

Twice Told Tales



AGEHR AREA II

FA LL 2004

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Exciting Master Class Planned for 2005 Festival

David Harris, Director of the Raleigh Ringers, will lead a Master Class in Bronze level ringing at the 2005 Area II Festival. Plan now for an exciting musical experience of ringing at the highest level.

Ringers in this track will be expected to have experience ringing in choirs that regularly play music at level 5 and 6. The selected repertoire is difficult and ringers must arrive at the festival with the music prepared, ready for fine-tuning by the conductor.

Register early since there will be places for only 28 ringers in the Master Class, consisting of two full choirs including those who will play the lowest bells and chimes. Each ringer must purchase the music for the class (see list below) and arrive with the music prepared for the first rehearsal of the Master Class.

The Master Class track will be scheduled so that all ringers may also play with their "home" choirs as well as participating in the Master Class.

The Master Class will present several pieces at the Festival Concert. Music for the Master Class is as follows:

Dorian Dance	Michael Joy (Jeffers JH S9365)
Praise and Adoration	Fred Gramann (AGEHR AG36006)
Four Resonances	William Payn (AGEHR AG46008)
Mighty Fortress **	Betty Garee (Alfred 23163)
** New and revised publication, not the old Concordia Edition	
Remembrance	Moklebust (Lorenz 20/1131L)

David M. Harris has been the director of the Raleigh Ringers since January, 1990. He was instrumental in the formation of the group. He was previously director of the handbell program at Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church and has studied conducting privately with Dr. William A. Payn of Bucknell University. He has served AGEHR as North Carolina State Chairman and as Area III Treasurer. David led in developing Pinnacle 2000, the first national event for community/professional handbell choirs.

Do You Know??

Are you aware of the many grants and scholarships Area II has to offer? We have Betty B. Garee Scholarships for first time attendees to Area Festivals and Seminars as well as National Directors' Seminars. We have the Charlie Cramer Scholarships for non-ringing "roadies" who help to move all your bells and equipment.

We have Mission Grant monies, offered in festival conference years, to help supplement your present sets of handbells or handchimes, or to get you started buying them. Area II offers grant monies (up to \$250) to sub-areas who are trying to get an annual workshop and/

(Continued on page 14)

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Twice Told Tales is published four times per year for the membership of AGEHR Area II. Publication dates are February, May, September, and November. The deadline for articles and photos is the first day of the month prior to the publication date; these will be included as space permits.

It is preferred that articles be sent in the format of Microsoft Office 2000 Publisher as an email attachment. Articles may also be sent in hard copy form, typewritten. Photos should be in black and white and be labeled on the back. A SASE should be included for those wishing to have their photos returned.

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to take the opportunity to welcome all of our new members to Area

Ken Cuniff Niskayuna, NY	Leslie Hakanson Islip Terce, NY	Tom Nichols Elizabeth, PA	Jane Smith Montclair, NJ	Joe Tamburro Chester, NJ
Paul Daniels Telford, PA	Abigail Hamilton W. Orange, NJ	Robert Rikr Bethlehem, PA	Marcella Smithers Thunder Bay, Ontario	Mr. Jean Wilmouth Pittsburgh, PA
Robert Doswell Harrison City, PA	Ian Kochberg Richmond Hill, ON	Kathy Robison Harrisburg, PA	Steven Russell Colts Neck, NJ	Dr. Michael Wojdylak Hershey, PA
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Florence Gradisek Trafford, PA	Jean McDonald Kennett Square, PA	Carolyn Seegers Coatesville, PA		
Faith Grosso Moon Township PA	Yvonne McDonald Princeton, NJ			

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UPCOMING APPEARANCES

2004 HOLIDAY CONCERTS

Sunday, Nov. 28, 4 PM	Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College, North Andover, MA <i>Admission \$10 (in advance), \$12 (at the door)</i>
Sunday, Dec. 5, 7 PM	Dunn's Corners Presbyterian Church, Westerly, RI <i>Admission TBD</i>

Would your organization like to present an NER concert? Contact us at newenglandrings@aol.com, or call us at 978-851-3024. Host venues are currently sought anywhere in New England for Spring 2005, and in RI, CT, downstate NY, NJ, or eastern PA for NER's 2005 Summer Tour. Inv 5-7.

Read and Ring 2005

After having enjoyed the hospitality and great facilities at the Lancaster Host for several years, Area II is moving the Read and Ring for 2006 to Split Rock Resort in Lake Harmony, PA. Located in the Pocono Mountains, the resort will offer plenty of space for classes and ringing along with use of the recreation facilities. The rate will include room and all meals during out event. So save the dates of

August 13-16, 2006 for this great event. Visit the website for more details www.splitrockresort.com



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New for the Holidays!

Holiday Greetings Cards

Send your holiday greetings handbell-style this year! Our attractive new 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.

Candlelight Bell Card: A tranquil image, a burning candle reflecting in a bell casting, adorns this card. Inside: *May Your Holiday Season be Melodious and Bright.* Red envelopes.

5229 Candlelight Bell Holiday Card, pk of 12 \$4.95

Angel Bells Card: Original artwork of three angels singing to fill the air with music decorates this unique holiday message: *May the Voices of Angels Ring like Bells Throughout Your Holiday Season.* Gold envelopes.

5231 Angel Bells Holiday Card, pk of 12 \$4.95

"SleighBell" Card: This fun and playful card is definitely one of a kind! Santa rides on his "sleighbell" on his way to deliver toys to all the children! Inside: *When what to my wondering eyes should appear, But Santa riding a bell with his nine Reindeer! Merry Christmas!* Green envelopes.

5230 "SleighBell" Holiday Card, pk of 12 \$4.95

Handbell & Chime Ornaments

Our beautiful golden handbell ornaments are guaranteed to bring joy to ringers in the holiday spirit. Perfect as gifts as well! Handbell Ornaments ship and store flat, then can be opened into three-dimensional ornaments for your tree.

Chime ornaments do not open, but will make a fantastic addition to the festivities!

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Area News!

NEW JERSEY STATE REPORT

Ringers in NJ were busy this summer attending AGEHR events. 35-40 were present at our 50th Anniversary Event held in Norfolk, VA. It was an enjoyable time ringing under directors, Bill Payne and David Davidson.

Our Area II event, Read and Ring held in Lancaster this past August had 38 NJ ringers in attendance.

Belfest III was held, October 9th, at the Liberty Corner Presbyterian Church in Lebanon, NJ. Shelley Giaier, one of our District Coordinators, hosted the vent. Susan Berry, author of "Healthy Ringing" was the guest conductor. The date for Belfest IV will be October 8, 2005. Put that date on your calendar.

November 13th, Nassau Presbyterian Church in Princeton, NJ, will be hosting a Young Ringers Workshop. This is an opportunity for your young ringers to get together with others and have a ringing good time.

Judy Dinkler
NJ State Rep.

NEW YORK STATE REPORT

The bell choirs in New York State have been busy this summer and will continue with various activities through the early fall and winter.

In July, Cazenovia, NY was the site for the first "Handbells and Harmony" Day Camp in central NY. The days at camp included technique and rhythm classes, rehearsals for the final concert and fun games such as "dress up the director." All participants had a great time and are looking forward to next year's camp. For more information contact Rene Hebert rhebert@earthlink.net

On October 23rd, the California based **Campanile** will present their "**Sandbox Workshop**" and their new "**Rites of Sound**" concert at the **Smith Opera House in Geneva, NY. The workshop will include Follow the Leader, Passing Zone, and "Boomwhackers, Bells and Chimes Oh My"** to name just a few classes. This will be an exciting day of learning and fun hosted by **Finger Lakes Bronze. Contact jetmusic@lynnet.com for more information.**

(Continued on page 6)

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- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
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Howe Caverna, Cobleskill NY, will play host to the Zion Community Ringers on Dec. 4th for "Caroling in the Cave". Their performance will be repeated on December 18th at the Rotterdam Mall.

Welcome as our new C.H.I.M.E. representative, Jeremy Peters. If you are a teacher and need information about AGEHR programs or resources, please contact Jeremy at 3wjager@rochester.it.com or call him at 585-233-1451. Jeremy will be a great asset to our Area II program! If you are going to the NYSSMA Conference in December, please stop by our Area II booth. We would love to talk to you.

Also welcome Karen Robards as our new District Coordinator for District 13, and Erin Ells for District 14. Karen comes to us with a great background. She served on the board for many years. Welcome back Karen. Her e-mail address is handbell@northnet.org. This address may change soon, so make sure you watch the listings in the front of TTT. Erin is new to the administrative end of Area II and we're glad to have her abroad. Please feel free to contact her at gtoast@rochester.it.com.

**Pam Spirko
NY State Rep**

Message from the Chair

Peggy McNamee

Our Area II board met in early October to finalize all the details for the Area II Young Ringers Festival and the Festival Conference to be held at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA, in July of 2005.

2005 is Area II's 45th birthday! We are going to celebrate by having a special party at the festival. All past chairs will be recognized in addition, those chairs attending the festival will ring the opening and closing bell(s). Where would Area II be without their leadership and dedication? The composition winning piece, "Proclamation of Praise", will be rung in the massed division and has been dedicated to our 45th anniversary.

In addition, we will have a historical display for Area II. The current photo albums are being restored and this year we will have a photographer to take pictures of our event and also to do choir pictures! We need items for the historical display—if you have anything we can borrow, please let me know!

Our Area II Endowment Fund has been created! The board voted to fund the Endowment Fund with \$25,000 plus the participation fees collected from endorsed events and monies currently in the mission fund. **IN ADDITION, THE BOARD HAS CONTRIBUTED MONEY TOWARDS THE ENDOWMENT; THEY HAVE INDIVIDUALLY CONTRIBUTED \$45.00 TO BUILD THE FUND.**

YOU have a chance to give to the Endowment Fund. All donations given to the Endowment Fund will be listed in the 2005 Festival Conference Program. Choirs may give in honor of their director, in memory of an individual and individual donations may be made. If you wish to contribute the \$45.00 in honor of our 45th anniversary, you may. Chris Braden, our treasurer, will take care of handling all the donations. All donations are tax-deductible.

I am so proud of Area II being able to establish this endowment fund! What a wonderful way to be able to serve our members and participate in mission projects!

Please read all the material in Twice Told Tales, there are many things going on in Area II. I hope you plan on attending the festival at Bucknell! If you would like to help in any way, please feel free to contact me.

As we enter this time of Thanksgiving, take a few minutes to reflect on the many blessings we have—have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Peggy McNamee
Chair, Area II

FESTIVAL CONFERENCE 2005

BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY, LEWISBURG,

Make your plans NOW to attend the Area II Festival Conference in July of 2005 at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA. This is a festival that you and your ringers will not want to miss. Here are some highlights to entice you to attend.

The Festival conductor will be the eminent Dr. William Payn who is also director of handbells at Bucknell University. To ring handbells under his direction is a wondrous experience! Complimenting Dr Payn at the helm of the Young Ringers will be Jason Wells of Ring of Fire fame. Jason's outstanding team of young ringers are known for their extraordinary technical wizardry and their amazing skill at memorizing all of their music.

Other outstanding clinicians scheduled to participate include Christine Anderson, Michael Kastener, Karen Leonard, Louise Frier and many more. David Harris will be conducting the Master Class.

Registration packages will be mail August 1, 2004. Forms will be accepted after September 1, 2004.

FESTIVAL CONFERENCE MUSIC LIST

MASSED DIVISION

Vibrations	William Payn	L 2-4	Bronzes FX BFX013F	Full Score
		L 2	BFX013A	2-3 Octaves
		L 3	BFX013B	4-5 Octaves
		L 4	BFX013C	5-7 Octaves
Built On A Rock	John Behnke	L 3	Concordia CPH 97-6916	3-5 Octaves
Processional	Arnold Sherman	L 3	Agape HP 2195 HP 2196	3-5 Octaves Full Score
Proclamation of Praise	Michael Mazzatenta			

TINS DIVISION

Lord of the Dance	Vicki Smith	CPH 97-6619	3-5 Octaves
A Prayer on Slane	Jeffery Honore	CPH 97-6846	2-3 Octaves
Toccata in A Minor	Mary McCleary	CGB 23	3 + Octaves

COPPERS DIVISION

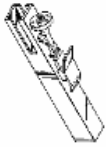
Rondo-Passacaglia	Cynthia Dobrinski	Agape HP1237	4-5 Octaves
Elegy	William Payn	Agape HP1277	4-5 Octaves
Psalm Nine	Carl Wiltse	AGEHR AG 3053 AG 45021	3 Octaves 4-5 Octaves
Change Ring Prelude on Divinum Mysterium	Fred Gramann	Lorenz 20/1239 L	3-6 Octaves

BRONZE DIVISION

God With Us For All Time	Betty B. Garee	Shawnee HP 5099	5 Octave
Toccata Ritmica	Michael Joy	Red River RRG 5004	5 Octaves
Requiem	William Payn	AGEHR AG 45048J	4-5 Octaves Oboe and flute and opt percussion
Prism	William Payn	Shawnee HP 5030	

YOUNG RINGERS

<u>Division A:</u>				
How Firm A Foundation	Sandra Eithun	L 1+	Choristers Guild CGB305	2-3 Octaves
A Joyful Ring	Barbara Kinyon	L 2	Agape 1397 Agape 2281	2-3 Octaves 4-5 Octaves
<u>Division B:</u>				
Lord, I Want To Be A Christian	Sandra Eithun	L 2+	RW8144	3 Octaves
Gaudio Exsultans Area V Composition Winner	Valerie Stephenson	L 2	AGEHR MAG35208	3-5 Octaves
<u>Massed:</u>				
Processional and Bell Chime	Margaret Tucker	L 1	Choristers Guild CGB319	3 Octaves with tambourine & finger cymbals
Percussive Praise	Kevin McChesney	L 1+	Chorister Guild MCGB311	2-3 Octaves All malleted
This Train	Patricia Cota	L 2	Agape 2245	3 Octaves
Exultation	Bill Ingram	L 1	Choristers Guild MCGB328	2-3 Octaves
2005 Composition Winner				



MUSIC EDUCATORS IN AREA II OWE A DEBT OF GRATITUDE TO ANDY STENGREVIC. HE SERVED FOR TWO YEARS AS OUR NEW YORK CHIME REP AND HAS RETIRED AT THE END OF 2003-2004 SCHOOL YEAR. ANDY STAFFED OUR BOOTH AT THE NYSSMA CONFERENCES DURING HIS TERM AND WILL BE MISSED. HAPPY RETIREMENT ANDY FROM ALL OF US IN AREA II! JEREMY PETERS WILL BE FILLING THAT APPOINTED POSITION THIS YEAR—WELCOME ABOARD.

SIX OF OUR EIGHT SETS OF HANDCHIMES ARE CURRENTLY ON LOAN. IF YOU ARE AWARE OF ANY SCHOOL, CHURCH, OR COMMUNITY GROUP THAT WOULD LIKE TO BORROW ONE OF THE REMAINING THREE OCTAVE SETS OF HANDCHIMES THIS SCHOOL YEAR, OR SUMMER (BEGINNING IN JUNE THROUGH AUGUST, PLEASE HAVE INTERESTED PARTIES GET IN TOUCH IMMEDIATELY—WE'VE EXTENDED THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS TO GET THOSE HANDCHIMES IN USE! FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT ME.

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Composition Winner for 2005

AGEHR Area II is pleased to announce that Dr. Michael Mazzatenta has won the Composition Contest in both categories for 2005, the first time this has ever happened. Committee review concluded that his composition for both categories were superior to all other submissions. Michael's composition "Proclamation of Praise" will be rung by the massed choirs at the Area II Festival Conference in Bucknell on July 10, 2005. His composition "Ringing Victoriously" will be presented in the mass ring for the Area II Young Ringer's Festival on July 8, 2005, also at Bucknell. Copies will be available from AGEHR Publishing in March, 2005. Area II wishes to thank all composers whose efforts and contributions made this contest a success.

Dr. Michael Mazzatenta
Www.michaelmazzatenta.com



Biographical Sketch

Dr. Michael Mazzatenta received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Organ Performance from Arizona State University and performs as a concert organist, accompanist, handbell ringer, and jazz pianist. He has performed locally with The Phoenix Bach Choir, the Sedona Chamber Music Festivals, and the Phoenix Vocal Jazz.

Michael has won awards for both performance and composition, including his recent "double win" in the two categories of the 2004 Area II Composition Competition of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers. Two previous Competition-winning handbell works, "Fanfare Celebration", awarded by the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers Area III, and "Ceremonial Fanfare", awarded by the AGEHR's Area XI in celebration of the AGEHR's 50th anniversary, are published and available through www.handbellworld.com and www.fromthetopmusic.com.

His organ and choral works have been published by Choral Web Publishing, and his handbell duos, "Bell Duo Fanfare" and "A Celebration of Thanksgiving", are published by National Music Publishers, available at www.emersonenterprises.com. His Latin jazz arrangement of the traditional hymn "Open My Eyes That I May See" appears in the recently published worship resource "Swing A New Song to the Lord' Resources For Jazz Worship", available at www.cokesbury.com.

His CD credits include; "MazzJazz", "The Balance" (original jazz compositions by the Mazzatenta twins, Mark and Mike); "Laudal Chamber Singers" Blessings and Song for the Season" and "Phoenix Vocal Jazz: Timeless".

Michael is currently a member of the American Guild of Organists, the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, and Jazz in AZ. He resides with his wife Joan, also an organist and church music director, in Mesa, Arizona. For additional information, updates, and future concert events, please visit:

Call for Nominations for Area II Board for 200-2007

On behalf of the Nominating committee and the Board of Directors of Area II AGEHR, you are invited to play an important role in identifying the Area's leadership by nominating officers for 2005-2007 term.

As you consider your nominations, please keep in mind the following:

1. The elected officers of Area II are the Chair, Chair-Elect, Treasurer and Secretary. The election shall be held biennially, in odd-numbered years.
2. The term of office is two (2) years, beginning October 2005.
3. There will be two nominees for each office. All candidates must be members in good standing of Area II and must give their consent to be nominated. Ballots containing candidates' names and biographical material shall be mailed to the entire Area II voting membership.
4. The Chair Elect position involves a term of six years, two as chair-elect, two as chair and two as past chair.

Please submit all nominations by January 1, 2005. The Nominating committee will review all nominations. The slate of officers will be presented to the Area membership for vote in April 2005.

Thank you for your participation in the nominating process.

Kenneth B. Kelley, Past Chair
17 Sayre Drive
Princeton, NJ 08540

Festival Conference 2005 Information Available

After a four year absence, the AGEHR National Ringing Festival has been re-born with some things old and some things new! How is it "old"? There still will be wonderful ringing, excellent instruction, and opportunities for fellowship. How is it "new"? The curriculum will be coordinated among the conductors and clinicians and be linked to the ringing repertoire for an integrated handbell experience. The Festival also will be one day shorter in an effort to make it as affordable as possible.

We have engaged three dynamic conductors and educators: Susan Barry for Division A and Massed Choirs, Tim Waugh for Division B and Massed Choirs, and Michael Helman for the Conference Choir. This will be primarily a ringing event, with some classes offered for Divisions A and B. Instructions will be incorporated into the ringing rehearsals and expanded upon in the class setting. The Conference Choir will ring challenging literature and not attend classes. All groups will combine for a public performance on Sunday afternoon. You won't want to miss this terrific ringing and learning opportunity.

Information and registration forms for the AGEHR 2005 Festival Conference are now available from our website. Event information and registration forms will also be included with the November/December issue of *Overtures*.

Come to Area II's 45th Anniversary Party

The Festival Conference in 2005 will be the 45th time Area II has held a festival. This event will be held on the campus of Bucknell University, July 7-10, 2005 with Dr. William Payn as the Festival Conductor. Other outstanding clinicians include: Christine Anderson, Michael Kastener, Karen Leonard, Louise Frier, Janet Carter, Davis Harris and many more. Registration packets have been mailed; registrations are being accepted by Chris Braden, Treasurer. Check the Area II website to download the necessary forms.

AGEHR MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Membership in AGEHR come in a variety of levels that reflect the intensity of the involvement in handbells. The following information is also available on the AGEHR website:

General Information

The American Guild of English Handbell Ringers is a non-profit association providing valuable educational resources and events for handbell/handchime ringers and directors. The organization currently represents over 9100 members, including churches, schools, community organizations, and individuals.

Membership is open to anyone interested in the art of handbell/handchime ringing.

With your membership, you enjoy the following services:

Help to Get You Started

- Handbell Notation Booklet—each new member will receive this vital resource book.

- Local Support—Find out about local events and opportunities, and receive the newsletter for your area.
- Scholarships - Scholarships are available for area and national events.
- Chime Loan Programs (see Area II program on page 13.
- Mentors - Contact Judy Dinkler for more information

Support to Keep You Going

- National bi-monthly journal, Overtones - Every two months, you will receive Overtones, the nation's number one journal on handbell/handchime ringing.
- Members Only Online - Access website content only available to members. Here you can search for contact information on fellow AGEHR members.

Membership Form—The American Guild of English Handbell Ringers

Membership Type

- Platinum Membership.....\$170.00
- Sterling Membership.....\$120.00
- Regular Membership.....\$60.00
- Ringer Membership.....\$30.00
Must be affiliated with a choir of a regular member.
Membership number of choir: _____
- Senior Citizen Membership (65+).....\$40.00
Individual membership, may not represent a group
- Full-Time Student Membership.....\$30.00
- Business Membership.....\$120.00
- Canadian Membership..... add \$10.00
to all membership categories to cover additional postage
- International Memberships
- A. Overtones at Printed Matter rate \$60.00 US
- B. Overtones at First Class rate \$95.00 US
- Mail to: AGEHR, Inc.
1055 East Centerville Station Road
Dayton, Ohio 45459-5503
- Make check/money order payable to: The AGEHR, Inc.
- Payment enclosed \$ _____ (U.S. Funds)
- All returned checks will incur a \$25 processing fee.**

Mailing Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Is the above a (check one):

Personal Address or Organization Address

Daytime Phone: _____

Evening Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Name of Business/School/Church: _____

Is this a New Membership Renewal (Member # _____)

Credit Card Information

Visa MasterCard

Card Number: _____

Signature: _____

Expiration Date: _____

For credit card payments, please mail to the address provided at left or fax to 937-438-0434.

AREA II BELLETIN BOARD

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT	INFORMATION
October 23, 2004	Campanile Sandbox Workshop	The Smith Opera House Geneva, NY	Judith Tresbeck 315-781-5398	Supported in part by Public funds.
October 30, 2004 9:00 am-3:30 pm	Area II Young Ringer's Workshop	Eastern Hills Church Manlius, NY	Pam Spirko 315-682-8783	Pspirko@ Earthlink.net 315-682-8783
November 6, 2004 9:00 am-3:30 pm	Area II Young Ringer's Workshop	First United Methodist Church Mechanicsburg, PA	Kathie Bittenbender 717-697-6257	Rbittenben@ Comcast.net 717-697-6257
November 13, 2004	Area II Young Ringer's Workshop	Nassau Presbyterian Church Princeton, NJ	Ken Kelley 609-924-0103	Ken-Kelley Nassauchurch.
April 9, 2005	Western Pa Level I & II Festival	Church of the Covenant Washington, PA	Margaret Zabo 412-341-1356	Nancy Lutz Clinician
April 16, 2005	Nittany Valley Festival	State College PA	Gail Ritchey or website Nittanyvalleyhandbellfestival. Org/default.htm	Kermit Junker Clinician
April 30-May 1, 2005 (tentative)	North Hills Festival	Marshall Middle School Wexford, PA	Marilyn Hines 724-794-8615	Charles Kelley Clinician
July 5-7, 2005	Area II Young Ringers' Festival	Bucknell University Lewisburg, PA	Kathie Bittenbender 717-697-6257	Jason Wells, Conductor
July 7-10, 2005	Area II Festival Conference	Bucknell University Lewisburg, PA	Peggy McNamee 412-761-8910	William Payn, Conductor
October 8, 2005	Bellfest IV	No other info available yet		

Do You Know??

(Continued from page 1)

or festival started. We have also given "special grants" to mission projects that have been undertaken by members of Area II. Area II has a very active Handchime Lending Program. Each state has several sets of handchimes to lend to schools or churches interested in starting a new handbell or handchime program.

New to the Area is the Mentoring Program that can bring personalized handbell help to you, your church or your school. We will send a clinician to you for a workshop that addresses your particular needs!

How can you find out more about all of these? Check out our website! www.area2agehr.org. You may download the necessary forms there. Not web-savvy? Then call or email any Area officer! We'll send you a brochure and application.

Take advantage of all that Area II has to offer you!

Pennsylvania State Report

Pennsylvania is looking forward to hosting the 2005 Area II Young Ringer's Festival and the Festival Conference at Bucknell. The Young Ringer's Festival will be July 5-7 and the FAC will be July 7-10. Dr. William Payn will be the conductor. Many sets of bells will be needed for use in the many classes that are offered at festival. If your bell set is available to be loaned for this, please contact Anna Carol Buffington, bell liaison for the festival (e-mail and phone number can be found on page 2 of this paper.) The bell sets will be covered by AGEHR insurance while loaned to Area II during the time of the festival. A year's membership to AGEHR will be paid by Area II to those choirs who loan three octave sets or larger for use at the festivals.

Many thanks to all who sent donations for our Pennsylvania basket in the silent auction for the AGEHR 50th anniversary celebration at Norfolk this past summer. From the Harley-Davidson hat to the Heinz pickle pins to the magnet from the Little League Hall of Fame to the Moravian star from eastern PA, our state and its many products were well represented. What a great effort all of you made to have an interesting basket for the auction.

News of Various handbell Festivals throughout PA for this year has been coming in. There are festivals for Level I & II choirs in Washington, PA on April 9, 2005, as well as several for choirs ringing level 3-4 music. North Hills Festival is tentatively set for April 30-May 1st. The 12th Annual Nittany Valley Handbell Festival will be Saturday, April 16 in State College. Kermit Junkert of Schulmerich Handbell Company will be the guest conductor. Please check the website www.NittanyValleyHandbellFestival.org—for music list and other details of the festival. The Philadelphia Handbell Ensemble will be the special guests at this festival.

If you have information about other local festivals, please forward the dates and information for the festivals to the PA Chair, Anna Carol Buffington.

District Coordinators are still needed for the Indiana/Johnstown area, as well as the Shippensburg area. If you live in either of those locations and would be able to assist as a DC, please let Anna Carol know. The responsibilities include contacting the AGEHR directors in your area to keep them informed about activities in Area II. Also, the DC seeks out those choirs in their district who do not belong to AGEHR to encourage them to join.

The Festival Conference Experience by Jeremy Peters

I was at the Area II board meeting a couple of weeks ago and we were discussing what everyone dislikes about the Festival Conference. After hearing all of these negatives, it got me thinking about why I go to the Festival Conference. I definitely do not go because I like the heat, the blisters and the bruises I get from ringing or the walking I have to do around campus.

I go because I get to ring with hundreds of talented ringers instead of just ten. I go because I get to learn from many directors, composers and arrangers instead of just one. I go because I get to pass on ringing knowledge to beginners and to learn new ringing techniques from advanced ringers. I go to meet new people and to see friends. I go because it is an experience that cannot be duplicated anywhere but at Festival Conference.

So I'm looking forward to seeing you again, or meeting you, or teaching you, or learning from you. I can't wait until July when I can experience the Festival Conference for the 11th time. And let's face it, I'm kind of looking forward to those blisters and bruises

Williamsport Handbell Workshop

A Level I & II workshop for District 13 ringers and directors was held on September 25th in Williamsport, PA at Saint John's-Newberry United Methodist Church. This was the result of a process that began over two years ago. At that time, I became a District Coordinator with the main goal of helping to bring Area II events to north-central Pennsylvania. Early contacts with District 13 members helped me to assess the needs and goals of interested directors and ringers. Of particular interest was an event geared to beginning ringers of all ages and volunteer directors. The result was our one-day workshop in September.

Kathie Bittenbender (Area II Chair-Elect) and Pam Spirko (NY State Representative) agreed to be our clinicians, much to my delight! Both of these women had to travel several hours to get to Williamsport, but both came and gave us their time and expertise. I considered it a privilege for District 13 ringers to experience the skills and classes that I had experienced with Kathie and Pam at the 2002 Read & Ring Seminar in Lancaster. Our workshop consisted of class sessions in handbell techniques, change-ringing, rhythm games, and a directors' round-table discussion, plus a massed-ringing session that rehearsed several songs for the church year and an anthem scheduled for the 2005 Young Ringer's Festival at Bucknell University. Everyone present learned something new about playing or directing handbells, and many had favorable comments about the workshop. Because of the workshop, my own choirs are now interested in attending the Bucknell Festival(s), and doing the fund-raising necessary to achieve such a goal.

We are blessed to receive a grant from Area II, which made the workshop possible. Area II Board members maintained contact with me and guided me through the application process and follow-up reports. These individuals work diligently and give a lot of their time to provide many benefits for Area II members. I have enjoyed getting to know these people through the process of coordinating our workshop and attending AGEHR and Area II activities. My appreciation and gratitude are extended to all of the Board members for their efforts, and to the AGEHR national office for its endorsement.

As a District Coordinator, I was disappointed that so few District 13 members and area churches appeared to be interested in the workshop. Of the 25 or so District members, only 5 responded to requests in the previous year concerning needs and goals (to be addressed by the workshop), and only 4 actually attended the workshop. Of the 38 workshop participants, only 6 churches—and no academic institutions—were represented. Two churches brought entire choirs, and ages ranged from 5th graders to senior citizens. A future workshop or festival for intermediate choirs might meet the goals of District 13 members better than a Level I & II workshop, but these goals can be met by attending the festivals in State College (Nittany Valley Festival) and Lewisburg (Bucknell Festival). For level I & II ringers, our workshop provided an educational experience and a growth opportunity, and I am thankful to Area II Board members, the workshop committee members, and the national office for help in accomplishing this goal.

Ellen Davis

Silent Auction Raises AGEHR \$11,000

One of the highlights of the AGEHR 50th Anniversary Celebration in Norfolk, VA in July of this year was a Silent Auction. There were over 100 items available for bidding, all contributed by members of AGEHR.

Area II Chair, Peggy McNamee organized this event to benefit the AGEHR Endowment Fund. Margaret Zabo, Area II Financial Advisor assisted in arranging the displays, preparing the bidding sheets, and compiling the results at the end of the event along with other Area II board members.

Thanks to everyone in Area II who contributed to the state baskets and especially to those who individually contributed items for sale. Area II was well represented among the items for bid.

Jane Mary Tenhover, AGEHR Executive Director, reports that to date the Endowment Fund has contributed to the following endeavors:

1. An educational outreach handchime program grant to an elementary school in Chicago providing handchimes and a teacher for the 2003-2004 school year.
2. An education outreach handbell grant, matched by Area II, to an elementary school in Pittsburgh for the 2003 -2004 school year.
3. A handchime program grant, including a mentor, to *WERNIE*, a children's home in Indiana.
4. Initial funding for the AGEHR 50th Anniversary video project, along with a contribution from Area II.
5. A grant to the AGEHR board of Trustees to conduct focus groups and survey studies of the AGEHR membership for the purpose of defining long-range plans and implementing a market strategy for AGEHR.

With such success on the 2004 auction, Area II has been asked to again organize the auction for the 2005 Directors' Seminar in Dallas, TX. So please set aside articles you are willing to contribute for 2005. You'll hear more about this in TTT in the Spring of 2005.

Meet Our New Twice Tolled Tales Publisher

Art Morgan is our new Twice Tolled Tales Publisher. He resides with his wife, Leona, in Marlton, NJ. Art started a handbell choir at Shawnee Baptist Church in Shamong, NJ, twenty-one years ago and has been its only director. Art has also served 7 1/2 years as the interim choir director at various times. He conducts "Men of Praise", a men's singing group, which is a summer ministry at the church. Art teaches Krystal Bells and has a Kidz Chime Choir. Along with Judy Dinkler, Art has been a handbell adjudicator for the last five years for Christian Schools for the entire northeast accredited with ASCI.

Art says "I'm warm and cuddly and have 2 (count 'em) teaching certificates in Ceramics, in case handbells go south. Please welcome Art to his new role in Area II.

Report from Directors' Seminar by Betty Garee Scholarship Winner, Karen Reinard

I wish to express my deep appreciation for awarding me the Betty Garee Scholarship so I could attend Part II of the Directors' Seminar in Norfolk, VA. It was a thrill to be a part of AGEHR's 50th anniversary celebration, to learn about our past and hear about the vision for the future.

My mind is still in a whirl from all that I experienced. As a new director to a 3-5 octave choir I had a lot to learn, so I filled my schedule with classes. I was not disappointed. I came back with a wealth of information, tips, exercises and techniques to teach my choirs, as well as a challenge not to just ring the right note at the right time, but to create melodic expressive music that is worshipful. But that wasn't all...I met so many wonderful people as I enjoyed the luncheons, a banquet, got caught up in bidding at the Silent Auction (and won some music), walked the myriad of HIS tables looking at all the handbell music and supplies and various area displays, or just sat quietly talking to a fellow director as we awaited a class to start. The concerts were exciting and inspiring as I saw and heard everything I was learning come together and go beyond, to stir my soul, and at times, bring a tear to my eye.

Thank you again for the opportunity to attend and to become equipped and motivated to be the best director I can for the Lord and my church. I can't wait to attend other area and national events, but my goal is to bring some of my ringers along with me.

Events Planned for Young Ringer's Festival 2005

The 2005 Young Ringers Festival will begin on Tuesday, July 5th, with a Welcome Meeting at 2:15 PM and the first massed rehearsal at 3:00 with Festival Clinician, Jason Wells. A complete schedule will be provided prior to this event.

Classes planned are:	Mallets, Marts & More	Maori Sticks	Solo Ringing
	Bell Trees	Computers and Bells	Recorder
	4 in Hand/Shelley Ringing	Funsterama	Cup Game
	Conducting	Button Making/Hat Decorating	

Other activities will include Swimming, Picnic Supper, a Giant Cup Game and a Talent Show.

Some of the instructors include:

Michael Joy	Janet Carter
Christine Anderson	John Leonard
Michael Kaestner	Karen Leonard
Louise Frier	

AREA II's Mentoring Program provides help for new bell choirs

When bells are purchased through one of the bell manufacturers a gift membership to AGEHR is also included. As part of that first year membership Area II offers a free orientation/getting started workshop to the organization, in order to get the choir started.

Since October of 2003, there have been 3 orientation workshops for new choirs. The workshop is a full-day session provided free to the new choir by an Area II clinician and covers basic ringing techniques and reading handbell music. The choir should be able to play several selections at the end of the session. The clinician will return to work with the choir again at the choir's expense. There are two more workshops of this type scheduled in November in Islip Terrace, NY and Jacobus, PA.

Additionally, Area II's mentoring program will provide a clinician for a choir that wants some additional help to look and sound better or needs some special assistance in reading and playing complicated rhythms. A clinician in the vicinity of the group requesting help will be assigned and those expenses will be paid by the group. This year 1 workshop of this type has already happened and another is scheduled in November.

The third way Area II provides assistance is to individual directors. This assistance is through special workshops for beginning directors or by providing individual assistance with specific issues.



AGEHR AREA II
TWICE TOLLED TALES

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The Raleigh Ringers

We'd like to thank everyone who contacted their public television stations last fall to televise "The Raleigh Ringers: One Winter Evening at Meymandi — A Holiday Special". Thanks to you, over 250 stations in 44 states showed our program! Although each station has the option of airing this seasonal show for 9 more years, they will be more likely to program it if they continue to receive requests for it. Won't you please consider helping the art of handbells reach audiences that have never seen bells before? Just call, email or write your local public television station to request that they program "The Raleigh Ringers: One Winter Evening at Meymandi - A Holiday Special" again this year. For help in finding information on the station nearest you, see our website:

www.rr.org

We appreciate your support!

Need Gift Ideas for the Holidays?

Our signature Tie Dyed Gloves are once again available for sale! Contact gloves@rr.org if you'd like ordering information.

CDs, DVDs, VHS tapes, T-shirts and other great gifts are available through our online store at www.rr.org.

If you'd like to subscribe to The Raleigh Ringers monthly electronic newsletter or snail mail list, please contact rradmin@rr.org.



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