

# FUNDAMENTAL TONE

Newsletter of Area 1 • Handbell Musicians of America

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

Volume XXVI, No. 4

November 2012

## Upcoming Events

February 1-2, 2013  
**Directors' Seminar**  
University of Massachusetts  
Amherst, MA

March 16, 2013  
**Massachusetts Spring Ring**  
Tewksbury, MA

April 27, 2013  
**Connecticut Spring Ring**  
Bristol CT

April 27, 2013  
**Vermont Spring Ring**  
Lyndonville, VT

FESTIVAL/  
CONFERENCE  
2013  
**Information  
Inside!**



Area 1

Handbell Musicians  
OF AMERICA

## Notes From The Chair...



**Dear Handbell Musicians:** In August I wrote that I was just about to board a plane to England for the **International Handbell Symposium**. This was a wonderful time of education and ringing like I haven't experienced before. I hope you have all seen some of the pictures on the Area 1 Facebook page. The evening concerts were really exciting: watching a young group from Japan and the USA All Stars, and especially seeing a different way of ringing from a group from England. They ring off the table with the clapper striking on the top of the bell.



Area 1 was well-represented at the International Handbell Symposium 2012 in Liverpool, UK, July 31–August 4! From left to right: Charlene Ehrlinger, Barbara King, Krishna Ersson, Emilie Steinnagel, Jean Degan, William Degan.

I am so excited to report that the **Fall Skill Building** workshops have been a great success. Special thanks to Martha Goodman and her team for putting this all together. Also thanks to the four clinicians and their assistants for leading many ringers to a better  
*(continued on page 2)*

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Visit the Area 1 website at [www.area1.handbellmusicians.org](http://www.area1.handbellmusicians.org)  
or [www.handbellmusicians.org](http://www.handbellmusicians.org) for the National office website.

## NOTES FROM THE CHAIR...

(continued from page 1)

understanding of ringing and musicality. All who participated also have a jump start of the Festival Conference Massed Ringing pieces. There has been a strong call for more workshops like this for the spring. Be sure to keep checking the webpage for more information.

Coming soon this month are both the **High School Ring Out** and **Adult Ringers Weekend**. Whether you're in high school or an adult, I hope you will participate in one or the other on the weekend of November 10. Both are always enriching experiences.

Our new website is underway. Thanks to Peter Larson for the hours of work he has put in thus far. If you have any information you'd like posted, drop a note to Pete by way of the website: <[webmaster@agehrarea1.org](mailto:webmaster@agehrarea1.org)>.

Now I'd like to share a personal note. I have just returned from another trip overseas. This time to Germany and Italy. One of the many things that

impressed me is the use of bells no matter where you are. The tower bells announce time, events and, in the Catholic tradition, the consecration. I was in awe of the many bells that I heard inside and outside the churches I visited—from the tiny town of Heppenheim, Germany, to the Vatican in Rome. Our handbells are used in a different way but are still an important part of our lives. People hear the bells, stop and pay attention. Continue to do your best to keep the bells ringing all over New England.

Best wishes to all as we enter the holiday season. Try to attend at least one or two handbell concerts and support each other and all the hard work that we all put into our art. 🪔

*Jean Degan, Area 1 Chair*

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***If you know of a school or church that owns bells but are not using them, please let us know. We may have a plan for getting them back into service. Email [chair@agehrarea1.org](mailto:chair@agehrarea1.org)***

## Handbell Musicians of America Area 1 Officers

### Elected Officers

*Chair:* **Jean Degan** (860.543.3638)  
[chair@agehrarea1.org](mailto:chair@agehrarea1.org)

*Chair-Elect:* **Sue Wilber** (203.288.5847)  
[chairelect@agehrarea1.org](mailto:chairelect@agehrarea1.org)

*Past Chair:* **Griff Gall** (617.599.8656)  
[pastchair@agehrarea1.org](mailto:pastchair@agehrarea1.org)

*Secretary:* **Norah Piehl** (617.688.5768)  
[secretary@agehrarea1.org](mailto:secretary@agehrarea1.org)

*Treasurer:* **Sue Chamberlin** (603.942.7884)  
[treasurer@agehrarea1.org](mailto:treasurer@agehrarea1.org)

### National Liaisons

*Education:* **Kimberlee Strepka**  
[education@agehrarea1.org](mailto:education@agehrarea1.org)

### Appointed Officers

*Festival/Conference* **Bill Noss** (860.490.4188)  
[fcchair@agehrarea1.org](mailto:fcchair@agehrarea1.org)

*2013 Co-Chairs* **Dan Moore** (401.528.2100)  
[fcchair@agehrarea1.org](mailto:fcchair@agehrarea1.org)

*Membership* **Jane Nolan** (860.464.2873)  
[membership@agehrarea1.org](mailto:membership@agehrarea1.org)

*Webmaster* **Peter Larson**  
[webmaster@agehrarea1.org](mailto:webmaster@agehrarea1.org)

*Bradford Scholarship* **Griff Gall** (617.599.8656)  
[scholarship@agehrarea1.org](mailto:scholarship@agehrarea1.org)

### State/Provincial Chairs

*Connecticut* **Mobby Larson** (860.464.7593)  
[ctchair@agehrarea1.org](mailto:ctchair@agehrarea1.org)

*Maine* **Sue Evans** (508.982.7992)  
[mechair@agehrarea1.org](mailto:mechair@agehrarea1.org)

*Massachusetts* **Gail Granum** (508.595.9011)  
[machair@agehrarea1.org](mailto:machair@agehrarea1.org)

*New Hampshire* **Joan Fossum** (603.224.0866)  
[nhchair@agehrarea1.org](mailto:nhchair@agehrarea1.org)

*Rhode Island* **Martha Goodman** (508.928.2078)  
[richair@agehrarea1.org](mailto:richair@agehrarea1.org)

*Vermont* **Pat Pranger** (802.446.2066)  
[vtchair@agehrarea1.org](mailto:vtchair@agehrarea1.org)

# Fall Skill-Building Workshops

Six Sessions Completed in October / More Planned for Spring



Above are pictures from two of our six Fall Skill-Building Workshops held in October. At left is the workshop in Bristol, Connecticut, Rick Wood (on left), directing, Krishna Ersson assisting. The picture at right is from the Gales Ferry, Connecticut workshop, Rick Wood, director, with Diane Burke (shown) assisting. Workshops were also held in Reading, MA, Concord, NH, Berkley, MA, and Southbridge, MA. *Photos courtesy of Kimberlee Strepka, Jane Nolan.*

## Upcoming Concerts



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[www.newenglandringers.org](http://www.newenglandringers.org)

**Sunday, Nov. 18** *First United Methodist Church*  
4:00 pm Greenfield, Massachusetts

**Saturday, Nov. 25** *Rogers Center for the Arts*  
4:00 pm *At Merrimack College*  
North Andover, Massachusetts

**Saturday, Dec. 1** *Franklin Federated Church*  
7:30 pm Franklin, Massachusetts

**Sunday, Dec. 2** *Grace Lutheran Church*  
4:30 pm Stratford, Connecticut

**Saturday, Dec. 8** *First Church of Christ, Congregational*  
7:30 pm Glastonbury, Connecticut

**Sunday, Dec. 9** *First Congregational Church*  
3:00 pm Wallingford, Connecticut

Would your organization like to present an NER concert or host an NER-led Skill Building Workshop?  
Contact us at [info@newenglandringers.org](mailto:info@newenglandringers.org) or call 978-851-3024.  
Host venues are currently being sought for the 2013 Spring season and beyond.



# Directors' Seminar 2013

Plan Now to Join Us February 1-2


**Please join us** February 1-2, 2013, for our Area 1 Directors' Seminar at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. This year our clinician is



composer and director **Michael Helman**. Michael, who holds a B.A. degree in organ performance, has more than 125 handbell, organ, and choral pieces in print and has also won several national awards for his compositions. He is the

Director of Music at Faith Presbyterian Church in Cape Coral, Florida, and is the Handbell Editor for The Lorenz Corporation.


New workshop topics this year include *Working with Youth Ensembles*, *Oh! The Drama!*, and *Becoming a Better Teacher*. Licensed massage therapist Chris Gonsorcik will teach *Body Awareness & Self-Care for Handbell Musicians and Their Directors*, and Michael Helman will teach a two-class mini-track on *Arranging for Handbells*. Also new this year will be a mini-concert during Saturday's lunch by handbell soloist Meredith Gaines. Meredith is a founding member of the Houston Chamber Ringers, a professional ensemble under the direction of Sondra K. Tucker.

We hope you'll join us for what will be a spectacular event. Registration will open November 1. Go to the Area 1 website to register or go to <http://tinyurl.com/Area1DS2013> 

*Martha Goodman & Kimberlee Strepka, Co-Chairs*



## NOMINATIONS Are Now Being Accepted For Area 1's *Margaret H. Shurcliff Leadership Award*

The Board of Area 1 will present the Shurcliff Leadership Award at the 2013 Festival/Conference at the University of New Hampshire. We need nominees. You may download a Nomination Form at Area 1's website: [www.agehrarea1.org/Shurcliff/](http://www.agehrarea1.org/Shurcliff/). Please download your Nomination Form, enlist friends and fellow ringers to help complete the form, and return to Area 1's secretary by the December 31 deadline. (Form must be **received** by Dec. 31.) 

The *Shurcliff Leadership Award* is modeled after the national Handbell Musicians of America Honorary *Life Membership Award*, awarded to those persons who: **...have made noteworthy and lasting contributions to Area 1, including:**

- ... teaching effectively*
- ... promoting healthy handbell ringing practices*
- ... organizing and promoting local, statewide or Area 1 ringing events*
- ... mentoring new choirs and ringers*
- ... upholding the The Guild motto – "Uniting people through a musical art."*

# Tribute to Area 1 Musician/Composer Robert Groth

## GROTH, Robert George


Robert George Groth, 90, of Deep River, husband of 60 years to the late Barbara (Burdick) Groth, left this world to be with our heavenly father on October 6, 2012, and will be missed greatly by his children and grandchildren. Robert was the son of the late Arthur F. Groth and Mary (Chuba) Groth. Born in New Britain on June 3, 1922, Bob attended New Britain High School and graduated from the Teachers College of Connecticut (now Central Connecticut State University) in 1943. He became a Naval Aviator and served as a flight instructor, conducting basic flight training using the popular SNJ-5 trainer aircraft. After his marriage to Barbara in 1945 and the end of WWII they settled in Deep River, CT and he began to teach Industrial Arts at Deep River High School. Bob was remembered fondly for directing all of the school choral performances at the Deep River Town Hall. During this time, inspired by his early study of military drum technique, he organized the Deep River Junior Fife and Drum Corps. When Valley Regional High School was completed in 1951, Bob developed the Industrial Arts Department and remained its Chairman until his retirement in 1981. Many remember his contributions as YMCA Day Camp Director and swim instructor, school bus driver, drivers' education teacher and timekeeper at basketball games. Bob composed the "Alma Mater" for Valley High. Bob's family fondly remembers their many summer camping trips, including a 10-week trip across the country in 1964. In



1971 Bob founded the Chancel Handbell Choir, at Deep River Congregational Church and remained its director for 35 years.

**Seeing the need for a practical system for small groups, he created the "Porta Bell" system for four bell ringers and a publishing company to accommodate his arrangements.**

He was honored to be a member of the Rotary Club as an independent publisher/arranger and was elected a "Paul Harris Fellow" in 1990. At Deep River Congregational Church Bob was a Deacon and regularly active in the life of the Church, especially the senior and junior choirs. In his retirement Bob gave charitably of his time by using self-taught skills on piano and organ to conduct sing-alongs at convalescent homes and also volunteered with Meals on Wheels. On Jan. 19, 2005 Bob was honored by the Deep River Historical Society with "Bob Groth Day." In addition to his parents and his beloved wife Barbara,

Bob is predeceased by his sister Shirley Stannard and brothers Art and Ken. He is survived by his daughter Susan Miron of Deep River; sons Robert, Jr. and wife Sue of Pine Bush, NY, William of East Lyme, and Thomas and wife Deborah of Clinton; He also leaves four grandchildren; Linnea Miron, Chelsea Combs, Tim, and Jeremy Groth; and four great grandchildren. The family would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to Peregrine's Landing in Clinton, and those at Vitas Hospice for the love and expert attention they provided Bob in the last two years of his life. Family and friends gathered for a memorial service at the Deep River Congregational Church, Church Street, Deep River, on Friday, Oct. 19, 2012. In lieu of flowers, donations will be accepted by the Deep River Congregational Church, PO Box 246, Deep River, CT 06417. For online tributes and condolences, please visit [www.swanfh.com](http://www.swanfh.com).  *Published in The Hartford Courant on October 10, 2012*

*Editor's Note: Robert Groth Publications is now a division of Jeffers Handbell Supply. <http://www.robertgrothpublications.com>*



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# Festival / Conference 2013

University of New Hampshire and *The Raleigh Ringers*



## FESTIVAL/ CONFERENCE 2013 June 27-30

UNIVERSITY  
of NEW HAMPSHIRE

### In This Issue:

- **NEW!** Bronze "Orphan" Ensemble
- Bradford Scholarships
- Registration
- Submitting Video for Bronze Division

Plans continue to be finalized for Festival/Conference 2013. We are very excited about the fun we'll be having next June. In this issue of *Fundamental Tone*, we will apprise you of all the latest information and remind you of some earlier announcements you need to know. ✍ *Bill Noss and Dan Moore, Festival/Conference 2013 Co-Chairs*

## The Bronze "Orphan" Ensemble

**Are you looking for a** greater challenge than your current ringing situation can offer you? If so, Area 1's Project Education initiative has a special opportunity for you!

Experienced handbell musicians currently ringing in groups not planning to ring in the Bronze division at Festival/Conference

2013 are invited to apply for a place in the Area 1 Handbell Musicians of America F/C 2013 Bronze Ensemble. This ensemble, to be directed by Dan Moore, will rehearse together four times between January and May, and then ring together in the Bronze division on the ringing floor at Festival/Conference 2013 in New Hampshire.

Three of the four rehearsals will take place at Pioneer Valley Christian School in Springfield, MA.

The second rehearsal in the series will take place at Area 1 Directors' Seminar, UMass Amherst, on Saturday, February 2, 2013, and the ensemble will also participate in the Seminar later that day as the demonstration choir at a Master Class conducted by Michael Helman.

*(continued on next page)*





Participants are expected to attend all four rehearsals and the Master Class, as follows:

**Saturday, January 26** 9:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**Saturday, February 2** (at UMass Amherst) 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and Master Class after lunch, 1:15-2:30 p.m.

**Saturday, April 13** 9:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**Saturday, May 11** 9:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Interested ringers should request an application from Martha Goodman at <[projecteducation@agehrea1.org](mailto:projecteducation@agehrea1.org)>. The application will include information on your previous ringing experience, a self-assessment of your skills, and

Area 1 is creating  
*your very own* Bronze  
Ensemble for F/C 2013.  
Interested ringers should  
request an application at  
<[projecteducation@  
agehrea1.org](mailto:projecteducation@agehrea1.org)>.

two references from directors or others qualified to assess your ringing ability. **The submission deadline for application paperwork is December 15, 2012.**

If accepted, participants will be expected to sign an agreement

committing to attendance at all rehearsals, the Master Class, and Festival/Conference 2013.

The cost to participate in Bronze Ensemble is \$100. This fee covers all rehearsals and participation in the Directors' Seminar Master Class on February 2 (including lunch prior to the Master Class with the other Seminar registrants), as well as a limited edition *Bronze Ensemble* T-shirt. The music packet, consisting of the eight Massed and Bronze selections, is \$35.00 additional. We strongly urge you to purchase music on your own, so that you will have time to review it before the first rehearsal; however, if you choose to do so, you will be able to order music as

*(continued on page 8)*

# VIRTUOSO

An Extraordinary Performance Experience

CLINICIAN:

Dr. William Payn

DATE:

Friday, June 7, 2013 -

Sunday, June 9, 2013

LOCATION:

Raleigh, North Carolina

Virtuoso is a unique opportunity for a small group of advanced ringers to participate in a professional performance experience, under the baton of renowned conductor Dr. William Payn. The three-day Virtuoso event will include all aspects of preparing for and presenting a formal concert, including intensive rehearsals for music mastery, transportation/equipment logistics, stage setup and tech/lighting rehearsals, culminating in a featured performance on a concert stage as special guests during The Raleigh Ringers' Spring Concert at Meymandi Concert Hall.

Participants will be determined by an application/audition process. Deadline to apply is January 1, 2013. Email [RRadmin@rr.org](mailto:RRadmin@rr.org) for an application.

*This event is sponsored by The Raleigh Ringers, 8516 Sleepy Creek Drive, Raleigh, NC 27613 [www.rr.org](http://www.rr.org)*

## BRONZE "ORPHAN" ENSEMBLE...

(continued from page 7)

part of your registration process and pick up your packet at the first rehearsal.

Note that these costs *DO NOT* include Festival/Conference registration. Visit the Area 1 website at [www.agehrarea1.org](http://www.agehrarea1.org) for information on registration fees.

Here are some additional anticipated questions and answers.

**Q: If I am accepted to the Bronze Ensemble, when will I receive my bell/position assignment?**

A: You will receive your assignment once you have registered and paid your participation fee.

**Q: As a participant in the demonstration choir at the 2013 Directors' Seminar Master Class, will I have to pay to attend Directors' Seminar?**

A: If you want to attend Directors' Seminar sessions besides the Saturday lunch and early afternoon Master Class, you will be required to register and pay a Directors' Seminar (DS) fee. We will be offering a reduced fee for DS to Bronze Ensemble participants, reflecting participants' inability to attend the Saturday morning workshops due to a concurrent Bronze Ensemble rehearsal. We recommend that you delay registering for DS until you have been notified as to whether you have been accepted into the Bronze Ensemble.

**Q: If I'm accepted into the Bronze Ensemble, I want to ring with my "home" group as well as in the Bronze division at Festival/Conference. Will I be allowed to do that?**

A: If your "home" group is playing in a mini-concert during Festival/Conference, of course you will be able to participate with them at that mini-concert. However, because you will be ringing both the Bronze and the Massed repertoire as a part of the Bronze Ensemble, it will not be feasible for you to ring the Coppers or Tins repertoire with your "home" group on the ringing floor during the final concert.

(continued on next page)



MVR continues to celebrate their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary with their Winter 2012 tour, featuring a colorful assortment of holiday favorites, sure to warm the soul like a cup of hot chocolate. Check out their new website and join them at an upcoming concert to be a part of the holiday tradition that is Merrimack Valley Ringers!

Friday, 11/30 – Rutland, MA  
Saturday, 12/1 – Shrewsbury, MA  
Tuesday, 12/4 – Lowell, MA  
Saturday, 12/8 – Marlborough, MA  
Sunday, 12/9 – East Hartford, CT  
Saturday, 12/15 – Burlington, MA  
Sunday, 12/16 – Worcester, MA  
Sunday, 12/16 – Sturbridge, MA  
Saturday, 1/5/13 – N. Chelmsford, MA  
Sunday 1/6/13 – Leominster, MA

[www.mvringers.org](http://www.mvringers.org)



**Q: Will I be able to register with my "home" group for Festival/Conference?**

A: Because you will be ringing in a different division than your "home" group, you will not register with that group. Rather, the entire Bronze Ensemble will register together in the Bronze division. This will allow you to select the classes that will best coordinate with your Bronze division rehearsal schedule.

**Q: Will I be allowed to room with my "home" group at Festival/Conference?**

A: Yes. The Festival/Conference registration forms give you the opportunity to specify a roommate, whether from the group with which you register or from your "home" group. Similarly, if

you choose single housing at F/C, you will have an opportunity to request housing in the same dorm as your home group. The F/C Registrar will make every attempt to house you not only in the same dorm, but also on the same floor.

If you have any other questions, please don't hesitate to write to [projecteducation@agehrarea1.org](mailto:projecteducation@agehrarea1.org) for information. We look forward to receiving your application! ✍️

## Bradford Scholarships For First-Time Choirs Attending Festival

Scholarships are available for choirs attending their very first Festival/Conference. An application is included in this *Fundamental Tone*. See complete requirements and online application at: <http://agehrarea1.org/Pages/scholarship.htm>

**b back bay ringers**  
**b r Boston's community handbell ensemble presents...**

# Let it Snow!

A CELEBRATION OF THE SEASON

**Sunday, December 2, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.**  
Amazing Things Arts Center  
160 Hollis Street, Framingham, MA

**Saturday, December 8, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.**  
Maple Street Congregational Church  
90 Maple Street, Danvers, MA

**Saturday, December 15, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.**  
First Church Somerville  
89 College Avenue, Somerville, MA

Please visit [www.backbayringers.org](http://www.backbayringers.org) to learn about additional performances, receive full concert details, and subscribe to our e-mail newsletter.

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# Registration Information for Festival/Conference



**Registering** for next summer's Festival/Conference will be the same as the process followed in past two Festivals. There are four steps to the Registration process.

## 1 Pre-Register Your Group:

One person from each group, the *Group Registrar*, will register the entire group. It is not imperative that this person be the group director, but the Group Registrar should be computer-competent, technologically

savvy, and have a fairly up-to-date computer.

To pre-register, send the following information by email to the Festival/Conference Co-Registrars at <[registrar@agehrea1.org](mailto:registrar@agehrea1.org)>

- The name of your **Group Registrar**
- The **E-Mail Address** of your Group Registrar
- Your **Group Name**
- Your **Organization Name**, if applicable
- Your group's **City and State**

## 2 Pre-Registration Packets:

Pre-Registration Packet files, containing all class information and descriptions, and other necessary information, will be emailed in December 2012 to each Group Registrar. The Group Registrar should share this information with all their group members. The group members will review their packets, choose their classes, and return their class preferences to their Group Registrar. *(continued)*

## Gifts for a Perfect Holiday!

### Ceramic Holiday Ornaments

Choose from our festive penguin choir, handbell-loving holiday bear, "gingerbelle" cookie holding handbells or joyous snowman throwing his bells in the air- all are perfect for your tree as a gift or as a token of appreciation. Ribbon included for hanging or use your own! Ornaments are 3" in diameter.

**Ceramic Holiday Ornaments \$6.00**  
**Penguins: #5881, Snowman: #5878, Gingerbell: #5879, Teddy Bell: #5880**

### I ♥ Handbells Car Magnet

Perfect for vehicles (or anything metal, really), these fun 6"x4" magnets make a great gift or token of appreciation for those on a budget. As for the message? Of course you do!!

**Car Magnet: #5353 \$3.95**

### Handbell and Handchime Apparel

There's no better way of showing your love of ringing than wearing it for the world to see! Shirts are 100% cotton and super comfortable!

**"To Ring or Not to Ring" T-Shirt.** A familiar theme returns! The age-old question is posed on a tagless, garnet shirt with gold and black.  
**S- #5722, M- #5723, L- #5724, XL- #5725, 2XL- #5726, 3XL- #5727 \$11.95**

**Snowman T-Shirt.** The popular snowman "Handbells Are Cool!" design makes its way onto a light blue, tagless shirt.  
**S- #5822, M- #5823, L- #5824, XL- #5825, 2XL- #5826, 3XL- #5827 \$11.95**

### Latté Mug

Fun new design on a rich blue ceramic mug- makes a great gift or treat for yourself! 16oz. Microwave and dishwasher safe. Look closely for the bells!

**Latté Mug: #5377 \$6.00**

**Jeffers Handbell Supply, Inc.**  
**1-800-JHS-BELL (1-800-547-2355)**  
**www.HandbellWorld.com**



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### 3 Registration Forms:

Registration Form files will be emailed on January 15, 2013, to all registered Group Registrars. The Group Registrar will be responsible for entering class preferences and information for each person in their group into the Registration Form.

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### 4 Submission of Registration Forms:

Registration for Festival/Conference 2013 will become "live" at 12:01 a.m. on February 1, 2013. At that time the Group Registrar may e-mail their group's Registration Form to the Festival registrars. The Group Registrar is also responsible for printing out the final page of that form, (the Registration Form Summary), and mailing that form with payment in full to the Festival co-registrar:

*Susan Wilber, Co-Registrar  
107 Robertson Drive  
Hamden, Connecticut 06518*

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Deadlines for e-mailing the Registration Form are:

**Early Bird Deadline—March 1**  
**Regular Deadline— April 1**

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We have tried to make the registration process as easy as possible. Over the past two Festivals, there have been very complaints about the process. The national office is working on an online process for all areas to use for registrations, but it is not complete at this time.

## Pre-Register Your Group Today... Pre-Registration Packets E-Mailed in December

It will be possible to register yourself or your group without pre-registering, as information and forms will be on the Area 1 website, but by requesting the materials in advance, it is ultimately an easier process since your group members will have time to review the registration


and education options available to them prior to the opening of registration.

If there have any questions regarding the pre-registration or registration process, call or email any of the following people:

Sue Wilber, Co-Registrar  
203-288-5847  
<[registrar@agehrea1.org](mailto:registrar@agehrea1.org)>

Susan Schultz, Co-Registrar  
978-887-9553  
<[registrar@agehrea1.org](mailto:registrar@agehrea1.org)>

Bill Noss, F/C 2013 Co-Chair  
860-490-4188  
<[fcchair@agehrea1.org](mailto:fcchair@agehrea1.org)>

We look forward to greeting each of you at Festival/Conference '13 at the University of New Hampshire! 

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## Additional News For Festival Repertoire

Since the last *Fundamental Tone*, a couple of new developments have been found and added that you should be aware of.

**1 Additional Bronze Level Bass Part for *A Time to Dance*:** An additional, more complex bass arrangement is available for purchase. See Area 1 website: [www.agehrea1.org/Festival](http://www.agehrea1.org/Festival)

**2 Printing Mistake in *Entrata Esultante*:** Some older print versions have misplaced note values in measure 64. Please see the Area 1 website: [www.agehrea1.org/Festival](http://www.agehrea1.org/Festival)

### TINS

Hart Morris, Director

*All Night, All Day*

*Festive Peal on Hymn to Joy*

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

### COPPERS

Fred Gramann, Director

*Resounding Jubilation*

*Change Ring Prelude on*

*"Divinum Mysterium"*

*Rejoice! He is Risen!*

*(Rejoice in the Spirit)*

### BRONZE

Fred Gramann, Director

*A Time to Dance*

*Anthornis*

*Nocturnal Fantasy*

*Tarantella*

### MASSED

Hart Morris, Director

*Entrata Esultante*

*Song of Gladness*

*Joy and Celebration*

*A Festive Proclamation*



# Bronze Division Festival/Conference 2013

**The Bronze division** is composed of advanced groups and is typically the smallest ringing division. Fred Gramann will be directing this division which is generally represented by groups with many years of experience, extended sets of bells and chimes, and a desire to ring “bronze-level” music, which is graded at AGEHR levels 4-6.

The purpose of these guidelines is to ensure a positive experience for all choirs in the Bronze division at FC '13 by confirming that all Bronze choirs share the same desire and ability to achieve the level of musicianship required by the repertoire and the director. This process is similar to that implemented at previous Area 1 Festivals.

In order to continue the high level of musicianship and technique in this division, the following criteria for Bronze division choirs will be applied:

1. Each Bronze choir must submit an audio/video recording of two selections of L4–L6 music, one selection being an FC '13 Bronze division piece.
  - A recording both of the sound and the images in which the choir and director are clearly visible. If multiple cameras are not available, the videographer should position the camera to capture the both director and the ringers at the same time. Different camera angles for each piece is recommended.
  - Titles, composers/arrangers, and publisher information must accompany the submission.
  - MP4, MPEG, MOV, or FLV are the preferred formats for this submission.
  - The ringers on the recording must be the ringers who are registered for FC 2013. Substitute or orphan ringers are not permissible in this application process or at the Festival.
2. The recording can be of either a rehearsal or a performance, but should be of the highest video quality and audio fidelity.


3. Submitted videos will be reviewed by a small, impartial, anonymous committee that will evaluate the performance based on the rubric found on page 14.
4. Audition videos should be uploaded to YouTube. See accompanying article in this *Fundamental Tone*. The videos may be submitted as soon as you are prepared, but must be submitted to the Bronze Committee by January 30, 2013.
5. All choirs and directors will receive emailed feedback from the committee about the performance, including an overall score with a breakdown of each rubric category. (You may wish to discuss this rubric with your choir before recording and submitting your audition video.)
6. The “low” score is 9. The “high” score is 40. A choir must receive a composite score of 30 points to be recommended for the Bronze division. Choirs are measured only against the rubric and not against each other.
  - a. If the reviewing committee deems that a choir is not be prepared to participate in the Bronze division:
    - i. The choir may choose to ring in the Coppers division
    - ii. The choir may be asked to work on specific issues with an Area 1 mentor, and then submit a new video recording for evaluation within four weeks of notification.

The Bronze repertoire selections are:

**A Time to Dance** – Hart Morris  
AGEHR AG5029J

**Anthornis** – Michael Glasgow  
Choristers Guild CGB664

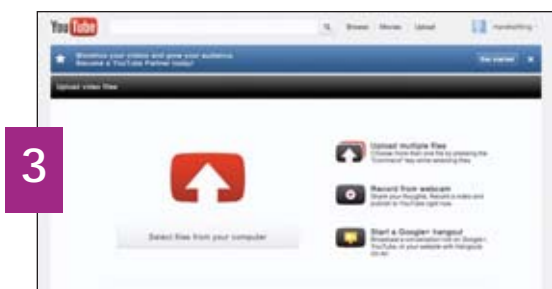
**Nocturnal Fantasy** – Emily Li  
Choristers Guild CGB731

**Tarantella** – Martha Lynn Thompson  
Jeffers JHS9456 

Dan Moore, Co-Chair, Festival/Conference 2013

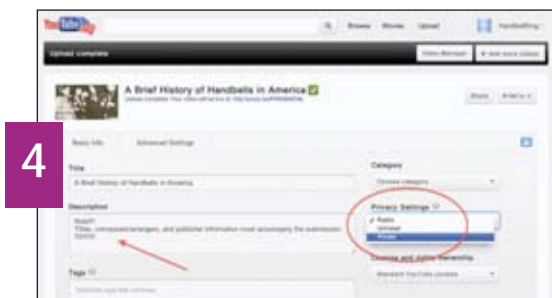
# Submitting Your Video For Bronze Division

**To be considered** to ring in the Bronze Division, as before, your group is required to submit a video for consideration. Instead of submitting the video by DVD as before, we require that your video be submitted online using YouTube. The process is very easy. The hardest part, if you don't already have one, is creating a Google account (Google owns YouTube). But even that is very easy. If you do not have an account, go to *google.com* and click on "Sign In" at the top right. You will get the option to "create an account for free."



**1 Sign In:** If you created a new account you should be signed in now. If not, sign in to your existing account. At the top of the Google page you will see the YouTube tab.

**2 Click on the YouTube Tab:** This will take you to the main YouTube page. Note the "Upload" tab at top.



**3 Click Upload:** This link will take you to your video page. From here the video uploading process is very simple. Click on the large up-arrow and find the video on your hard drive or camera that you wish to upload.

**4 Make Your Video Private:** Once you've uploaded your video (it may take a few minutes—you'll know when it's completed), enter a title and description (composers/arrangers, and publisher information). At right, in the Privacy Settings box, click on Public and change it to Private.

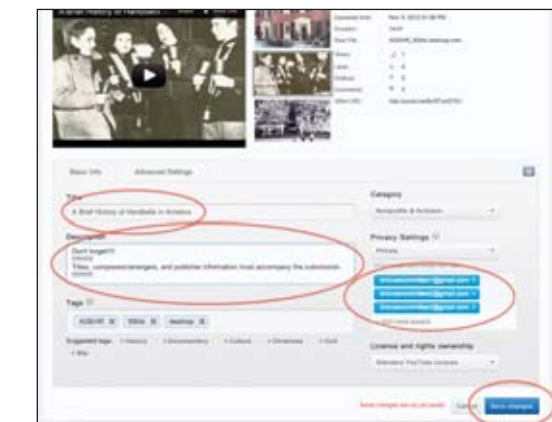


**5 Add Addresses So Committee May View Your Private Video:** (This is the least intuitive part of the process.) Click on your Google name at the top right of the page. A list of options will show beneath your name: choose "Video Manager."

On the Video Manager page, click on "Edit" near the video you just uploaded. Again you'll see the "Private" box on the right, and now, beneath that, a box for email addresses to share your videos. Enter these addresses:

*bronzecommittee1@gmail.com*  
*bronzecommittee2@gmail.com*  
*bronzecommittee3@gmail.com*

You may submit your video whenever ready but before January 30, 2013



**Save Changes** (at bottom right) and you're finished! The committee will notify you of your group's status within 48 hours. ✍

## FC 2013 Bronze Division Audition Rubric

Points	Repertoire (10%)	Musicianship (40%)	Tempo (30%)	Contact (10%)	Assignments (10%)
4	The repertoire represents two L4-L6 pieces, one of which is from FC '13 Bronze division repertoire.	Pitch, rhythm, dynamics, and expression are all correct throughout both pieces.	The repertoire is performed at the tempo marking indicated by the composer.	The choir and conductor are in contact at all times. The choir is responsive to the conductor's gestures with the intended musical results.	All ringers are playing bell assignments that enable musical success.
3	N/A	Some errors are present in pitch, rhythm, dynamics and expression—only a few ringers make errors.	The repertoire is performed slightly different tempo than indicated by the composer.	The choir and conductor have a moderate amount of contact. The choir is somewhat responsive to the conductor's gestures.	Most ringers are playing bell assignments that enable musical success.
2	N/A	Many errors are present in pitch, rhythm, dynamics and expression—several ringers make errors.	The repertoire is performed at a substantially different tempo than indicated by the composer.	The choir seldom responds to the conductor's gestures.	Several ringers are playing inappropriate bell assignments and appear unable to resolve some passages.
1	The repertoire does not meet the stated criteria.	Errors in pitch, rhythm, dynamics and expression are pervasive in the presentation.	The repertoire is performed at a totally different tempo than indicated by the composer.	The choir never responds to the conductor's gestures.	The assignment of bells impedes a successful and musical performance.

## Handbell Musicians to Create Music...Virtually

**DAYTON, OHIO**—Handbell musicians from around the globe will combine their ringing skills over the next five months as they collaborate on a unique musical creation, and they invite you to join them.

Inspired by the many virtual choir projects for vocalists, Handbell Musicians of America has teamed up with San Francisco handbell conductor and composer James Meredith to create the first ever Virtual Handbell Ensemble. In the virtual projects, individuals from around the world make videos of themselves singing one part of a choral work written specifically for the project. All the videos are compiled to virtually create the effect of a mass choir performing the piece.

For the Virtual Handbell Ensemble project, Meredith has composed a work titled "Misterium," which he has deconstructed

into 135 individual segments to be recorded separately by individuals and small groups of players from around the world. Musicians are invited to download the work from the project website ([virtual.handbellmusicians.org](http://virtual.handbellmusicians.org)) and record themselves playing any one or a number of the individual segments, which will be assembled by the editing videographer and the composer. Handbell ringers at all levels are invited to participate. And no one will know what the actual music sounds like until it is compiled and premiered next July at the Handbell Musicians of America National Seminar in Portland, Oregon, after which it will be uploaded to the website and YouTube.

Musicians are encouraged to be creative in how they record their segments. Meredith said, "Find a place as quiet as possible

indoors or out. Choose a background which does not detract from you. You may film very close up, at a distance, from the side, front, or overhead but make your performance interesting. The more interesting, the more likely your clips will be prominent in the final video collage. In other words, don't look like robotic automatons! Let's show the world how exciting handbells can be to watch and listen to."

After the online premiere, the double ensemble score will be published so any groups can perform the work. For more information about the composer and the piece, instructions and music can be found at the project website, [virtual.HandbellMusicians.org](http://virtual.HandbellMusicians.org). If you are unfamiliar with the concept of a virtual choir, visit [Youtube.com](http://Youtube.com) and perform a search for "virtual choir."



# National Office Announces New Membership Structure

The National office has completed many of its two-year goals, such as the new website and membership options. There are new and interesting resources available to members and area leaders.

Beginning October 1, a new hierarchy of membership options became available. The normal membership includes a dues increase but includes money that comes back to our area. All information can be found on the website: <http://handbellmusicians.org/news/new-membership-options-announced/>

## New Membership Categories:

### Handbell Musician Membership:

*\$85 per year or \$7.50 per month*

This membership is for either an individual or an organization. If for an individual, that person may identify ONE organization that may also receive the benefits of the membership. If for an organization, that organization must identify one individual as the primary contact for the membership.

Receives one vote in area and national elections; print subscription to *Overtones*, our bimonthly journal; discount for group-focused events; discount for individual-focused events, such as *Distinctly Bronze* and *Master Series* (for the *individual member* or *primary contact* of the organization member); \$10 rebate to the member's area.

### Handbell Musician Sub-Membership:

*\$10 per year, no monthly option*

This membership is for an individual member of an organization that has an existing Handbell Musician Membership. There are no voting privileges and sub-member may not attend individual-focused events such as *Distinctly Bronze* and *Master Series*.

### Handbell Industry Council Membership:

*\$170 per year or \$15 per month*

This membership is for businesses and organizations that provide products and services to the handbell/handchime community and wish to exhibit and/or market these products and services to the community.


### Retired Handbell Musician Membership:

*\$65 per year or \$5.75 per month*

This membership is for the handbell musician, aged 65 years or older, who is no longer actively directing or leading a choir or handbell/handchime program. Receives one vote in area and national elections; print subscription to *Overtones*; discounted price to attend any national and/or Area events; \$10 rebate to the area.

### Full-Time Student Membership:

*\$30 per year, no monthly option*

This is an individual membership and is for the handbell musician that is a full-time college or high school student. Receives discount for any individual national or area event; online access to *Overtones*; \$5 rebate to area. 

## Fundamental Tone

is a publication of the **Handbell Musicians of America Area 1**

It is published four times per year at 1585 First NH Turnpike, Northwood, NH  
Bill Noss, Editor <editor@agehrea1.org> or call 860-490-4188.

Publication date is the first Monday in **February, May, August, and November**. Editorial copy and advertising is due on the 18th of the month preceding publication.

### 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.

# Report from MAINE

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Being the new Maine State Chair for Area 1 Handbell Musicians of America is an awesome privilege. I follow in the footsteps of the outgoing Maine State Chair, Brian Wilson, whose valuable contributions have enhanced the visibility of handbell ringing in Maine. Thank you, Brian.

This is a new role for me, and I would like to introduce myself as a first step to serving in this position. Some of you may know me if you attended the **2010 Skills Building Workshops** held in Ocean Park (town of Old Orchard Beach) in the summer of 2010. We had 47 ringers from 3 states join us under the skillful instruction of the New England Ringers. But if you have never met me, let me give you a quick rundown. I live in Maine just about half of the year and conduct the Temple Bells, which is a summer bell choir that plays every Sunday morning in Ocean Park for the 11-week season. The rest of the year, I direct St. Mark's Bell Choir in Foxboro, Mass., a position I have held for 17 yrs. Bells became a part of my life when I began playing as a young adult in the summer Bell Choir in Ocean Park. In addition to having a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education, I have advanced my knowledge of bell ringing by attending Directors Seminars as well as local workshops. I am a retired school Principal and was formerly the Department Chair for Music in the Walpole, MA school system. I have 3 grown children and 2 grandchildren. My husband is also a musician and plays in both of my handbell choirs.

As the new Maine State chair, I recently attended the Area 1 Board meeting which was held here in Maine. It was fun to hear what was happening in the other New England states, but I became aware of how much more I need to know about what is happening in Maine. In that capacity I am eager to not only assist you in any way I can, but also to ask

you to share information and events that would be of interest to other handbell ringers. I recently heard about the Penobscot Ringers' free skills-building workshop offered in October. What a wonderful opportunity for folks who would like to improve their techniques. It is events such as this that I hope will find their way to my calendar. Please let me know what you are doing and how I may help.

I am also looking forward to learning about other events that are routinely offered here in Maine. For example, if you have information about the Spring Ring, I would appreciate hearing from you. Also, if you have suggestions for ways that the Handbell Musicians of America can offer more support, or you have questions about programs that are being offered, i.e., the Chime-Loaner program, please contact me. Finally, if you know of someone who might be interested in joining as a new member, I would be happy to chat with them. You can reach me at 508.982-7992 or email:

<[mechairarea1.org](mailto:mechairarea1.org)> 

*Sue Evans, ME State Chair  
Box 7295, Ocean Park, ME 04063 (Apr–Oct)  
26 Guinevere Rd., N. Easton, MA 02356 (Oct–Apr)*

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## Medway MA Director

**Medway Community Church (MCC), Medway Massachusetts, is seeking a volunteer director for our existing group of Dolce Ringers.**

Additionally, Christian ringers in the area looking for a great group to ring with are encouraged to contact us.

MCC is a beautiful traditional New England Congregational Church with a rich history and a very diverse music program.

We are just minutes east of Exit 19,  
Route 495 (Milford).

**Contact: Nancy Vinton**

**E-Mail: [vinton16@verizon.net](mailto:vinton16@verizon.net)**

# Report from MASSACHUSETTS



The Fall Season is upon us, and handbell groups are back in full swing. Church choirs, community ensembles, and pealing carillons have stepped up their activities—all with a look toward seasonal programming. There is music in the air!

**Fall Skill-Building Workshops** sponsored by Handbell Musicians of America, Area 1, have been presented, and Massachusetts area hosts were proud to be part of this Project Education kick-off throughout New England. Three sessions took place in Massachusetts in October—in Reading, Southbridge, and Berkley, and were well received.

Two new community ensembles have been formed in the Commonwealth. They are:

- *Copious Notes* in Wellesley; contact person Martha Stowell, <cpbranwell@gmail.com>
- *Rebellion* in Boston; contact person David Wurth, <dave.wurth@verizon.net>

The **Massachusetts Spring Ring**, scheduled for Saturday, March 16, 2013, will be held in the *new* Tewksbury Memorial High School gymnasium. David Wurth is planning the event and can be reached at <dave.wurth@verizon.net> for more information. Martha Goodman, <martha\_goodman@earthlink.net> will be our massed director. We welcome her to the podium!

Repertoire includes:

- **Coppers**
  - *Rejoice! He Is Risen!* (using the alternate title, *Rejoice in the Spirit*) – Moglebust
  - *Change Ring Prelude on 'Divinum Mysterium'* – Gramann
  - *Song of Gladness* – Sherman
- **Tins**
  - *All Night, All Day* – arr. Geschke

The schedule for the Massachusetts Spring Ring will be as follows:

2:00–3:00	Individual choir setup and rehearsals as scheduled
3:00–4:30	Massed rehearsal; Copper Division in gym
4:30–5:00	Individual choir rehearsals as scheduled
5:00–5:30	Massed rehearsal; Tins Division in gym
5:00–6:00	Supper and fellowship (bag supper); Coppers in cafeteria
5:30–6:00	Individual choir rehearsals as scheduled
5:30–6:30	Supper and fellowship (bag supper); Tins in cafeteria
6:00–6:30	Final massed rehearsal; Coppers in gym
7:00–8:30	Concert in gym
8:30	Tear down and refreshments in cafeteria

Registration cost is \$7.50 per ringer. You may list multiple choirs on a single form. The registration cost covers performance royalties, guest musicians, massed conductor, and insurance liability coverage. Participants typically bring a bag supper and share fellowship time together before the final rehearsal. Following the concert, they enjoy refreshments with the audience, which are supplied by the participant groups. The program is sponsored by the Handbell Musicians of America, Area 1.

**National Webinar Training Session** – in September, I had the pleasure of attending a national webinar training session related to the new membership structure and new resources for the Areas. It is national's desire to maintain more robust and enhanced benefits for specific constituencies of our membership. These are organized into:

- Faith-based organizations
- Community/professional groups
- Education

In Closing, may I wish you all a glorious Holiday season, filled with the beautiful music that only our unique instrument can offer. 🗡️  
*Gail Granum, Massachusetts State Chair*



***Handbell Musicians of America Area 1***  
***The Bradford Scholarship*** **CHOIR** ***Application***

Festival/Conference '13 • University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH

**INSTRUCTIONS for CHOIR APPLICATION:**

Handbell Musicians of America 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 usually enough to provide partial registration assistance for several choirs/directors to attend F/C.

Choir Scholarships for Handbell Musicians of America Area 1 Festival/Conference are available to Area 1 handbell choirs who are attending their first Area 1 Festival/Conference. *Please be aware that the scholarship awarded will only pay a portion of the registration fee for Festival.*

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

Director's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Number of years directing this choir \_\_\_\_\_

Group Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address1 \_\_\_\_\_ Address2 \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

The Guild Member Number \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

Have you ever attended an Area 1 Festival/Conference?     Yes     No

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

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

***Handbell Musicians of America Area 1***  
***The Bradford Scholarship Choir Application (continued)***

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

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

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

How long has your handbell choir been in existence? \_\_\_\_\_

Why does your choir want to attend Festival/Conference? \_\_\_\_\_

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What are your expectations for attending the conference? \_\_\_\_\_

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***Applications must be postmarked by February 15, 2013.***  
***You will be notified by March 15 of our decision.***

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

Awards will be distributed on a per ringer basis. For example, if you receive an award of \$100 per person and you have 10 people attending, then you will receive \$1,000 off your total registration fee. If any of your ringers withdraws their registration, your total scholarship will be reduced by the amount for one ringer unless another ringer takes their place.

**Please mail this application by February 15, 2013 to:**  
Griff Gall, Bradford Scholarship Chair  
277 Shawmut Ave., Unit 1  
Boston, MA 02118

For questions, please contact the scholarship chair, Griff Gall, at [scholarship@agehrarea1.org](mailto:scholarship@agehrarea1.org)