# Twice Tolled Tales



AGEHR AREA II Winter 2005

# Message from the Chair

Peggy McNamee

Praise Him upon the loud cymbals, Praise Him upon the-well tuned cymbals (Psalm 150) - the well tuned cymbals are the handbells! The historical foundation for handbell ringing can be traced back to the earliest Christian Church. The latin word Cymbala, meaning up, was used in early times to mean both cymbals and bells. When our family was in Ireland, we visited an early monastic community. While my family was looking at the Celtic crosses, I was looking at a set of handbells dating back to 465 AD! To think we're a part of today's handbell ringing—and it's changing every day, but as in early handbell groups, every ringer must learn to work as one building a spirit of fellowship.

I hope that your choir will take advantage of the many spring festivals being held in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York. If you can't participate as a choir, attend a concert.

Plans for Bucknell are all falling into place. If you haven't registered, please do so as soon as possible. A listing of some of the classes is included in this newsletter, MANY classes are being offered, pre-registration for classes will be part of this festival. The forms will be sent to the contact person for the choirs after May 15th.

A 45th birthday celebration will be part of the Bucknell Festival. All past chairs will be contacted to be honored at our birthday party! If you have any pictures from past festivals we could borrow, we'd love to display them.

Area II has created an endowment fund. YOU have a chance to give to the Endowment Fund. If you wish to contribute \$45.00 in honor of our 45th anniversary, please send your check to Chris Braden. All contributions will be listed in our Festival Conference Booklet. You may give the donation in honor of a director, a choir, or an individual. All donations are tax-deductible, if you wish to make a donation, a form is included in Twice Tolled Tales for your use.

AGEHR and Area II have much to offer. If you know of a church or school that is not a member of AGEHR, tell them about us! I challenge you to recruit one new member in 2005.

### AGEHR AREA II BOARD MEMBERS 2003-2005

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tember, 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 II.

Robert Abaternaco Red Bank, NJ	Peter Hill Wayne, NJ	Jack Morgan S. Nunda, NY	Kris Smith Brewster, NY	West Minister Handbell Director
Grace Choi	Phoebe Kelleher	Terry Murray	St. Helens	Phillipsburg, NJ
Pittsburgh, PA	Gilbertsville, PA	Huntingdon, PA	Ronald McMillan Rochester, NY	Esther Williams Bronx, NY
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Blue Bell, PA	Mt. Joy, PA	Dayton, NJ	St. John's	Sue Woods
	•	•	Father Jan Byrum	Waynesburg, PA
Carol Frey	Elsie Kowalchyk	Rev. Robert Shank	Huntingdon, NY	, ,
Annadale, NJ	Melrose, NY	Stroudsburg, PA		
		-	Trinity United	
			Methodist	
			Jill Fedon	
			Washington, NJ	

### Handbell Sessions at the NJMEA Conference in East Brunswick, NJ

Two handbell sessions will be featured at the 2005 New Jersey Music Educators Conference to be held in East Brunswick, New Jersey on Thursday, February 24—Saturday, February 26. The first session, *Handbell Ringing for Individuals with Disabilities* will be presented by Sue Graves and Joyce Klinck, Co-directors of the "Joybells" from Melmark School in Berwyn, PA. The two come with a wealth of knowledge and experience with handbells and individuals with disabilities. The second session, *Handchimes—Not Joy a Toy* will be presented by Gail Posey, director of the handbell program at Eastern Regional High Schools in Voorhees, New Jersey. This session will include ideas on using handchimes in general music classes, literature available for elementary, junior high school chime choirs, and a ringing segment for attendees.

The AGEHR Area II will be represented in the Exhibit Hall on Thursday through Saturday. If you are planning to attend the NJMEA Conference, please stop by the AGEHR Area II booth and say hello. If you have a few extra minutes, volunteers are needed to assist with the exhibit. Please contact Gail Posey, NJ Chime Rep at gsposey@comcast.net if you are available to help.



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'T" to the stock

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		Atlantic

### **PENNSYLVANIA**

### Fifth Annual Western Pennsylvania Handbell Festival

The Fifth Annual Western PA Festival especially organized for choirs ringing two and three octaves featuring two and three octaves with Level 1 and 2 music will be held Saturday, April 9, 2005. The site will be Church of the Covenant in Washington, PA. Cost for the festival will be \$50 per choir, payable in advance.

We are most excited to have our own Nancy Lutz as our director. Nancy is Director of Handbells at Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church in suburban Pittsburgh. The handbell program consists of a graded program for children, a youth choir, two adult choirs and an adult ensemble of four. Nancy has been active in the National and Area AGEHR since 1999 when she was elected to represent Area 2 on the National Board of Directors. She was elected as an At Large member of the National Board in the 2003 election and will serve in that capacity until October 2005. She is currently the Chair of the Nominating Committee for the 2005 election. She also serves as Board Secretary. She is pleased to be the festival conductor for this year's Western PA Festival.

Again this year there will be classes on the festival day for ringers and directors. Advance registration will be required and space in some classes will be limited. The form will be posted on the Area II site. http://www.area2agehr.org/. There will be a limit as to the number of participants in the Solo and Ensemble Ring.

### Music List:

RING TOGETHER EASTER: "What Wondrous Love" Arr. McChesney L1 2-3 Octaves JHS9239, 3-5 Octaves JHS9259. (Another one of the five hymns from the collection used last year.) Collection of five Lenten and Easter hymns. Very accessible for the new choir. Employs several techniques. \$3.95

Continued on Page 7

### **MUSIC LIST** (Continued)

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and Easter hymns. Very accessible for the new choir.

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PAST THREE O'CLOCK, Tim Waugh L2

3-5 Octaves JHS9109

Traditional English Carol

I'VE GOT PEACE LIKE A RIVER Arr. Tammy

Waldrop L1 2-3 Octaves Alfred 19019

THE BLESSING Paul McKlveen NLG

3-5 Octaves Lake State Publication HB95030

REJOICE AND RING PRAISES! Robert B. Allen L2

2-3 Octaves AGEHR Publishing AG23022

### 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/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 e-mail any Area officer! We'll send you a brochure and application.

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

### **NEW JERSEY REPORT**

At the present time the NJ membership is 197. These members are divided into 9 districts with a coordinator heading each district.

Our thanks and best wishes go to Elaine Hansen who has served as a coordinator for district 5 (Monmouth and Middlesex counties) for several years. Elaine now has the opportunity to do some traveling.

We are looking for someone to replace Elaine, so if you live in one of these counties and are interested, please contact me.

Has your choir participated in a local festival, given a special concert or any other event? We would like to hear about it so that we can feature that in our news.

**Bylaw Revisions coming soon**—Your Area II Board has finally completed the long process of revising the bylaws, so that they would be in compliance with those of the National organization. After a number of drafts, the bylaws were sent to National for approval. A few additional revisions have been recommended by National. These changes will be made and as soon as those changes have been approved by the Area II Board, we expect to have final approval from National. When that approval is received, it will then be your turn!

Please watch your mail for a copy of the new bylaws. They will be arriving with the ballot for the officers to be elected. Once you review the bylaws, please cast your ballot (to be provided) to either approve or reject the new bylaws. Voting is an important privilege of membership in AGEHR and we hope you will exercise

### **RING IN ROMANIA**

Come with us on a 2-week music mission trip to the Carpathian Mountains of Romania. Ring in our Area II choir and mentor a new chime choir. Ringers from all over Area II will be joining together under the direction of Marilyn Shenenberger to play concerts in Deva, Criscior, and Hunedoara churches and castles. In addition, we will be visiting with the children at Emanuel Orphanage, and doing a joint concert with the chime choir there which began with the first set of chimes donated by Area II five years ago. We will mentor a brand new chime choir in Deva with a 3-octave set of chimes donated by Area II which we will take over with us. We have openings for 6 more ringers at this time. If you are interested in finding out more about this opportunity, contact Marilyn Shenenberger at handbelle@Comcast.net.

# **FESTIVAL CONFERENCE 2005**

# **Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA**

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 DIVISON

Lord of the Dance	Vicki Smith	СРН 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 DIVISON**

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**

Division A:				
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> :			1340 2201	. o octaves
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
Massed:				
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
Ringing Victoriously	Michael Mazzat- enta		Agape (Avail. In March)	





The motto of the AGEHR is "Uniting People through a Musical Art." Nowhere else is this more true than a Festival Conference. I touched upon this fact briefly in my first article. You meet people, learn from people and ring with people that you would normally never have the chance to meet. But the "uniting" goes deeper than that.

You know those people who just get on your nerves? They are at Festival Conference too. In fact, I could be one of them. Nevertheless, during that final concert, no matter who you stand next to, no matter who is ringing in your choir, no matter who is ringing in the choirs around you, everyone is there to ring the best concert ever. When you turn toward those people after the concert, what you think of them or what they think of you doesn't matter because the excitement of ringing erased all those feelings.

You, also, never know who you are going to meet at a Festival Conference. I met my high school prom date at a Festival Conference. Here's to Festival Conference 2005 "uniting" us "through a musical art."

Jeremy Peters

### **THOUGHT FOR TODAY**

**Worry** is like a rocking chair—it won't get you any place but it sure will keep you busy.

### Read and Ring 2006

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 our event. So save the dates of **August 13-16-2006** for this great event. Visit the website for more details www.splitrockresort.com.

### YOUNG RINGERS FESTIVAL

In case you still have any unanswered questions!

**Who is a Young Ringer?** For our Festivals we usually define Young Ringers as kids in grades 3 through 8. The average age is probably 6th and 7th grade. Young high school age kids who participate in your youth choirs are certainly welcome.

**Chaperones** are needed as mentioned on the registration form. And yes, a male one is needed if boys are coming along. Chaperones pay the same rate as the youth ringers and are expected to attend classes with the ringers. Hence, many find they are enjoying the bell ringing as much as the kids!

**Jason Wells**, our conductor for Bucknell is the conductor of Ring of Fire. This exceptional middle school choir from Oregon can often be seen on television or on tour across the country. Right now, they are preparing for another presidential inauguration appearance in Washington, DC. You will definitely enjoy Jason's youth, enthusiasm, and energy!

**Music Lists:** Division "A" is a little easier than "B". All choirs will ring the massed music if able. Please note the new composition winner title which will be available March lst.

### **Division A:**

**How Firm A Foundation**—Level 1+ - Sandra Eithun—2-3 oct. —Choristers Guild CGB305 **A Joyful Ring** Level 2—Barbara Kinyon— 2-3 oct.—Agape 1397 3-5 oct.—Agape 2281

### **Division B:**

Lord, I Want To Be A Christian—Level 1—Sandra Eithun—3 oct.—RW81449 Gaudio Exsultans—Level 2—Valerie Stephenson—3-5 oct.—AGEHR MAG35208 (Area 5 Young Ringers Composition winner)

### Massed:

**Processional and Bell Chime**—Level 1—Margaret Tucker—3 oct.—Choristers Guild CGB319 **Percussive Praise**—Level 1+ - Kevin McChesney—2-3 oct.—Choristers Guild MCGB311

**This Train**—Level 2—Patricia Cota—3 Oct.—Agape 2245

Exultation—level 1+ - Bill Ingram—2-3 oct.—Choristers Guild MCGB328

Area II Composition winner—"Ringing Victoriously" - Michael Mazzatenta

AGEHR publishing (available March 2005)

Classes to be held include: Maori sticks—always a favorite

Recorders—be sure to bring yours

Bell trees

Solo ringing with Christine Anderson

Rhythm and Technique classes

Conducting Computer

Button making and hat decorating

A giant "cup game"

Along with swimming and a picnic one evening we hope.

**The Concert** will be Thursday afternoon at 2:00 and is free to the public.

### COME—WE KNOW YOU WILL ENJOY THE YOUNG RINGERS FESTIVAL!

Any additional questions, contact Kathie Bittenbender at home 717-697-6257 or by email

RBittenben@comcast.net

### AGEHR—AREA II ENDOWMENT FUND GIFT

We're celebrating our 45th anniversary of Area II and we invite you to help us celebrate by making a gift to the AGEHR-AREA II Endowment Fund. This gift could be made in honor of your choir, director, a ringer or in memory of someone special. A gift of \$45.00 will make this possible. All gifts will be acknowledged in the program for the 2005 Festival Conference Massed Concert on July 10, 2005. Use the tear-off below to include the necessary information and mail with your gift to be received by 6/30/2005.

AGEHR—AREA II ENDOWMENT FUND GIFT			
Name of Donor	Amount of Gift		
In honor of or in memory of (please circle one)			
Mail to:			
Chris Braden 328 Queens Court Ridgewood, NJ 07450			



THE 2005 OGEHR HANDBELL FESTIVAL

May  $26 - 28^{th}$ , 2005

Theme: Bells Over Ottawa

The Ontario Guild of English Handbell Ringers (OGEHR) is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the upcoming 10<sup>th</sup> festival of handbells. This event will take place from May 26 to 28<sup>th</sup>, 2005 in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada with Guest conductors Kevin McChesney (Colorado), Michael Kastner (Colorado) and our own Barbara Plante (Ontario).

Over a period of three days, 500 handbell ringers coming from Ontario, Quebec, Nunavut and Maine will be practicing for a massed concert. The final concert on Saturday May 28<sup>th</sup> will be performed at the Corel Center (home of the Ottawa Senators hockey team) starting at 7:00 p.m.

To find out more about the upcoming festival, please visit our website at: www3.sympatico.ca/marcia.gosse/bellsoverottawa

Come and join us for this momentous occasion Any other inquiries may be directed to Marcia Gosse at (613) 731-2281.

### **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 receiver 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	Mailing Information
	Platinum Membership\$175.00	Name:
	Sterling Membership\$130.00	Address:
	Regular Membership\$65.00	City/State/Zip:
	Ringer Membership\$30.00  Must be affiliated with a choir of a regular member.  Membership number of choir:	Is the above a (check one):  □ Personal Address or □ Organization Address
	Senior Citizen Membership (65+)\$40.00 Individual membership, may not represent a group	Daytime Phone:
	Full-Time Student Membership\$30.00	Evening Phone:
	Business Membership\$130.00	E-mail:
	Canadian Membershipadd \$10.00 to all membership categories to cover additional postage	Name of Business/School/Church:
	International Subscription	This is a □ New Membership □ Renewal (Member #)
_	□ A. Overtones at Printed Matter rate \$65.00 US □ B. Overtones at First Class rate \$95.00 US	
	Mail to: AGEHR, Inc. 1055 East Centerville Station Road	Credit Card Information
	Dayton, Ohio 45459-5503	□ Visa □ MasterCard
	Make check/money order payable to: The AGEHR, Inc.	Card Number:
	Payment enclosed \$ (U.S. Funds)	Signature:
	All returned checks will incur a \$25 processing fee.	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
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 www.Nittanyvalleyhand bellfestival.org	Kermit Junker Clinician
April 22-24, 2005	North Hills Handbell Festival	Marshall Middle School Pittsburgh, PA	Marilyn Hines 724-794-8615	Charles Kelley Clinician
April 24, 2005	Central New Jersey Festival	Voorhees, NJ	Kenneth Kelley 609-924-0103	Eileen Laurence Clinician
May 26-28, 2005	2005 OGEHR Handbell Festival	Ottawa, Ontario, Canada	Marcia Grosse (613) 731-2281	Kevin McChesney Michael Kastner Barbara Plante
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		
August 13, 2006	2006 Area II Read and Ring Seminar	The Resort at Split Rock Lake Harmony, PA	Peggy McNamee 412-761-8910	David Weck L5-6 Monica McGowan Tim Waught L2-3 Michael Joy L1-2

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

The Wallenpaupack Area Middle School, Hawley, Pennsylvania, Debra Kettering, Director was one of the three recipients of the National Exemplary Award for Handbells/Handchimes for the school year 2003-2004. More information about the recipients is available in the January/February issue of Overtones). AGEHR and Area II is proud of the accomplishments of these programs and the excellence of music education that they demonstrate.

Congratulations to the other recipients, Westwood Junior High School, Elyria, Ohio, directed by Sallary Dellman. Jefferson County Public Schools, Colorado (directed by Dotty Reaves, application submitted by Caroline Mallory).

Debra serves on the Area II board as the Pennsylvania Chime Rep. Congratulations!

### **MENTORING REPORT**

I read a statement recently that really stood out to me. "Mentoring is widely acknowledged to be one of the best ways to ensure the successful development of a professional career." This is certainly a true statement in the area of the handbell world.

All new members who have just purchased bells are given a one year membership in AGEHR by the bell companies. These members are offered a FREE workshop from Area II in that first year. New members receive a letter with this information.

In the 9 months since we started our Orientation/Getting started mentoring program, we have conducted 8 workshops. Here are some of the comments from directors who received these workshops.

"As a director, I can read music but was never around bells. I learned from the Clinician by watching and listening."

"We greatly appreciate the help the clinician gave. Her instruction will benefit us greatly as we are a beginning bell choir who are eager to learn."

"We have many new people who do not read music so we covered the topics of basic counting, note values, correct bell positions and exercises related to bells.

"Thank you SO much! You've have given us all a great deal to work on".

"Without the workshop, it would haven taken us much longer to figure out the techniques, (if ever).

The second program is offered to all members who feel that they need some help with their bell program. Area II will provide a clinician for a nominal fee. Mentors can assist in evaluating strengths and weaknesses in a confidence building manner. In the last year we have conducted 6 mentoring workshops. Some comments from the directors.

"The workshop was fun and very helpful."

"Ringers were excited and really learned a lot."

"Thank you for your support as an organization. How nice to know you are there."

Judy Dinkler Mentoring coordinator jdinkler@pics.com 609-386-5770



### AGEHR AREA II TWICE TOLLED TALES

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