

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. 4

November 2010

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 13, 2010
High School Ring Out
Providence, RI

November 13, 2010
**1st Annual New Hampshire
Fall Festival**
Laconia, NH

February 4–5, 2011
Directors Seminar
Sheraton Framingham Hotel
Framingham, MA

March 26, 2011
Maine Spring Ring
Cumberland Center, ME

April 29, 2011
Vermont Directors' Workshop
Walpole, NH

April 30, 2011
Vermont Spring Ring
Bellows Falls, VT
Monica McGowan, clinician

June 23–26, 2011
Festival/Conference 2011
University of Massachusetts
Amherst

**Pre-Register
Your Group for
Festival!**

See Page 9 for Details!

Notes From The Chair...



**Looking to the past can inspire questions
about the future...**

“Go for yourself and listen, with rapt senses, to the charming entertainment of the Royal English Bell Ringers, and you will come thoughtfully away, as if your ear had been opened to catch the rich and mellow notes of some celestial symphony.” This was part of the glowing review found in the *Meriden Daily Republican* in October of 1881 while the Royal English Bell Ringers were touring the east coast. This tour took place soon after the five men had purchased a special set of five octaves of bells from Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, Whitechapel. Almost 130 years ago this ensemble, and many others like it, were performing through out England, and began touring throughout the United States.

I wish I could go back and hear these ensembles. Imagine being able to attend a concert in 1881 at the Tremont Temple, a huge, theater-style sanctuary in downtown Boston and seeing five men perform on 131 bronze handbells. What would it have sounded like? What repertoire would you

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**IMPORTANT
FESTIVAL
REGISTRATION
INFORMATION
ON PAGE 9!**



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

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR...

(continued from page 1)

have heard? According a Boston newspaper, "The whole evening's programme was a series of delightful surprises and worthy of the incomparable artistes who presented it."

In reflecting on the articles I have had a chance to read about the early history of our art, I am intrigued by the similarities between what was happening 130 years ago and our current practices. Articles suggest that these bell bands often performed transcriptions of classical and

familiar works. This past summer I had an opportunity to attend Pinnacle event, where I heard some of the top ensembles from around the country perform. A large portion of their repertoire was classical transcriptions, performed on five octaves of handbells. This begs the question: how have our performance practices evolved, or do our practices need to evolve? AGEHR's mission states "American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, Inc., is dedicated to advancing the musical art of handbell/hand-chime ringing through education, community, and communication." What will it take to meet

the mission of "advancing the musical art of handbell/hand-chime ringing?" How can we create an excitement about our performances that would inspire reviews like those from the 1881 newspapers?

In the last issue of *Fundamental Tone* I briefly mentioned some of the performances that I had the opportunity to attend at Pinnacle. One that stands out in my mind was Sonos. There were hundreds of people there in the historic Ryman Auditorium to witness a stunning handbell ensemble perform a variety of music. Sonos played several

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)
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National Liaisons

Education: **Kimberlee Strepka**
education@agehrarea1.org
Special Needs: **Jeanne Polcari**
specialneeds@agehrarea1.org

Appointed Officers

Festival/Conference **Jean Degan** (860-543-3638)
2011 Chair *fcchair@agehrarea1.org*
Historian/Archivist **Barbara Bussart** (401-765-8015)
historian@agehrarea1.org

Membership **Jane Nolan** (860-464-2873)
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State/Provincial Chairs

Atlantic Provinces **To Be Announced**
(Canada)
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 **To Be Announced**
Vermont **Jerilyn Bergdahl** (802-425-2177)
vtchair@agehrarea1.org

transcriptions beautifully, but the piece that really took my breath away was "Smirti," an original composition written by James Meredith in memory of the events of 9/11. This chamber work for bells, chimes and cello represented a new style of writing that was a fantastic inspiration. How would a classical music critic review their performance today?



Events like Festival Conference and Directors Seminar allow us the opportunity to attend workshops on a variety of topics, but I often find that talking to other participants is just as important as some of the classes I attend. Our membership is filled with people who are creative and musical and who are propelling our instrument forward. AGEHR

"This chamber work for bells, chimes and cello represented a new style of writing that was a fantastic inspiration. How would a classical music critic review their performance today?"

Area I is here because of our membership, and because we share the joy and beauty of our wonderful instrument. For each

of us the phrase "advancing the musical art of handbell/hand-chime ringing" may conjure up many different inspirations: Ideas that stretch from handbells being accepted as a significant instrument for a house of worship, to handchimes being a standard classroom instrument in elementary and middle school general music programs, to handbells being on stage with the world's finest symphony orchestras. Whatever the future brings for our instrument, it will be the members of AGEHR who lead the charge.

The 370 members of AGEHR who are in Area I are all creating their own history for this unique instrument. Whether we talk about a church choir, community
(continued on page 3)

Ring in the Holidays!!

Ceramic Holiday Ornaments

Our ceramic snowman ornament is happy to introduce his partner in holiday cheer for 2010, Gingerbell! Choose from our festive cookie holding handbells or our joyous snowman throwing his bells in the air- both are perfect for your tree, as a gift, or as a token of appreciation. Hang with included ribbon tie (white for snowman, red for gingerbell) or use your own! Ornaments are 3" in diameter.

Ceramic Ornaments \$6.00

Ceramic Snowman Ornament: #5878, Ceramic Gingerbell Ornament: #5879



Holiday Greeting Cards



Send your holiday greetings handbell-style this year! Our attractive 5" x 7" cards are sure to bring a smile even to non-ringers' faces. All cards come in packs of 12 with matching envelopes.

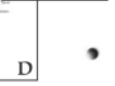
- A. Gingerbell Card:** *Wishing you sweetness and spice this holiday season!* Red Envelopes.
- B. Snowman Card:** *Wishing you every happiness at this most wonderful time of year!* Periwinkle Envelopes.
- C. Candlelight Bell Card:** *May Your Holiday Season be Melodious and Bright.* Red envelopes.
- D. Angel Card:** *May the Voices of Angels Ring like Bells Throughout Your Holiday Season.* Gold envelopes.
- E. Handbell Candy Canes:** The inside of this card is blank and ready for your message. Red Envelopes.

Holiday Cards \$4.95

Gingerbell: #5223, Snowman: #5222, Candlelight Bell: #5229, Angel Bells: #5231, Candy Canes: #5228

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NOTES FROM THE CHAIR...

(continued from page 3)

group, school or college ensemble, each director, each ringer and each ensemble adds a richness to the history of our unique art. My challenge to each member is to reflect on how you can help us celebrate our mission.

How can you help propel our musical art forward? Would you be willing to volunteer to help Area I organize an event in your area? Would you be interested in writing an article for *Fundamental Tone*? Would you be willing to serve as a mentor for a choir in your area? There are many ways to get involved,

and I encourage you to be actively involved in Area I. I also encourage you to share the *Fundamental Tone* with anyone you know who is a handbell enthusiast. If you are a director, please e-mail the link to *Fundamental Tone* to your choir so they can learn about the exciting events and learning opportunities through out Area I.



Yes, It's a Big Deal...

The

Margaret Shurcliff Leadership Award

See The Following Page

To Learn About Area I's NEW Leadership Award and
How to Nominate Your Most Memorable Person.

New England has an important historical connection to our instrument that goes well beyond the important work of Margaret Shurcliff. Now it is our turn to insure that New England's influence continues to strengthen the future of handbell ringing as a musical art. 🎵

Griff Gall, Chair, Area I



Merrimack Valley Ringers

"Handbells for any occasion"

Join this auditioned community handbell ensemble as they present their new holiday tour – a perfect way to "ring in" the Season!

Friday, December 3, 2010 – 7:30pm
Rutland, MA

Saturday, December 4, 2010 – 2:00pm
Worcester, MA

Saturday, December 4, 2010 – 7:00pm
Marlborough, MA

Sunday, December 5, 2010 – 4:30pm
East Hartford, CT

Sunday, December 12, 2010 – 7:30pm
N. Chelmsford, MA

Sunday, December 19, 2010 – 5:30pm
Sturbridge, MA

Sunday, January 2, 2011 – 7:00pm
Leominster, MA

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A WINTRY MIX

Please send me the following copies of:

A Wintry Mix

A Wintry Mix CD # _____ @ \$15 ea. = \$ _____

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The Raleigh Ringers CD # _____ @ \$15 ea. = \$ _____

Impressions of the Season CD # _____ @ \$15 ea. = \$ _____

MORE (double CD) # _____ @ \$20 ea. = \$ _____

Going to Extremes CD # _____ @ \$15 ea. = \$ _____

One Winter Evening at Meymandi DVD # _____ @ \$25 ea. = \$ _____

Box Set (original 3 CDs*) # _____ @ \$40 ea. = \$ _____

Shipping & Handling (\$2 ea CD, \$3 ea DVD, \$5 ea 3-CD set) \$ _____

Subtotal \$ _____

NC residents add 7.75% tax on subtotal above \$ _____

* Original 3 CD titles: The Raleigh Ringers, Impressions of the Season, More. **TOTAL ENCLOSED** \$ _____

Make checks payable to: The Raleigh Ringers. **Mail** your order to: The Raleigh Ringers, c/o David Harris, 8516 Sleepy Creek Dr., Raleigh, NC 27613. Or **Fax** your order to: 919-847-7574. Or order **online** at www.rr.org. To contact The Raleigh Ringers by email: rringer@rr.org

The Raleigh Ringers presents:



Introduction

An Angel Came Down (Trans-Siberian Orchestra) arr. Morris

Christmas Eve / Sarajevo 12/24 (Trans-Siberian Orchestra) arr. Morris

O Little Town of Bethlehem arr. Moklebust

Pat-a-pan arr. Gramann

Blue Christmas arr. Morris

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence arr. Moklebust

O Come All Ye Faithful / O Holy Night
(Trans-Siberian Orchestra) arr. Morris

Skating arr. Morris

Christmastime Is Here arr. Morris

Linus and Lucy arr. Morris

Greensleeves arr. Moklebust

Up on the Housetop arr. Sherman

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel arr. Raney and Sherman

Boughs of Holly (Trans-Siberian Orchestra) arr. Morris

You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch arr. Morris

Still, Still, Still arr. Moklebust

Good King Joy (Trans-Siberian Orchestra) arr. Morris

Wizards in Winter (Trans-Siberian Orchestra) arr. Morris

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Margaret H. Shurcliff
*Leadership
Award*

The Inaugural Area I
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***THE OFFICIAL
NOMINATION FORM***


is available online:
www.agehrea1.org/Shurcliff

***NOMINATIONS
MUST BE RECEIVED***

By December 31, 2010

Is there someone special

you know who tirelessly promotes handbells and AGEHR Area I? Is there a teacher or director who had the patience and took the extra time to get you and your handbell group up to speed? Just how much do they love and promote handbells? Area I wants to know them and reward them.

Please download your Nomination Form, enlist friends and fellow ringers to help complete the form, and return to Area I's secretary by the December 31 deadline. (Note: Form must be **received** by Dec. 31.) 

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS:

Received By
DECEMBER 31st, 2010

THE CRITERIA

The membership and Board of AGEHR AREA I, INC. may present this Award every two years, at the Area I Biennial Meeting, to a present, former, or deceased member, in recognition of noteworthy and lasting contributions to AGEHR Area I, including:

- ... teaching effectively*
- ... promoting healthy handbell ringing practices*
- ... 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.”*

*Join NER
this holiday season
as they continue
the celebration
of their 10th year
as an ensemble!*



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skill building workshop? Contact us at
info@newenglandringers.org,
or call 978-851-3024. Host venues
are currently being sought for the
2011 Spring and Holiday seasons.

Upcoming Concerts



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 4:30PM

First Congregational Church UCC

355 Main Street • Oxford, MA

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 4:00PM

Rogers Center for the Arts

At Merrimack College • North Andover, MA

Tickets: \$12 in advance, \$10 over 65 or under 13;

\$15 at the door, \$12 over 65 or under 13

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 7:30PM

First Church of Christ, Congregational

Music at the Meetinghouse Series

2183 Main Street • Glastonbury, CT

Suggested donation: \$10

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 4:30PM

The United Church of Christ in Devon

30 Ormond Street • Milford, CT

General Admission: \$15; Seniors \$10

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 7:30PM

HumanArts Series – Assumption College

Chapel of the Holy Spirit

500 Salisbury Street • Worcester, MA

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 4:30PM

United Church in Walpole

30 Common Street • Walpole, MA

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 7:30PM

Lyndon Institute Alumni Auditorium

63 King Drive • Lyndon Center, VT

Tickets: \$10.00 Adults; \$7.00 Students or Adults 65

and Older; Free for Children under the age of 5

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 7:00PM

First Congregational Church of Newfane

11 Church Street • Newfane, VT

Tickets: \$12.50 Adults; \$10.00 Children 12 and under

The Latest News from Festival/Conference '11



We are all very excited about Festival/Conference '11 and can't wait until you get the chance to see and sign up for the vast array of classes being offered.

Something for Everyone

We are arranging for top notch teachers to offer stimulating classes from the very basic to expanding your higher level of knowledge. For Tins or beginner choirs, you will again this year be placed in a "Tins Track" where a mentor will meet with you and your director to help you through a festival setting and answer any questions you may have to better yourselves and your group in general. The director can get some pointers on how to better the group and their own leadership techniques; individual ringers can be brought to a higher and more comfortable level of ringing.

Those ringing in the Copper division will have the opportunity

to ring in a "Coppers Festival Choir" if ringing is the main objective for you. The music might be a little harder than regular Copper music and, hopefully, will challenge you. Bronze ringers will be offered this same opportunity, also on a higher level of ringing.

Class Cards

Sign up for many classes and be sure to attend as many as possible. If you are assigned a class and decide you no longer wish to attend once you arrive at Festival, return it to the Class Board so that someone else will have the opportunity to attend. Or swap for a new Class Card and attend a different class that might have an opening.

Festival Music

Remember to order your music soon as possible if you haven't done so already. All repertoire is posted on the web site. Start plugging this music into your

season and perform it well before you arrive at Festival. This makes your massed ringing experience much easier and more enjoyable. REMEMBER—NO PHOTOCOPIES ARE ALLOWED AT FESTIVAL! Photocopies are illegal. All original music is a must. If you are presently ringing off of photocopies, transfer all your markings onto the original. Do not deprive the wonderful handbell composers the opportunity to make a living with their compositions. We need them to continue writing and must support their efforts.

Promotional Opportunities

If you or anyone you know may be interested in obtaining information for advertising in the Festival/Conference handbook or perhaps renting vendor space, information will be on the web-site soon. You may also contact Ed Henderson, vendor liaison, directly at EdH@DELTA-F.com.

Be sure to check the Area I website often for updates and new information as it becomes available. 🗑️

Jean Degan
Chair, Festival/Conference '11

REGISTRATION FEES

	Double Occupancy	Single Occupancy	Commuter	Chaperone
Early Bird (by 3/15)	\$320	\$360	\$230	\$210
Regular (by 4/15)	\$350	\$390	\$260	\$240

Registering Your Group for Festival/Conference '11



Registering your group will be similar to the previous (2009) Festival/Conference registration process. Those steps are:

1 Pre-Register Your Group

One person from each group shall register the entire group (and becomes the Group Registrar).

To pre-register send the following information by email to the Festival/Conference Co-Registrar

[<registrar@agehrarea1.org>](mailto:registrar@agehrarea1.org):

- **Name of Group Registrar**
- **Email Address**
- **Group Name**
- **Organization Name**
- **City, State**

2 Pre-Registration Packets

Pre-Registration Packet files, composed of class descriptions and other necessary registration information, will be emailed in the month of December to each person (Group Registrar) that pre-registered their group.

3 Registration Forms


Registration Form files will be emailed on January 15, 2011, to all Group Registrars. Each group member information is entered into the Form by the Group Registrar.

4 Registration Forms Returned To Festival Co-Registrars

Registration Form files are returned by email to the Co-Registrar, beginning February 1, 2011. The final page of that Registration Form is printed by the Group Registrar and mailed, with check, to Festival Co-Registrar. Early Bird Deadline is March 15. Final Deadline is April 15.

The Registration Process is easy. All that we ask is that your group's Group Registrar

have a fairly up-to-date computer and be comfortable with it!

You will be able to register your group, or yourself, without pre-registering (information and forms will be on the Area I website), but you will receive materials and be able to register your group in a more timely manner, if you pre-register. 

*Sue Henderson and Sue Wilber
Festival/Conference Co-Registrars*

Pre-Register Your Group For Festival/Conference

As we did for the previous Festival, Pre-Registration Materials and Registration Form will be sent by email to one person in your group. Choose that person and email their name and email address, group name, organization name, city and state to:

registrar@agehrarea1.org

Preparing to Register for Festival/Conference '11



The date is drawing near! Festival/Conference registration packets will be available in just a few weeks. Before rushing to submit your registration and be the earliest of early birds, it's important to take some time to consider how you will select your classes. This year, more classes are offered than ever, and without a plan you might wind up making selections that don't truly meet your needs and interests.

To get the most out of the wealth of educational offerings, we'd like to suggest that potential

F/C 2011 By the Numbers

- **9 Tracks** (three-session courses), including 2 Festival Choirs
- **7 Mini-Tracks** (two-session courses)
- **21 Repertoire Reading Sessions** in 7 categories, covering 168 titles
- **39 Classes**
- **31 Instructors** and **8 Master Teachers**

June 23–26
2011

attendees adopt a four-step approach to class selection:

STEP ONE:

Review Class Offerings

STEP TWO:

Assess Learning Objectives

STEP THREE:

Set Priorities and Strategies

STEP FOUR:

Select Your Classes

Step One: Review Class Offerings

Individually, each potential ringer-attendee, and his/her director (whether attending or not), should read all the descriptions and make note of those classes that seem interesting, challenging yet accessible, or that address a particular weakness or knowledge gap.

Following Festival/Conference 2009, we reviewed your class evaluations and comments very carefully. This year's lineup reflects your requests for additional festival choir ringing opportunities, more drumming, and techniques classes targeted at different ability levels. In addition, we reworked some class concepts for better effectiveness and focus, dropped a few classes that simply weren't successful, and added some brand new topics.

Preview of F/C 2011 Offerings*

*Offerings shown in **red** are new for 2011.

- **Tracks** in music theory, conducting, rehearsal techniques, musicality, African drumming, painted floor cloths, a Bronze festival choir, and a **Coppers-Plus festival choir**, plus a special track for all Tins choirs to work with Master Teachers on the issues of the less experienced choir/ringer.
- **Mini-Tracks** in ensemble ringing, musicality through motion language, **Taiko drumming**, teaching techniques, multi-

bell solutions, and branding & marketing your ensemble.

- **Repertoire Sessions** for general repertoire at all levels, bells in worship, seasonal repertoire, "*oldies but goodies*," and bells with voices/instruments. Repertoire sessions will be offered three times and cover two complete sets of titles.
- **Technique Classes** in high, middle & low bells, multiple bell techniques, table & off-table techniques, mallets, and small percussion instruments.
- **Additional Classes** in choosing repertoire, copyright, *strength & conditioning for bass bell ringers*, memorization, *managing performance anxiety*, solo/ensemble coaching &

master classes, handbell maintenance, handchimes, *score study for ringers*, youth choirs, *the joy of touring*, change ringing, *a taste of African drumming*, physical warm-ups, musical games & puzzles, event organization, *ringing without a conductor*, and much more!

The Tins Master Track is back!

Once again, Tins choirs will automatically be scheduled into the Tins Master Track program. The sections of this special track, each taught by a Master Teacher, are designed specifically for newer, less experienced choirs and less confident ringers, along with their directors. Multiple sections allow for smaller class size



and more personal attention to the needs of individual ringers and choirs. Using the Festival/Conference repertoire, these skill-building sessions address ringing techniques, musicality, basic form/theory, tracking drills and practice strategies, recognizing the language of the conductor, presentation, and confi-
(continued on page 12)



back bay ringers

Boston's community handbell ensemble presents...

Give the gift of Music
this holiday season!



Let it Snow!

A CELEBRATION OF THE SEASON

* Family Concert *

Saturday, December 11, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.
Wellesley Hills Congregational, 207 Washington Street, Wellesley, MA

Saturday, December 11, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.
Maple Street Church, 90 Maple Street, Danvers, MA

Sunday, December 12, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.
Trinity United Methodist, 180 Park Avenue, Windsor, CT

Sunday, January 9, 2011 at 3:00 p.m.
St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 116 South Street, Foxboro, MA

Please visit www.backbayringers.org to learn about additional performances, receive full concert details, and subscribe to our e-mail newsletter.



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at www.backbayringers.org/shopbbr.html

PREPARING FOR FESTIVAL...

(continued from page 11)

dence. The Tins Master Track is designed as a group experience and it is important that all Tins ringers attend. Participants also have the opportunity to choose additional classes to supplement their Master Track experience. Tins directors will be encouraged to set up individual appointments with the Master Teachers to discuss specific director/organizational issues.

Step Two: Assess Learning Objectives

Learning objectives will be different from ringer to ringer, and from group to group. While it might seem time-consuming, we strongly encourage directors of ringer-attendees to have individual discussions regarding the ringer's learning style, strengths, potential areas of improvement, interests, and personal objectives. Directors can help their ringers identify appropriate classes and plan an overall course of study based on these factors.

Directors who are uncertain about how best to assist their ringers in this way, or who would like some help in planning their own F/C course of study, are encouraged to be in touch with F/C 2011 Dean of Education Martha Goodman at [<mgtrek@earthlink.net>](mailto:mgtrek@earthlink.net). She will be happy to consult with you personally or put you in touch with another experienced director in your area who can provide assistance.

Step Three: Set Priorities and Strategies

Once individual and group learning objectives have been identified, class selections should be a group/choir project, informed by the needs of each registrant and of the group as a whole. We encourage each registrant to focus on classes that will be suitable to their overall objectives and energy level, that will extend and improve their individual musicianship and ringing skills, and that will allow them to bring critical information, techniques and approaches back to the other ringers in their group.

For techniques classes, which focus on experiential skill building, it's appropriate to base class selection on the individual ringer's proficiency and ability to benefit from a heavily hands-on workshop experience. Thus, for example, though it might make sense for all of a group's equally experienced, equally proficient high treble ringers to enroll in the same treble bell techniques class (though they need not enroll in the same section of the class--get out of your comfort zone! Meet some new people!), it doesn't make sense to enroll in a particular class that may be well above or below a particular ringer's abilities simply because of a desire to "take what my friends are taking." Similarly, a ringer who acquires technical skill most effectively through highly personalized, one-on-one instruction--which for obvious reasons is in limited supply at F/C--might choose to focus more



on other types of classes, and rely on her fellow ringers to share what they've learned in their techniques classes in the more comfortable environment of their own rehearsal space.

For other classes, especially those which are more analytical or study-based, groups can cover as many topics as possible, and thereby maximize their overall learning potential, by enrolling one or two choir members in a particular class. Class handouts may then be shared at a post-F/C rehearsal or gathering.

Generally speaking, it's a good idea to build a program of study with a mix of hands-on and lecture/study classes; classes taken standing and those taken sitting; something that might be a bit of a stretch; and something that's just for fun.

Step Four: Select Your Classes

Now you're ready to make your class selections. By designing their own schedule, ringers can:

- avoid potential conflicts with massed or divisional rehearsals

(continued on next page)

Happy Thanksgiving!



At Area I's previous Board meeting (September 18), while speaking of Thanksgiving activities, someone jokingly asked if anyone had any good turkey leftover recipes. Joan Fossum, New Hampshire State Chair, enthusiastically chimed in with Turkey Tetrizzini. Enjoy! Begin the Holidays.

Turkey Tetrizzini

Joan Fossum, AGEHR Area I
New Hampshire State Chair

Serves 8

Preheat oven to 350°

4 cups of 1-inch chunked leftover **turkey** — set aside.

1-16 ounce package **thin spaghetti** cooked as directed, drained and spread out in the bottom of a 9x13 greased pan.

Heat 2 tablespoons **butter** melted in the bottom of a saucepan. Add 1 small chopped **onion** and 1 cup chopped **celery**. Cook until tender. Add ½ pound sliced **mushrooms** and 1 tablespoon **lemon juice** and cook for 5 minutes. Remove to a medium bowl.


In the same saucepan melt 6 tablespoons butter; add and then stir in until smooth ½ cup **flour**, ½ teaspoon **salt**, and ½ teaspoon **paprika**.

Gradually stir in 4 cups **chicken broth** (can use 3½ cup broth and ½ cup sherry) and stir until thickened.

Add 1 cup **Half & Half**, chicken and mushroom/onion/celery mixture and cook over low heat stirring constantly just until heated through.

Spoon chicken mixture over spaghetti.

Sprinkle with ½ cup **shredded parmesan cheese**.

Bake 30 minutes until thoroughly heated and top is golden and bubbly. 



- enroll in tracks and mini-tracks while still having opportunities to attend other classes
- participate in two different repertoire reading sessions in the same category
- plan class sessions according to personal energy levels

Remember when filling in your registration form that ringers who select tracks or mini-tracks are urged to attend all sessions; tracks and mini-tracks are planned to move from topic to topic or skill to skill in a particular order.


As this article goes to press, our event registrars are still working out the details of the registration process. At the moment, we anticipate that a “full schedule” of classes for most registrants will be 4 to 5 class sessions. Most likely, you will be allowed to select a larger number of classes if you so choose, but the number of classes for which you ultimately are registered will depend, at least in part, on the total number of attendees. Remember, too, to allow room in your schedule for visiting the
(continued on page 14)

PREPARING FOR FESTIVAL...

(continued from page 13)

vendors, socializing, or simply taking a nap!

And—you're done! Remember, a little advance planning will result in an excellent F/C experience. The entire F/C Committee stands ready to provide guidance and

assistance, not only on-site, but throughout your pre-event repertoire preparation, class selection and registration process. Don't hesitate to be in touch with a committee member if we can help you in any way. 

*Martha Goodman
Dean of Education,
Festival/Conference '11*



One Additional Note

As you read the class descriptions, please note that your F/C music will be used as the foundation of many classes. Instructors may reproduce samples from the F/C repertoire for classroom use, within the limits of copyright law, but in some cases instructors may wish to use a larger portion of a piece than the law may allow. Therefore, please bring your sheet music to class when requested (as shown in the class description), unless it is being used in another class or on the ringing floor.

High School Ring Out 2010

Happening This Month!

Taking place very soon is a special annual event for Area I's ringing youth. As of the October 11 registration deadline there are 10 choirs with 81 ringers registered for High School Ring-Out on November 13 at Wheeler School in Providence! At right are the participating schools, churches, and choirs.

Thanks to all the directors who recognize this opportunity to keep handbells young at heart.

And thanks to the Area I members who put so much time and energy into making this event happen—and a special thanks to Phil Brown. Have a great time. I'll be at the New Hampshire Festival, but can't wait to see the pictures and hear all about it!

— *The Editor*

Wheeler School, *Concert Handbell Ringers*
Hancock United Church of Christ, *High School Handbell Ensemble*
Hartford Christian Academy, *HCA Handbell Choir*
West Chelmsford United Methodist Church
Celebration Ringers
Souhegan High School, *Souhegan Handbell Ensemble*
First Congregational Church, Merrimack
Alleluia Ringers
St. Luke Lutheran Church, *Concert Handbell Choir*
First Congregational Church, Holliston
First Church Bells
Lincoln School, *Lincoln Belles*
South Congregational Church, *Bells Angels* 

A Personal Invitation to Directors' Seminar

February 4-5
2011

As the weather turns cold and the holidays begin to sneak up on us, your Area I representatives have once again been planning that special weekend set aside just for directors. On February 4-5, 2011, we will be holding our annual Directors' Seminar at

the Sheraton in Framingham, MA. This will be an exciting year for Area I as we anticipate our Festival/Conference at UMass Amherst with outstanding clinicians, Michael Kastner and Bill Alexander, and a performance by Strikepoint, one of this country's most dynamic ensembles.

Our Directors' Seminar, however, provides a very different learning experience than Festival/Conference, and we hope that you will consider joining us for this weekend planned around the needs of our directors. Receiving and giving information, understanding the needs of our ringers, gathering and understanding available resources, planning, motivating, and evaluating our programs are just a few examples of the challenges unique to directors.

Directors' Seminar 2011 was planned for you with POEMS (performing, organizing, educating, mentoring and socializing) as our standard, as well as attempting to honor your suggestions from last year's evaluations. Area I is honored to have David Weck, founder and director of the Agape Ringers, as our guest clinician. Mr. Weck will lead us in a reading session of his favorite handbell pieces, as well as give workshops on handbells in worship and how to teach basic technique. In addition to conducting master classes, some of the newer topics

being taught by other Area I members will include working with youth ensembles, finding the musicality, an overview of auxiliary percussion instruments, how to introduce a new piece, and an Orff approach to Sunday School. In the second and third reading ses-

Scholarships Are Available for Directors' Seminar

Application is on
Page 18 of this
Fundamental Tone.

sions we will rediscover gems from the past with publications prior to 1985 and 1985-1995. On Saturday morning we will have the opportunity to watch Mr. Weck lead a master class with the Shoreline Ringers, under the direction of Jane Nolan.

Please consider joining us for this special weekend of ringing, learning, and connecting with other directors from around New England. We hope to see you there! 🗓️

Kimberlee F. Strepka, AGEHR Area I Education Liaison and Co-Chair, Directors' Seminar 2011



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Fundamental Tone

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Area I (AGEHR Area I, Inc.)**

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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.

Nominations for Officers

Greetings! Once every two years
the Area elects a Secretary,
Treasurer and Chair-Elect of Area
I. The coming year, 2011, marks
the upcoming election. As we
begin to consider a new slate of
officers, I encourage any of you
who are interested in serving on
the board to contact me directly
<nominating@agehrarea1.org>.
We are always looking for new
folks to participate in the gover-
nance of Area I.

Both the Secretary and Treasurer
positions require proficiency in
the use of a PC. The Secretary
must be able to use Microsoft
Word and the Treasurer must be
able to use "Quicken" account-
ing software. You must also have
internet access.

There are three board meetings
each year and attendance is
expected at these meetings,
along with status reports for the
board and general membership.

Both of these positions are
2-year commitments with the
option of running for a second
2-year term. There is a 4-year
consecutive maximum term for
each of these positions.

The Chair-Elect position is a
6-year commitment to the Area:
two years as Chair-Elect, two
years as Chair, two years as Past
Chair. This is a key position and
a serious commitment to the via-
bility of Area I moving forward.

Please consider these opportuni-
ties carefully. If you would like to
be considered, please forward
your contact information and a
short biography to me by January
1, 2011.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sue Henderson
Past Chair, Area I and Chair,
Nominating Committee
<nominating@agehrarea1.org>

The Raleigh Ringers

David M. Harris, Director

8516 Sleepy Creek Drive • Raleigh, NC 27613

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REPORT FROM VERMONT

HELLO FROM VERMONT!

Today, I visited the only bell museum currently in operation in this country, according to the owner. I hadn't planned on visiting the museum, but stumbled upon it while driving on a narrow gravel road in Shoreham, VT, after picking apples in a nearby orchard. It is a truly fascinating place, filled with thousands of bells beautifully displayed; the result



The Shoreham Bell Museum is open May (usually Mother's Day weekend) until Columbus Day weekend in October. Shoreham is two hours from White River Junction, VT (4 hours total from Boston or 3.5 hours from Hartford, CT).

of one woman's 50-year passion for collecting bells. The museum made me smile because it reminded me that those of us who ring bells really do love bells, no matter what form they take, from sleigh bells to cowbells to our beautiful handbells. Ring and know the beauty of our art form!

RECENT VERMONT EVENTS

● Skill Building Workshops

Two Skill Building Workshops have been planned for October. October 2 the workshop was held in Walpole, NH and hosted by Mary Jane Bosworth and the choir of the Congregational Church of Walpole. Fourteen

enthusiastic participants enjoyed activities presented by Karen James, clinician for the day. October 23 the workshop will be held in Tinmouth, VT and hosted by Brian Gottschalk with Phil Brown, clinician.

UPCOMING VERMONT EVENTS

- **Gathering of Bells:** Nov. 14, 2010, College St. Congregational Church, Burlington, VT. Five handbell ensembles will gather for the second year in a row to share fellowship and handbell music with fellow ringers, friends and the community. The concert features these Vermont handbell ensembles; Ring and a Prayer from South Hero, Currier Bells from Essex Jct., College St. Ringers from Burlington, Bells of Ascension from South Burlington, and Northern Bronze Community Handbell Ensemble based in Essex Jct.
- **Vermont Directors' Roundtable:** Jan. 29, 2011, West Lebanon, NH, Averill Tinker, host. The Roundtable provides directors with a chance to interact with other directors, a chance to gain inspiration, a chance to learn more about the Spring Ring repertoire in the morning and a chance to learn Area I F/C repertoire in the afternoon session. There is no charge but directors should bring a bag lunch. Other snacks and drinks will be provided throughout the day.
- **Think Spring Mini Rings:** Each year the attendance grows for these events. The two mini-rings scheduled are: February 12, 2011 in St. Johnsbury, host Phil Brown, and March 12, 2011 in Essex Jct., VT, host, Northern Bronze community handbell choir.
- Plans are well underway for the **30th Annual Vermont Spring Ring** "Ringing by the River" to be held Apr. 30th at the Bellows Falls High School, Westminster, VT. The Directors' Workshop will be held April 29th at the First Congregational Church of Walpole, Walpole, NH, just across the border from Westminster. We welcome back Monica McGowan as the clinician for this event. 🪔

Jerilyn Bergdahl, Vermont State Chair

AGEHR, Area I, Inc.

The Bradford Scholarship **DIRECTOR** *Application*

INSTRUCTIONS for DIRECTOR APPLICATION:

AGEHR, Area I, Inc. established the Elizabeth Bradford Endowment Fund in order to grant scholarship assistance each year to Directors to encourage them to attend their first AGEHR National or Area I educational event. It is our goal to provide Directors the opportunity to further develop their handbell directing 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 each time scholarships are available. All Directors who are members of AGEHR, Area I, Inc., are eligible, except for the members of the Scholarship Committee. 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 no later than 60 days prior to the early bird deadline for the event.

Director's Name _____ AGEHR Member No. _____

Address1 _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____ Email _____

Handbell Group Affiliation _____

Number of Years Directing of Any Type _____ Number of Years Directing Handbells _____

Educational Training for Directing of Any Type _____

Educational Training for Directing Handbells _____

Have you ever attended an Area I Event designed for directors? ☐ Yes ☐ No

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

We would like to know a little bit about your experience with handbells. How did you become involved with handbells? How did you become a handbell director? _____

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

Please mail this application to:

Sue Henderson, Bradford Scholarship Chair

135 Green Meadow Drive

Tewksbury, MA 01876

DEADLINE (Postmarked by)

DECEMBER 1, 2010

For 2011 Directors' Seminar