

MA Biennial Report, 2014-2015

Handbell Musicians of America, Area 1

Gail Granum, Massachusetts State Chair

Area 1 Board Meetings

Massachusetts continues to be well-represented at all Area 1 Board Meetings, held generally in January, May, and September of each year. State reports are prepared, distributed in advance, and active discussion is encouraged at each meeting.

Area 1 Website Featured Articles

Massachusetts is an active contributor to the Area 1 website in terms of featured articles, highlighting various handbell groups or individuals every month. These articles feature news of general interest and encourage communication between groups.

Fundamental Tone Contributions

Again, Massachusetts has been a regular contributor to issues of the *Fundamental Tone*, published generally in February, May, August, and November of each year. In addition to news from your State Chair, several handbell groups from around the Commonwealth have offered newsworthy items of general interest, to be published in appropriate issues of the *Fundamental Tone*. Considering this was a great way for any Guild-member handbell group to communicate across our state, I'm happy to note that items came from school-based, church-based, and community-based groups.

Guild-Sponsored or Endorsed Events

Massachusetts has hosted several Guild sponsored or endorsed events over the past two years. Among them are ...

8th and 9th annual Boston Handbell Festivals

28th and 29th annual Massachusetts Spring Rings

Numerous Skill-Building Workshops

Attendance at national webinar training sessions

Cape Cod, South Shore, South Coast

A renewed effort to identify handbell choirs in the Southwest corner of Massachusetts is underway. The purpose is to reconnect these choirs in a meaningful way and to encourage a fall workshop/ring/meet and great reconnect-with-each-other event.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Granum, MA State Chair