



Handbell Musicians
OF AMERICA

Area 11

Newsletter

E-newsletter Editor—Mary Moffett

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From the Chair:



Happy New Year! Well, it's not quite New Year's yet as I write this. I am sitting here in unbelievably cold temperatures – I haven't even been out of the house today. It's -6 right now and dropping. Seems like we just did this a few weeks ago.

So, where are you with your bell choirs now? Coming off a very busy Christmas season, I still need to clean out folders and gear up for Spring. We have a big festival coming up in February so have a lot of work to do to prepare. We're going to start early (next week – January 31), and then it will still be a challenge to be ready. Once we get through festival, we are pretty much home free. We will have a lot of music prepared to take us through the end of the year. What are your goals for this year? Please drop me a note and tell me what

your plans are and what your challenges are for the Spring. Can we help?

Look elsewhere in this newsletter for information about the All Area 11 Read & Ring on February 7. What a great chance to visit and ring with your fellow handbell junkies and read through some new music. No preparation! Just come and have fun. Locations in every state in the Area!

Also look for information on Young Ringers' Camp coming up in July. Maybe you have a teen ringing with you that would enjoy a few days in the Rockies, ringing with new friends and developing skills. Full choirs are not necessary! And families can come, too – check out <http://snowmountainranch.org/> to see what kinds of accommodations are available for families. While your kid is immersed in handbell activities, your family can enjoy Rocky Mountain National Park (it's the 100th Anniversary Season), horseback riding, hiking, biking and much more in the Rocky Mountains. Cabins, hotel accommodations, and camping are all available to meet your families' needs. Just remember, your teen will be required to stay with the other campers and participate in camp activities during the specified dates. But you could come early or stay late if you want your youth to participate in family activities.

Finally, see the first announcements for the 2016 Area 11 Festival which will be in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Please drop me a note if you would like to help with the planning of this event.

Did you know that the national handbell event this summer will be Pinnacle in Dallas, Texas? Check out your Overtones magazine for details. It's within driving distance for most of us. Start thinking and planning now – July will be here before we know it!

From your Area 11 Board, we wish you the most successful New Year in 2015. Let us hear from you!

Jeannine Holt, Area 11 Chair

719-439-7954

chair.area11@handbellmusicians.org

Happy
New Year!

Area 11 Website

www.area11.handbellmusicians.org

National Office Website

www.handbellmusicians.org

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Check out our Calendar [here](#) to see what's planned in Area 11.



Have You Heard About Our Young Ringers Camp 2015?

Rockin' and Ringin' on the Ranch

with clinicians Marilyn Lake and Bonnie Tranby

**We're all about that Bass. . .BELL!
And that Drum**

And that Fun

And that Treble!

Area 11 invites you to

Young Ringers Camp

Ages 10-18

June 14-18, 2015

Snow Mountain Ranch

Winter Park, Colorado

Register by March 15, 2015

and save \$75!

**Come enjoy plenty of ringing, a talent show,
games, crafts, a challenge course, campfires,
hiking, and making new friends!**

For more information and to register, click [here](#)



Rockin' and Ringin' on the Ranch

Young Ringers Camp June 14-18, 2015

Articles from our Clinicians, Marilyn Lake and Bonnie Tranby

We Will Really Rock Those Colorado Mountains at Young Ringers Camp!

Low low high low low low... high

You get the picture! You know how those percussionists are...always drumming away on the steering wheel, on books, on tables...hopefully the beat never stops! This summer, at the Area 11 Young Ringers Camp, we will get to explore some intricate rhythms, compose some grooves of our own, and add some handbells into the mix.

World Drumming provides us with the opportunity to expand as musicians: communicating, listening, respecting each other, and building teamwork skills...all while making some MAD RHYTHMS on some really FUNKY drums and rhythm instruments! Whoohoo! African and Latin American cultures give us some truly creative tunes and rhythms, few of which are included in current handbell repertoires. Let's consider enriching our church and school choirs with a wealth of these tunes for bells as well as for dancing or singing.

PLUS...I flat out like to beat on stuff – so we are also planning on some Bucket Brigade activities...we will really rock those Colorado mountains!!!! Think Drum Line!

As handbell ringers we ARE percussionists...and not the kind you hear about in typical drummer jokes...we CAN read the score, we can count, we actually work at ringing together. As we learn and explore more African and Latin American rhythms our goal is to let our musicianship spill into our bell ringing. World drumming can be so meditative, almost like yoga for your hands and brain. Let's keep the rhythm going this summer – join me at Snow Mountain Ranch in June!

Marilyn Lake



Young Ringers Camp Registration Details Rockin' and Ringin' on the Ranch June 14-18, 2015

**Registration Fee: \$300 per camper if registered by March 15, 2015
\$375 per camper if registered after March 15, 2015**

The Registration Fee includes:
Meals: Sunday dinner - Thursday lunch
Four nights lodging
Music packet
All activities

A minimum non-refundable deposit of \$50 per camper is due at time of registration.

Registration fee must be paid in full no later than May 1, 2015.

Click [here](#) to register!

**We're all about that Bass...BELL!
and that Drum, and that Fun, and that Treble!**



Rockin' and Ringin' on the Ranch

Young Ringers Camp June 14-18, 2015

Articles from our Clinicians, Marilyn Lake and Bonnie Tranby



Why Handbells?

I'm too busy – there are so many other activities to choose from. Well, read on. I have been involved in handbells for about 30 years and admittedly I'm pretty much addicted to handbells. I am a fierce advocate for our art and much of my focus has been working with youth in handbell ensembles. I direct 3 youth choirs at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Apple Valley, MN. I use handbells in my education program at Edward Neill Elementary where I teach students in grades K through 6th. There are many reasons for participating in handbells – maybe some that you have not thought about. Here we go!

- When compared to many other activities, the handbell community is more a cooperative family than a fierce competition. Yes, we all strive to get better and maybe even be the best, but along the way we are working with others and encouraging others to do their best. When I am at festivals and seminars where handbells are the focus, it's always like meeting up with friends and family. We all want to hear about each others' lives and adventures. Massed ringing events bring us closer together and closer to God. There are no other groups or activities that I have found that do this better than handbells.

- Playing a music instrument has a profound effect on the brain. We've all heard that music education has been proven to improve learning in other areas, but recent studies show that playing music does so much more to stimulate all areas of the brain. The following link explains more about how this works:

<http://ed.ted.com/lessons/how-playing-an-instrument-benefits-your-brain-anita-collins>

- There are many options for performance when it comes to handbells. You can be a part of a traditional ensemble of 2, 3, 4 or more octaves. You can be a part of a smaller ensemble such as duets, trios, and quartets. You can be a solo ringer. You can ring off the table, or with mallets on handbell trees. You can incorporate other instruments. The possibilities are nearly endless.

- It's one of the only ensemble opportunities where you alone are responsible for your part. This develops responsibility, confidence, pride, and dependability in ringers. These are the kinds of things that colleges and business leaders are looking for in students and employees. Ringing in handbell ensembles also fosters communication, cooperation, and creativity.

- FUN! (no explanation needed!)

I'm excited to be working with the youth in Area 11 at bell camp this summer... where something new and exciting awaits!

Bonnie Tranby

**The Area 11 Young Ringers Camp committee agrees -
something new and exciting *will* be happening at Snow Mountain Ranch
this summer, because you know...**

**We're all about that Bass...BELL, and that drum, and that fun, and that treble!
What could be better than coming together as a team to encourage each other
while working to become better handbell ringers *and* rockin' those Colorado
mountains with Marilyn and her drums?!**

Come experience the creativity and FUN of Young Ringers Camp this summer!

See you on the Ranch June 14-18, 2015!

Click [here](#) to register!



2015 Area 11 Events

Information about all of our Area 11 events can be found at:

<http://area11.handbellmusicians.org/events-4/events/>



Twelveth Night Handbell Festival

Date: January 10, 2015

Clinician: Donovan Gray

Location: Phoenix, Arizona

For more information and the registration form, click [here](#).

Ringin'g Around Area 11

Date: February 7, 2015

Time: 9:00 a.m.—12:00 noon

Location: Several around Area 11

For more information and the registration form, click [here](#).

Registration deadline is January 24!

Utah Spring Ring

Date: March 7, 2015

Clinician: Jason Wells

Location: Riverton, Utah

For more information and the registration form, click [here](#).

Wyoming Spring Ring

Date: April 10-11, 2015

Clinician: Michael Glasgow

For more information, click [here](#).

Ring in Spring in Colorado

Date: April 17-18, 2015

Clinician: David Harris

Location: Golden, Colorado

For more information and the registration form, click [here](#).

Arizona Spring Ring

Date: April 18, 2015

Clinician: Monica McGowan

Location: Sun City, Arizona

For more information and the registration form, click [here](#).

New Mexico Spring Ring

Date: April 25, 2015

Clinician: Tammy Waldrop

Location: Albuquerque, New Mexico

For more information and the registration form, click [here](#).

Young Ringers Camp

Date: June 14-18, 2015

Clinicians: Marilyn Lake and Bonnie Tranby

Location: Snow Mountain Ranch in Winter Park, Colorado

For more information and the registration form, click [here](#).

Read all about the clinicians for our upcoming Spring Events on pages 7- 9!



Ringin' Around Area 11 *Area-wide Read and Ring*

Join us all across Area 11 for our third annual Area-wide Read and Ring on Saturday, February 7, 2015 from 9:00 a.m.—12:00 noon!

We'll spend the morning reading and ringing a dozen or more pieces including new releases, oldies but goodies, and a few little-known gems from the handbell repertoire!

We have several locations for the event this year — choose one near you and plan to attend!

The registration form can be found [here](#).

Registration is only \$7! Deadline to register is January 24!

Choose from one of the following locations (the address of each venue is given on the registration form).



**Do you know a school teacher or
church musician?**

Will you make a point to inform him/her of our
CHIME loan program?

Details can be found on the Area 11 website

<http://area11.handbellmusicians.org/education/handchime-grant-program/>



Meet the Clinicians for our Upcoming Spring Events

The Utah Spring Ring will be held on Saturday, March 7 in Riverton, Utah under the direction of guest clinician, Jason Wells.

Jason Wells founded Ring of Fire in 1997 in Hillsboro, Oregon. During the group's active 10-year adventure, they performed at 2 Presidential Inaugurations, multiple NBA basketball games, 3 times with the Boston Pops in Symphony Hall, and many times on national and international radio and television. They have toured 28 US states and taken their passion for musical handbell ensemble mastery to 7 countries. Ring of Fire released the world's first handbell DVD in 2001 and later followed with 3 CD's and another concert DVD released in 2005 titled FINALE.

Jason continues to actively serve as a clinician and director at state, national and international handbell festivals and symposiums. In 2008 he represented the United States at the International Handbell Symposium in Orlando, Florida, leading over 1,000 international musicians in massed ringing.

Jason has repeatedly served as director of Distinctly Bronze, a bi-annual national 4-day performance event featuring many of the world's top handbell performers playing the most exciting handbell compositions on multiple sets of 7-octaves of handbells and chimes.

When not sharing his passion for music, Jason spends time with his family – his wife Heather, daughter Sidney (9), son Landon (5), daughter Hayden (3) and serves as Vice President at Park Ridge Health, a community hospital and 43 physician medical practices in Hendersonville, North Carolina.



HASTINGS COLLEGE *rings.....*

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- **5+ octaves of Schulmerich Bells**
- **5 octaves of Schulmerich Chimes**
- **3 octaves of Petit-Fritsen Bells**

Up to \$5000 scholarship award for qualified ringers

For more information contact:

Dr. Byron Jensen:

[402.461.7361](tel:402.461.7361) bjensen@hastings.edu



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Meet the Clinicians for our Upcoming Spring Events

The Wyoming Spring Ring will be held on April 10-11 in Casper, Wyoming under the direction of guest clinician, Michael Glasgow.

Michael J. Glasgow is originally from Michigan. He holds B.A. degrees in music theory/composition, and in journalism; as well as a Master of Church Music degree from Concordia University Wisconsin as a rare double-emphasis student, in both choral and handbell music.

In addition to his full-time position as the Minister of Music at North Raleigh UMC (Raleigh, NC), Michael serves as the Bass Section Leader for the North Carolina Master Chorale and the Coral Conductor for the Tar River Orchestra & Chorus. He is a dynamic, energizing conductor who connects well with people and music, and as such is sought after for conducting engagements throughout the country. Summer 2013 marked his international conducting debut, with the Handbell Ringers of Great Britain Ringing Residency Week in Sheffield, England; a return engagement was booked almost immediately. He was also a conductor on the 2015 Bells of the Cascades Eastern Caribbean Handbell Cruise.

As a composer, Michael keeps busy with commissions and his own projects, and he strives to creatively advance the art of handbell ringing. He was awarded a first prize in the 2006 Soundprint Productions Composition Contest for his original jazz handbell piece, *Celerity*; as well as first prize in the 2007 Bells of the Sound "Three Ring Circus" Composition Contest for *Bumping Noses*. His first published choral piece, *Welcome the King* (an SATB carol accompanied by solo viola), won the 2009 VocalEssence "Welcome Christmas" composition contest.

Michael is proud to be an integral part in the development of new handbell events, having served as inaugural conductor for the annual *Anthornis North* in Fargo. He also serves as the editor for the Handbell Musicians of America Area 3 newsletter, *The Bell-O-Gram*, and is a member of ASCAP, American Composers Forum, Mensa, and several other professional organizations. Additional information and samples of Michael's work may be found at www.michaeljglasgow.com and on Twitter: @MichaelJGlasgow.



The Ring in Spring in Colorado will be held on April 17-18 in Golden, Colorado under the direction of guest clinician, David Harris.

David M. Harris is in his 25th year as the music director of The Raleigh Ringers, an internationally-recognized touring handbell ensemble based in Raleigh, NC. David was instrumental in the formation of this auditioned choir in 1990. Under his leadership, the Raleigh Ringers have performed in Paris, France and surrounding areas; on International Television on the "Hour of Power" program; as a showcase choir for the Handbell ringers of America National Seminar; with the North Carolina Symphony during their Holiday Pops Concerts; at the Piccolo Spoleto festival in Charleston, South Carolina; and as special guest performers at the Chautauqua Institution in Chautauqua, New York. The Raleigh Ringers are in constant demand as featured guest performers for various artist series and handbell festivals around the

country. To read more about what the Raleigh Ringers are involved in, click [here](#)

David is a graduate of The Pennsylvania State University and has studied conducting privately with Dr. William A. Payn at Bucknell University. He has served The Handbell Musicians of America in several capacities: as Ringing Track Conductor for the National Seminar, as clinician for numerous local and Area workshops and festivals, as North Carolina State Chairman, and as Area III Treasurer. Because of his strong interest in the development of community handbell programs, David served as chairman for the first ever Handbell Musicians sponsored event for community ringers entitled, "Pinnacle 2000", held in Las Vegas. In addition, he has led handbell festivals and workshops in 30 states as well as in England, Puerto Rico, Canada and the Caribbean. He has also been the primary handbell clinician for several denominational music events, including Montreat, Lake Junaluska, Lutheridge and Mo-Ranch (TX). David is also one of the co-founders of the very successful Capital Area Handbell Festival, held annually in Raleigh. He has written several articles for *Overtone*s, the national publication of The Handbell Musicians of America.

Meet the Clinicians for our Upcoming Spring Events



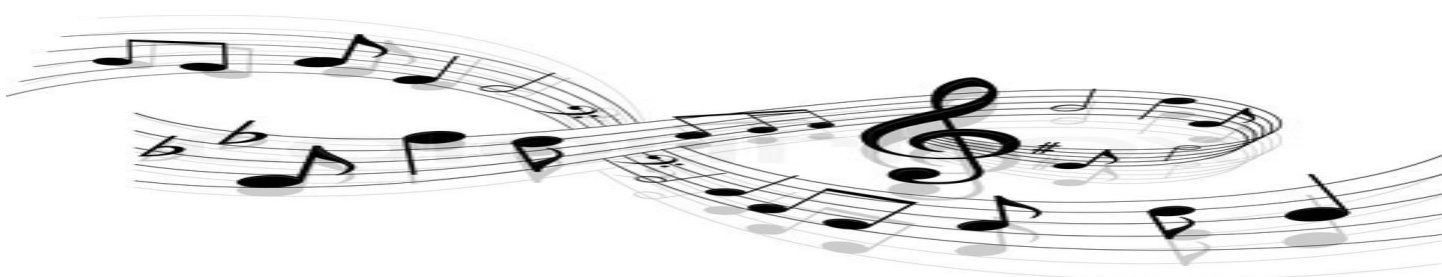
The Arizona Spring Ring will be held on April 18 in Sun City, Arizona under the direction of guest clinician, Monica McGowan.

Monica S. McGowan took her music education background - Bachelor of Science, Music Education, Chadron State College, Chadron, Nebraska-and found her life's passion in handbells. Three decades later, Monica has become the consummate handbell musician: accomplished ringer, internationally recognized conductor and Master Handbell Technician. Her work as clinician and conductor has taken her throughout the United States, Puerto Rico and Canada. As a Director of Handbells, Monica served in churches from Minnesota to Louisiana. In the Handbell Musicians of America, she has served in leadership roles on both the Area and National levels. Monica was the founding Artistic and Music Director of Twin Cities Bronze of Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota and led the ensemble to recognition as an internationally acclaimed handbell ensemble known for its professional musical artistry. Monica is the Handbell Coordinator for the International Music Camp, succeeding the program's founder, Fred Merrett. "Handbell Week" and "Adult Handbell Camp" are held each summer as part of the IMC's Summer School of Fine Arts at the International Peace Gardens on the border of North Dakota and Manitoba. Her business, Ringing Restorations, has been recognized as an Independent Authorized Refurbishment Center for Schulmerich Bells. Monica brings her extensive training, passion, knowledge and enthusiasm for handbells and handchimes to every forum and venue, crafting a challenging and successful experience to inspire its participants to expand their skills and explore the musical possibilities of this unique musical art.

The New Mexico Spring Ring will be held on April 25 in Albuquerque, New Mexico under the direction of guest clinician Tammy Waldrop.

Tammy Waldrop is a graduate of Baylor University with both a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Music Theory with an emphasis in Composition. Tammy has been writing and arranging for handbells and vocal choirs since 1980, placing over 350 publications with 18 publishers. She has held music editor positions at Word music, Ring Out! Press, and Alfred Music Publishing and has served numerous churches in four denominations. She is a frequent clinician/director for workshops, music weeks and festivals across the country. Tammy has had the opportunity to serve as clinician/conductor for over 40 events since the 1990's and enjoys working with ringers and encouraging them to take ownership of the music through what she calls the Three "P's" of Performance: Personalization, Posturing, and Perfecting.

Tammy enjoys vegetable and herb gardening and writing children's fiction. She resides in New Caney, Texas with her husband, Emanuel Hollander, son, Marc and three Eskie canines—Gracie, Gretel and Johann Sebastian Bark (aka Hanzie).



Area 11 Festival/Conference 2016



Little America Hotel Cheyenne, Wyoming

Mark your calendars *NOW* to attend!
Watch for more information by going
to www.area11.handbellmusicians.org

Boots & Bells

2016 Area 11 Festival / Conference
June 9-12, 2016



WANTED

LOGO for our 2016 Area 11 Festival / Conference!

Announcing LOGO Contest for 2016 Festival
Winner will receive \$100 discount on Festival Registration!!!
Contest deadline is April 15, 2015

“Boots & Bells” is the theme, and now it is your turn to put your creativity to work!
Submit your ideas for our logo to be used in all Festival publicity and for our Festival pins.
Winning logo will be chosen by the 2016 Festival Committee.

Logo can be submitted as a drawing or in digital format.
Winning logo becomes the property of Area 11 and will be submitted to
Symbol Arts Company for final digitizing, coloring and sizing.

Logo must have the following info to be considered:

Area 11
Handbell Musicians of America
Cheyenne, Wyoming
2016 or June 2016

Please send logos to Claudette Rothwell at:
163 West 4800 South, Ogden, UT 84405 or claudette.rothwell@gmail.com

Message from Shannon Casey, Area 11 Chair-elect

Happy New Year Everyone! There are some great new benefits to being a member of Handbell Musicians of America. First is the new Member Referral Program. For each new member that you sign up, you will get "Handbell Bucks" that you can use toward your membership or towards national events.

This is a fantastic way to get people involved and expand our membership ranks! Check out the details here: <http://handbellmusicians.org/bucks/> If you have questions, please let me know.

The other new feature is Member Chats. The January Member Chat is Belltrees with Barbara Bocker on January 13th at 2pm PST. Check out the December e-notes for information on how to sign up.

(<http://handbellmusicians.org/news/e-notes-december-2014/>)

As the year begins, I am looking at forming a Membership Committee for Area 11. Ideally, there would be 1-2 people from each state that can help contact bell choirs in the area and encourage people to become members or renew memberships. If you are interested in helping with this, please contact me at chairelect.area11@handbellmusicians.org. This is a great way to get involved with the Area and learn more about Handbell Musicians of America.

Have a very Happy New year!

Shannon Casey
Chair Elect
Membership Chair
Area 11
Handbell Musicians of America

Area 11 welcomes our new
Handbell Musicians of America members:

December

Marta Neill, Johnston, CO
Jessica Nolte, Gilbert, AZ
Valerie Wells, Tucson, AZ

Earn Rewards for Sharing Your Love of Handbells

For every **NEW MEMBER** you
refer, you will earn valuable
HANDBELL BUCKS

**Redeem your Bucks toward
membership dues and event registration**



Details at HandbellMusicians.org/bucks
Restrictions Apply

WyoRing 2014

WyoRing 2014 marked the third year for the early November event in Torrington, WY. Tammy Waldrop was the clinician who kept everyone ringing and laughing in equal amounts. It was great fun working on five massed ringing pieces with all the participants attending the two-day workshop. There was also a great solo by Joan Swim playing All American Hometown Band while sprinting back and forth without missing a beat. There was also a bells duet, plus a special unplanned performance by one of the ringers who was practicing his horn during a break and graciously agreed to perform an unplanned song during the WyoRing concert on Nov 8, the second day of the event.

There was plenty of time for networking and socializing with friends rarely seen outside bells events. It was clear the ringers and directors attending felt supported and encouraged by Tammy's nurturing style of directing. She helped the ringers develop a sense of musicality and introduced them to new ways of presenting and performing handbells. She also provided participants tips on how to have more fun with the music and show the joy on their faces during performance.

There were ringers from Wyoming as well as northern Colorado and western Nebraska. Approximately 200 people attended the free Saturday afternoon concert at Eastern Wyoming College which was the location of WyoRing.

Diona Savoy-McDaniels, Mountain Sub-area Chair



Additional Area 11 Happenings



Shopping and Donating to Area 11 in one Easy Step --

And it doesn't add any money to your purchase!

If you shop through Amazon.com, you can help the Area 11 Youth Fund by simply logging on through their AmazonSmile program and doing your shopping as usual. It doesn't take any extra time since the link below will take you right to the AmazonSmile page that shows Area 11 as the designated charity. It doesn't cost any extra money either, but a small percentage of your purchase total will be donated to the Area 11 Youth Fund! What a great way to donate to our Area! Your friends and family can do it as well! Simply log on to AmazonSmile to begin your shopping at <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/85-0347083>



Blast from the Past!
Pictures from Young Ringers
Camp 2011 and 2013!



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**Deadline for the
March Area 11
Newsletter is
February 25, 2015
Advertising deadline is
February 20, 2015
Email submissions to**

Mary Moffett at

Communications.area11@handbellmusicians.org

