



Handbell Musicians  
OF AMERICA

Area 11

# Newsletter

E-newsletter Editor—Mary Moffett

[Communications.area11@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:Communications.area11@handbellmusicians.org)

Volume - 6  
Issue -10  
November 2013

Mountain Sub-Area Chair - Jane Wolfarth  
[mountain.area11@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:mountain.area11@handbellmusicians.org)



Desert Sub-Area Chair - Libbie Randels  
[desert.area11@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:desert.area11@handbellmusicians.org)

## From the Chair:



### From the Chair:

It is hard to believe that November is upon us, but here it is! The holidays and holiday concerts are just around the corner. I would love to hear about your upcoming events and concerts! Please send me a note

([chair.area11@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:chair.area11@handbellmusicians.org)) and let me know what is happening in your “neck of the Area”. I love hearing from you!

This issue is full of information regarding registration and other details for all of our upcoming Area events: The Area

11 Read and Rings, Spring Rings in Utah, Wyoming and Colorado, a Director’s Seminar in AZ, as well as the Area Festival/Conference next June in Loveland, CO. Please sign up for one or more! I hope to see you all soon.

Sue Hahn

Area 11 Chair

[chair.area11@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:chair.area11@handbellmusicians.org)

## Area 11 Website

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

## National Office Website

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

### Inside this issue....

Call for Nominations for Chair-Elect and Secretary/Treasurer	Pg. 1
Area 11 Festival/Conference ELEVATIONS! Registration	Pg. 2
2014 Events Registration	Pg. 3
Doug Benton Shares his Thoughts on Festival attendance	Pg. 4
Call for Ring of Fame Nominations	Pg. 5
Report on Fall Tune-Up Events	Pg. 5
An Amazing Sound (feature article by Rick Meurer)	Pg. 7
Submit your holiday concert information for publication in December’s newsletter	Pg. 8



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

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

*Nominations are now being accepted for the Secretary/Treasurer and Chair Elect positions on the Area 11 Board.*

*The deadline for nominations is January 1, 2014.*

*The nomination form can be found at <http://area11.handbellmusicians.org/files/2012/02/AREA-11-OFFICER-NOMINATION-FORM.pdf>.*

*Please consider nominating someone you know for either of these positions — or, if you’d like, you can even nominate yourself! The election will be held next spring and the new board members will begin serving in September of 2014.*



Find us on:  
**facebook®**

Join our Facebook group!  
Handbell Musicians of America - Area 11

## Upcoming Events



### ***ELEVATIONS!!!!!!***

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

**Registration is now OPEN!**

### **Area 11 is *Ringin*g UP!**

Don't miss this educational and ringing opportunity  
for your choir, ensemble, or just for YOU!

Return home a better ringer and musician!

Plan now to join Debbie Rice, Twin Cities Bronze, Marilyn Lake,  
Monica McGowan and your Area 11 Board for massed ringing,  
*Ringin*g UP! Tracks, workshops and classes, concerts,  
and fellowship with many handbell friends!

**REGISTRATION** information and forms are  
ready for you to fill out and send in.

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

Don't wait! Ringing tracks will fill up fast!!

Be Ready!! Be There in 2014!!

## Upcoming Events

### Ringin' Around Area 11

(Our Area-wide Read and Ring)

Saturday, February 1, 2014

9:00 a.m.—12:00 noon

Spend the morning with fellow handbell ringers reading and ringing some new releases, oldies but goodies, and little known gems!

*Locations to choose from in each of the five states in Area 11!*



#### Arizona

Scottsdale  
Flagstaff  
Sun City

#### New Mexico

Albuquerque

#### Colorado

Boulder  
Colorado Springs  
Grand Junction  
Loveland

#### Wyoming

Casper

#### Utah

Ogden  
Sandy

More information and the registration form can be found on our website

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

### Utah Spring Ring 2014

Saturday, March 8, 2014

Clinician: Michael Glasgow

Jordan High School  
9150 W 500 W  
Sandy, Utah 84070

More details and the registration form can be found on the Area 11 website

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

Contact Jane Wolfarth for more information at  
[mountain.area11@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:mountain.area11@handbellmusicians.org)

### Northern Colorado Spring Ring 2014

Saturday, March 8, 2014

Clinician: Monica McGowan

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
4650 Sunview Dr.  
Loveland, CO

More details and the registration form will be available soon.

Contact Anne Kleve for more information at  
[alkleve@msn.com](mailto:alkleve@msn.com)

### Wyoming Spring Ring

Friday-Saturday, April 4-5, 2014

Clinician: J.D. Frizzell

Parkway Plaza Ballrooms  
Casper, Wyoming

More details and the registration form can be found on the Area 11 website

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

Contact Carolyn Deuel for more information at  
[ARTCOREWY@aol.com](mailto:ARTCOREWY@aol.com) or 307-265-1564

### Arizona's Director Seminar

Friday-Saturday, April 4-5, 2014

Clinician: Tammy Waldrop

Christ Presbyterian Church  
925 N. Sarival  
Goodyear, AZ 85338

More details and the registration form can be found on the Area 11 website

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

Contact Libbie Randels for more information at  
[libbier70@aol.com](mailto:libbier70@aol.com) or 623-925-2320

## Why Go to Festival?

I began my handbell career in November, 1973 with two octaves and eight kids from 6th through 10<sup>th</sup> grades. One of the first things we did was decide on a name. The kids chose “MOO Ringers”, since we were at Mt. of Olives Lutheran Church in Phoenix, Arizona. I did not like this at first, but it grew on me, and was certainly recognizable.

Another thing I did after receiving the bells was to join the Guild. Being a total novice, I needed all the help I could get! I received information about the Area 11 Festival held that summer in Estes Park, CO at the YMCA Camp. Offered were classes, concerts and fellowship, all of which I had experienced in other organizations, so I already knew the value of this kind of event. We all saved our money and planned on going. Unfortunately, I began a new job and was not able to go at the last minute. I found another director who wanted to go, but whose choir couldn't, so I sent my choir with her.

The night of the Final Massed Concert, my choir called me on a pay phone and talked for 45 minutes! Each one had to excitedly share their story with me while others had to go change money into quarters for the phone. Needless to say, my kids were absolutely blown away by this festival! Indeed, this was a life-changing event for several of my kids! I only wish I could have gone to learn more about this instrument that had so intrigued my ringers and I.

The following year, 1975, I received information about a National Festival in Logan, UT – the closest site to Arizona. We only had two octaves and the kids were torn between spending the money we saved for a third octave or go to the festival. As it turned out, we were able to do both, and I was able to go also.

That Festival was truly life-changing for me – in many respects. I had my first bout with food poisoning, and spent 2 days pretty much in bed. But the classes were excellent and the Final Concert was awesome. What a sound! 1200 ringers all ringing the same thing under one of the best conductors we have ever had, Donald E. Allured. He was wearing white tails, and on the final chord of *Feestdag*, he looked like Moses parting the Red Sea, and had absolute command of all 1200 ringers! I remember thinking to myself, “when I grow up, I want to be just like him!” Unbelievable!!!

We travelled by bus to that festival with the Bells of the Twisted Cross from Tucson, AZ's Casa Adobes Congregational Church, directed by Lynn Hauck. On the way back, we spent the night in Kanab, UT, and sitting by the pool watching our two choirs, who got along great, Lynn shared that she would like to take her choir in two years to her reunion at Mt. Holyoke College, and then to the Eastern National Festival at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. Someone said, “What if . . .” so we decided to think about taking our two choirs on a national tour to this Festival in 1977, which gave us two years to plan and raise money.

We accomplished that goal and took 26 people on a 48 passenger bus as the *Grand Canyon State Ringers* from Tucson through Phoenix, ringing a concert at each of our churches, then performed 26 concerts in 28 days touring across the country to Washington D.C., NJ, NY, MA, NH, VT, and back to Arizona. What an incredible trip this was for all of us. A lot of us still keep in touch with each other, even after all these years. Both choirs continued to see each other at State, Area 11 and National Festivals in the many years following our tour. To our knowledge, this is the first time two choirs from two churches over 100 miles away joined forces for a tour of this magnitude. This happened as a direct result of the 1975 National Festival in Logan, UT.

That's what festivals do – they truly bring your choir into a oneness with each other, allows your choir to gain confidence individually and collectively, expands musicianship and builds a desire to be “the best that we can be” individually and as a group. This happens through the knowledge gained in classes and workshops, critically observing other groups (how they look when they ring, new techniques, new music, etc.), and the incredible fellowship the ringers have with each other and ringers from other choirs, other parts of the country, and, perhaps, other parts of the world. A handbell festival is indeed a very unique event that every handbell ringer should experience. For first time attendees, this is an event that, at least, will be an eye-opening experience if not a life-changing experience for them. And, like handbells themselves, it is just plain fun!

Take your ringers to a festival. It is the best thing you can do for them personally, musically and socially! Turn it into a vacation, or combine it with a mission trip, or make it just bells. It is always a win-win experience for everyone. So, when you come to the Area 11 Festival this summer, look us up: The Canyon Carillon, Gold Canyon United Methodist Church, Gold Canyon, Arizona. I look forward to meeting you for the first time or seeing you again!

Douglas J. Benton, Director of Music Ministries  
Gold Canyon United Methodist Church  
Gold Canyon, AZ  
bellmaster@earthlink.com





## Additional Happenings Around Area 11

### RING OF FAME Nominations Now Being Accepted

In 2002, the Area 11 Board of Directors established the RING OF FAME to recognize and honor those who have made outstanding contributions to the art of handbell/handchime ringing. We will be recognizing some of these exceptional members from Area 11 during the 2014 Festival in Loveland, Colorado.

For more information on the Ring of Fame or to nominate someone to receive the award, visit the following page on our website. <http://area11.handbellmusicians.org/about-us/ring-of-fameselection-process/>

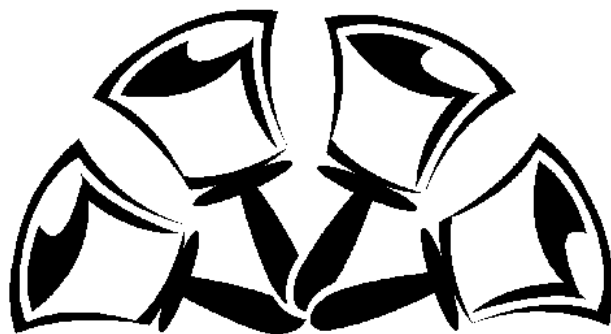


### Area 11 Members Tuned Up Their Playing at Fall Events

Area 11 recently had two Fall Tune-Up events. The first one was held in Lehi, Utah on Saturday, September 21 and the second one was held in Sun City, Arizona on Saturday, October 19. Although they followed slightly different formats, both of these tune-ups offered a wonderful opportunity for those attending to learn, brush up, or work on perfecting different ringing and percussive techniques during the workshops offered in the morning. Members from the Bells on Temple Square did a wonderful job teaching those attending in Utah and our wonderful Desert Sub-area chair, Libbie Randels, gave some fabulous instruction to those attending in Arizona.

Following lunch, those attending the tune-up in Utah spent time in the afternoon under the direction of LeAnna Willmore, director of the Bells on Temple Square, reading and ringing the music for their upcoming Spring Ring in March of 2014. Those attending in Arizona spent the afternoon playing through three pieces that emphasized the techniques they had focused on earlier that morning.

Area 11 plans to have Fall Tune-Up events annually throughout our area. Watch for information about our 2014 Fall Tune-Ups in future newsletters and plan to attend next fall!



*NORM HEITZ & CAROL SCHEEL*  
PRESENT:

**Heitz Handbells**  
and Music

A full service handbell store with music and accessories: gloves, gifts, maintenance items, binders, mallets, bell tree items, Malmark products

**Visit us at**  
**[www.heizthandbells.com](http://www.heizthandbells.com)**

612-208-1741  
1 (877 or 866) 426-3235  
[heizthandbells@yahoo.com](mailto:heizthandbells@yahoo.com)

6603 Queen Ave S, Suite S  
Richfield, MN 55423

Although handbells are not  
just for Christmas...  
In the hearts of thousands,  
The Raleigh Ringers'  
Holiday Concerts are  
**a December Tradition**

**Wizards in Winter** (Trans-Siberian Orchestra) arr. Morris

**Boughs of Holly** (Trans-Siberian Orchestra) arr. Morris

**Pat-a-pan** arr. Gramann

**Valse Brillante** Buckwalter

**March of the Toys** arr. Freeman

**Coventry Carol** arr. Eithun

**You're A Mean One, Mr. Grinch** arr. Morris

**Little Fugue** (Fugue in G minor) trans. Kastner

**Farandole** arr. Griffin

**Linus and Lucy** arr. Morris

**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel** arr. Raney and Sherman

**Flight of the Bumblebee** arr. Thompson

**The First Noel** arr. Moglebust

**Good King Joy** (Trans-Siberian Orchestra) arr. Morris

**Stille Nacht** arr. Garee

**Livin' on a Prayer** arr. Burt

**Bohemian Rhapsody** arr. McKlveen

**BONUS SONGS**

**Fiddle Faddle** arr. Yoshida

**Dueling Banjos** arr. Morris

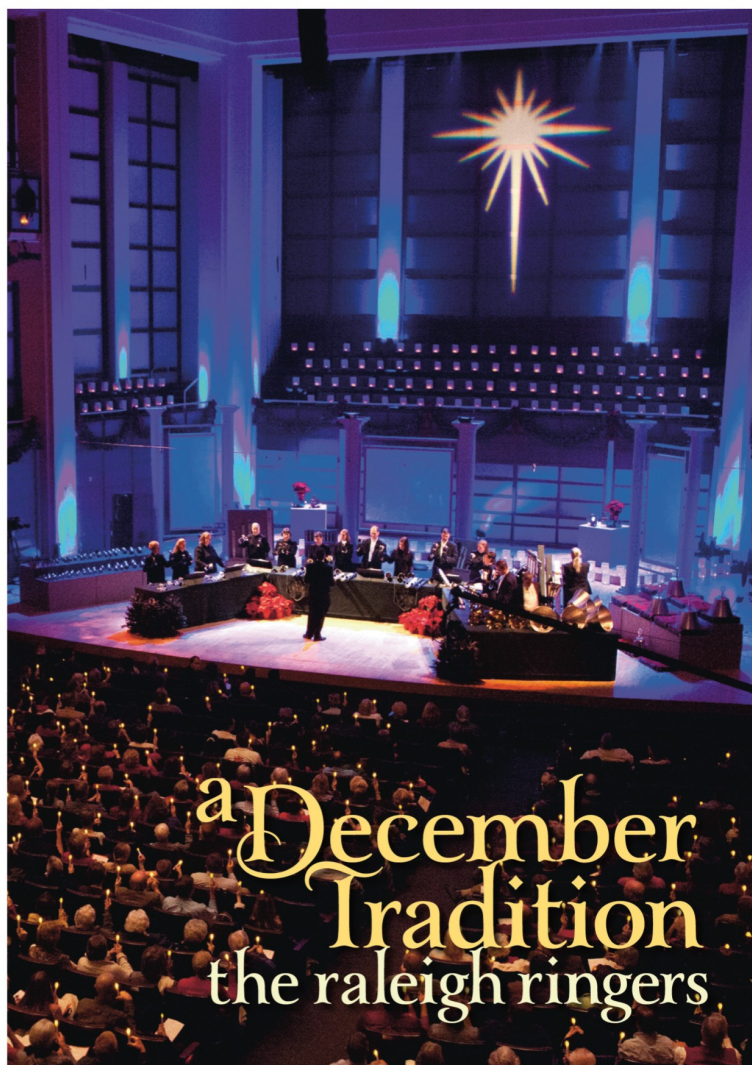
**Legends** Payn

**Yakety Sax** arr. Krautheim

**Malagueña** arr. Thompson

**Don't Stop Believin'** arr. Burt

**Firebird Finale** arr. Smith



Now this tradition can  
be yours, too. Available  
on Blu-ray and DVD.

**a December Tradition**

Blu-ray # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$30 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

DVD # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Original DVD recording also available**

One Winter Evening at Meymandi DVD # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping & handling \$3 each, maximum \$12 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Subtotal \$ \_\_\_\_\_

North Carolina residents add 6.75% tax \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**CD recordings and other products also available online at [www.rr.org](http://www.rr.org)**

Make checks payable to The Raleigh Ringers and Mail to 8516 Sleepy Creek Drive, Raleigh, NC 27613; Fax your order to 866-914-7578. Contact [rringer@rr.org](mailto:rringer@rr.org) for more information.

☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ (Please Print Clearly)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**[www.rr.org](http://www.rr.org)**



## Feature From the Area 11 Board

*This month features an article written by our Secretary/Treasurer, Rick Meurer*



### AN AMAZING SOUND

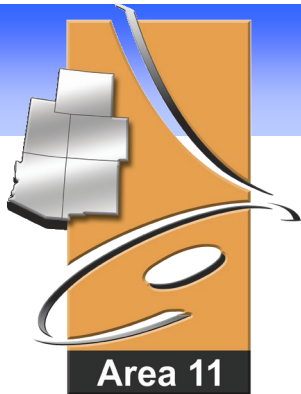
Remember the first time you heard a handbell group perform? As each of us thinks about our initial reaction to the sound of handbells or chimes, the delight and fascination we remember is uniquely personal and special. Perhaps it was the joy of hearing a favorite Christmas tune interpreted through a new medium. Perhaps you were in awe of the variety of different sounds that can be produced using just two basic instruments. No matter what music or which group performed, there was something about that experience that drew you to handbells and changed your life forever.

After that initial experience, many of us joined a handbell group as a ringer. At first we weren't sure we could get the bells to ring, much less make music. As time passed we honed our skills in various areas such as the correct way to ring and damp, mallet techniques, weaving, four-in-hand, and chimes. We learned from a variety of sources including fellow ringers, group read and ring sessions, and area events led by clinicians. We performed during our church services and some even joined community groups where they had the opportunity to perform in bell concerts both locally and on tour.

As a result of accumulated bell knowledge and experience, many new concerns surface which affect not only individual ringers, but also the bell choir and even the Guild. How do we arrange the bells so they can be shared between ringers and enable four-in-hand techniques? Is our presentation good with smiling ringers and uniform motion on certain notes? How can we get members to help out with all that needs to be done both before and after a performance? How can we encourage ringers to attend events and support the Guild as well as our various groups?

The hidden danger is that our concerns can lead to a mental and physical fatigue which derails us from our primary purpose of creating joy and amazement for the audience. We find ourselves banging a piece out in 2 minutes and 30 seconds for the offertory without ever considering how it might enrich the worship service. A community group strives to play ever faster and more technically challenging pieces as a badge of honor without considering whether the audience would also like a few simple pieces performed well or a slow piece with breathtaking chords and voicing. Deep down we all know things aren't quite right when the director is yelling "Smile like you're enjoying this!" In short, we've become much better ringers, but we're not producing music with feeling or having fun playing.

My challenge to each of us as the holiday season approaches and our concert schedules get busy is to recapture the magic that attracted us to bells in the first place. Take some time to reflect on each piece of music even if you've played or directed it a hundred times before. Slow down a little between those harried events and take time to enjoy the company of your fellow musicians. Look out and connect with the audience as you share not only your technical skills, but also your love of bells and the music being performed. Rediscover the childlike excitement and joy of hearing ringing handbells which create an amazing sound.



## Handbell Musicians OF AMERICA



### Area 11 Concerts

The Area 11 Concerts section will feature concerts given at Area 11 sponsored and endorsed events as well as additional concerts submitted for inclusion. *If you have a concert you would like to advertise in the Area 11 newsletter, please send the following information to Mary Moffett at [Communications.area11@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:Communications.area11@handbellmusicians.org)*

**Your Name**

**Name of Handbell Choir/Concert Name**

**Handbell Musicians of America membership number**

**Concert Date and Time**

**Concert Admission Price**

**Concert Location**

**Concert Address**

**Contact person name and email address**

**Deadline for December Area 11 Newsletter**

**November 25, 2013**

**Advertising deadline November 20, 2013**

**Email submissions to Mary Moffett at**

**[Communications.area11@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:Communications.area11@handbellmusicians.org)**



*E-notes* is a wonderful short newsletter produced by our National staff each month. It can be found at <http://handbellmusicians.org/>. You can also sign up to receive it through email each month if you would like.

In addition to other articles of interest, they will feature a different member's story each month. They would love to hear from you! What handbell program you are part of; how your membership in Handbell Musicians of America has helped your handbell journey; and what inspires you as a handbell musician. It would be wonderful to read about some of our Area 11 members in *E-Notes* one day! So, submit your story today to our Regional Membership Coordinator and maybe we will see you in a future issue of

*E-Notes*. Members of our area should send their submissions to Ellie Hodder, [ehodder@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:ehodder@handbellmusicians.org) Include your name, your home city and state, your member number, and your role in handbells. Keep your story to 300 words or less and include a photo of yourself that they can include with your story.

