

Twice Tolloed Tales



Message from the Chair

Peggy McNamee

There is no music played or sung—like bells when they're well rung!

It is hard to believe that another church and school year has ended and we're into summer. I hope you all had a wonderful year with your handbell programs and that you are enjoying your summer. Perhaps I'll see you at a festival or conference.

Thinking of festivals, the Area II board met last weekend to work out final details for the Young Ringers' Festival and Festival Conference at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA. If you can't join us for the conference, perhaps you can come for a concert. The Young Ringers concert will be July 7th at 2:00 pm and the Festival Conference concert will be on Sunday, July 10 at 4:00 pm.

I am sure when your last handbell piece was rung this Spring, you breathed a little sigh of relief! I know I did, thinking "We made it through another year!" I recently read an article by Malcolm Wilson that made me think and I'd like to share part of it with you. "Little wonder that today it is asserted that handbell ringing is the fastest growing medium for music education in the world with churches playing a leading role in this growth. Today, when the move in churches is to involve people more, handbell ringing is a wholly appropriate instrument to use in church to promote the ideal of corporate praise as the method of using handbells in ministry. Every ringer must learn to work as one body which instills a spirit of fellowship and discipline." Imagine that! And we are a part of it whether we are directing or playing handbells in a church, a school or a community group! The AGEHR motto is *Uniting people through a musical art*. I feel incredibly blessed to be a part of this organization and the joy we bring through handbell ringing.

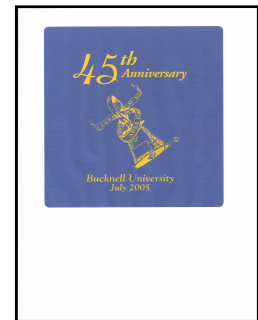
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Message from the Chair

Peggy McNamee

Last year Area II created our very own **endowment fund**. I am happy to announce that we awarded our first three grants at the May board meeting. See the article under grants in this issue. Here's a wonderful opportunity to contribute to the Area II Endowment. Since 2005 is our 45th year, we are suggesting that you might wish to contribute \$45.00 (or any amount) in honor of our 45th Anniversary. Please complete the form in this Twice Told Tales and send it to Chris Braden. You may designate your gift in honor of a director, a choir or an individual. All contributions will be listed in our 45th Anniversary Festival Conference Book.

I am proud of Area II and am honored to be your Chair.



Peggy McNamee

Master Class

There are just a few places left for Ringers in the Master Class. David Harris, conductor of the Master Class has room for a few good ringers. All Master Class ringers may also ring in the bronze division of the Festival Conference or even be in an Orphan Bronze Choir available if you are not ringing in another Bronze group. Please Register immediately.

The Master Class Music is:

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

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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 2003 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. All information for publication and advertisements should be sent to the editor: Art Morgan 200 Shady Lane, Marlton, NJ 08053 MMarlton@Juno.com

NEW MEMBERS

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

Brenda Aughenbaugh Brookville, PA	Sr. Mary Daniel Holmdel, NJ	Debbie Johnson Altoona, PA	Susan Outlaw Stallings Grantham, PA	First United Handbell Director Huntingdon, PA
Mary Helen Barr Albany, NY	Dr. DiDech Reading, PA	Elna Johnson Pittsburgh, PA	Thomas Peters Mechanicsburg, PA	Handbell Director McMurray, PA
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Cathy Danahy Cape May, NJ	Susan Hostler Franklin, PA	Sister Moffitt Ephrata, PA	Diane Zych Reading, PA	

ENDOWMENT FUND RECIPIENTS

The following are recipients of the monies from Area II Endowment Fund:

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Webster, NY—Marguerite Manning, Director

Princeton United Methodist Church, Prince, NJ—Yvonne Macdonald, Director

Oreland Presbyterian Church, Oreland, PA—Beth Jenkins, Director

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1102	50 gram tube	\$7.75
1103	250 gram can	\$22.25
1104	1000 gram can	\$61.00

Cleaning Cloths

Not pictured. Use one cloth to apply the polish to the bell casting. Remove the polish with a second cloth. A third cloth picks up any remaining residue. The lint-free interlocking knit does not unravel. Cloths may be washed and reused, but each washing reduces absorbency.

1011	4 Cloths	\$2.95
1014	16 Cloths	\$9.95

Cape Cod Metal Polishing Cloths

Use these treated cotton cloths to polish bronze castings quickly and easily. Safe for most metals, these cloths also protect by leaving an invisible layer of anti-tarnish protection.

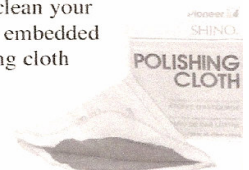
Each packet contains two 4" x 6" moistened polishing cloths in a reclosable foil pouch. The collector's tin of six 6" x 10" cloths includes one pair of nitrile gloves.

1108	Package of 2 Cloths	\$4.50
1109	Tin of 6 Cloths w/Gloves	\$16.95

Cloths for Polishing

After each rehearsal, use these cloths to clean your bells. Inner red cloth has jeweler's rouge embedded in the cloth for cleaning. The outer buffing cloth wipes away the rouge and light tarnish.

1001	Polishing Cloth	\$2.75
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9. Chris Neff	610-522-1119, cneff122@Juno.com	Cape May, Salem, Cumberland, Atlantic

Pennsylvania Report

Western Pennsylvania Festival Celebrates 5th Anniversary

The Western Pennsylvania Handbell Festival began in 2000 when a group of directors saw the need for a festival for beginning choirs. The 2005 Festival was held on April 9th at a Church of the Covenant in Washington, PA with Nancy Lutz as the conductor. The program contained five massed pieces, two choir solos, and solos by Sue Garton and Erin Glendening. During the day ringers could choose two classes to increase their ringing abilities. Seventeen choirs with 149 ringers attended the one day event.

New York State Report

Welcome Spring! As everyone thaws out from the winter, our thoughts go toward playing bells and preparing for the Area II Conference in July. Many choirs in NY are preparing by playing the conference music in concerts in their local churches and schools. Bravo! That is a great way to make sure your music is ready. Schoharie Bells and the Zion Community Ringers are particularly busy, playing at an Open House at the Zion Church in Cobleskill in May and June.

We have a school in Dobbs Ferry who is starting a bell program and is looking for an experienced choir to come and play a concert for them. If you are interested, please contact Bernard Garrett at music@stroseofflimaparish.org.

It is wonderful to see that the number of members in New York State has grown. Keep up the good work of recruiting new choirs. AGEHR is a wonderful resource for information and education.

There is an opening for a District Coordinator in the Albany Area. Anyone interested, please contact me at pspirko@earthlink.net.

Pam Spirko New York Representative

NEW JERSEY REPORT

On Sunday, April 24, 2005, twelve handbell choirs from New Jersey and Pennsylvania gathered for the annual Central New Jersey Handbell Festival. Eileen Laurence, Director of Music at the First Presbyterian Church in Katonah, New York was the guest conductor for the event. The Appalachian Brass Quintet assisted the bell choirs in two pieces for brass choir and handbells. Organized by Sue Lippincott (great job, Sue) and hosted by Gail Posey at Eastern Regional High School in Voorhees, NJ, the festival concert was well received by an enthusiastic audience. Thanks also to Ellen Johnson, Ken Kelley, and Ruth Stevens for assistance in the planning and preparation for the massed ringing event.

For those who would like to plan ahead, mark your calendar for Sunday, April 30, 2006 for the next Central New Jersey Handbell Festival.

Gail Posey
NJ Chime Rep.

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!

AGEHR Area II, Inc.
Survey Regarding Young Ringers Festivals

Area II has noticed a steady decline in numbers attending our Young Ringer Festivals. We want to change this! Please take time to answer our survey either here or online, then mail or email your answers back. Thanks so much!

AGEHR Area _____

Yes No I used to, but no longer have a Young Ringer choir.

Comments _____

Yes No We want to participate, but the cost has become prohibitive.

Suggestions _____

Yes No Area II usually has their Young Ringer Festival in the summer. This is not
a good time of year for our choir.

Suggestions _____

Yes No It is important to include an "overnight" for Young Ringer Festivals

Comments _____

Yes No I would like to see more local Young Ringer Festivals (perhaps one per
state, rather than one per area).

Comments _____

Yes No It is important to bring in a "well-known" conductor for Young Ringer
Festivals.

Comments _____

Yes No Young Ringers Festivals should be for individual ringers, not entire choirs.

Comments _____

Yes No Music to be performed should be learned at the Festival, not have to be
practiced ahead of time.

Comments _____

Yes No I would rather send my Young Ringers to workshops where they learn
techniques, etc. rather than take them to a Festival.

Comments _____

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this survey. Simply fold, tape, stamp and put it in the mail. The survey can also be done online at www.area2agehr.org.

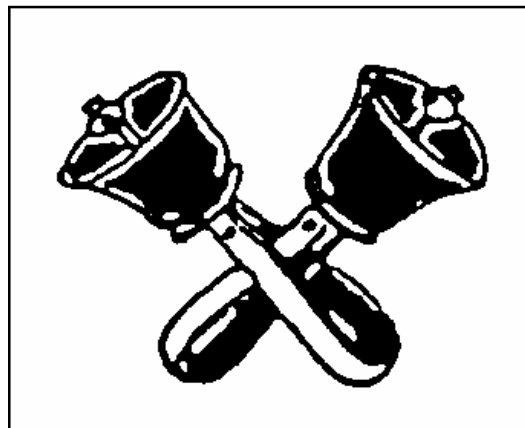
Send Survey to: Kathie Bittenbender
465 Rich Valley Road
Carlisle, PA 17013

2005 Festival Set For Bucknell University

Over 600 ringers are set converge on Lewisburg, PA & Bucknell University for the 45th Anniversary of Area II's Festival Conference this first week in July.. By now, all choirs have polished their bells, learned the music and are ready for a fun weekend ringing with Dr. William Payn. The clinicians are ready to add new information and experiences in the various classes scheduled. Solo concerts by several choirs are planned along with concerts by Christine Anderson and the New England Ringers. A special evening with many past chairs of Area II is planned. Registration begins at 11:30 AM.

Young Ringers Ready to Ring with Jason Wells

The 2005 Young Ringers Festival begins Tuesday, July 5th with registration in Sojka Pavilion at Bucknell University from 10:30 to 2:00 PM. The first Massed Rehearsal with Jason Wells begins at 3:00 PM. Lots of fun classes, other activities and a giant cup game will make for a fun three days ending with the concert at 2:00 PM on Thursday, July 7th.





I attended the New Jersey Music Educators Conference in East Brunswick, NJ on February 24-25, 2005. Area II sponsored two workshops for New Jersey music educators: *Handbell Ringing for Individuals with Disabilities*, presented by Sue Graves and Joyce Klinck, co-directors of the “Joybells” from Melmark School in Berwyn, PA and *Handchimes—Not Just a Toy* presented by Gail Posey, director of the handbell program at Eastern Regional High Schools in Voorhees, New Jersey. Both sessions were well-attended and well-received by those in attendance. Area II was represented in the Exhibit Hall Thursday through Saturday. As in past years, many teachers stopped for information on Area II AGEHR programs. We had an overwhelming response to our offer to lend 3 octave sets of handchimes to schools and churches. I am aware of at least 3 music teachers who submitted applications for our Chime Lending program! I think this is a wonderful way for music educators to allow administrators, School Board members, and parents to see what a great teaching tool the chimes can be. Thanks to the Area II Board members for supporting this important part of handbell education.

Gail Posey

New Jersey C.H.I.M.E. Rep

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

The most important things in life aren't things.

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

Attention Young Ringers! I hope there are a few more of you planning to attend our Festival at Bucknell University this summer. The dates: Tuesday, July 5 through Thursday, July 7. Our final concert will be held at 2:00 on Thursday. A reminder, we are bringing in Jason Wells, the director of *Ring of Fire* as our massed conductor! You won't want to miss him!

In addition to Jason, Christine Anderson will be giving a concert and teaching solo ringing. Louise Frier will join in Christine's concert and teach classes in bell trees. Michael Kastner, one of the leaders of the STEP program, will also be a clinician. The ever popular class of maori sticks will return. Other class choices will be in conducting, computers in music, recorders, button making and hat decorating.

The dorms and ringing space are air conditioned. The food is delicious, with many choices! And Bucknell has an Olympic size swimming pool! Don't forget the talent show! It's always a fun evening.

Come—ring what you can—but COME! You won't want to miss it! If you have questions, don't hesitate to be in touch at rbittenben@comcast.net or phone 717-697-6257.

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

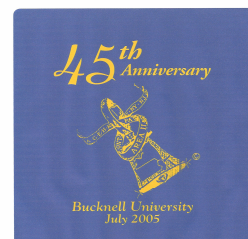
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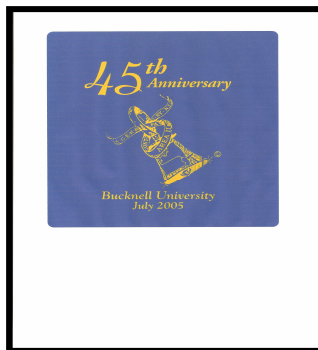
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328 Queens Court
Ridgewood, NJ 07450**



Area II Past Chairs

Since this is the 45th Anniversary of Area II, we thought it might interest you to know who the past Chairs were. They are as follows:

1960	Doris Watson
1962	Lois Boren Scholes
1965	Andrew Flanigan
1967	G. Richard Zimmerman
1968	Mario Sinsi
1970	Lilly McGregor
1972	Dan Hermany
1974	Howard LeFevre
1976	William A. Payn
1977	Dottie Reed
1979	Dottie Reed
1981	Richard Frey
1983	Carol Coughenour
1985	Lloyd Pilkington
1987	Marilyn M. Hines
1989	Howard E. Moser
1991	Janice M. Peters
1993	Robert J. Ward
1995	Janet Carlson
1997	Judith E. Treisback
1999	Carol Roman
2001	Kenneth Kelley
2003	Peggy McNamee



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.....\$175.00
- Sterling Membership\$130.00
- Regular Membership.....\$65.00
- 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.....\$130.00
- Canadian Membership add \$10.00
to all membership categories to cover additional postage
- International Subscription
- 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
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: _____

This is 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
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	Liberty Corner Pres. Church Liberty Corner, NJ	Shelley Giaier 908-832-7957	Tim Waugh Clinician
August 13-15, 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 Waugh L2-3 Michael Joy L1-2

THE AREA V 2006 SPRING FESTIVAL CONFERENCE

March 3-4-2006

The Area V Spring 2006 Festival/Conference will be held at the John S. Knight Center in Akron Ohio on March 3 and 4, 2006. Housing will be in the Crowne Plaza Quaker Square. And, our guest conductor will be Area II's own William Payn. Come join the fun in Area V. Registration will be \$65.00 per ringer and includes a box lunch for Saturday.

To find out more about the upcoming festival, please visit our website at:

www.area2agehr.org

For additional information contact:

Skip Sluder (812) 332-7323—sluderc@indiana.edu

MENTORING REPORT

As of our last board meeting, we have added another phase to our Mentoring Program. We now have 3 types of workshops that we offer to those who need help with their bell groups.

The new phase will be for those who have applied and received chimes from our lending program. We will call this our *Lending Program Workshops*. If a director has received the chimes and feel they need help in knowing what to do with the chimes in their school or church, Area 2 will supply a clinician to have a workshop with that director.

Our other two phases are going well. The *Orientation/Getting Started* Program for new members with new bell sets has provided 9 workshops since last October when our program started.

The *Mentoring Program* for established choirs has also been successful. We have conducted 4 workshops. There is a nominal fee for these workshops.

We trust that more of you will take advantage of this helpful program.

More information can be found on our web site or you may contact me.

Judy Dinkler
Mentoring Chair

The Raleigh Ringers

Saturday, June 18, 2005 - 7:00 pm
Shaler Intermediate School
Glenshaw, PA (north Pittsburgh)

For tickets or more information, contact
Nancy Lutz at RRingPgh@aol.com

For a complete concert schedule, see www.rr.org



Subscribe to The Raleigh Ringers' e-newsletter and receive monthly email updates about the group.

New in 2005:

Want to raise some funds for your group? Learn about The Raleigh Ringers consignment program!

The Raleigh Ringers 8516 Sleepy Creek Drive
Raleigh, NC 27613 866-717-7464 ringer@rr.org



AREA II 2007 COMPOSITION CONTEST



2007 Young Ringers' Festival Composition

2007 Festival Conference Composition

Prize: \$750

Prize: \$1000

- An original handbell composition suitable for Young Ringers' massed ringing
 - 2-3 octaves, AGEHR level 2 or 2+
 - Optional handchimes or other instruments may be used
- An original handbell composition suitable for massed ringing
 - 3-5 octaves, AGEHR level 3
 - Optional handchimes or other instruments may be used

Deadline: May 1, 2006

Contest Rules

1. ONLY ORIGINAL, UNPUBLISHED WORKS MAY BE SUBMITTED. Entries may not be under consideration by any other contest or publisher while being considered by Area II.
2. Please use AGEHR publication *Handbell Notation and Grading System* as a reference guide for all compositional notation.
3. Composers may enter as many manuscripts as they wish, but each one is to be sent under a separate cover.
4. Send six (6) copies of the original piece on 8.5" by 11" paper. Include title, category, bells used chart, optional instruments, and duration. DO NOT INCLUDE THE COMPOSER'S NAME ON THESE COPIES.
5. Prepare a cover sheet containing title, composer's name, address, and evening telephone number.
6. Decision of the judges is final. Area II reserves the right to select entries that, in its sole judgment, are suitable for its festivals' purpose.
7. Winning entries will be performed at the 2007 Young Ringers' Festival and Festival Conference.
8. Area II will request a suitable dedication line when the composition is published. Area II reserves the right to be the sole dedicatee.
9. Winning compositions may **not** be played in any festival, neither area nor local, prior to the 2007 Area II Young Ringers' Festival and Festival Conference.
10. Area II adheres to copyright laws. Copyright obligations and adherence to copyright laws is expected of all composers.
11. **ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MAY 1, 2006.**

Mail to: Kathie Bittenbender, Area II composition Contest, 465 Rich Valley Road, Carlisle, Pa. 17013
 Questions? For questions, please Contact Kathie Bittenbender, (717)697-6257 Email: rbittenben@comcast.net

ARE YOUR HANDBELLS INSURED?

On August 28, 2004, a stubborn cloudburst hovered over our little town of Everett, in south central Pennsylvania, for several long hours. Water from a tiny stream that flows through town, and underneath the Everett Church of the Brethren, began to overflow its banks. After breaking through a church basement window, floodwater was soon surging down into the entire basement, to a depth of several feet.

Unfortunately, our 4-octave set of handbells and newly purchased choir chimes were stored in a low cupboard in the Music Room in the church basement. By the time firemen reached the basement to pump out water and save our instruments, the bell cases were floating inside the locked cupboards. Muddy water poured from them when they were finally carried upstairs to safety. Even though they were immediately removed from the cases, dried and cleaned by church members, extensive damage had already been done.

Because our insurance policy for the handbells had been vaguely written..."4 octave instruments," it was quite a struggle to recover insurance payments for the refurbishing the entire set of damaged bells and choir chimes. The company finally agreed to pay for new cases also, after documentation that cases are necessary for storage of the bells. No payment was made for hundreds of dollars worth of music lost in the flooded file cabinets and other damaged items that had to be thrown away.

We strongly suggest that churches and organizations check their insurance policies to cover present *replacement costs* in case of loss. Compare prices in a supply catalog to figure what it would take to replace all your present octaves of handbells, choir chimes and cases, plus all equipment necessary; tables, pads, covers, notebooks, gloves, mallets, music, etc. The final price may surprise you, as costs have increased through the years.

Our handbells and all equipment are now stored safely upstairs, and we had to find a new practice room. Once again, we are back to ringing, thankful that our church stewards had the foresight to have some insurance coverage for our precious instruments. From now on, the policy will include a clearly written itemized list of *all* replacement costs. From our sad experience, we encourage those involved in handbell programs to annually review storage space, plan for quick removal of equipment in case of an emergency, and have an up to date, accurate insurance policy!

Doris Dibert
Handbell Choir Director



**AGEHR AREA II
TWICE TOLLED
TALES**

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Pittsburgh, PA 15216

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