes, and they will not be housed in your school, church, or home. A "Google" search on "musical instrument insurance" brings up many web resources, but the first three are:

- Clarion Associates, Inc. – www.clarionins.com

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"With a Bold Voice" Now Available from Jeffers!

The FC'09 Repertoire Committee is thrilled to announce that *With a Bold Voice* by Dr. Michael Mazzatenta is available for purchase from Jeffers Handbell Supply, or directly from the Lorenz Corporation.

With a Bold Voice is rated at AGEHR L2 and is written for 3–5 octaves of handbells with optional 3 octaves of handchimes. Order your copies now!

***With a Bold Voice* – Michael Mazzatenta – AG35283 – L2 – 3-5 8v HB, opt. 3 8v HC**

- Heritage Insurance Services – www.musicins.com
- Anderson Insurance – www.andersongroup.us/musical-instrument-insurance.html

The advice I must give you as chair of this event is GET YOUR BELLS AND CHIMES INSURED!

On a lighter note, here are some things that NO insurance policy will insure against:


- Governmental Action
- Nuclear Activity (I'm not sure if this applies to members of the same family in one choir)
- Wear and tear (sorry)
- Nesting or discharge by insect, birds, rodents or animals (see note below)
- War or warlike action (don't throw an F3 at the conductor)
- Invasion or insurrection (get along with your director)

- Seizure of power (get along with your director)
- Contraband (which will be the subject of a later article)

I feel that if we, as an area, band together against invasion from Area III, watch out for voles and moose, and are otherwise pleasant to one another at festival, we should all survive.

As your fall season beings, please think about including the repertoire for FC09 in your fall and spring performance and worship calendars. There is a diverse array of sacred and secular titles for all levels, and I am entirely confident that there is something for everyone in Area I. Most of these titles have a hyperlink to an .mp3 recording from our Area I website (www.agehrarea1.org/Festival).

We had a great site visit on June 25 which included tours of the residence halls and dining facilities! I encourage you to start planning your late June activities now so that you can be a part of this Festival/Conference. Keep your membership current so you can receive rehearsal notes in future editions of Fundamental Tone! Encourage a new choir to apply for the Elizabeth Bradford Scholarship! Adopt a bell orphan! Get insurance! Get excited about ringing with almost 1000 people under two of the best conductors in the country! Get excited about Area I's first Festival/Conference commission!

Ok, now go in and have some water. It's hot out. 

Patrick Gagnon, Chair, FC'09, Area I Chair-Elect

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the perfect music for your choir!***

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REPORT FROM MASSACHUSETTS



Hello fellow ringers! I should start by introducing myself. My name is David Wurth. I have been ringing for 5 short years at Clifton Lutheran Church, in Marblehead, and now ring with The Back Bay Carillon in Boston. I have recently been appointed to be the new Massachusetts chair of AGEHR, Area I. With this job I am here to represent the ringers in Massachusetts. Please let me know of any needs or ideas you may have. I look forward to meeting each and every one of you!

There is much excitement going on in Massachusetts these days. Just this past spring The Highlands School, a public school, in Danvers held their 4th annual Highlands Handbell Festival. The Highlands School invited Holy Trinity Junior bells, Merrimack Valley Ringers, and the Back Bay Ringers to join the Highlands Chimes. The Highlands Chimes is a group of fourth and fifth graders, under the direction of Griff Gall. They rehearse once a week, before school, on a four-octave set of chimes donated mostly by support from parents.

Also this past spring Old South Church along with the Back Bay Ringers hosted "The Boston Handbell Festival." This was a FREE concert to the public. A free will offering was collected to raise money to purchase a 2-octave set of Malmark Choirchimes to donate to a public school. There was plenty of handbell music to be enjoyed with The Back Bay Carillon, Back Bay Ringers, Back Bay Quartet, Merrimack Valley Ringers, New England Ringers, Old South Ringers, and The Shore Line Ringers.

After a "gang of Pirates," (Old South Ringers and friends) under the direction of "Captain Hook," (Peter Coulombe) performed "Pirates of the Caribbean," this year's recipient of the Choirchimes was announced. Karen Agnetta and Ann Donoghue accepted the new chimes for the A.C. Whelan Elementary School of Revere, MA. Mark your calendars for the next Boston Handbell Festival on Tuesday, May 19, 2009; it is sure to be another special evening to remember.

All of our Community groups were busy with spring concerts. There was not a weekend this spring you could not find handbell music to enjoy. They also all have full schedules for the holiday season coming up. So get out and support your fellow ringers by taking in a show or two. Bring a friend!

Coming this fall in Chelmsford, on October 11, is the Second Annual Massachusetts Skill Building Workshop. Bring your whole choir, part of your choir, or just yourself. This is a great place to learn for beginners and a good place to brush up on skills for anyone. Last year there were people of all skill levels learning from our vast group of Area I clinicians, and of course, the great lunch the folks at Trinity Lutheran Church prepared for us! For more info: www.agehrarea1.org/Pages/RingingEvents.htm.

Coming next spring is the Annual Massachusetts Spring Ring. Keep an eye out for the date and repertoire coming out soon! I would like to expand this event in 2010; please let me know what you want. ✍️

David Wurth, Massachusetts State Chair

REPORT FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE



As the new state chair, I am very pleased to be able to communicate with you through the *Fundamental Tone*. We have many active people doing great things in their churches, schools and communities, and I will love sharing this information with the rest of Area I. I encourage you to encourage others in our state to get involved. Ways

that you can be involved include joining the guild, attending handbell events, volunteering to help organize an event, or send me information about what is going on with you and your bell choir.

Upcoming Event: NH Fall Handbell Festival, November 15, 2008. For more information, contact Mary Divers at mary13150@metrocast.net. ✍️

Joan Fossum, New Hampshire State Chair



AGEHR, Area 1, Inc. High School Ring Out 2008

AGEHR, Area I, Inc. is proud to announce the 9th annual Area I, High School Ring Out. South Merrimack Christian Academy in Merrimack, NH will host the event on Saturday, November 1, 2008 from 9:30 am to 4:00 p.m. All Area-I youth ringers and choirs are encouraged to participate in this exciting and growing event. The day will include rehearsals with an exciting guest director, BYO 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 1, 2008 -- This is an SAT testing date. Junior and Senior ringers should be encouraged to contact their Guidance or College Placement offices immediately to arrange alternate test dates where possible.

Location: South Merrimack Christian Academy, Merrimack, NH -- The school is located on the campus of Merrimack Valley Baptist Church at 517 Boston Post Road off of Route 101A in Merrimack NH. It's centrally located and easy to find. Specific directions are available at www.mvbc.org. We guarantee it will be worth the trip. There are several motel options available in the area if you want to make an overnight of it.

Cost: \$15.00 per ringer covers building use fees, administrative costs and the clinician honorarium. Our clinician for Ring-Out '08 is Monica McGowan, renowned director of Twin Cities Bronze and a favorite of young ringers nationwide. All ringers, including directors and chaperons who want to ring, are asked to pay the registration fee. Non-ringing directors/chaperons attend free of charge. You must provide one adult chaperon for each 6 youth ringers.

Repertoire:

Grazioso – Sherman: Red River - HB0042, L2 (A Level-2 that is still quite challenging. This piece was used for Ring-Out several years ago so many of us have it in our libraries already.)

Plink, Plank, Plunk – Anderson/Thompson: Agape - 2367, L3 (A FUN classic that our kids will enjoy.)

Lumiere – Gramann: AGEHR - 35174, L4 (An AGEHR publication. Could be used as a "seasonal" piece in either school or church settings.)

All music must be original purchased copies. NO PHOTOCOPIES CAN BE ALLOWED. Music should be sufficiently rehearsed ahead of time so we can spend our day preparing for performance, not note learning. Our massed rehearsal time is at a premium.

Bring: Each Ringer should bring gloves and comfortable shoes. 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, foam, table covers, music stands and tables. Unfortunately, rental tables are not available for this event.

Lunch: We agreed last year that choirs / ringers would be responsible for their own snacks and beverages as well as their lunch. Snacks and lunch are not provided in the registration Choirs coming for the day may wish to have each ringer bring their own bag lunch. A list of local fast food / take-out establishments will be provided for choirs that need to send someone out to pick up lunch.

Schedule: 9:00 - Early arrival

- 9:30 - Registration;
- 10:00 - Opening bell, announcements, stretches. (All choirs set up and prepared to ring.)
- 10:15 - Rehearsal I
- 11:15 - Break / BYO snacks
- 11:30 - Rehearsal II / Director's meeting
- 12:30 - Lunch - BYO / Solo Rehearsals
- 1:15 - Rehearsal III
- 2:15 - Dress Rehearsal
- 3:00 - **Concert** - Open to the public. Invite everyone you know !!
- 4:15 - 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. We reserve the right to limit the number of solo selections. You will be assigned ten minutes during lunch to run through your piece once in the performance area. Please be prompt and courteous to other groups.

Partial Choirs: If you are planning to ring only the massed selections then it's perfectly acceptable to attend with a partial choir of any size. We know that school choirs may lose some ringers to SAT's and/or sporting events and that many inter-generational church choirs may not have a full compliment of high-school ringers. Please be encouraged to fill out your choir with chaperons or other adult ringers - especially if you want to offer a solo selection - but remember that all ringers must pay the \$15.00 registration fee. Even if you only have one or two high school aged ringers, you are encouraged to bring them so they can experience this event.

Registration: Complete both pages of the enclosed Registration Form 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:

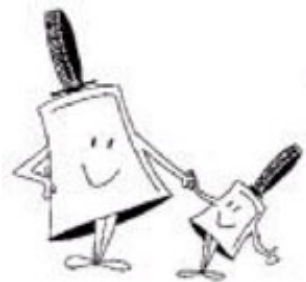
*Phil Brown, Registrar - High School Ring Out
P.O. Box 53
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819*

Deadline for registrations is **October 1, 2008**. Registrations postmarked after October 1, 2008 will be honored on a "space available" basis. Individual registrations will be accepted at the door if you add ringers after you submit your registration. If you lose ringers, you are encouraged to fill in with substitutes. If you require a refund you must let the registrar know prior to October 1, 2008. Due to budgeting and planning constraints, no refunds can be issued after the October 1 registration deadline.

Questions: For registration questions contact Phil Brown at the address above or email to stjmusic@sover.net;
Phone: 802-748-3894 (h).

For questions regarding overnight accommodations or specific facility questions contact Tomi Salzmann at tomiringem@gmail.com; Phone: 603-774-7259

We hope you will join us for Ring-Out '08!



AGEHR, Area 1, Inc. High School Ring Out 2008

REGISTRATION

Deadline: **October 1, 2008 !!**

Director: _____ AGEHR member #: _____

Evening Phone: _____ Day Phone: _____

email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____, State: _____, Zip: _____

Sponsoring Organization: _____

Choir name: _____

Floor space needed for tables: _____ feet

_____ We would like to share a "solo" selection during the afternoon concert

Title: _____, Comp/Arr: _____

Publisher: _____, Publication #: _____

Soloists/Instrumentalists/Other: _____

Registration deadline is October 1, 2008.

Groups will be assigned floor position and concert rehearsal time according to postmark on the envelope containing their completed registration form and payment in full. Any registrations postmarked after October 1, 2008 will be honored on a "space available" basis only. Registration questions should be directed to Phil Brown at the address below.

Registration confirmation letters with directions will be mailed October 15.

Please complete reverse / 2nd page

If you are bringing individual ringers rather than a full choir, please use the “Acceptable Bell Assignment(s)” column if you want your ringers to be able to play in an “orphan choir”. If there is enough interest we will try to “create” a choir for you. You will be contacted to finalize these arrangements.

	Ringer, Director or Chaperon name. Please print clearly.	R(inger), D(irector), C(haperon)	Non - ringing Adult	Acceptable Bell Assignment(s)
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

_____ Youth Ringers @ \$15.00 = _____
 _____ Adult Ringers @ \$15.00 = _____
 _____ 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); stjmusic@sover.net

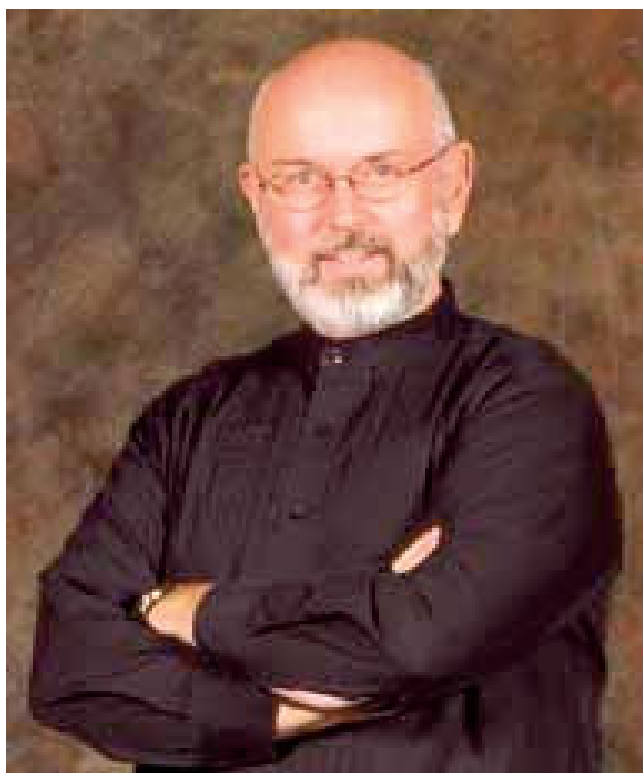
Registration Deadline: October 1, 2008

2009 AGEHR Area I Directors' Seminar

Friday and Saturday, February 6, 7 2009

4:45 Friday – 4:00 Saturday

Sheraton Framingham Hotel
[1657 Worcester Road \(Rt 9 west\)](#)
Framingham, MA 01701



Guest Clinician: Michael Joy!!!!

Michael Joy lives in Philadelphia, PA and has been directing handbell choirs in churches since 1978 and in schools since 1983. He studied handbells with Donald Allured and handbell composition with Arnold Sherman.

Michael is currently the middle school music teacher at The Shipley School in Bryn Mawr, PA where he conducts 15 different handbell groups. For the last 31 years he has also been the Music Director at First Presbyterian Church in Ambler, PA.

Michael is a published composer and has taught at Area II and III festivals, PMEA district and state conferences, Handbell Exploration and the AGEHR National Seminar. He was named Composer of the Year for 2004 by Jeffers Publishing Company for his composition Dorian Dance. Michael served two terms as the Secretary for AGEHR Area II. He is also a ringer and Composer-In-Residence for the Philadelphia Handbell Ensemble.

Come to this exciting event for your annual exposure to POEMS (Performing, Organizing, Educating, Mentoring, and Socializing)!!!

Enjoy repertoire reading sessions with 120 of your closest handbell friends!

Enjoy a masterclass with a local community handbell ensemble and Mike Joy!

Enjoy three meals at the beautiful Sheraton hotel!

Enjoy the COMPLETED construction!

Enjoy the attention of Mike Joy and Area I master teachers and clinicians on such topics as:

- Bell and chime maintenance
- Conducting
- Teaching techniques
- Marketing and branding
- Cultivating musical “habits” in your ringers
- Motivation in the youth handbell program!
- Planning planning planning!!!
- And MORE!

Registration information will be available in the fall *Fundamental Tone* and online at <http://www.agehrareal.org/DirSem>

For more information please email Griff Gall, DS09 Co-chair, at ggall@backbayringers.org



2008 AGEHR Area I Adult Ringer Weekend

Friday and Saturday, November 7–8, 2008



This is an event that will challenge you to become a better ringer, and will give you a well-deserved rest from a hectic fall season! In Area I, we ascribe to *POEMS* as our reason for being! Come and see what *POEMS* can do for you!

POEMS

(Performing, Organizing, Educating, Mentoring, and Socializing)

- Bring your spouse or significant other!
- Bring your choir (adults only)!
- Stay in luxury at the Grand Summit hotel!

- Enjoy three gourmet meals!
- Indulge in a late-night dessert and wine tasting!
- Pamper yourself and your guest with a la carte spa treatments such as:
 - Hot Oil Scalp Massage
 - Leg Soother Massage
 - Eye and Lip Contour Facial treatment
 - and **more!**

Arrive a day early or stay a day late and enjoy our *special conference rates!*

**Most of all, enjoy the ministrations of our fabulous clinician,
Ed Henderson, director of the New England Ringers!!!**



No advanced preparation is required for this event!
All music is provided as part of your registration fee!

WE NEED YOUR BELLS, FOAM, CHIMES, AND MALLETS!

This event requires a great deal of ringing equipment, so please consider loaning us your precious handbells! We are especially in need of:

FIVE-OCTAVE SETS OF BELLS AND CHIMES.

Directions to Sunday River can be found at
<http://www.sundayriver.com/summer/directions.html>
and more information about this amazing resort can be found at
<http://www.sundayriver.com>.

Room, Board, and Program Fees:

Hotel - two options! (paid directly to the hotel)
\$99 for a standard room (single or double)
\$139 for a suite (single or double)

Registration - Program Fees, Three Gourmet Meals, Music, and \$15 spa service voucher
(you may choose to pay for an upgrade)
(Checks or Money orders made payable to AGEHR Area I, Inc.; designate ARW08 in the memo)
\$171 - ringer registration (early bird, registration postmarked by 9/1/08)
\$186 - ringer regular registration (postmarked by 10/15/08)
\$121 - guest registraion (early bird, registration postmarked by 9/1/08)
\$136 - guest regular registration (postmarked by 10/15/08)

Note - this event is for AGEHR members (and guests) only!
Make sure your membership is active,

or **RENEW IT TODAY** by visiting
<http://www.agehr.org/members/becomemember.asp>.
If you are a director, your choir can attend using your member number!

Options - negotiated between participants and Sunday River Resort
Extra night - Thursday, Nov 6, or Saturday, Nov 8 - same rates for standard and suite
Extra Spa menu items - \$10—\$360

Registration form is on the following two pages and is available online at:

<http://agehrarea1.org/AW/>

You may also contact Patrick at aw@agehrarea1.org



Sunday River®

Adult Ringers Weekend Registration Form Friday and Saturday, November 7-8, 2008

To register, each ringer (with their guests) must fill out separate form:

- Early bird Registration by 09/01/08: \$171 for Ringer
- Early bird Registration by 09/01/08: \$121 for Guest
- Regular Registration by 10/15/08: \$186 for Ringer
- Regular Registration by 10/15/08: \$136 for Guest.
- Ringer - a full participant in the ARW who will participate in classes.
- Guest - a spouse or significant other who will enjoy meals and spa time, but none of the ringing program, i.e. a guest of a "ringer."

Please reserve a room at the Grand Summit at (207) 824-3500 by 10/15/08 for the special rates:

- Mention AGEHR Adult Ringers' weekend to get the rate.
- Reserve at the same time you register for the Weekend!
- Hotel room \$99
- Hotel Suite \$139

Contact Information:

AGEHR Membership Number _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Day Phone: () _____

Evening Phone: () _____

Equipment Loans: Do you have bells, chimes or foam that you could lend us?

Foam Number of feet _____ Chimes Number of Octaves _____ Bells Number of Octaves _____

_____ Special Access Needed _____ Dietary Considerations _____ Housing Needs _____

Describe: (If more room is needed use the back of this page)

Please feel free to use box at right to describe any concerns that you have about your guests stay with us.

Registration includes Dinner, Breakfast and Lunch for each ringer and each guest.

Number of Guest non-Ringers: _____

(please download guest registration form at www.agehrarea1.org/AW/Guest Registration.pdf and send with this form)

Are you planning to take the Director's exam? Yes _____ No _____ (\$25 fee for test)

Registration fee: _____ (please see fee schedule above, add in Director's exam if taking)

To Register: Please send this form with payment. Make check out to **AGEHR, Area I, Inc.** Note in memo: ARW.

Mail to:

Patrick Gagnon, Chair

ARW08

170 Old Westford Rd.

Chelmsford, MA 01824



Sunday River®

Adult Ringers Weekend Guest Registration form

We would like to have the name of your Guest(s) so that we can welcome them and know of any health concerns that would effect their stay with us. Please fill out one section for each guest you are bringing with you. Return this form with your registration form and payment. Thank you.

Your Name

Your Guest's Name

☐ **Special Access Needed**

☐ **Dietary Considerations**

☐ **Housing Needs**

Describe: (If more room is needed use the back of this page)

Please feel free to use box at right to describe any concerns that you have about your guests stay with us.

Your Name

Your Guest's Name

☐ **Special Access Needed**

☐ **Dietary Considerations**

☐ **Housing Needs**

Describe: (If more room is needed use the back of this page)

Please feel free to use box at right to describe any concerns that you have about your guests stay with us.

Your Name

Your Guest's Name

☐ **Special Access Needed**

☐ **Dietary Considerations**

☐ **Housing Needs**

Describe: (If more room is needed use the back of this page)

Please feel free to use box at right to describe any concerns that you have about your guests stay with us.

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/advertising for publication is the 18th of the month prior to publication. It is distributed from 3 Sarasota Av., Nashua, NH 03060. If you would like to place an advertisement in the *Fundamental Tone*, contact Bill Noss (<editor@agehrarea1.org> or call 603-886-1512).

Advertising rates: Full page: \$80.00 (7.25" w. x 9.625" h.); Half page: \$50.00 (7.25" w. x 4.625" h.); Quarter page: \$30.00 (3.5" w. x 4.625" h.); Eighth page: \$20.00 (3.5" w. x 2.2" h.); Business Card: \$10 (3.5" w. x 1" h.). The preferred format for ads is a .jpg file.

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome our newest members to Area I

William C. Speed
Guilford, CT

West Acton Baptist Church
Acton, MA

Jane R. Scott
Willimantic, CT

St. Brendan Church Corp.
Riverside, RI

Please let us know how we can serve you better!

Contact us at anytime at editor@agehrarea1.org.

And *please* keep your email and mailing addresses current by updating your information at AGEHR's national website: www.agehr.org.

Deadline for next issue:
OCTOBER 18, 2008

FIRST CLASS

Return Service Requested

Fundamental Tone
Newsletter of AGEHR Area I
3 Sarasota Avenue
Nashua, NH 03060