



Handbell Musicians
OF AMERICA | Area 1

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

Fundamental Tone

NOTES FROM AREA 1 CHAIR

Happy New Year! I'm not sure what Punxsutawney Phil has to say about how long this winter will last, but one thing's for certain in Area 1, is that Spring Rings are right around the corner!! This year, all six states in Area 1 are holding a Spring Ring in March or April, so **look for the one closest to you, and register your choir now. Spring Rings are a great** opportunity to experience what the Handbell Musicians of America is all about, namely, "to advance the musical art of handbell/handchime ringing through education, community and communication." Look for the registration links in other sections of this Fundamental Tone.

We are also excited to announce that we have confirmed the University of Hartford as the location for our **2019 Festival/Conference!** For the first time, F/C will be in Connecticut! We got a lot of feedback about how previous locations had facilities that were long distances from one another, so we wanted to find a place where that would be less of a problem. The University of Hartford is a smaller, more compact campus. The Residence Halls/Commons are right

in-between the Sports Center where the massed ringing will be and the Student Center where we will be having our classes and workshops. It will still involve some walking, but no hills! We're also pleased to announce that our clinicians will be Kevin McChesney and Cathy Moglebust - both well-known and well-respected composers and conductors who will be engaging and fun for ringers at all levels. Stay tuned as more information is developed, including repertoire and registration fees.



Carlene Ruesenberg

Since Festival/Conference is over a year away, think about attending this summer's **Friends and Family Handbell Camp**, at the Cathedral Camp and Retreat Center in East Freetown, MA. This will be an opportunity for you and your family to relax and play in a lovely setting near Long Pond in southeastern Massachusetts.

(Cont. on page 2)

Inside this issue:

Area 1 Officers / State Chairs	2	2019 Festival Conference	9
Notes from Connecticut / Snag A Sub	3	Notes from New Hampshire	10
Chime Loaner / Director Postions	4	Notes from Rhode Island	11
Notes from Maine	5	2018 Friends and Family Handbell Camp	12
Snag a Sub	6	Notes from Vermont	13
Notes from Massachusetts	7	Area 1 Scholarship Information	14
Klapper Kafe	8	About the Fundamental Tone / Raleigh Ringers	15

NOTES FROM AREA 1 CHAIR

cont. from p.1

(Cont. from P. 1)

Registration will be open in February for ringers of all skill levels, including sessions for the 'never rung'. Come join clinicians Dan Moore, Krishna Ersson and Ed Henderson on June 28 - July 1 for what will be a fun time with ringers of all ages!

The Area 1 Board recently met, and we talked a lot about what we can do to make sure your needs are met. Our State Chairs will be reaching out to you when it is time to renew your membership to make sure you're getting the most out of your membership. One of the benefits of membership is being able to attend the various events that we offer, not only for directors, but for ringers as well. Direc-

tors, please make sure you let your ringers know of the opportunities that we offer. See if they would like to sign up for a sub –membership so that they can get Overtones and the other online resources that are available exclusively to members. Encourage them to sign up for 'Snag-a-Sub' – it's a great way to help out a nearby choir who needs to cover a spot in a rehearsal, and it's a challenge to hone their sight-reading skills!

As always, if you have any comments or questions, I can be reached at chair.area1@handbellmusicians.org. I'm looking forward to seeing you at a Spring Ring near you!

Happy ringing!

Carlene



Handbell Musicians
OF AMERICA | Area 1

AREA 1 BOARD

ELECTED OFFICERS*

Chair	Carlene Ruesenberg chair.area1@handbellmusicians.org
Chair-Elect	Lisa Arnold chairelect.area1@handbellmusicians.org
Past Chair	Krishna Ersson (781-254-6636) pastchair.area1@handbellmusicians.org
Secretary	Diane Burke secretary.area1@handbellmusicians.org
Treasurer	Cheryl Harger treasurer.area1@handbellmusicians.org

APPOINTED OFFICERS

2019 Festival Chair	Krishna Ersson pastchair.area1@handbellmusicians.org
Membership	Jane Nolan (860-464-2873) membership.area1@handbellmusicians.org
Webmaster	Peter Larson webmaster.area1@handbellmusicians.org
Scholarship Committee	Jean Degan (860-543-3638) scholarship.area1@handbellmusicians.org
Historian	Susan Schutlz historian.area1@handbellmusicians.org
Chime Loaner Chair	Holly Cerullo chimeloaner.area1@handbellmusicians.org
Newsletter Editor	Donna M. Horan editor.area1@handbellmusicians.org

STATE CHAIRS*

Connecticut	Mobby Larson (860-464-7593) ct.area1@handbellmusicians.org
Maine	Sue Evans (508-982-7992) me.area1@handbellmusicians.org
Massachusetts	Gail Granum (508-595-9011) ma.area1@handbellmusicians.org
New Hampshire	Joan Fossum nh.area1@handbellmusicians.org
Rhode Island	Donna M. Horan (401-885-1474) ri.area1@handbellmusicians.org
Vermont	Pat Pranger (802-446-2066) vt.area1@handbellmusicians.org



* Area 1 Board Voting Members

NOTES FROM CONNECTICUT

Connecting with Connecticut

The excitement of the holidays is over, and the long days of winter have set upon us. BUT, it's not that long until spring!

CONNECTICUT SPRING RING is on Saturday, March 24 at the Middle School in Killingworth. This is our chance to gather locally for one day of ringing together. The event is open to all bell choirs, partial bell choirs, or individuals ("orphans"). If you register as an individual or as a partial choir, you will have the opportunity to request being placed with another group attending. Once again you will have the chance to push your boundaries, try out a massed ring, learn from workshops, share in the fun and fellowship of just hanging out with other handbell musicians. The link for registration is being emailed to all CT musicians on our contact list. If you do not receive this, please contact me ASAP!

Shoreline Ringers will once again provide some scholarship funds to bell choirs needing help to cover the cost of music. Please contact Mobby Larson at ct.area1@handbellmusicians.org if you would like to apply. Consideration will be given especially to bell choirs attending for the first time.

Rick Wood is going to be our clinician, as well as the leader of the Coppers' ringing workshop. If you didn't catch the music selections from the fall email, they are listed below. (Remember, all music must be purchased and practiced before the Spring Ring. No copies are allowed.)

Massed Ring

All Things Bright and Beautiful by Sondra Tucker (2007) (Choristers Guild CGB506) Level 2 Bells: 2 - 3 Octaves

<https://www.handbellworld.com/music/MusicPiece.cfm?Piece=12007>

A straight forward arrangement with lots of techniques for use in the springtime, particularly at Mother's Day.

Aria for Handbells by Dale Wood (1984) (AGEHR AG34005) Level 3 Bells: 3 - 4 (5) Octaves

Alternate Bells: G4 - D6 (optional)

<https://www.handbellworld.com/music/MusicPiece.cfm?Piece=1516>

This piece has been around for a long time and still remains as one of the most haunting expressions of the journey to the cross. It is based on the tune "Via Delorosa" named after the road Jesus walked to the crucifixion. It presents an opportunity for expressive ringing.

Bound for the Promised Land by Derek Hakes (2017) (Agape HP2806) Level 3 Bells: 3 - 7 Octaves Handchimes 3 Octaves (optional)

<https://www.handbellworld.com/music/MusicPiece.cfm?Piece=17101>

Loaded with techniques, optional chimes, and varied tempos, this piece is fun to ring and makes a wonderful postlude for worship.

Coppers' Track

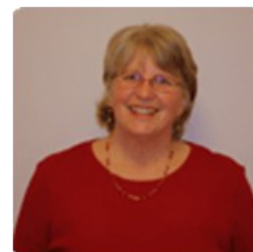
Crown of Thorns Crown of Glory by Cathy Moglebust (2010)

(Choristers Guild CGB668) Level 3 Bells: 3 - 5 Octaves Chimes: 3 - 5 Octaves (optional)

<https://www.handbellworld.com/music/MusicPiece.cfm?Piece=14007>

This piece wraps "O Sacred Head" with "Crown Him With Many Crowns" creating a beautiful composition for Lent / Holy Week / Easter. Cathy's particular talent for creating a meditative atmosphere is apparent in the first sections.

Hope to see you there! As always, please feel free to contact me with questions, suggestions, and requests!



Mobby Larson

Connecticut State Chair
ct.area1@handbellmusicians.org

SNAG A SUB

Directors and ringers, maybe missed this SnagASub notice! There's always a first time for seeing something, and we feel so strongly that this on-line "bulletin board" system-for-finding-a-sub will help to make the handbell community an even more friendly and helpful entity, that we may just keep posting this until you come on board. We need you! At this time the pool of potential subs has grown to 50 ringers and directors, but in order to serve it's purpose, (since it covers a five-state area), it needs to be bigger! Once a ringer is in, it

works exactly like an email: snagasub@googlegroups.com, then "battery ringer needed for (date, place, time, etc.)", and anyone in the group has the option to reply or ignore/delete. Please spread the word. This is not just for directors and ringers who sometimes have a need for a sub, but is also for interested/brave persons who might love an opportunity to ring *more and to get to know other ringers*. Please contact me, Cindy, at cmgconcord@gmail.com, or Gail, at glgranum1@msn.com, to be invited. (See P.6)

CHIME LOANER PROGRAM

Free Educational Tool – Did I get your attention?

Thirteen sixth graders saunter into my classroom. On my science tables are handchimes, laid out in key board order. The students look at the chimes, then at me, and then back at the chimes. They come to me with different abilities, different experiences, unique needs, but all have the same question on their mind. Why is this science teacher offering to teach a musical instrument as an elective activity? Before I explain anything, I show them how to pick up the chime, how to move it to get the sound, and then let them take one for a test drive. After a few minutes, I ask them to put the chimes down and I begin the explanation of what chimes are, how to ring and damp them properly, how the letter, number and picture on the bumper indicate the note value of each chime, and how to relate this information to sheet music. In about fifteen minutes the students begin to play a simple piece of music. At the end of the activity period, the students have learned some valuable music lessons, felt the joy of creating music, and forgotten that they are in a science room. The important thing is to engage them right away in playing an instrument and creating music from the beginning.

This same "hook" is what makes handchimes such a wonderful instrument to include in a music education classroom. Students can be easily captivated with total immersion in music. Students of all ages, abilities, and learning styles can play handchimes quickly, while learning complex music theory in a concrete manner. If handchimes can incite excitement for music within a science classroom, imagine the impact chimes can have in a music classroom.

This year, all 5 sets of handchimes and materials are out to schools; 2 in Massachusetts, 2 in New Hampshire, and 1 in Vermont. That is very exciting, but the last set was not applied for until October. I would prefer that all the applications reach me by June 30, so that I can get them prepared over the summer and delivered in September. Although, schools take precedence, applications are accepted from churches and community organizations. In the past we have loaned chimes to an intergenerational camp in ME, several churches looking to enhance their bell program, and to several after school programs.

Please spread the word to any schools with which you have a connection, churches looking to start or enhance a chime/bell program, and any community groups looking to offer a fabulous music program.

You know, 95% of the chime loaner recipients procure the funds to purchase their own set of chimes. Once people hear the chimes and see the progress of the ringers, they want their organization to have their own chimes.

Print the advertisement on the following page and give it to anyone you can think of that might find handchimes engaging. Make sure to let them know the 3 octaves of chimes and 4 fabulous teaching books are loaned free for one year and that all recipients get a free one-year membership to Handbell Musicians of America. The membership gives them a lot of great resources. Also, please make sure the people you talk with understand that the loan is for handchimes, not bells.



Best Ever Music Education Tool



Holly Cerullo, Chime Loaner Chair

Encouraging schools, churches, and other educational institutes to develop music education programs using handchimes

3-octave set of handchimes and wonderful, innovative teaching materials loaned for one school year.

For information and application:

www.area1.handbellmusicians.org

Click "Education", scroll down "Chime Loaner Program"

Questions contact Holly Cerullo at chimeloaner.area1@handbellmusicians.org

NOTES FROM MAINE



**2018
MAINE
SPRING
RING**



HANDBELL CONCERT
 Saturday, April 7 at 4:30 pm
featuring more than 125 handbell ringers from all over the state!

Auburn Middle School
 38 Falcon Drive, Auburn, Maine

Open to the public
Free will offering



Sponsored by Handbell Musicians of America, Area 1
For more information, email Sue at opsue2@verizon.net

Penobscot Bay Ringers of Maine are looking to purchase a 3 octave set of used Malmark handbells.

Interested parties can contact Amy Rollins as follows: penobscotbayringers@gmail.com.

Please continue to let me know of your particular stories so that I may share with others the energy and outreach generated by Maine handbell ringers,

Sue



Susan I. Evans
 Maine State Chair
 508-472-6756

me.area1@handbellmusicians.org

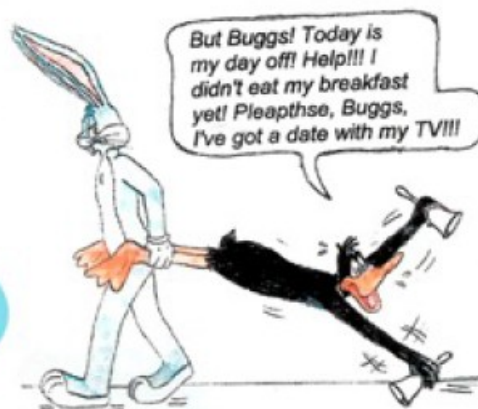
Ringers and Directors!

SnagASub



What the heck is
SnagASub?

SnagASub
is an online bulletin board
for getting subs!



A Great Name For a Great Idea! Does It Work?

Yes!

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

SnagASub needs you!

Dare yourself to ring a bit more, get to know other ringers, maybe even have some **Fun!** Simply fill out the form below, and you will be invited by email to join **SnagASub**. If you reply "**Accept**," you're in!

1. Email your request for a sub to **SnagASub@googlegroups.com**
(*"Ringer needed for church/rehearsal, date/time/etc."*)
2. Or, reply to a request (if you want):
(*"I'm in! Please send me directions! etc."*)

Email your information to Cindy McLean-Greeley, cmagconcord@gmail.com

Name: _____ Name of Choir: _____

Choir Affiliation: _____ Choir Address: _____

Personal Email: _____

Cell (Optional): _____

SnagASub

NOTES FROM MASSACHUSETTS

Happy New Year!

Another year, and we survived another busy time for handbell and church musicians - December concerts and the beautiful Advent/Christmas/Epiphany season filled with music, music, music! . As much as I love the season and the beautiful music, I do enjoy the quietude after. However, our minds are now on the months ahead and the changing focus of church music for Lent and Easter. Enjoy.

A wonderful event happens in the early spring in most states, and that is the annual Spring Ring. If you haven't attended, please consider doing so this year. It is a wonderful time to share our mutual love of handbell ringing with others. This year, the Massachusetts Spring Ring will be held on Saturday, April 7, at our familiar location of Tewksbury Memorial High School in Tewksbury MA. We look forward to working with our clinician, Jane Nolan, director of the Shoreline Ringers of Connecticut. I hope you have received a Save The Date message, and the repertoire list. If not, please save the date, and see below the repertoire list. You may ring along with as many pieces as you would like. There are two selected for Coppers, one for Tins, and one Massed piece for the closing number. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me (ma.area1@handbellmusicians.org). If you have never attended a Spring Ring, or have decided not to attend this year, would you please take the time to let me know what stops you from participating in this inspiring event. Your feedback will help us plan our future Spring Rings. We would like to make it enjoyable for all, and to have many participants. Being the "off" year from Festival Conference, we hope to fill the venue with as many handbell ringers as possible.

Don't forget to keep on the look out for handbell experiences in your area. If you hear of a concert or a workshop that you think I should know about, please let me know. And if I can assist you with your handbell program, please do not hesitate to ask. I am here for YOU!

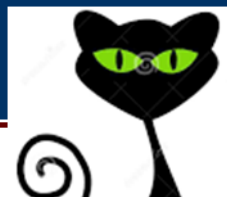
Happy Ringing,
Sue

Spring Ring Repertoire

1. *Fanfare Jubilee* Jason Krug. MRRBL5075 L2+. (Opening piece)
2. *Capriccio No. 2* by Michael Helman MCGB706. L3
3. *Aria* by Derek Hakes. MGIG6122 L2/3 (Tins)
4. Combined closing piece.
Allegro Spiritoso by Greg Underwood L3. 2-3 octaves MAG23028
Allegro Spiritoso by Greg Underwood L3 3-5 octaves MAG35261



Sue Lee
Massachusetts State Chair
ma.area1@handbellmusicians.org



THE KLAPPER KAT



“How do I teach rhythm(s) to my very new and inexperienced ringers?”

This question comes from an experienced director with a brand, spanking new handbell choir, and is one which confronts all directors at some time. The *Klapper Kat* would like to suggest several ways that directors can approach this issue. And, for the sake of these comments, we'll assume that your ringers are familiar with note and rest values, dotted rhythms, and time signatures.

1. The first thing to remember is that everyone learns and absorbs new (musical) concepts (of which rhythm may be one) in different ways. Some ringers will be able to simply decode the notation and execute it accurately with little or no practice. Other ringers may need to hear a particular rhythm over and over again while looking at the notation in order to make a successful connection. Still others will need some sort of physical movements or gestures to grasp a rhythmic concept. That physicality may involve walking, clapping, tapping, or another form of muscle movement associated with the rhythm.

It is always good to present rhythms in several modes to cover all the learning styles in your ensemble. Have a conversation with your ringers about which approach works best for them.

2. Always use rhythm as a teaching tool, not a punishment. How many times do directors hear: “Wow! That stuff is way too hard for me.”? Rhythms need to be understood *before* they are encountered in the music. Directors often need to devise drills and exercises to introduce unfamiliar rhythm patterns. This gives the ringer an opportunity to understand and experience a rhythm concept *before* having to execute it musically. Once that understanding has become a part of the ringer's musical tool kit, it can be applied successfully in a variety of situations.

3. Next, encourage your ringers to count (out loud). Teach ringers that verbally articulating beat subdivisions can help decode even the most complex rhythmic passages. As an internationally acclaimed handbell director always reminds his ringers, “If you count, you'll get it; if you don't, you won't. It's true.” This director's emphasis on counting provided the added benefit of ‘ensemble’ togetherness in addition to individual ringers' progress.

4. Finally, rhythmic challenges can be approached through rhythmic dictation. Beginning with an exercise in which the ringers are given several different short rhythmic (written) statements and asked to visually identify the one they hear can be a fun way to introduce more complex rhythm games and drills. Try clapping or tapping a rhythmic passage from their current repertoire and see if they can identify the composition it comes from. Be creative. Challenge your ringers to improve.

Happy Ringing!



Klapper Kat

All Area 1 handbell musicians and directors are invited to contribute handbell related questions or issues about techniques, repertoire selection, conducting and rehearsing, maintenance, choir management and assignments, or most anything else.

The Fundamental Tone editor and *The Klapper Kat* reserve the right to combine questions and edit submissions for content.

Address questions to *The Klapper Kat* and email them at any time to the:

Fundamental Tone Editor: editor.area1@handbellmusicians.org

2019 FESTIVAL CONFERENCE

Krishna Ersson, 2019 Festival Conference Chair, announces:

FESTIVAL / CONFERENCE 2019

June 27–30 UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD



Conductors

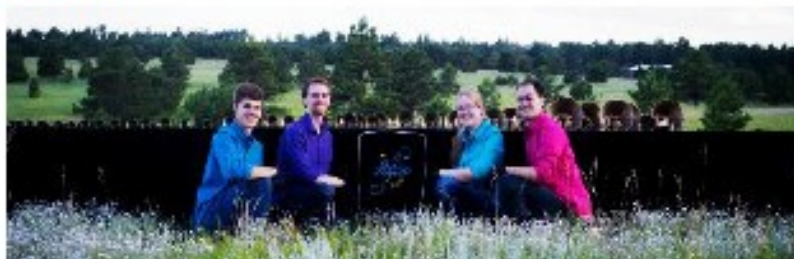
Cathy Moklebust
Coppers and Bronze Divisions

Kevin McChesney
Massed Choirs and Tins Division



I am excited to announce that the next Area 1 Festival/Conference will, for the first time, be held in Connecticut at the **University of Hartford**! We think you will love this beautiful and accessible campus. Our massed conductors are two of the most prolific and popular composers in the handbell world, **Kevin McChesney** and **Cathy Moklebust**. They are also highly sought after as clinicians at national seminars and festivals. For the opening concert, the **Forté Handbell Quartet** is going to knock your socks off with a jaw-dropping, innovative and energetic performance. Forté (facebook.com/ForteHandbellQuartet) was recently a featured performance at the 2016 Handbell Musicians of America National Seminar in Rochester, NY. Many more details will be announced this spring, including the list of repertoire, costs, and the registration timeline. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact me at events.area1@handbellmusicians.org.

Krishna Ersson
Chair, Area 1 Festival/Conference 2019



NOTES FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE

New Hampshire Spring Ring 2018

Rundlett Middle School
144 South Street, Concord, NH

Saturday, April 21, 2018
7:45 AM – 4:00 PM

Clinician
Jane Nolan



Jane Nolan is a graduate of Skidmore College with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Music Education. In addition to directing Shoreline Ringers, Jane directs Bell of Fire, a community handbell choir which rehearses in Norwich, CT and teaches piano from her home. She serves as the Handbell Musicians of America Area 1 membership chairperson. She has been a clinician and a director at a number of Area 1 events throughout New England.

Massed Choirs Repertoire

Joyance Ron Mallory L3 MAG35361 3-5 Octaves Handbells/3 Octaves Handchimes

Alleluia arr. Linda Lamb L3 MAG35177 3-Octaves Handbells/2 Octaves Handchimes

All is Well arr. Joel Raney L2 MAP2772 3-7 Handbells (Optional 3-7 Handchimes/Synth/Piano/Percussion)

Workshop Options

Morning Workshop

- (ALL) Marking Your Music-Carlene Ruesenberg
- (ALL) Getting the Music to Talk to You Before You Start to Ring-Kandia Watson/Kelly Brown
- (COPPERS+) Sight Reading Part 1-Jane Nolan

Afternoon Workshops

- (ALL) Weaving 101- Carlene Ruesenberg.
- (ALL) Improving your Bass Bell Technique-Emlee Kohler
- (COPPERS+) Sight Reading Part 2-Jane Nolan - Must have participated in the morning workshop 1c.

Solo Performances:

We invite your choir to share a “solo” selection during the final concert. Please fill out the appropriate information on the registration form if you wish to perform a solo piece. Solo performances will be limited to the first five requests. You will be assigned a short time during lunch to run through your piece once in the performance area. Please be prompt and courteous to other groups.

Register Online at

<http://area1.handbellmusicians.org/spring-rings>

If you have questions contact: **Joan Fossum, 15 North Curtisville Road,**
Concord, NH 03301 603-731-0441 jeafbell@gmail.com

Joan Fossum

NH Chair

nh.area1@handbellmusicians.org

603-731-0441

NOTES FROM RHODE ISLAND

Happy New Year!

I am very excited about the **RI Spring Handbell Extravaganza** to be held on April 28. There has not been a spring event held in RI for approximately 10 years. The venue is currently set at the Swift Community Center, but it is anticipated that a move to a *larger* venue may be necessary, so please register as soon as possible so I can make those arrangements.

***For Event Information, [click here](#) or To Register, [click here](#)**

(If these links don't work, please access them through the Area 1 website

<http://area1.handbellmusicians.org/spring-rings/> - scroll to RI –

while you're there check out the rest of the website)

ONLINE REGISTRATION* FOR APRIL 28

THE RI SPRING HANDBELL EXTRAVAGANZA

Featuring David Harris of the Raleigh Ringers, massed ringing for both experienced and less-experienced choirs, and an evening concert.

Venue: Swift Community Center*

121 Peirce Street – East Greenwich, RI

Less experienced choirs will be under the direction of Dan Moore and will include one selection plus one massed selection under the direction of Mr. Harris.

Special Guest Clinician

David M. Harris,
Music Director
The Raleigh Ringers



More information about David can be found at: <http://rrr.org/About/Music-Director>

***For Event Information, [click here](#) or To Register, [click here](#)**

Contact RI Chair Donna Horan for more details – ri.area1@handbellmusicians.org

Are you a member of Handbell Musicians of America (HMA)?

Thought about becoming a member of the HMA?

You can join as a sub-member for as little as \$10.00 per year, opening a gateway to the wider handbell world.

Contact me or for more information go to: <http://handbellmusicians.org/membership/join-the-guild/>

Area 1 2018 Friends and Family Handbell Camp

A quick shout out about the 'camp' – since I am co-organizing this event with Jane Nolan – I urge you to check out the 2018 FFHC flyer in the *Fundamental Tone*. Online registration will be available in next few days. We are planning some **fun** activities in a new location in East Freetown, MA.

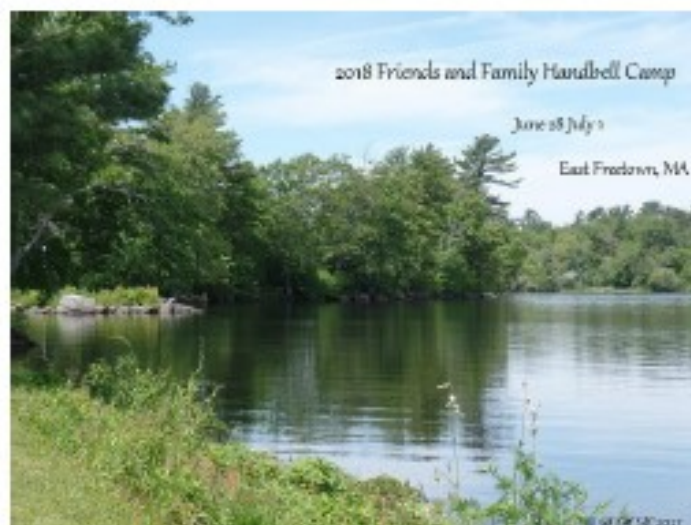


Donna M. Horan

Rhode Island State Chair

ri.area1@handbellmusicians.org

2018 FRIENDS AND FAMILY HANDBELL CAMP



June 28 – July 1, 2018

Cathedral Camp and Retreat Center

167 Middleboro Road, East Freetown, MA

Something for everyone - Ages 8 - 108

- Never rung - Beginners - Tins
- Intermediate Ringers - Coppers
- Advanced Ringers - Bronze
- Registration \$295. to April 1 \$315. after April 1
- Online registration - Mid-February 2018



Rehearsal Space / Dining Hall



Chapel

NOTES FROM VERMONT

The Vermont Handbell Association is busy making plans for their 38th Annual Spring Ring titled ***Echoes of the Taconics***. It will take place on April 21, 2018 at Mount Anthony Middle School in Bennington, VT. This will be the first time the Spring Ring has been to the extreme SW corner of VT and we are enthusiastically anticipating it. The clinician for both the day of ringing and also individual workshops will be Danny Lyons. We will hopefully find venues to host Danny for one of his magnificent solo concerts while he is in the area. After our rehearsals, workshops, lunch and abundant snacks to fuel our day....*Echoes of the Taconics* will culminate in a concert at 4 pm. The approximately 200 ringers will play 3 massed pieces: *Come Thou Fount of Ev'ry Blessing*, Moglebust; *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*, Tucker; *Echoes of Westminster*, Behnke. In addition, there is the opportunity for individual choirs and ensembles to showcase a solo piece during the concert.

The VT Handbell Association has instituted an annual scholarship to financially aide choirs who could not otherwise afford to attend Spring Ring. It has been named The Cindy Riddle Handbell Scholarship in honor of her long service to the handbell ringing community in Bennington. The scholarship will pay the registration fee for the group to attend Spring Ring and is available to a Vermont based group who has either never attended a Spring Ring or has been unable to attend for at least 5 years.

In other news, the Vermont Symphony Orchestra wowed their normally staid audience at their December Holiday Pops concerts with their musical guests the United Christian Academy Bronze Ambassadors directed by Dr Kimberlee Strepka. The Ambassadors played Cathy Moglebust's *The First Noel* and Linda McKechnie's *Ring Christmas Bells* and also joined the Symphony on several other pieces. I had a discussion with the Executive Director of the Symphony and he was blown away.....our instrument was not familiar to him and he was unaware of it's versatility. I was so proud of the wonderful way these youth represented us.

Grace Congregational United Church of Christ in Rutland, VT has welcomed a new Music Minister. He is Alastair Stout, who hails from Scotland via Pittsburgh. He is an award winning organist, has a PhD in Composition and is a Handbell fanatic.



His first move was to order the lower bells to bring the choir up to a full 5 octave instrument. He has great energy and plans for the handbell choir.

And finally a little bragging. Yours truly was finally able to attend the events and take (and pass!) the required courses and last August was awarded the Certificate of Achievement: Handbell Musician Certification, Level I by the Guild.

Until the spring, Be Happy, Ring Well and Stay Warm.



Pat Pranger
VT State Chair
vt.area1@handbellmusicians.org

AREA 1 SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Bradford Scholarship—for Choirs

Area 1 established the Elizabeth Bradford Endowment Fund to provide scholarship assistance to encourage Choirs to attend their first Area 1 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.

More information can be found on the Area 1 website:

<http://area1.handbellmusicians.org/the-bradford-scholarship-choir-application/>

Bradford Scholarship—for Directors

Area 1 established the Elizabeth Bradford Endowment Fund in order to grant scholarship assistance to Directors, during non Festival/Conference years, to encourage them to attend their first HMA National or Area 1 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 the scholarships are available.

More information can be found on the Area 1 website:

<http://area1.handbellmusicians.org/the-bradford-scholarship-directors-application/>

Scholarship—for individuals

Individuals who are a member of Handbell Musicians of America (or who are part of a group that is a member) and have a need for assistance in order to attend any Area 1 sponsored event, at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee, or assistance with purchasing repertoire music for an Area 1 sponsored event may apply for this scholarship.

More information can be found at:

<http://area1.handbellmusicians.org/files/2012/10/Financial-Assistance-Scholarship-Application-General.pdf>



ABOUT THE *FUNDAMENTAL TONE*

We NEED your input! - What do you like about the FT? What would you like to see in **your** newsletter? What challenges do you encounter as a musician that you would like to see addressed? Do we need an Area 1 calendar?

Directors and Ringers - Do you have thoughts you would like to share? Please submit articles for publication.

If you have suggestions or questions regarding this or any other aspect of the *Fundamental Tone*, please contact the editor, Donna Horan email: editor.area1@handbellmusicians.org

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