



# Handbell Musicians OF AMERICA

## Area 11

NATIONAL OFFICE

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

# Newsletter

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October 2012

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### *From the Chair...*

I came away from our Area 11 Board Meeting in early September with renewed enthusiasm and excitement. How cool would it be if we could have every bell ringer in Area 11 ringing handbells on the same day? What if every Spring Ring in our Area during 2013 was bursting at the seams with ringers? What if every youth ringer attended bell camp next summer? What if every ringer was a member of the Handbell Musicians of America? What if... The possibilities are endless. This edition of the Area 11 Newsletter is full of information regarding upcoming events.

We are planning a Read and Ring on January 26, 2013 in as many locations in Area 11 as possible. Would you be willing to host one at your church or school? One of the great things about this event is that our Area 11 Sub-Chairs, Libbie Randels and Mary Moffett will take care of all of the paperwork. All we need from the hosts is to provide the venue and setup. How many ringers can we have ringing that day?

There will be a Spring Ring held in every state in March or April of 2013. Plan to attend one (or more!) of these events.

Wouldn't it be fun to go to all five?

The Young Ringers Camp will be held on July 19 – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 in Durango, CO. There are many fun activities being planned! Stay tuned!

**Deadline for November Newsletter  
October 25, 2012  
Advertising deadline 10/20/12**

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**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.

Your September/October issue of Overtones, the official journal of the Handbell Musicians of America, outlines some changes to the membership structure that go into effect on October 1<sup>st</sup>. I just want to highlight a couple of things.

Ten dollars of the dues for a regular membership will now be coming back to Area 11. We have not previously been receiving any financial support from the National office. This additional funding will help support future events in our Area.

There is a new option for making monthly payments for some of the membership levels.

A new "Sub-membership" will be available for \$10/person. Each sub-membership must be linked to a full membership. I would encourage every organization and director to have all of your ringers sign up for the sub-membership. Even though the Area does not receive any dollars from this membership category, what a great way to get all of our ringers more "connected" to what is happening!

One of the best things about fall, for me, is getting reconnected with my choir's ringers. I am equally excited about getting connected and meeting the ringers throughout Area 11. Feel free to contact me at any time with questions or ideas: [suehahn1@hotmail.com](mailto:suehahn1@hotmail.com). I want to hear from you!

*Sue*

# HANDBELL MUSICIANS OF AMERICA MEMBERSHIP LEVEL GRID

(As used in recent Webinars with leaders.)


This grid was printed in the September/October issue of *Overtones*, the journal of the Handbell Musicians of America. A subscription to *Overtones* is just one of the benefits of three of the five levels of memberships now available. These new membership costs will go into effect beginning October 1 or whenever your current membership is renewed. However, you can begin enjoying all the new benefits and resources on October 1, 2012.

Beginning October 1 several New Resources will be available. These have been developed for specific constituencies of our membership. Initial groups for focus are :

- Faith-based organizations
- Community/Professional Groups
- Education

Resources include videos, PDFs, webinars, PowerPoint presentations, and games.

Ready to Join? Want to know more? Visit - [www.handbellmusicians.org](http://www.handbellmusicians.org) and click the "membership" tab.

	Handbell Musician Membership - \$85	Sub-Membership* - \$10	HIC Membership† - \$170	Retired Handbell Musician Membership‡ - \$65	Full-Time Student Membership - \$30
Voting Privileges	X		X	X	
Print Copy of Overtones	X		X	X	
Online Only Overtones	X	X	X	X	X
Access to online Resources	X	X	X	X	X
Take a choir or choirs from your organization to events at member discount pricing	X		X		
Attend Individual Focused Events at member discount (i.e. Distinctly Bronze, Master Series)	X		X	X	X
Exhibit at Guild Events			X		
For 65+ Not Actively Directing or Leading a Handbell/Handchime program				X	
Access to Special "My Membership Rewards"	X			X	X
Access to Scholarships & Grants	X		X	X	X
Access to Chime Loan Programs	X		X	X	X
Access to Mentoring Programs	X		X	X	X
Access to Priority Music Club	X		X	X	X
Return \$10 Rebate to Your Area	X		X	X	
Return \$5 Rebate to Your Area					X
E-Notes	X	X	X	X	X
RingEr-Notes	X	X	X	X	X
Own Login & Password to Access On-line Resources	X	X	X	X	X

\*The Sub-Membership must be linked to a Handbell Musician Membership. Sub-member may attend events with the group associated with the Handbell Musician Membership only.

†HIC Members may only apply for grants and scholarships, event endorsement, and have access chime-loan programs if they are recognized as a non-profit 501-C3 organization.

‡If you are 65 years of age or older and ACTIVELY directing or leading a handbell/handchime program, then the Handbell Musician Membership is for you. However, if you 65 years or older and NOT actively directing, then the Retired Handbell Musician Membership is your best option.

The memberships which are currently available on a monthly payment plan are the Handbell Musicians Membership (can be for an organization or individual,) \$85 year (\$7.50 per month), Handbell Industry Council Membership, \$170 year (\$15 per month) and Retired Handbell Musician Membership (65+ and not actively directing or leading a program) \$65 year (\$5.75 per month). The monthly payment plan is slightly more than the annual option to cover some of the additional expenses that come with a monthly payment. Check out the grid (zoom in to 120% for easier reading) for some of the other benefits of membership and decide which membership is for you when you join or renew.



## BROOMFIELD, CO. READ AND RING WAS FUN!

The Colorado Read & Ring was held on Saturday, September 22, 2012 at Risen Savior Lutheran Church in Broomfield, CO. 28 ringers attended the sight-reading and ringing workshop. Ringers came from as far north as Ft Collins, south from Colorado Springs, and even Estes Park. The ringers' ages ranged from middle school students to seniors. Area 11 Chair-Sue Hahn & Chair Elect- Jeannine Holt also participated in the workshop. Michael Kastner did a marvelous job leading the ringers through twenty selections! The music ranged from two to five octaves and levels 2+ to 4-.

The music selections also varied in genres from sacred to secular and traditional to contemporary. The most popular piece of the day was "Gloria Hodie" arranged by Julie Turner and Kevin McChesney. Directors also had the opportunity to purchase music at a discounted rate and take it home with them. Risen Savior Ringers hosted a free will chili & soup luncheon as a fundraiser for their handbell program. Anne Kleve, RSLC handbell director, was very pleased with the event!



## JOIN THE VIRTUAL HANDBELL ENSEMBLE

**Virtual Handbell Ensemble** is an exciting new project of the Handbell Musicians of America in which you will have the opportunity to perform a new work of music via video uploads.

*Misterium*, by James Meredith, consists of 135 musical segments to be recorded separately by individuals and small groups of players from around the world over a seven month period and uploaded to the web. All of the segments will be assembled by the editing videographer and the composer into the final work to be premiered online in July, 2013.

For a video introduction by Mr. Meredith and all the information you need to participate, please visit the project website at:

[virtual.HandbellMusicians.org](http://virtual.HandbellMusicians.org).

Don't delay as the deadline for submitting your recording to this project is March 1, 2013 even though the work will not be premiered until July 2013.

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## *Ring in the New Year!*

*Saturday, January 26, 2013*

Help us Ring in the New Year with a Read and Ring of newly released music! Our goal is to have many sites ringing all over Area 11 on the same day, at the same time. We are looking for smaller (no cost) sites that would house approximately 50 ringers. The music will be both sacred and secular and either Level 2 or 3. We will ask the registered directors to indicate if they would like to conduct a piece or two, so no clinician is needed. The cost will be \$7 per ringer. Listed below are the responsibilities of both Area 11 and Local hosts. For more information, contact Libbie Randels (623)-925-2320 or Mary Moffett (801)-510-6105.

### AREA 11 Responsibilities

### LOCAL HOSTS Responsibilities

Submit all paperwork to National, and make registration form	Appoint a site coordinator and committee
Handle all registrations and fees. All information will be sent to site coordinator via email	Venue: . secure a FREE venue . provide and set up tables and chairs . provide and set up a sound system, if needed
Order and rectify music payment to Jeffers	Music: . receive and verify music shipment . handle sales of music at venue . return unsold music to Jeffers . send copy of sales statement to Area . all monies to be sent to Area (directions will be provided)
Based on site report, complete all paperwork for National	Submit site report of attendance, sales, and evaluations to Area
Handle all advertising through newsletters, etc.	Contact bell friends and invite them to attend
Assign a sub-area chair to assist	Stay in contact with sub-area chair

The following locations plan to participate.

Some are ready to go. Others are still working out details.

UT - Brigham City, Salt Lake City

CO - Colorado Springs, Grand Junction

WY - Cheyenne, Casper

AZ - Sun City, Scottsdale, Tucson

NM - Albuquerque

Don't see one close to you, but want to participate? You can be a host. Call Libbie or Mary.

## “Ringing Up” Revisited - a Message from Monica McGowan

No doubt your rehearsals have resumed and the rigors of ringing have begun. I hope you are enjoying the camaraderie of returning to your handbell choir, renewing your acquaintances and delving into some exciting repertoire. I thought I would recap a few things we shared this summer while we were at that great Area 11 event in Salt Lake City.

Warm-ups – always do some stretches before you begin ringing. Construct and improvise some simple ringing drills to prepare your mind and body for rehearsal. Practice synchronized ringing. Visualize the ringing plane, proper posture, stance and form. Practice a simple weave or ring through a chromatic sequence with four or five bells. It will engage your brain and prepare your mind for rehearsal.

Anticipate and prepare. As you sight-read and rehearse this year’s repertoire, look ahead for those sequences where you’ll have to utilize some new found skills. Find those measures where you need to transition from ringing to stopped sounds. Think about the placement of the handbell on the table before you have to execute a different technique. Challenge yourself to see how far you can read ahead so you’ll be ready for the changes and transitions.

Do you find that you have a challenging page turn? Spend a few moments ringing and repeating a measure or two at the end of the page, ring and repeat until the muscle memory and your brain have memorized the sequence. Now turn the page, ring the previous measures you’ve just memorized and ring on. Voila! Now it’s an easy page turn.

Make a difference in your dynamic levels. Think about the placement of the handbell in your hand. Visualize the movement of the clapper from the back of the casting to the front. Think about controlling the arc of the clapper head as it moves along its axis points \*inside\* the casting. Now practice various dynamic ranges and how they “feel” in your hand and sound to your ear.

Be attentive, complement your partners and thank your director. Find the meaning in the music and convey its emotion to your congregation. Good luck and all the best in the ringing year ahead.

Monica S. McGowan



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### CHIME LOAN PROGRAM

Where have the seven 3 octave sets of chimes owned by Area 11 been placed for the 2012-2013 school year?

Set #1 is with Emily Black Porter in Gilbert, AZ, at Mesquite Elementary School. It is not our policy to place chimes with the same teacher for two consecutive years, but an exception was made as Emily will be at a different school than last year.

Set #2 is with Catherine Cmiel in Tucson, AZ, at Academy of Tucson Middle School. Catherine, like Emily asked to keep the chimes for a second year at a different school.

Set #3 is in Wheat Ridge, Colorado, with Bill Gnegy at Jefferson Avenue United Methodist Church

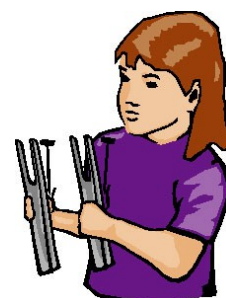
Set #4 is with Marilyn Stewart in Bear River City, UT, at Century Elementary School.

Set #5 is at Garland Elementary School in Garland, UT, with Joan Whitaker.

Set #6 is at Highland, UT, with Paige Erickson at Highland Elementary School.

Set #7 has gone to Terry Cometto at Casper, WY, at St. Anthony Tri-Parish Catholic School.

Mentors are needed for the recipients new to chimes. If you are close to one of these locations please visit and be available to be a mentor. Two great days helping to introduce chimes to third, fourth, and fifth graders in Bear River City, Utah, was an absolutely amazing experience for me. If you are lucky enough to be near one of our chime loan program recipients, don’t pass up the opportunity to see the program in action.



-- Cathie Olds, Chime Chair



**GET READY! CHRISTMAS IS COMING!**

**IT'S CHRISTMAS IN JULY!!!!**

**Area 11 Young Ringers' Camp**

*Ages 11 (by July 1, 2013) – 18 years*

*July 19-23, 2013*

*Ft. Lewis College, Durango Colorado*

*Arrive Friday for Supper / Depart Tuesday Morning*

**Registration Fee = \$340**

*Registration Fee Includes*

*Lodging, Linens*

*All Meals - Friday Supper through Tuesday Lunch*

*Lots of RINGING!!!!*

*In Addition to Ringing Activities.....*

*Craft Projects*

*Climbing Wall*

*Indoor Swimming Pool*

*Games*

*Hiking*

*Animas Float trip*

*....and some surprises!!!!!!*

*Ho! Ho! Ho!*

*Registration OPENS October 15<sup>th</sup>. Registration (\$340) closes April 1, 2013.*

*A \$50 deposit per registrant will be accepted at the time of registration. The balance is due no later than April 1, 2013.*

*Late Registration (Registrations received after April 1<sup>st</sup>) = \$425.*