

FUNDAMENTAL TONE

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

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

Volume XXIV, No. 1

February 2010

Upcoming Events

February 5–6, 2010

Directors' Seminar
Framingham, MA

Saturday, February 13, 2010

Think Spring Mini Ring
St. Johnsbury, VT

Saturday, March 13, 2010

Think Spring Mini Ring
Essex Jct., VT

Saturday, March 20, 2010

Connecticut Spring Ring
Windsor, CT

Saturday, March 20, 2010

Massachusetts Spring Ring
Tewksbury, MA

Friday, April 30, 2010

Vermont Director's Workshop
Essex Jct., VT

Saturday, May 1, 2010

Vermont Spring Ring
Essex Jct., VT

Saturday, May 1, 2010

Rhode Island Spring Ring
Providence, RI

August 19–22, 2010

Friends & Family Handbell Camp
Camp Wightman, Griswold, CT

November 5–6, 2010

Adult Ringer Weekend
Mount Washington Hotel
Bretton Woods, NH

Notes From The Chair...

Celebrating Area I and Thinking Ahead

Arnold Sherman, Michele Sharik, Bill Mathis, Nancy Cappel and Bill Alexander are names that are very familiar in the world of handbells and these are some of the clinicians that will be sharing their talents with Area I members over the next few months. From the refined atmosphere of the **Omni Mount Washington Hotel**, to the relaxed and family-friendly environment of **Friends and Family Handbell Camp**, AGEHR Area I is committed to developing quality programs that meet the needs of our members. Our board, our state chairs and our event chairs work hard to bring respected clinicians to New England so our members can grow as musicians and ringers.

The New England handbell community has a lot to celebrate. This year one of our members, **Kimberlee Strepka**, was featured in *Overtones*, with two well-written articles on the topic of Musicality through Motion Language. Our Area I membership chair, **Jane Nolan**, lead her **Shoreline Ringers** in a performance at the venerable Carnegie Hall. Two ringers formerly from Massachusetts, **Carolyn Ernest** and **Karen Johnson**, are now the two newest ringers for the **Agape Ringers** in Chicago. Several ringers from New England will be performing with **Distinctly Bronze**. In November, more than 100 high school students participated in the **High School Ring-Out** under
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Visit the Area I web site at: www.agehrarea1.org


NOTES FROM THE CHAIR...

(continued from page 1)

the energetic direction of **Tim Waugh**. Finally, just a few weeks ago, I had the privilege of attending a concert by the **Rooke Chapel Ringers**, under the direction of **Dr. William Payn** from Bucknell University. This concert was not only musically a fantastic experience, but on a snowy, cold, January Sunday afternoon, a standing room only crowd overflowed into the church's front lobby. A standing room only crowd for a handbell concert, amazing!

Area I proudly supports a vibrant handbell community. While celebrating the successes of Area I members, I can't help but think about what's next for our organization and for our art? This Spring you can be a part of helping AGEHR Area I reflect on our next steps. This January, our board decided to host a series of local roundtable discussions. These conversations are a part of our effort to improve communication with our membership. As I mentioned in the last edition of *Fundamental Tone*, we consider our membership to go beyond just the directors whose name appears on our member-

ship list. Both directors and ringers are invited to join us for these relaxed conversations, which we hope will help us as we continue to evaluate our current programs, and plan new events that support our members. More information on these events will be posted on the Area I website by April 1, 2010. Please consider supporting AGEHR Area I by attending one of these round table discussions, and please share this *Fundamental Tone* with the ringers in your ensemble.

Thank you. 
Griff Gall, Chair, Area I

AGEHR AREA I OFFICERS

Elected Officers

Chair: **Griff Gall** (617-599-8656)
chair@agehrarea1.org
Chair-Elect: **Jean Degan** (860-543-3638)
chairelect@agehrarea1.org
Past Chair: **Sue Henderson** (978-851-3024)
pastchair@agehrarea1.org
Secretary: **Norah Piehl** (617-688-5768)
secretary@agehrarea1.org
Treasurer: **Sue Wilber** (203-288-5847)
treasurer@agehrarea1.org

National Liaisons

Education: **To Be Announced**
Special Needs: **Jeanne Polcari**
specialneeds@agehrarea1.org

Appointed Officers

Festival/Conference **Brian Wilson** (207-781-5880)
2011 Chair fcchair@agehrarea1.org
Historian/Archivist **Barbara Bussart** (401-765-8015)
historian@agehrarea1.org

Membership **Jane Nolan** (860-464-2873)
membership@agehrarea1.org
Publications **Bill Noss** (603-886-1512)
editor@agehrarea1.org
Webmaster **Linda S. Noss** (603-886-1512)
webmaster@agehrarea1.org
Bradford Scholarship **Sue Henderson** (978-851-3024)
scholarship@agehrarea1.org

State/Provincial Chairs

Atlantic Provinces (Canada) **To Be Announced**
Connecticut **Greg Fisher** (860-647-1470)
ctchair@agehrarea1.org
Maine **Brian Wilson** (207-781-5880)
mechair@agehrarea1.org
Massachusetts **David Wurth** (978-745-7387)
machair@agehrarea1.org
New Hampshire **Joan Fossum** (603-224-0866)
nhchair@agehrarea1.org
Rhode Island **Gayle Keinard, Sec., Rhode Island Handbell Advisory Board**
richair@agehrarea1.org
Vermont **Jerilyn Bergdahl** (802-425-2177)
vtchair@agehrarea1.org

Announcing... The Margaret H. Shurcliff Leadership Award

The Area I Board of Directors is proud to announce the formation of a new biennial award to be bestowed upon a deserving member of AGEHR Area I. The award is named after the person who brought handbells to popularity in the U.S., creating the New England Guild of English Handbells in 1937 and the AGEHR in 1954, Boston's own Margaret Shurcliff.



- organizing and promoting local, statewide or Area I ringing events
- mentoring new choirs and ringers
- upholding the AGEHR motto – "Uniting people through a musical art."

The designation will be awarded every two years at the Area I Festival/Conference. Candidates for this award may be a present, former, or deceased member, having made noteworthy and lasting contributions to AGEHR Area I, including:

- teaching effectively
- promoting healthy handbell ringing practices

Friends and supporters of candidates may submit their nomination to a committee selected by the Area I chairperson. The Area I Board will vote on the final recommendations of that committee.

More information will be announced in the May issue of *Fundamental Tone* newsletter. Nomination forms will be available in the August 2010 newsletter, and are due by December 31st.

Keep Your Handbells Looking and Playing Their Best!

Simichrome® Polish

Restore that "new" look to your bells with Simichrome Polish, recommended by handbell manufacturers. Apply the ammonia-based polish to the bell surface with a soft cotton cloth (our cleaning cloths are perfect for this). Spread the polish evenly with a circular motion, then wipe off. This polish oxidizes tarnish and restores the original luster to the bells.

1102	50 gram tube	\$10.55
1103	250 gram can	\$31.75
1104	1000 gram can	\$77.30



Cape Cod® Metal Polishing Cloths

Use these treated cotton cloths to polish bronze castings quickly and easily. Safe for most metals, these cloths also protect by leaving an invisible layer of anti-tarnish protection. Each packet contains two 4" x 6" moistened polishing cloths in a reclosable foil pouch. The collector's tin of six 6" x 10" cloths includes one pair of nitrite gloves.

1108	Package of 2 Cloths	\$4.50
1109	Tin of 6 Cloths w/Gloves	\$16.95



Cloths for Polishing

After each rehearsal, use these cloths to clean your bells. Inner red cloth has jeweler's rouge embedded in the cloth for cleaning. The outer buffing cloth wipes away the rouge and light tarnish.

1001	Polishing Cloth	\$3.00
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Polishing cloths may cause staining of gloves or covers. Use with caution.

Cleaning Cloths

Not pictured. Use one cloth to apply the polish to the bell casting. Remove the polish with a second cloth. A third cloth picks up any remaining residue. The lint-free interlocking knit does not unravel. Cloths may be washed and reused, but each washing reduces absorbency.

1011	4 oz. package	\$3.95
1014	16 oz. package	\$11.95

Jeffers Handbell Supply, Inc.
For All of Your Handbell and Handchime Needs,
1-800-JHS-BELL
www.HandbellWorld.com

Maybe It's Time for More than Just Polish!


Just like any musical instrument, handbells play and sound better when they are properly maintained. Part of this maintenance should include regular servicing by trained professional technicians. Call us at 1-800-JHS-BELL to find out more about our Handbell Service Department or to schedule an appointment.



Reaching the Pinnacle of our Art Form
July 18–21, 2010
Gaylord Opryland Hotel
Nashville, Tennessee

Pinnacle is an event focused on helping each attendee reach their personal best and teaching all of us about reaching the apex, the pinnacle of the art of handbell ringing. Regardless of the venue or audience, we all strive to present the best and most artistic music possible. Numerous opportunities for doing just that will be available at the Gaylord Opryland in Nashville, Tennessee. Classes, concerts, coaching sessions, networking, HIC exhibits, All-Star Choirs and much more will greet you in Music City—the perfect place for an unmatched musical experience.

Activities will begin Sunday, July 18, 2010, with morning classes, reading sessions, and auditions for the All-Star Choirs. We conclude Wednesday, July 21, with a mid-afternoon cruise on the General Jackson Showboat featuring a concert by the Raleigh Ringers.

Refer to the AGEHR National website, www.agehr.org, for complete information on the Pinnacle event along with event costs and registration requirements and deadlines. 

Bradford Scholarships now available for both DIRECTORS and RINGERS for Pinnacle 2010

DEADLINE: May 1, 2010

The Area I Board has voted to make both *Directors and Ringers Scholarships* available for this event. The Bradford Scholarships were established to honor Elizabeth Bradford by providing financial assistance to cover a portion of the cost of registration for educational events. Under the approved guidelines, the Scholarships are offered yearly; with more funds available during non-Festival/Conference years. Scholarships may be used to help directors and ringers defray a portion of the registration costs for:

- Approved National educational events such as National Seminar, National Festival, International Symposium, Pinnacle and Master Classes.
- Approved Area I educational events, such as Area I Directors' Seminar and Area I Festival/Conference.

ELIGIBILITY: To be eligible, a Director must be a member in good standing of Area I, Inc. An individual interested in becoming a director may be considered if recommended and sponsored by an Area I mentor. A Ringer may be a member in good standing of Area I, Inc., with a ringer membership or may be sponsored by their director, if they are an active member of a handbell choir. If the ringer is not an active member of a hand-


bell choir, the individual must have their own AGEHR membership. A recommendation by the individual ringers' director must accompany the scholarship application.

APPLICATION INFORMATION: For those interested in applying for a scholarship this year, the application form can be found in this *Fundamental Tone* or on the Area I website: www.agehrarea1.org/Pages/Director/RingerScholarship.htm.

The deadline for the National Pinnacle event is May 1, 2010.

Please complete the application form on the following page, and mail to the Scholarship Chair: Sue Henderson, 135 Green Meadow Drive, Tewksbury, MA 01876.

Please email Sue at <scholarship@agehrarea1.org> so that she may be on the lookout for your paperwork and can contact you if it does not arrive in a timely manner. This application cannot currently be submitted online. For additional information, please contact Sue at the email address above or call 978-851-3024.

If you've wanted to attend an event to enhance your directing and/or ringing skills, honor Elizabeth Bradford and take advantage of the assistance available to you. 

AGEHR, Area I, Inc.
***The Bradford Scholarship DIRECTOR or
RINGER Application for PINNACLE 2010***

INSTRUCTIONS for APPLICATION:

AGEHR, Area I, Inc. established the Elizabeth Bradford Endowment Fund in order to grant scholarship assistance to Directors or Ringers to encourage them to attend their first AGEHR National or Area I educational event. It is our goal to provide Directors and Ringers the opportunity to further develop their handbell directing/playing skills through attendance at such an event, and as a result, they will be encouraged 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 directors/ringers each year. All Directors or Ringers who are members of AGEHR, Area I, Inc., are eligible, except for members of the Scholarship Committee. Ringers who are not members of AGEHR must be a ringer of a member choir. Please be aware that the scholarship will only pay a portion of the registration fee for the event. *Applications must be sent to the Scholarship Committee Chair, postmarked by May 1, 2010.*

Name _____ AGEHR Member No. _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____ Email _____

We would like to know a little bit about why you wish to attend an AGEHR National event. 1) What do you hope to learn? 2) How do you plan to share that with your handbell organization? _____

Handbell Group Affiliation (group/church/etc. name) _____

No. of Years Directing/Playing Handbells _____ (*Directors Only: No. of Years Directing of Any Type* _____)

Have you ever attended an AREA I event? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you ever attended an AGEHR NATIONAL event? ☐ Yes ☐ No

We would like to know a little bit about your experience with handbells. How did you become involved with handbells? (*Directors Only: Also, how did you become a handbell director?*) _____

(*Directors Only: Educational Training for Directing of Any Type* _____)

Educational Training for Directing Handbells _____

Please mail this application, postmarked by MAY 1, 2010 FOR PINNACLE 2010, to:

Sue Henderson, Bradford Scholarship Chair
135 Green Meadow Drive, Tewksbury, MA 01876

For questions, please contact Sue Henderson at scholarship@agehrarea1.org

Can you imagine days filled with sunshine, good friends, great food, comfortable accommodations, and handbells?



AREA I has the unique answer: Friends and Family Handbell Camp!!!!

And just when you get tired of basking in the sun, lying on the beach or paddling a canoe on the beautiful lake, you can get your fill of the best handbell activities Area I had to offer:

- Massed Ringing for all
- Solo Ringing with Karen James
- Ensemble Ringing with Sue Chamberlin
- A new exciting Youth Program led by Pete Larson
- Techniques Classes covering...well, everything!
- Musicianship and Theory with Pierre Masse
- Floor Cloth painting with Bill Noss
- Scavenger Hunts, games, social gatherings, the return of 'talent' night, and other activities organized by Rachel Cerullo
- Directors' classes (assigning, conducting) with Jane, Dan and Ed
- Drumming with Kim Visbaras
- And much, much more!



All this in the friendly and relaxed setting of Camp Wightman on the shores of Billings Lake in North Stonington, CT.

This is a great opportunity to get 'warmed up' for the new ringing season, review good ringing practices and have great time doing it.

Bring Friends. Bring Family. Be a part of this exciting event. *Jane, Dan, and Ed* 🪛

RUNNING AN EVENT?

What can AGEHR Area I do for you?

Many local organizations are sponsoring educational events that support the mission of AGEHR. If your church is sponsoring a skill-building workshop, or your community choir is sponsoring a repertoire reading session, consider taking advantage of the valuable benefits of having your event endorsed by AGEHR. Benefits include:

- General Liability Coverage
- Property Coverage for Loaned or Borrowed Equipment used in Event Classrooms

- Inclusion in AGEHR Event Calendars on the AGEHR and AGEHR Area I Websites
- Access to AGEHR Membership Data to Direct Market your Event to Handbell Enthusiasts

You can download the **Endorsed Event Forms** online at Area I's website, www.agehrarea1.org.

Please contact Griff Gall with any questions regarding the benefits of having your event endorsed. 🪛



Camp Wightman, Griswold CT, August 19–22, 2010

REGISTRATION FORM

Please PRINT all information

Adult Camper responsible for this group:

Name: _____ Email: _____

Street _____ City: _____

State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____ **AGEHR Membership # _____

Organization or Individual Name on membership: _____

Please list each camper in the group and estimate his/her ringing ability: (include person listed above!)

Name	Age: (if under 18)	Ringer/ Non-Ringer:	Ringing Ability: <u>N</u> ovice, <u>I</u> ntermediate <u>A</u> dvanced OR # years	Handbell Director? Y / N
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				

Equipment I/We can loan *(stipends available)*

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

Financial Worksheet: Fill out all information on the reverse side. Registration fee is per camper and includes board and room and all activities, except as noted. Make a copy of this form for your records. Mail this form with check made out to *AGEHR Area I, Inc.*, to:

Jane Nolan, FFHC Registrar
18 Robin Hood Drive
Gales Ferry, CT 06335

(OVER)

**This is an AGEHR sponsored event. You must list the AGEHR membership number of your church, school, community choir, or an individual in your group. For membership information go to:
www.AGEHR.org



Camp Wightman, Griswold, CT August 19–22, 2010

FINANCIAL WORKSHEET

REGISTRATION DEADLINE JUNE 1, 2010

AT LEAST 50% PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY THIS REGISTRATION FORM

Name of Responsible Adult Camper (from other side): _____

Registration Fees: -

- Full Registration (all age ringers, youth - adult, includes Board and Room and all activities).....\$200.00
- Non-Ringer Registration (4 years–adult, includes Board and Room only—no instruction or other handbell-related activities)\$175.00

REFUND POLICY: Requests for refunds must be made in writing and sent to the Registrar:
Requests for refunds postmarked prior to May 1 will receive a full refund.
Requests for refunds postmarked prior to June 1 will receive a 50% refund.
No refund requests will be accepted or honored after June 1, 2010.

ALL REGISTRATION MATERIALS, PAYMENTS AND REQUESTS MUST BE SENT TO:

Jane Nolan, FFHC Registrar, 18 Robin Hood Drive, Gales Ferry, CT 06335

Checks payable to: AGEHR Area I, Inc.

Calculations:

Full Registrations: _____ x \$200.00 = \$ _____

Non-Ringers Registrations: _____ x \$175.00 = \$ _____

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES: = \$ _____

Deposit (at least 50% of the total) *included with this form:* – \$ _____

BALANCE DUE BY JUNE 1, 2010: = \$ _____

ALL Deposits subject to REFUND POLICY. Schedule, directions, health forms and other information will be sent with confirmation of deposit.

Other Information: Jane Nolan, Registrar: 860-464-2873; email: janesejazz@comcast.net
www.agehr.org (Membership information)
www.agehrareal.org (Area I information)
www.campwightman.org (Facility information)

Festival/Conference 2011

Update from the Festival/Conference Chair

What is the most important thing you need to do after you read this? You need to go to your calendar and mark the dates—June 23–26 for Festival Conference 2011 to be held at UMASS at Amherst. This promises to be one of the most exciting conferences ever, with Bill Alexander and Michael Kastner as our conductors. We have carefully studied your feedback from our previous conference and are striving to make this an outstanding



event. I am still searching for people to serve on the F/C committee. If you are interested please contact me at <fcchair@agehrarea1.org>. I am looking mainly for a local liaison (central Massachusetts) and vendor liaison. Stay tuned for details in the May issue of *Fundamental Tone*. ✍

Brian E. Wilson,
Festival Conference Chair 2011

Upcoming Concerts

**Join NER as they celebrate
their 10th Year as an Ensemble,
premiering a newly commissioned piece
by Michael Glasgow!**

Tuesday, May 18 *Boston Handbell Festival*
8:00 pm Old South Church
645 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts

Sunday, May 23 *Orange Congregational Church*
4:00 pm 205 Meeting House Lane
Orange, Connecticut



*Musical Excellence
In Handbell Ringing*
978-851-3024
www.newenglandringers.org

Would your organization like to present an NER concert? Contact us at info@newenglandringers.org, or call 978-851-3024. Host venues are currently being sought for the 2010 and 2011 seasons.

Photos from the 10th Annual High School Ring-Out

Director **Tim Waugh** led 108 high school ringers from 13 choirs from 5 states (plus 12 adult ringers and 15 non-ringing directors, chaperones) through mind-bending exercises and a challenging repertoire at November's High School Ring-Out.

The Ring-Out was held at Wachusett Regional HS, Holden, MA, where the first Ring-Out was held ten years ago, in 1999.

The 2010 High School Ring-Out will be held at Wheeler School in Providence, RI, on November 13. Donna Kinsey will serve as clinician. See more information in this *Fundamental Tone*.



Photo courtesy of Phil Brown.



Photo courtesy of Jeffrey Heath.

Bradford Scholarship Winner

It is with great pleasure that we announce the recipient of the Bradford Scholarship for the upcoming Directors' Seminar, February 5–6, 2010.

Jennifer Stearns is the handbell director at the United Baptist Church in Concord, NH and, as she explains, "I got started as a handbell director because my church had a 4-octave set of handbells that had been sitting unused for about a decade. I found this tragic, and had to start up a choir!" Jennifer also rings with the *Lakes Region Ringers* and the *Granite State Ringers*. Please welcome her to her first Directors' Seminar!

Rhode Island Spring Ring

Saturday, May 1, 2010, 9:00 am—4:00 pm, Wheeler School, Providence, RI

Bill Alexander (Duluth, MN) will be the Clinician for Massed ringing for this event. He is the director/ringer of Strikepoint, a renowned handbell choir. Registration is 8:15 am, opening bell at 8:45. The event will end with a concert at 3:00 pm, which is open to the public.

Massed Pieces featured will be:

- *Ovation of Praise* by Arnold Sherman; Hope Publishing; MHP2349
- *Fiesta con Campanillas* by Carol Lynn Mizell; AGEHR; MAG 35279
- *I Wonder As I Wander* by Michael Helman; Lorenz Corp; MLC201436L


These pieces will also be complimented by individual choir performances.

Classes offered are:

- Mallets, Marts and More
- Change Ringing
- Director's Plus
- Ringing with Attitude

The cost for Spring Ring is \$25.00 per person. Participants should have AGEHR membership or affiliation.

Scholarships are available for two first-time choirs of five members or more. The two groups who qualify for scholarships will be given a year's membership in AGEHR. For more information and scholarship application, email <danastian@msn.com>.

For Registration Form, please send email to <Piwackit@aol.com>. 

Fundamental Tone

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Area I (AGEHR Area I, Inc.).

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Bill Noss, Editor (<editor@agehrarea1.org> or call 603-886-1512.

Dates of issue are the first Monday in
February, May, August, and November.
Editorial copy and advertising is due on the
18th of the preceding month.

Advertising Rates:

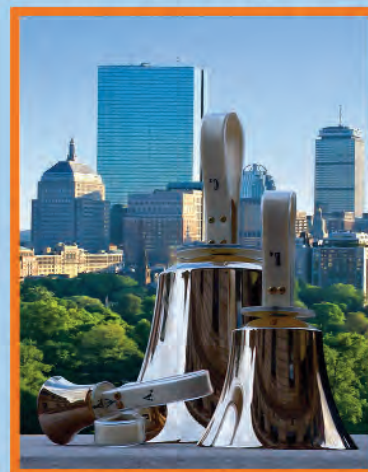
Full page: (7.25" w. x 9.625" h.) \$80.00;
Half page: (7.25" w. x 4.625" h.) \$50.00;
Quarter page: (3.5" w. x 4.625" h.) \$30.00;
Eighth page: (3.5" w. x 2.2" h.) \$20.00.

Payment is due before publication.

Discounts are available for prepayment of
two issues (–5%) and four issues (–10%).
Preferred formats for ads is a .pdf or .jpg file.

Save the date for the 4th annual BOSTON HANDBELL FESTIVAL

TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2010 AT 8:00 PM
OLD SOUTH CHURCH, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS



Event co-sponsored by:



back bay ringers
www.backbayringers.org



Old South Church
www.oldsouth.org

Report from CONNECTICUT



We are planning a **Connecticut Spring Ring** on March 20, 2010. The event will be held at Trinity United Methodist Church in Windsor, and the mass ring clinician will be

Jean Degan. The mass ring selections will be a combination of Level 1 and 2 pieces, accessible to all ringers. There are several classes planned for the day and the event will culminate in a Sharing Concert directed by Ms. Degan. We hope to get the two Connecticut community groups to attend and play a piece during the event. The event will run from 9:00 am until 3:30 pm. The registrar is Sara Enger and we hope to get over 100 ringers at the event. We have not had a Spring Ring for several years, so it will be a good chance to revive a traditional event in the state. 🪗

Greg Fisher, Connecticut State Chair

The **Shoreline Ringers** made history by playing in Carnegie Hall as part of a concert on November 30. The Christmas program was called "Christmas Time in the City" and rumor has it that SR is the first handbell ensemble to play at Carnegie Hall!

Both the Connecticut community handbell groups were busy this fall. The Shoreline Ringers and the **Hockanum Valley Ringers** community groups combined for over a dozen ringing appearances between them.

Report from MAINE



pet player Trevor Lavenbein accompany one of the Copper pieces. Harps and handbells was postponed to next year due to a date conflict with the harp ensemble.

Maine's first Repertoire Reading/Skill Building Workshop was held on November 14th at Cressey Road United Methodist Church in Gorham, Maine. Approximately 45 people attended. The event was deemed a success and will happen again this year.

Maine Spring Ring will be held on March 20, 2010, at Greely Middle School in Cumberland Center, Maine. Ed Henderson and William Buzza will be our directors. We will also have guest trum-

Community groups continue to flourish—**Casco Bay Ringers** rang three successful Christmas Concerts—and already have two Spring concerts on the calendar. **Penobscot Bay Ringers** are also ringing in several events this year.

CONTINUED GOALS

- Mentoring of choirs
- Encouraging AGEHR memberships 🪗

Brian E. Wilson, Maine State Chair

The Glove Tree

THE GLOVE TREE Will Be At Directors' Seminar!

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** at area events. 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.

Report from MASSACHUSETTS



The **Massachusetts Youth Spring Ring** will return in 2011. We have a chair, committee, and venue.

The **Massachusetts Spring Ring** will be held on March 20 at the Tewksbury High School. *Michele Sharik* and *Karen Leonard* are clinicians.

We are in need of a venue and accompanist for a *Michele Sharik* solo concert on Sunday, March 21, as the venue previously scheduled has backed out. 🗡️ *David Wurth, Massachusetts State Chair*

Report from VERMONT



RECENT EVENTS

Two **Vermont Skill Building Workshops**: Two Vermont Skill Building Workshops were held at the First Baptist Church in Burlington, VT, September 19, 2009, and at the Middlebury Congregational Church, Middlebury, VT on October 31, 2009. The events drew ringers and directors from fourteen different handbell choirs for a full day of ringing activities, directed by *Karen James*, *Phil Brown*, and *Jerilyn Bergdahl*. Participants enthusiastically endorsed the positive nature of the events and registered overwhelmingly positive evaluations for these well-attended, very successful events.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Vermont Directors Roundtable: The Directors Roundtable will be held Jan. 30, 2010, in West Lebanon, NH. *Averill Tinker* will host the event. Directors will review Spring Ring 2010 repertoire in the morning and discuss concerns and celebrations over lunch. For the first time, there will be a conducting/training session during the afternoon. If they choose to do so, directors may bring a composition they would like to conduct in front of the group. The sessions will be led by *Karen James*, *Phil Brown* and *Jerilyn Bergdahl*.

Spring Ring 2010: 'Champlain Valley Rings' and Vermont Directors' Workshop, Colchester, VT, April

30 and May 1. *Bill Mathis*, clinician. *Registration ends February 15*. Colchester High School was chosen as a brand new site for Spring Ring because the high school features a large enough gym to accommodate the expected 250–270 ringers. We have changed

the schedule for the day to include classes in mid-morning and different classes in mid-afternoon instead of classes at noontime, so that ringers and directors can attend two classes if desired. Classes include a Reading Session, Taiko Drumming, Bringing Musicality to Worship, Stopped Techniques, and Bell Trees. Committee members: *Jerilyn Bergdahl*, Chair; *Carolyn Harris*, Facilities; *David Ashley*, Directors' Workshop; *Jen Coleman*, Hospitality; *Mary Jane Wirsing*, Registrar.

Think Spring Mini-Rings: Two mini-rings will be held this year; one Feb. 13 in St. Johnsbury, VT, hosted and directed by *Phil Brown*, contact <stjmusic@sover.net> and another Mar. 13 in Essex Jct., VT, hosted by *Northern Bronze*, a community handbell choir, and directed by Northern Bronze members, contact <lizaudet@msn.com>. The mini-rings are free-of-charge, half-day events that focus on rehearsing Spring Ring 2010 repertoire in a large group and provide an excellent chance for choir members from different groups to get to know one another in a small setting. New choirs join the mini-rings each year and the enthusiasm grows as well.

May your New Year bring you many happy ringing moments! 🗡️

Jerilyn Bergdahl, Vermont State Chair

Photos from the Rooke Chapel Ringers Concert

Photo courtesy of Worcester Telegram & Gazette.



January 10—A wonderful time was heard at First Congregational Church in West Boylston, MA, with the Rooke Chapel Ringers of Bucknell University.

Under the direction of Dr. William A. Payn since 1983, the Ringers have a tradition of playing in the seniors' hometowns. Shown at bottom left is Anne Barnard, senior, of West Boylston, daughter of Whitney and Jody Barnard. She learned to ring handbells with the church's Chancel Ringers. Anne will graduate with a major in neuroscience and minor in music, and has been accepted to medical school.

Photo submitted by Anne Barnard.



Photo courtesy of Worcester Telegram & Gazette.





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**** NEW! Ring 'N' Roll Cases with WHEELS!! ****

GREATER HOUSTON HANDBELL ASSOCIATION FEBFEST COMPOSITION CONTEST



PRIZE
One award of \$1000



Submissions are due June 1, 2010
All participants will be notified by August 1, 2010 of the winning composition
**THE WINNING COMPOSITION WILL BE PERFORMED
AT FEB FEST IN HOUSTON TEXAS ON FEBRUARY 26, 2011**

FOR FULL CONTEST RULES, PLEASE EMAIL **DEBBIE BUSCH** AT
Debbie_Busch@HoustonHandbells.org

OR VISIT <http://www.houstonhandbells.org>

Announcing

AGEHR, Area I, Inc.

High School

Ring-Out

2010



FEATURING: Nationally recognized clinician/composer **Donna Kinsey**
and your high school ringers !!

WHEN: Saturday, **November 13**, 2010

WHERE: Wheeler School, Providence, RI

COST: \$20 per ringing participant

DETAILS: Repertoire, schedule and other details will be published in the August Fundamental Tone and at www.agehrarea1.org If you would like details as soon as they are available in mid-May, e-mail Phil Brown, HSRO registrar at stjmusic@sover.net and ask to be added to the HSRO e-mail list.

AGEHR Area I Board sponsors this event so we can bring in a nationally known director and offer our high school ringers an exceptional learning experience.



Donna Kinsey: serves as Pastoral Musician for St. Francis de Sales Parish in Morgantown, WV where she has directed the music ministry for 37 years. Now retired after 35 years of music education she continues to serve as an active clinician and director for AGEHR and ACDA festivals on a regional and national level. Donna was recently recognized with the 2009 West Virginia ACDA Jean Singer Award for Choral Excellence and has served on the the AGEHR, Area V Board. In addition to High School Ring-Out, Donna is directing the Western Pennsylvania Handbell Festival in April 2010.

Do your program and your youth ringers a favor and put the 2010 High School Ring-Out on their calendars now!

Register Now for the FIFTH AGEHR Area I

ADULT RINGERS WEEKEND

...providing a unique ringing opportunity for any adult ringer.

November 5-6, 2010

at "The Magnificent"

Mount Washington Hotel

Bretton Woods, New Hampshire



RINGER REGISTRATION:

Resident Rates:

\$55 - Early bird (before 9/01/10)

\$70 - Regular (after 9/01/10; deadline 10/01/10)

Separate charges apply for hotel accommodations.

Commuter Rates:

\$154 - Early bird (before 9/01/10)

\$169 - Regular (after 9/01/10; deadline 10/01/10)

*Commuter rates include **Friday dinner & Saturday lunch**.*

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:

\$277 per person double occupancy, American plan

\$370 single occupancy, American plan

Rates include tax and service charges.

Room reservations are made directly with the Hotel.

Guest Clinician:

NANCY CAPPEL

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

RATES include three gourmet meals; use of Jacuzzi, sauna, indoor pool, and sports club; and tax & service charge. Conference rates are available for additional nights (early arrival or extended stay), based on availability; rates apply to ringers and their family or guests.

Please try to find your own roommate if you are attending alone and want double occupancy.

**Advance
preparation is *not*
required**

**Music is included
in your
registration fee**



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Karen James, Registrar

Kjamesbell@aol.com

Cell Phone: 802-345-6759

Nancy Reynolds, Event Chair

davidnancy2003@yahoo.com

Phone: 802-748-4760

OR VISIT OUR WEB SITE:

www.agehrareal.org

FOR HOTEL DETAILS:

www.mtwashington.com



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

Noted for its magnificent European style masonry and woodwork, panoramic views, and gourmet dining, the hotel retains its original atmosphere of elegance. Located at the center of the Bretton Woods Resort, it is an ideal 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, MA; 220 miles from Hartford, CT; 130 miles from Rutland, VT; and 90 miles from Portland, ME.

Our Guest Clinician



Nancy Cappel

Nancy Cappel is in her 40th year as the Director of Music at St. Matthew's United Methodist

Church in Annandale, VA. She directs four vocal choirs and seven of the nine handbell choirs. Nancy received a BS in Music Education from Manchester College, and a Masters degree in Music from Ball State University, both in Indiana. The St. Matthew's handbell choirs have performed several times at the White House, at Constitution Hall, at many Washington, DC, art galleries, and on NBC, ABC, CBS, and CNN. Each year they perform on Millennium Stage at the Kennedy Center; the Carol Ringers will perform four times in December in the Kennedy Center Concert Hall as guest artists of the Choral Arts Society of Washington. The youth ringers have participated in Area I festivals and performed the opening concert in 2005 at UNH. Nancy has directed festivals locally, regionally and nationally. She is a past chairman of AGEHR Area III.

REGISTRATION FORM (Registration Begins April 1st; Final Deadline 10/1/2010)

Name: _____ AGEHR Membership #: _____

Street Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 (Use your number or the number of your sponsoring choir or director. Enter "Guest" if you are not an AGEHR member)

E-mail: _____ Telephone (day): _____

Bell Assignment Preference:

[1] _____ [2] _____ [3] _____

Telephone (eve): _____

Fax: _____

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|----|-----|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Early bird registration (before Sept. 1) Resident (hotel accommodations paid separately) | \$ | 55 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Early bird registration (before Sept. 1): Commuter (includes Friday dinner & Saturday lunch) | \$ | 154 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Regular registration (after Sept. 1): Resident (hotel accommodations paid separately) | \$ | 70 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Regular registration (after Sept. 1): Commuter (includes Friday dinner & Saturday lunch) | \$ | 169 |

Early bird registration MUST BE POSTMARKED prior to Sept. 1, 2010. Registration includes program fees and music. Room reservations are made and fees paid directly to the Mount Washington Hotel.

Make checks payable to AGEHR, Area I and mail to: Karen James, Registrar, 58 Hendee Lane, Pittsford, VT 05763-9871. (Keep a copy of this form for your records.)

This event requires a great deal of equipment. Please loan if you can!
David Wurth will contact you to confirm your loan by October 1, 2010.

I can provide: _____ octaves of bells _____ octaves of chimes _____ feet of foam & covers