



Newsletter

NATIONAL OFFICE

www.handbellmusicians.org

Mountain Sub-Area Chair - Mary Moffett
Mary_Moffett@comcast.net

Desert Sub-Area Chair - Libbie Randels
libbier70@aol.com

From the Chair.....

It's hard to believe that the Area 11 Festival is now just a memory! What a wonderful memory it is!! We had 229 attending from 13 different states and 98 of those were first-timers. We had 66 youth and 14 chaperones for our *Sting and Ring* Track. Our new more individualized format was well-received!! Everyone was challenged to become a better handbell musician and from the comments on the evaluation forms, they did just that!!

In this issue of the e-newsletter, I will try to thank everyone who helped make our festival such a great success.

The planning began almost as soon as the 2010 Festival in Tucson was over. Linda Maloney and Sharon Sparlin, our Area 11 Event Planners, were already hard at work planning for 2012. Their wisdom and expertise were instrumental from beginning to end. Marcy Hontz was always ready to communicate the latest *BUZZ!* The worker bees were ready to help with bell wrangling, equipment set-up, airport runs, registration, and a myriad of other tasks.

Monica McGowan and Doug Benton put in many long and hard hours servicing the borrowed sets of bells and chimes so they would play and sound beautiful. Our clinicians and facilitators - Lee Afdahl, Monica McGowan, Michael Kastner, Linda Maloney, Doug Benton, Susan Hedgpeh, Terry Waite, Shannon Casey, and Leila Norris were well-prepared and ready to share their skills and talents with us.

Jeffers Handbell Supply and Handbell Services were great places to shop! The hotel staff at the Little America was fabulous and many became our special friends during the week!!

Special thanks to LeAnna Willmore and the Bells on Temple Square for an exquisite concert!! LeAnna also helped to arrange our visit to Music and the Spoken Word on Sunday morning.

Our Ring of Fame Luncheon at the Grand America Hotel was very special. We honored our newest inductees, Roy and Jennie Blomquist, and Doug Benton. Many people remarked that they had never seen Doug Benton

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**Deadline for August Newsletter
July 25, 2012
Advertising deadline 7/20/12**

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E-notes - Sign up for your monthly national GUILD news or ringEr-Notes at www.handbellmusicians.org
Click the Music and Resources tab. You do not have to be a member of Handbell Musicians of America to get E-notes or RingEr-Notes.
Tell your friends!

PLEASE

Be sure to keep your e-mail address up-to-date to receive the latest news.

“speechless”!! What a special moment. It was also great to have two other Ring of Fame recipients, Ed Duncan and Bill Wood, in our midst.

I don't think any of us will ever forget our 40th Birthday Party and Rick Schwemmer entertaining us with cowbells, accordion and much more. I can hardly wait to see the photographs that Gail Masinda, our festival photographer took!!

It was an honor and a pleasure to have the 2012 Festival in Salt Lake City and my home state of Utah. Most of all I want to thank each of you for coming. YOU were the success of this event and you each hold a special place in my heart. I look forward to seeing you all again in Colorado for 2014, if not sooner!

Until then.....

Happy Ringing,
Claudette

FESTIVAL 2012 IS HISTORY NOW THE REST OF THE STORY!



THANK YOU TO ALL THE WORKER BEES!!

Glen Peleti
Barb Hartman
Ryan Kunz
Bill Rothwell
Jane Wolfarth
Melanie Dewey
Kaitlyn Frayser
Becky Stevens
Susan Hedgpeth
Jan Weiser

Emma Reece
Matt Compton
Becca Wood
Eric Conrad
Zach Fox
Greg Osojnak
Nick Peters
Adam Waite
Brian Waite
A.J. Jolley

Wesley Ringers “Secret Bees”
Area 11 Board

Sue Hahn, Libbie Randels, Mary Moffett,
Jessie Sume, Marcy Hontz, Cathie Olds,
Linda Maloney, Sharon Sparlin



WHERE WERE WE FROM?

REMEMBER, AREA 11 IS
ARIZONA, COLORADO, NEW MEXICO,
UTAH and WYOMING.

Arizona – 14	Georgia – 1
Colorado – 78	Iowa – 1
New Mexico – 28	Texas – 7
Utah – 80	Minnesota – 2
Wyoming – 12	North Carolina – 1
Nebraska – 3	South Dakota – 1
	Tennessee – 1



ISN'T IT GREAT TO HAVE PEOPLE
COMING FROM OTHER AREAS TO HAVE
FUN LEARNING AND
HELP CELEBRATE AREA 11'S
40TH BIRTHDAY ?



The following Utah schools, churches, and community groups allowed Area 11 to borrow their bells, handchimes and miscellaneous equipment for our Festival.

THANK YOU!!

Brighton High School – Cottonwood Heights
Davis High School – Kaysville
Herriman High School – Herriman
Jordan High School – Sandy
Murray High School – Murray
Summit Christian Academy – Salt Lake City
Wasatch High School – Heber City
Woods Cross High School – Woods Cross
Barbara Hartman – Sandy
Bells of Joyful Sound – Salt Lake City
Community Presbyterian Church – Brigham City
Community United Methodist Church – Ogden
Cottonwood Creek Bells – Sandy
First Congregational Church – Salt Lake City
First Presbyterian Church – Ogden
First United Methodist Church – Ogden
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church – Salt Lake City
Grace Lutheran Church – Sandy
Hilltop United Methodist Church – Sandy
LeAnna Willmore – Bountiful
Utah Valley Handbell Ringers and Karen Eskew-Wyllie – Springville
Wasatch Presbyterian Church – Salt Lake City
Wesley Bell Ringers, Christ United Methodist Church – Salt Lake City
Westminster Presbyterian Church – Fruit Heights
Area 11 Chimes

Monica and Doug Ready for the Guinness Book of World Records!

Monica McGowan and Doug Benton must have set a record for their marathon handbell and handchime servicing. In two days they put in more than 60 man-hours servicing 585 handchimes, and 1,171 handbells, for a total of 1,756 instruments. That's about 2.05 minutes or less per instrument!!!!

AMAZING! HOW DID THEY DO THAT!!!!!!



FROM THE EVALUATION SHEETS

Comments from YOU

BEST THINGS:

- Great clinicians!
- Liked being done earlier on Sunday.
- No music to buy and no equipment to schlep!!
- This format was easier to attend as an orphan as compared to massed ringing.
- Great to see so many newbies and so many youth.
- I liked seeing the music first at festival – no bad habits to unlearn.
- I loved spending so much time getting to know the people around me in my track. I am going home having made tons of new friends!
- The entire event was SUPER FUN!
- The Bells on Temple Square concert.
- The Festival Showcase was great!

BEST WAYS TO IMPROVE:

- Needed more classes for non-ringing track folks.
- Have HIC exhibits in more visible area.
- Rooms for classes were too cold.
- Needed more information to help people better place themselves into tracks.
- Better signs and maps of the venue would have helped.
- We were a bit crowded at the ringing tables. It was hard to keep from clunking. And some in back rows had trouble seeing director.
- It would have been nice to have a few more different breakout sessions.
- A suggestion might be to have “first time participant” info. I was not sure what I needed to bring to the workshops.
- More instruction for the “beginners”.
- Include breakfast each day. It gives us a time to meet together.



AREA 11 FESTIVAL SUNDAY MORNING EVALUATION MEETING

--An opportunity for a face-to-face evaluation discussion.--

NEW TIMERS

It would have been nice to have had the individual schedules in the packets (some people forgot what they signed up for)

It was hard to decide what track to sign up for, especially for new ringers, or those new to festival ringing

Music was not available until the festival – some would have liked to have looked at it ahead of time

The Copper-Lite to Copper had a wide range of ringing abilities (frustrating for some)

Will have high expectations next time, since this was such a good festival!

Have the breakout classes designed for different ringing levels

(Continued on next page)

(Evaluation Discussion - cont. from previous page)

OLD TIMERS

Liked not having music ahead of time, everyone was starting at the same place

Also would have liked more info on the different tracks and help deciding which one to sign up for

Some of the classes were too long for the content and somewhat repetitive

Different techniques were not taught the same by all clinicians. Perhaps the clinicians could get together ahead of time and come to an agreement on what to teach

Instead of having separate techniques classes, maybe the clinicians could include teaching techniques in the ringing tracks. Then you could start the tracks sooner.

VENDORS

Everyone would like to have the vendors more visible and on the first floor. (with easier access)

Would like more time to shop.

REGISTRATION

Include a map of hotel conference area in packet (room layout)

Include tickets in packet (or better signs at registration, ie Stop 1, Stop 2, Stop 3, etc)

Hotel staff was VERY friendly and VERY helpful

Have an opening “meeting” for announcements

CONCERNS

Mallets were a big issue as not everyone brought them

YOUTH TRACK DISCUSSION

There was such a wide range of kids, both in age (12 – 19) and in ringing ability, that Susan wasn't able to manage and work with the kids at both ends

Some of the kids weren't challenged enough

Terry Waite would have liked to have had the kids mixed in with the adults, rather than separate

Brand new ringers really struggled

Bell assignments were not always what was asked for

Jessie Sume, our Youth Representative said she liked the separate track for youth. Kids don't learn the same as adults. And, it is good for the kids to get to know each other and come together as a group.

Suggestion: have a track of “new” ringers that is intergenerational.



Final comment: several people were happy that the festival was NOT held on Father's Day weekend, as in the past.

BUT WAIT! THERE'S MORE! PICTURES! PICTURES! PICTURES

The photographer for our festival, Gail Masinda, is planning to have all of the photos available on Monday, July 2. Go to her website, www.asweseenature.com and look at the menu bar at the top of the home page. Click on "Galleries", then "Handbells - Salt Lake City" (you will see a photo of a bee on a yellow flower. Click on the picture.) For your privacy, this gallery is password protected. Enter the password, buzz, when prompted. (Just 4 lower case letters - **buzz** - it's what a bee does!) All of the photos will show a copyright 'watermark'. (Don't worry, it won't appear in any photos you purchase). The photos online are sized for web viewing (too small to print) but are great for sharing through email, Facebook and twitter. If you have any questions, please contact Gail gailandjohn@asweseenature.com

www.AsWeSeeNature.com

Gail Masinda, Area 11 2012 Festival Photographer

*2012 Salt Lake City Festival photos will be available to order soon!
Choose from hundreds and enjoy!*

OTHER IMPORTANT AREA 11 NEWS

THE ELECTION RESULTS ARE IN!!

Jeannine Holt from Colorado will be our new Chair-Elect and Rick Meurer from Arizona will be our Secretary/Treasurer. Congratulations to both Jeannine and Rick who will begin their terms in September. Thanks to all of our candidates who ran this year. They were all outstanding and well qualified individuals and it is hoped we will see them in action in many ways in the future.

FESTIVAL 2014

Plans are already underway to hold Festival 2014 in Colorado. Remember, area festivals are held only every OTHER year. In the meantime, participate in workshops, Spring Rings or other HANDBELL MUSICIANS OF AMERICA events close to home. You'll be amazed at what new things you'll learn to become a better ringer.

TWO HANDBELL DIRECTOR POSITIONS OPEN

Littleton United Methodist Church (Littleton,Co) seeks an experienced handbell director to conduct established adult choir. Five octave Schulmerich handbells, four octave Malmark Chimes. Wednesday evenings 7 - 8:30 p.m. Please submit letter of interest and resume by **August 15** to David Kates, Director of Music and Worship Ministries at davidkates@littletonumc.org.

North Scottsdale (AZ) United Methodist Church is seeking a Director for their Adult Hand Bell Choir. This is a salaried position. Responsibilities include: Leading the choir for weekly rehearsals September - May and on the 4th Sunday of the month during Sunday morning worship services. The Hand Bell choir also participates at special services during Advent and Lent. NSUMC owns 5 octaves Malmark Bells and 3 octaves Malmark hand chimes.

For more information please contact Darin Read, Director of Music: darinread1@cox.net or by calling 602-315-7347.

Church website: www.nsumc.com

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6603 Queen Ave S, Suite S
Richfield, MN 55423