



Handbell Musicians  
OF AMERICA

[www.area11.handbellmusicians.org](http://www.area11.handbellmusicians.org)

Area 11

# Newsletter

NATIONAL OFFICE

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

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From the Chair.....

*81 Days and Counting.....*

*2012 Area 11 Festival/Conference*

*June 21 - 24 in Salt Lake City, Utah*

*Beeeeeeeeee.....ENERGIZED !!!*

Spring is in the air! We can see signs of it all around – from the buds on the trees, the blooming daffodils and crocus, the chirping sounds of the birds, and yes, the sight of those energetic neighbors who are already at work in their yards! It is refreshing to emerge from our winter hibernation and we just can't help but be **energized** by the warmth of the sun.

This time of year also brings the season of Spring Rings, not only in Area 11, but all around the country. I have attended many Spring Rings through the years and an interesting thing occurs at almost all of them. We work hard at ringing all day long, in fact, we wear ourselves out ringing! And yet, at the end of the day we are **ENERGIZED!!** Wow – how does that happen? We are totally exhausted but the “thrill” of what we just accomplished seems to give us a new energy, a new passion for what we do. There is an energy that flows through the room that is awesome! It is like we are all on a “handbell high”!! Believe me, participating in handbell events can do this to you!! I hope you are all planning to attend the 2012 Area 11 Festival in June where we will all be **ENERGIZED** by the learning that will take place. We will ring, ring, and ring some more, and have FUN while doing it!

**The Area 11 Festival/Conference will soon be here!**  
**Are you ready to BEEeeeeee.....ENERGIZED?**

(Cont. on page 2)

**Deadline for May Newsletter**  
**April 25, 2012**  
**Advertising deadline 4/20/12**

In this issue....  
BEEeee Energized  
Loaner Chime Application Deadline  
Festival Registrations Continue  
Spring Ring Updates  
Distinctly Bronze West

**NEW AREA 11 WEBSITE**  
**LAUNCHING NEXT WEEK!!**  
**Anticipated date - April 9**



**E-notes** - Sign up for your monthly national GUILD news or ringEr-Notes at [www.handbellmusicians.org](http://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.

(From the chair - cont.)

Personally, I am **energized** by the number of first-timers and youth we have registered for the Festival. To date we have over 60 youth registered to attend and that is something to celebrate! And almost half of our current registrants are first-time attendees!! WOW!!

### **HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR REGISTRATION??? If not, don't be left out!!**

I am **energized** by the work that your Area 11 Board is doing to plan the various events for the year(s) to come. I am **energized** by all who have already "volunteered" to help facilitate these events – THANK YOU!! Be sure to stay informed so YOU won't miss out on the events and learning opportunities in your neck of the woods.

I have just returned from the annual Area Leadership meeting where leaders from all twelve Areas of Handbell Musicians of America come together with the National Board to learn from each other, discuss new plans and vision for the future of the Guild. Yes, I am **energized** by the possibilities that are before us!

I hope you will all be **energized** when you see the unveiling of our "NEW" Area 11 website!! Marcy Hontz, our webmaster has been hard at work for months to make our new site look good, be easy to navigate and contain all the necessary information. We both look forward to your comments (*and be sure to send Marcy a note of thanks*)!!

Visit [www.area11.handbellmusicians.org](http://www.area11.handbellmusicians.org) often to stay informed!!

Lastly, I am **energized** by the e-mails and phone calls I have received from many of you. I love to hear your enthusiasm for the upcoming Festival and the joy you are experiencing from ringing handbells!!

Until next month.....*Happy Spring!*

*Claudette*

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## **Loaner Chime Application Deadline Is June 1!**

Do you know an elementary teacher or a church musician who would welcome a different way to bring the magic of music to the classroom? Would this person welcome the opportunity to introduce chime ringing to children in the 2012-2013 school year? Area 11 will place three octave sets of chimes at seven locations where a music program would be enhanced by such a loan. Information about the program and the application forms can be found at our web site: [area11.handbellmusicians.org](http://area11.handbellmusicians.org). Click on "Chime Loan Program" in the left hand column on the home page.

Spread the word; think of a place where children would benefit from an introduction to ringing. Don't let the June 1 deadline pass without contacting someone you know about this opportunity!



## **Area 11 Festival Registration Continues**

All registration materials and information are available at:

[www.area11.handbellmusicians.org](http://www.area11.handbellmusicians.org) A \$200 deposit may be made at any time

with the balance due **before, on and no later than May 15, 2012**. Registration is on an individual basis, but you must supply a guild membership number. (Available on the back cover of Overtones magazine. Near the mailing label.) Don't delay. You will have to make some choices for classes when registering so get started now! Registration, covers classes (you will have to choose a track) some meals and your hotel room (double occupancy). Music is supplied according to the track you are taking. Bells, tables, and foam will be supplied. No dragging your own equipment! Although if you prefer, you may bring your own bells for the ensemble track if you are coming as a group for those sessions.

## Utah Spring Ring - by Terry Waite

The Utah Spring Ring was held on March 10<sup>th</sup> at Riverton High School in Riverton, Utah, under the direction of Kevin McChesney. There were 264 ringers registered, representing 20 choirs. Eight high school choirs, one junior high school choir and several youth choirs from area churches participated, giving the event a decidedly youthful feel.

All of the choirs came prepared to play the music which allowed Kevin to spend a lot of time working with the choirs on their ringing technique. Many of the directors greatly appreciated the time Kevin spent on controlling the volume and increasing the precision of malleted and martellato passages.

The closing concert was attended by well over 300 people. They were treated to a very moving performance of Cathy Mokolbust's "Beautiful Savior", made possible by Kevin's moving explanation of the story behind the arrangement. "Simple Gifts" and "David's Dance" proved to be a challenge for all of the choirs and a treat for the audience. The program closed with Kevin McChesney's "The Strife is O'er" accompanied by a brass quintet from Bingham High School, their director Darin Graber.



## Northern Colorado Festival - by Sue Hahn

Ringers of all ages from Wyoming, Nebraska and Colorado gathered for the Northern Colorado Festival, held at the Mountain View Presbyterian Church in Loveland, Colorado, on Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. With Paul Gentry as the guest conductor, 147 ringers from 17 choirs had a wonderful day of ringing. Paul currently is the artistic director for the Denver Bronze, an auditioned community ensemble in south metro Denver. Paul has been ringing handbells since he was 9 years old. His mother and her choir from Gering, Nebraska were in attendance.

Mountain View's Joyful Ringers, led by Susan Chapman, were wonderful hosts for the day, rounding up extra chairs, answering questions and giving directions. The youth group from Mountain View served a wonderful BBQ lunch.

Over 150 people attended the 4:30 pm concert. Susan Chapman stepped up to the microphone during the concert to play the flute on two pieces. Three choirs rang solo pieces for the concert (Messiah's Ringers from Longmont, Risen Savior Ringers from Broomfield, and the Memorial Handbell Choir from Littleton).





~~~~~FUN THINGS TO DO IN UTAH~~~~~

## Natural History Museum of Utah

**Address:** 301 Wakara Way, Salt Lake City, UT

**Website:** <http://nhmu.utah.edu/museum/about?q=museum/our-new-home>

The **Natural History Museum of Utah** is pleased to be open in our new home, **the Rio Tinto Center**, to serve as the state's new natural history museum building. Located in the foothills above Salt Lake City, the building is an accomplishment of the community and will serve to further the Museum's mission; *to illuminate the natural world and humans place within it*. Nestled into the foothills of the Wasatch Mountain Range, the Rio Tinto Center rests on a series of terraces that follow the contours of the hillside, blending into the environment. The building is located along the **Bonneville Shoreline Trail**, a popular location for hiking and mountain biking, which serves as the Museum's "main street". The building is immediately recognizable due to the 42,000 square feet of **standing seam copper** that wraps the exterior of the building. The copper, mined from Kennecott Utah Copper's **Bingham Canyon Mine** located across the Salt Lake Valley from the new Museum site, is installed in horizontal bands of various heights to represent the layered rock formations seen throughout Utah.

Visitors enter the Level 1 Foyer to purchase admission and register for events. From there, they climb the main staircase, or take an elevator, to emerge in the main lobby area, which we call **the Canyon**. Three-stories high and featuring a **Collections Wall** displaying over 500 objects from the Museum's collection, the Canyon is our central public and gathering space.

From the Canyon, visitors can enjoy **spectacular views** of the Salt Lake Valley, begin to explore the Museum's **Trailhead to Utah** system, enter the exhibit galleries, or enjoy the **Museum Store and Cafe**.



**Utah Fun Fact** - Utah is the number one per-capita consumer of Jell-O brand gelatin. The dessert was recognized in 2001 as the "Official State Snack."

### **SUMMER AUDITIONS FOR COMMUNITY CHOIR IN SCOTTSDALE, AZ**

- Campanillas del Sol, an auditioned, advanced level handbell ensemble is having auditions throughout the summer. If you are interested please call or email to set up an appointment. Rjblomq@qwest.net. 480-998-5568. Roy Blomquist director. Read more about the group at [www.campanillasdelsol.org](http://www.campanillasdelsol.org).

### **SPRING RING UPDATES**

#### **ONE MORE TO COME - April 20-21, 2012**

**Wyoming Spring Ring.** Clinician is Monica McGowan. It's not too late to sign up for this one. They will accept registrations up until the day of the event. Cost \$15 per ringer. Details [here](#). Contact for the event, Carolyn Deuel, says, "Everyone is welcome. The more the merrier!"

See reports of the Spring Rings/Festivals held in March on page 3 in this newsletter.

### **F. Y. I. - Thrifty Car Rental Discount for SLC Conference Attendees!**

**Rent any vehicle and receive 8% off the lowest rate available at time of booking.**

**For Reservations options: Click the link below.**

<http://www.thrifty.com/deals/regular/SLC8.aspx>

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l - r Barbara Baker, Lea Ann Hinde, Cathy Anderson , Jill Kleven,  
(Enchantment, NM) and Libbie Randels  
(Handbell Ringers of Sun City)

**Distinctly Bronze West** - Have you ever wondered what Distinctly Bronze West would be like? WONDERFUL!!! Yes...you had to apply several months ahead of time...and it took some weeks of music preparation...and I had to travel quite a distance...and *WHO* goes to the state of Washington in February anyways?!?

We rang with 76 of the best ringers in the US and under the baton of David Weck (Agape Ringers in Chicago). The music was incredible, the direction impeccable, the people were fantastic, and the food...yum.

Our days started around 8-9am and we rehearsed all day, with breaks and lunch. We were finished around 6-7 pm and had the evenings to get to know the many names you only read or hear about, who rang side by

side with you. And then the final concert on Sunday evening. The opportunities to learn and become a better ringer were mind boggling. And of course, there was the visit to the Pyrex Museum, the navy yard, or the interesting shops downtown. There were five of us from Area 11, myself and four ringers from "Enchantment" (Albuquerque, NM), but my roommate was from Pennsylvania (another new friend).

Your opportunity to become a bronze level ringer is here at the Area 11 festival in Salt Lake City, June 21-24...ring up...and then join us at one of the many Bronze level festivals that the Guild provides for us. Can you tell I had Fun??? Email me if you want to talk Bronze ringing: [libbier70@aol.com](mailto:libbier70@aol.com).

- by Libbie Randels

Orders: 866.951.0053

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