



Handbell Musicians OF AMERICA

Area 11

Newsletter

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From the Chair:



I attended my first Area 11 Festival eight years ago when it was last in Colorado. At that time, I had only been directing for a few years. I will never forget that weekend. Even though I had previously attended local handbell events, I had never attended such a large event. It was exciting to be ringing with 300 ringers in the same room from all over our five-state Area. And, the classes were fantastic! I still have notes from a few of the classes, and have incorporated information learned into my own bell rehearsals. Another thing that I remember was a concert one evening with various solo and small ensemble groups. It was my first time to watch a solo handbell ringer. WOW. It is

so impressive to see what one person can do with bells! Overall, the Festival was so inspiring. I met so many wonderful people, and had a fantastic time ringing.

It is not too late to sign up for the 2014 Area 11 Festival Conference to be held in Loveland, CO on June 19-22nd. The Festival planning committee has been working diligently to put together a fantastic ringing experience. Debbie Rice is an excellent teacher and clinician.

The goal is for everyone to leave as a better ringer. A variety of classes are being planned, from World Drumming to a variety of classes taught by the members of the Twin City Bronze.

I am just as excited about this Area Festival as I was for the one in 2006, perhaps even more so. I look forward to meeting old friends and making new ones. I hope to see you there!

Sue Hahn

Area 11 Chair

chair.area11@handbellmusicians.org

Festival registrations postmarked by March 1st save \$100!



See you in Loveland!

Area 11 Website

www.area11.handbellmusicians.org

National Office Website

www.handbellmusicians.org

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Check out our Calendar to see what's planned in Area 11.

<http://area11.handbellmusicians.org/about-us/calendar/>

ELEVATIONS! Area 11 Festival / Conference

Class Descriptions



ELEVATIONS!

2014 Area 11 Festival / Conference
June 19-22, 2014
Embassy Suites Hotel
Loveland, Colorado

Registration is OPEN!

Early registration deadline is March 1, 2014! Registrations postmarked by March 1 save \$100!

A wonderful list of FAQ can also be found on the website, as well as the track descriptions by lead clinician, Debbie Rice.

Be sure to click the following link to visit the website for all the Festival information!

<http://area11.handbellmusicians.org/events-4/festival-conference-2014/>

Classes and Workshops are important elements of “Elevations!!!” – the 2014 Area 11 Festival/Conference at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Loveland, Colorado. Attendees will experience technique sessions in all types of ringing – treble bells, bass bells, battery bells, and chimes. There will be opportunities to ring – both in the “Ringing Up!” tracks and in reading sessions. Reading sessions for all levels and seasons and ‘chimes only’ are included in the “Elevations!!!” schedule. Are you ready for something new? Attend a World Drumming class; create a processional; set up and ring using bell trees; learn some tips (share some tips?) for rehearsal preparation and score study. What about working with youth, basic music reading, and ringer health and performance anxiety? Whether you are ringer, a director, a fan of handbells or ALL THREE - there’s a class or workshop for you at “Elevations!!!”

Remember, Late Registration begins with registrations post-marked March 2, 2014. Save \$100 and register no later than March 1st!

SHORT CLASS DESCRIPTIONS: Subject to change –

Note: Full Class Descriptions/Goal available after April 15.

Ringing Up! Tracks: Return home a better handbell musician – ‘ringing up’ to the next level.

Technique classes and workshops for ALL bells and chimes: A workshop setting with lots of hands-on practice to hone the various skills that create handbell musicians.

Equipment Maintenance: An introduction and review workshop highlighting the best practices for handbell and handchime maintenance.

World Drumming: Enjoy the different sounds of various world instruments. Learn ensemble rhythms, drumming techniques, and how to include them in concert and with the congregation.

Bell Trees and Processionals: Less than a full choir? Want to feature a melody line or descant? Create a processional.

Rehearsal Preparation and Score Study: How best to prepare for rehearsals – both from a Director’s and the ringers perspective.

Working with Youth: Start an ensemble – how to keep ‘em busy – resources review – idea sharing.

Basic Music Reading: And introduction to basic music reading – lines and spaces – the grand staff – dynamic markings.

Ringer Health and Performance Anxiety: Diet? Eat and drink to be energized for rehearsals and concerts. Got nerves? ‘Get ready’ for the performance.

Creative Assignments: Through score study and analysis, discover the tips and tricks in the mystery and mastery of assigning handbells.

More than Just a Reading Session: Throughout the Years – Celebrating 60 Years of The Guild reviewing repertoire and techniques.

PLUS!!!! Opening Concert by Twin Cities Bronze – Showcase Concert featuring Festival registrants – Reading sessions!

ELEVATIONS!

Feature Article by Marilyn Lake

Marilyn Lake will be participating as one of our clinicians at ELEVATIONS! our Area 11 Festival in June 2014.

Keep the Rhythm Going! By Marilyn Lake

Let's change the way we make music - the way we ring bells - the way we experience worship - the way we feel music. The classes that will be offered at the Area 11 Festival in June will encompass all facets of bell ringing as well as adding in other members of the percussion family. Drumming and experiencing world rhythms can become almost hypnotic, cathartic even.

Percussion instruments are those that can be struck, scraped or shaken. Handbells must be the queen then, since most of the other instruments in this category produce a sound in only one fashion, and bells can do all three! We will explore the possible sounds from tubanos and djembes as well as from water bottles and buckets. Put your music down and feel the beat...internalize the rhythm...lock into the ensemble sound.



One goal is to put together a World Drumming Worship experience for our Festival participants, giving everyone ideas of how they can share this unique experience with their congregations. We will discover activities that you can incorporate in your VBS programs, or in your classroom.

As a music educator I try to keep all of the kids in my classroom busy with making music independently...that means that I layer a lot of different rhythms and timbres to make a "groove". Don't we do that in every handbell rehearsal as well? As bell ringers we are called upon to be independent music makers, holding to the tempo, reading our music, counting, affecting different dynamics and techniques. Come enjoy the rhythm of the drums, and chimes, and bells, and anything else we can find to shake, scrape or beat upon!

All frustrated drummers welcomed!!!

This month's new FAQs for the Area 11 Festival/Conference ELEVATIONS!

Question: I will be flying in to the Denver International Airport. What transportation options do I have to get to the Embassy Suites in Loveland?

Answer: The hotel is 49 miles, or about 50 minutes driving time from the airport. The hotel website lists the following options for transportation: bus service, limousine, Super Shuttle, rental car, or taxi. You might want to contact the hotel for more information about options available. The Area 11 Board has used the services of Super Shuttle and we were satisfied with the service.

Question: My roommate and I plan to arrive on Wednesday – one day before the Festival starts. We plan to leave the Denver area on Monday – so we will need an extra night on Sunday. Are rooms available and what are the charges?

Answer: Yes, a limited number of rooms are available before and after the Festival. Be sure to include your request for the extra room-nights on your Registration forms. Add one of the following amounts to your total registration fee.

For Registrations postmarked no later than March 1st –

Double Occupancy = \$71 per person/per night

Triple Occupancy = \$55 per person/per night

For Registrations postmarked March 2nd and later –

Double Occupancy = \$85 per person/per night

Triple Occupancy = \$64 per person/per night

Area 11 CHIME Loan Program

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

Area 11 has seven sets of handchimes that are loaned to teachers and/or church musicians during each school year as a way to introduce handchime playing to children within Area 11. During this past year, some wonderful things have been happening in the schools that have been using chimes loaned to them through this program.

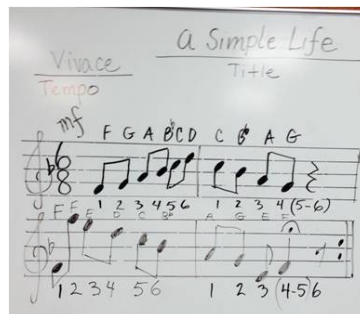


Kris Barber, a teacher at Sunrise Ridge Intermediate School in St. George, Utah has used her set of chimes with her choir class and even performed during two of their choir concerts this year. She has also used them with her enrichment class called Chime Time. "We have had lots of fun with the chimes. The Chime Time class had about 20 students who met 12 times over a four-week period. We are beginning a new class next week that will have about 30 students who will also meet for about 12 class times. I have managed to raise the necessary funds to purchase a 37-tone set of chimes and have ordered them from Malmark. I am very excited about the imminent arrival of my very own chimes and plan to use them as often as possible. Thank you so much for this opportunity! We have loved the chimes."



Students at Sunrise Ridge Intermediate School playing the handchimes during their enrichment class, Chime Time.

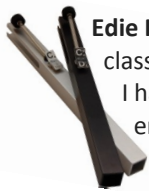
Gayle Workman, a teacher at Tonaquint Intermediate School in St. George, Utah has been using their set of chimes to embellish their choral music. "Christmas was a great time to use them. We will also be using them for our Southern Utah Performing Arts Festival song called "Homeward Bound" where the sound of bells are needed." She also uses them in conjunction with her lesson on pitch and notation. The students write their own 4 measure songs and then perform them in small groups with instruments. Each student has a part in choosing which notes, dynamics, title, and tempo are used. "Thank you for the opportunity of using them. They are so beautiful!"



Chimes being played at the beginning of "Homeward Bound" sung by members of the Show Choir.

Class song written by students at Tonaquint Intermediate School.

Students at Tonaquint Intermediate School playing the handchimes during class



Edie Phelps, a teacher at Enterprize Elementary School in Enterprize, Utah has been using the chimes with the 3rd grade classes. "The children have really enjoyed using them, and it has taken my rowdiest age and made them more focused. I have loved that we performed with them in the Christmas concert and the teachers, student body and parents were all enthralled with them. We are planning on using them again in our Spring concert. Thank you for this opportunity to expose my students to an aspect of music that they would otherwise not have had the chance to experience. Thank you again."

If you would like to apply for the CHIME loan program for the 2014-2015 school year, or know a teacher who could enrich their music program with the use of the chimes, visit our website for the application. Applications must be submitted by May 15.

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

Spring Events

All information and registration forms can be found at
<http://area11.handbellmusicians.org/events-4/events/>



Utah Spring Ring

Saturday, March 8 in Sandy, Utah
Clinician: Michael Glasgow

Northern Colorado Handbell Festival

Saturday, March 8 in Loveland, Colorado
Clinician: Monica McGowan

Wyoming Spring Ring

Friday-Saturday, April 4-5 in Casper, Wyoming
Clinician: J.D. Frizzell

Arizona Directors' Seminar

Friday-Saturday, April 4-5 in Goodyear, Arizona
Clinician: Tammy Waldrop



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Feature From the Area 11 Board

This month features an article written by our Desert Sub-Area Chair, Libbie Randels

What to do in Arizona...hike, horseback ride, swim, play golf....NO---play handbells. There are so many opportunities to ring or even just to listen. The Christmas concerts in our area of Phoenix were wonderful! I went to Northern Arizona University for the Read and Ring in February. If you have never played with a group of college kids you have really missed it! Such talent and such fun! Doug Benton was the original director of the group when it was founded in 1988, but it has subsequently been directed by graduate choral conducting students. Then the following weekend I was off to hear Doug Benton give a concert for his 50th year in Music Ministry....hard to do when you are only 29 years old! I will miss the Spring Rings in Utah, Wyoming and Colorado and Distinctly Bronze in Portland. Wish I could be there....but later in March, my community group is giving a concert, "Seriously Fun". It will be filled with great music, and lots of fun. Then in April Tammy Waldrop is coming to Phoenix and I will be there! Then there is Easter...then Area 11 Festival in Loveland, Co in June...Nationals in Atlanta in July.... Bay View Ring in August....You can ring, learn, listen or do just about everything every month of the year. How do you find out about these opportunities, you ask? Go to the Area 11 website www.area11.handbellmusicians.org, a good place to look. Our newsletters and Facebook page also have information and Handbell Musicians of America Members receive the magazine Overtones that has lists of lots of opportunities. I love ringing, and the people I meet when I go places....as my Mom used to say "no excuses, just do it". Opportunities and experiences are waiting for you!



Libbie Randels is the Area 11 Desert Sub-area Chair and lives in Phoenix with her husband Raubin, two dogs, one cat and 3 grandpuppies. She has been involved with bells since 1985, but has been 'really ringing' since 2007.

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“Ringin’ Around Area 11” Area-wide Read and Ring

Area 11 had our second annual Area-wide Read and Ring “Ringin’ Around Area 11” on Saturday, February 1. From 9:00 am to 12:00 noon, ringing could be heard coming from several locations around Area 11. Ringers from each of the five states got together in a town near them and had a lot of fun ringing a collection of pieces provided by Jeffers Handbell Supply.

Look for our third annual Area-wide Read and Ring next year and plan to attend at a location near you!

Here’s some of the fun we had at a few of our locations this year!



Boulder, Colorado



Flagstaff, Arizona



More pictures on page 8

“Ringing Around Area 11” Area-wide Read and Ring

More fun pictures from our Area-wide Read and Ring on February 1.



Odgen, Utah



Additional Area 11 Happenings



***Shopping and Donating to Area 11 in one Easy Step --
And it doesn't add any money to your purchase!***

Read to see how!

Experience shared by Mary Moffett

I was recently able to donate money to Area 11 just by purchasing a gift on Amazon for my son's birthday. I simply logged on through their AmazonSmile program and did my shopping as usual. It didn't take me any extra time since the link below took me right to the AmazonSmile page that shows Area 11 as the designated charity. It didn't cost me any extra money either, but a small percentage of my purchase total was donated to Area 11! What a great way to donate to our Area! You can do it too! 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>.



In our January newsletter, we had a special New Years' Surprise for the first 10 people that responded to seeing the notice — \$50 off their registration fee for ELEVATIONS! our Area 11 Festival/Conference in Loveland this June!

We are happy to report that all 10 "Surprises" were claimed by wonderful Area 11 members planning on attending ELEVATIONS!

We had some others that were just a little too late with their responses, but we're so glad they sent in their response anyway just in case they made it in under the first 10 — and to hear they are planning on attending!

We're looking forward to seeing all of them and many others in Loveland this June!



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Handbell Musicians of
America - Area 11



The Area 11 Board would like to know where all the bells are within our Area — including those closeted bells! Do you know of any church or school that may have bells stored in a closet that they are not currently using? Or a church that has a handbell choir that we haven't heard about yet? Would you be willing to help by making some phone calls to churches within the area? Contact Jeannine Holt at chairelect.area11@handbellmusicians.org

This is the beginning of something new for the Area 11 Newsletter. Beginning this year, the newsletter will be published on a bi-monthly basis, with issues in January, March, May, July, September, and November.



**Deadline for May Area 11
Newsletter is
April 25, 2014**

**Advertising deadline is
April 20, 2014**

**Email submissions to
Mary Moffett at**

Communications.area11@handbellmusicians.org

