



Handbell Musicians
OF AMERICA

Area 11

Newsletter

E-newsletter Editor—Mary Moffett

Communications.area11@handbellmusicians.org

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Mountain Sub-Area Chair - Jane Wolfarth
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From the Chair:



There are two MUST READ articles in this newsletter. One is about the Young Ringers Bell Camp this past July in Durango, CO. The other is about 2 young ringers who attended Distinctly Teen at the National Seminar in Portland, OR. Two things stand out for me: "I LUV BELLS!" and "I CAN DO IT!" These young people are the future of the "Art of Handbell Ringing" that we all have come to love.

Anyone who works or has worked with children and youth in your handbell program knows how rewarding it can be.

They gain a life-long love for music and for bells. In my adult church bell choir, I currently have 7 of my 13 ringers who rang bells when they were growing up. Several got away from bells for a while, but missed it so much that they searched for a place to ring again.

These two events were specifically geared for young ringers. However, it is important to note that ALL Area 11 events and festivals are open to ringers of all ages.

If you currently have a bell program that includes young ringers, I would love to hear from you. We want input into future Area 11 events geared for children and youth. Please send me your name, phone number, e-mail address, and the name of your church or school. My email address is listed below.

Sue Hahn

Area 11 Chair

chair.area11@handbellmusicians.org

PS. Coming next month: info about the Area 11 Festival in June 2014.

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. Visit our website and look under the "About Us" tab.



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Handbell Musicians of America - Area 11

Upcoming Events

Take some time to tune-up your ringing and percussive techniques at one of our Fall Tune-Up events as your choir begins a new season of ringing!

The first Fall Tune-Up Event will be held in Lehi, Utah on **Saturday, September 21** at Lehi High School. Members from the Bells on Temple Square will be conducting workshops on the following:

Bass bell playing
Tinker bells (Shelley and 4-in-hand)
Movement and Dynamics
Effects (malleting techniques)

After the workshops and lunch break, there will be a Read and Ring of the Utah Spring Ring repertoire for March 2014.

Our second Fall Tune-Up Event will be held in Sun City, Arizona on **Saturday, October 19** at the Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Sun City.

Session 1 will discuss and teach healthy ringing skills for bells and chimes including:

Notations and Markings
Weaving and extra bell pickups
Marking your music

Visual Effects

Session 2 will discuss and teach percussive methods including:

Mallets, marts, echoes, plucks, and vibes.

Following a lunch break, there will be a ringing session using

3 pieces of music selected to reinforce the skills covered during

the technique sessions earlier that day.

More information and registration forms for each of these events

can be found on the Area 11 website at

<http://area11.hanbellmusicians.org/events-4/fall-events/>



Northern Colorado Spring Ring 2014

Saturday, March 8, 2014

Clinician: Monica McGowan

Immanuel Lutheran Church
4650 Sunview Dr.
Loveland, CO

More details coming soon.

Contact Anne Kleve for more information at
alkleve@msn.com

Utah Spring Ring 2014

Saturday, March 8, 2014

Clinician: Michael Glasgow

Jordan HS
9150 W 500 W
Sandy, Utah 84070

Registration information available soon.

Repertoire can be found at [http://](http://area11.hanbellmusicians.org/files/2011/11/Utah-Fall-Tune-up-Schedule-and-Repertoire.pdf)

area11.hanbellmusicians.org/files/2011/11/Utah-Fall-Tune-up-Schedule-and-Repertoire.pdf

Contact Jane Wolfarth for more information at
mountain.area11@hanbellmusicians.org

Young Ringers' Camp 2013

'Twas the night before Christmas and throughout Area 11 all was quiet. But wait.....

It was July and up on the campus at Fort Lewis College there were 18 young ringers, six dedicated chaperones and two eager leaders ready to embark on an exciting four-day adventure at Young Ringers Camp! The spirit of Christmas filled the air with the sounds of our bells and chimes! We carefully assembled our stockings, decorated our Christmas tree, and made and personalized fleece scarves to share with the homeless. Jessie, our Area 11 Youth Representative made sure we were never idle, with fun games to bring us together in friendship and laughter! There were multiple rehearsals as a group and in our small ensembles, with change ringing to help us know how it all began. Video night provided a concert of handbell choirs from around the world. High adventure was at the top of our list, with a raft trip down the Animas River! It came to an end all too quick as we packed up the equipment and loaded the van. Memories were made with promises to come together again in 2015!!



Here's what the kids had to say...

This has been great! I've made new friends and learned new strategies with bells and chimes. Thank you sooooo much. I had sooooo much fun!

Brianna – Age 11

I love everyone here! Everyone takes you in, welcomes you, and makes you feel at home. The ringing was awesome! We played a cool ensemble, then memorized it, walked around, and played it four-in-hand! I hope everyone had as much fun as I did at camp!

Izzie – Age 12

Best bell camp ever! Handbell ringers are amazing and there are not many people who can do what we do. I learned to believe in myself and know that I CAN DO IT!!

Austin – Age 10

This is my second time to come to camp and it was really fun this year! I learned to do four-in-hand!

JayCee – Age 13

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Continued on pages 4,5

Young Ringers' Camp 2013

Camp was great. I have never seen so many kids be so different and still come together to make such amazing music. The time I had was great. So many memories made in 4 days. I look forward to the next one. I hope all the same people come and more. Great thanks to directors and chaperones! Casey – Age 14

Camp was AWESOME! I was so scared and nervous at first, but everyone made it so much fun. I never really thought my ringing ability was that great until we played "We Three Kings" and I like rocked it! My favorite part was when several of us played Egyptian Rat Race. I am absolutely so glad and thankful I came to camp. Thank you to everyone who brought this all together! Rachel – Age 15

Bell camp was a lot of fun this year! I loved meeting new people but still having time to be with my old friends. I loved mass ringing and ensemble work, and I especially loved meeting so many young, passionate people. I'm glad to know that there are other teens as excited about ringing as I am. I hope to see all of them again, and ring with them too! Katie – Age 15



Camp was awesome! This was my first year and it was really fun! A lot of people made the camp even more fun and special, but also very memorable. Everyone encouraged me! My favorite part was ringing bells all the time and getting to have the experience of a life time. I LUV BELLS! Jenny – Age 12

I have had a GREAT time this year!!! This has been my favorite out of the two times I have been!!! Thanks for making it better each year!!! Cydney – Age 13

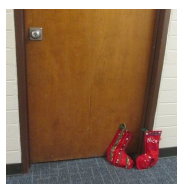


Young Ringers' Camp 2013

And from our Youth Representative...

Wow! How do I sum up an experience that has been such a huge part of my life for years? Being the Area 11 Youth Representative, I had the privilege of helping plan this camp. I have become a better person because of this experience and I am incredibly grateful for Claudette and Linda, my mentors, teachers, and friends. Bell camp was incredible this year and it will always hold a special place in my heart. I will forever remember "curling" and "getting my head in the game" with my "wildcats". Thanks for the memories...truly life changing! Jessie Sume, Area 11 Youth Representative, 2011-2013

Farrell models camp t-shirt she designed.



Jessie and Isabelle
Outgoing and
Incoming Youth
Representatives



From our new Youth Representative...

Hi! My name is Isabelle Herzog and I'm super excited to be Area 11's youth representative. I'm in 8th grade at DaVinci Academy in Ogden, UT this year. I've been playing handbells and handchimes for 6 years, and playing music for 8. Besides playing handbells, I also play piano, sing, act, and run cross-country. I plan to support the youth of Area 11, and contribute to the work of the Area 11 Board as best as I can. I have attended two Area 11 Young Ringer Camps, several Area 11 workshops and Utah Spring Rings. You can email me at izziezog@gmail.com if you have questions for me. See you in 2014 at the Area 11 Festival!



Area 11 wishes to thank the following churches and individuals who allowed us to borrow equipment for Young Ringers Camp.

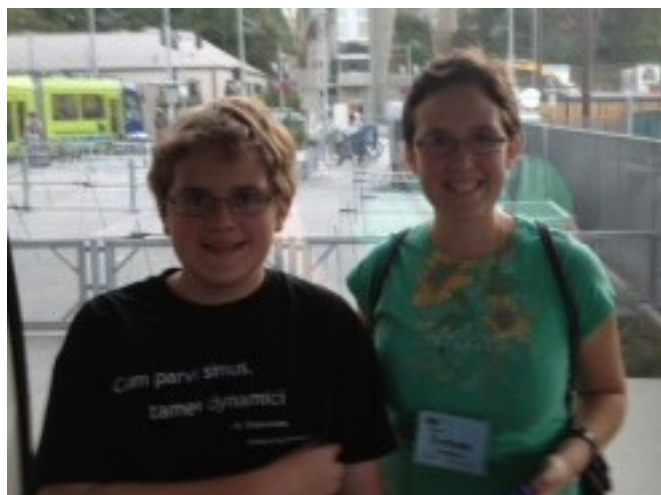
Nancy Roberts-Small coordinated and arranged for pick-up and delivery of the equipment from Albuquerque. Thank you Nancy!!
Central United Methodist Church in Albuquerque and Nancy Roberts-Small
Asbury United Methodist Church in Albuquerque and Vera Kleinhenz
Ron and Joan Swim who brought equipment from First United Methodist Church in Cheyenne



Final Concert

Area 11 Teens Participate in Distinctly Teen at National Seminar

This past July two youth ringers, Carman and Davis Deveaux, from Crossroads United Methodist Church in Grand Junction, CO were privileged to be able to attend the National Seminar in Portland, Oregon. They participated in the Distinctly Teen portion of the seminar which was directed by Ron Mallory. This was a fantastic opportunity for them to connect with other youth ringers from around the country and the world. Some highlights of their experience were getting to work on a wonderful variety of music, including one selection that was written by another youth – Matthew Compton (who lives in Colorado Springs). One of their favorite pieces was Adele's Rolling in the Deep (for a short video of this performance go to www.youtube.com/watch?v=tL1oOa68_qk). They also got to meet the Hong Kong Youth Handbell Choir which participated in one of their rehearsals. The Hong Kong Youth Handbell Choir also performed the final concert – all from memory – which was very inspiring. In addition to the wonderful workshops, rehearsals, and concerts given throughout the seminar, we were able to visit the Portland Rose Gardens, ride the tram, and enjoy a meal at the Portland City Grill which was on the 30th floor of the US Bancorp Tower and had a marvelous view of the city by night.



Davis with Hong Kong Youth Handbell Choir



Carman in rehearsal



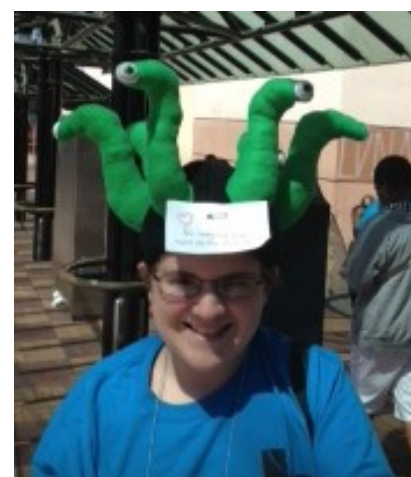
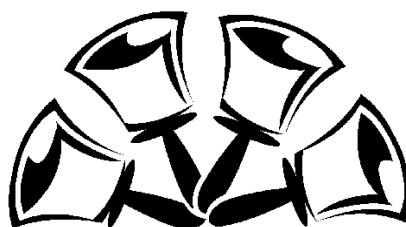
One of our ringers was fortunate enough to receive the Deb Heine Young Ringers Scholarship which helped defray expenses to attend this event. In addition to the scholarship, our many fund raising events throughout the year helped these youth ringers reach unforgettable new heights in their handbell experiences!

written by:

Lisa Bush

Handbell Choir Director

*Crossroads United Methodist Church
Grand Junction, CO*



Davis wearing his new hat to encourage ringers to keep their "eyes" on their director

Members from Area 11 Share Their Experiences at National Seminar

Kajsa Teitelbaum

As a first time attendee at the National Seminar I did not know what to expect at all. The previous year I ended up conducting two handbell choirs at my church, but with no experience it was quite a challenge to step up to the podium and tell my experienced ringers how to ring. I signed up for the beginner's ringing sessions, led by Cathy Moglebust, and within two minutes my feelings had shifted from being nervous and hesitant to joy and excitement. Cathy completely removed any fear for the handbells, and encouraged me to keep going with my choirs at home. I feel utmost grateful to her and the seminar for opening my eyes to a whole new musical world.

Diona Savoy-McDaniels

I have attended various national, area and regional handbell events in the past decade, and each one has left me with new ideas and excitement for handbells. I am energized when surrounded by people where everyone has an unbridled passion for handbells. It ignites even greater enthusiasm in me – which is why I continue to attend gatherings where handbells are the honored guest.

I carefully chose the sessions I wanted to attend in Portland, OR. Overall, I was thrilled with the sessions I selected and learned something new every time I entered another door and saw a different instructor. I am awestruck that we are surrounded today by the masters of our craft – not learning from musicians who lived centuries ago. I always imagine I am in the midst of Beethoven, Bach, Mozart, Tchaikovsky and Chopin when I attend large bells events...the names and faces today are different but their passion and musical genius is palpable. They are with us now, guiding yet nudging us to find our own paths and explore our own talents to spread the joy of handbells even more. I find the love of handbells to be contagious.

I have been interested in the Certification process, and finally began that journey with my trip to Portland. I completed two entry level Certification courses: Composing and Arranging with John Behnke; and Ringing Techniques and Proficiency with Michele Sharik. In addition to being knowledgeable, the instructors were very approachable, willing to listen and share their experiences as masters of their craft. Passing both at the Level 1 stage now bolsters my determination to continue this journey. So now, in addition to playing and composing, my new goal is to continue working on the Certification process in hopes of completing the entire course (a lofty goal – to put it mildly – but I will just keep ringing away). I am neither a music teacher nor a director, so my reasons for seeking Certification are based purely on my desire to accomplish all I can with handbells to refine my craft as a ringer and broaden my depth of knowledge as a fledgling composer.

Another class that was a revelation to me was Body Mapping for Directors with Cynthia McGladrey. It was fun and enlightening to feel the differences in comfort and strength depending on body position, stance and movement for maximum efficiency as a ringer. It was also the perfect segue way for the Certification class on Ringing Techniques and Proficiency which also focused on posture and delivery.

And then there were the mind boggling concerts that transcended my base of knowledge about what is possible with handbells. They were so inspiring. I now want to do more, play more, learn more. Every seminar, workshop and festival I attend heightens my love for handbells. I continue that musical journey every time I pick up bells and feel that passion ignited anew. For me, handbells opened a musical thirst that cannot ever be fully quenched. They are addictive in the most wonderful way.



Photo by Diona Savoy-McDaniels

Continued on page 8

Members from Area 11 Share Their Experiences at National Seminar

Rick and Linda Meurer

One of the great things about a National Seminar is interacting with and taking classes from so many of the composers. Just getting to know a little about them and their personality will definitely influence the way a ringer performs their compositions.

Two classes we enjoyed were WYSIWYG by Michael Joy and Past the Parentheses and Beyond the Brackets by Michael Glasgow. WYSIWYG, which stands for "what you see is what you get" dealt with looking like the music. A small group of ringers from the class was used to demonstrate different ways to ring the melody, accompaniment etc. while the remainder of the class made comments and suggestions. It was a lot of fun for both the ringers and the class, and some good ideas were brought out.

Michael Glasgow's class dealt with why and how certain notes are added or omitted based upon how many octaves of bells are being rung on a piece of music. Far from dispensing dry music theory, Michael Glasgow was very entertaining while at the same time teaching both practical and technical points that may not be obvious to even advanced ringers and directors.

Instead of the All-Star audition track, Linda and I decided to play in the track entitled "Remembering the Don" conducted by Stephanie Wiltse. This track covered 5 composition by the late Don Allured and had many participants who had actually rung under Don in the past. The music selection was varied and quite challenging. We would definitely like to perform several of these pieces again either in church or with our community choir. Also, the anecdotal stories about Don along the way from ringers in the class and Stephanie were so fascinating that the rehearsal time passed very quickly. The event staff did a great job of providing us with excellent sets of bells and in the bass we had access to both bronze and aluminum bells all the way down to G2, which is a nice experience if you don't have those at home in your church or community choir.

Finally, this event had absolutely the best shopping experience imaginable. Malmark, Schulmerich and White Chapel all had displays, as well as Jeffers and numerous music publishers. Schulmerich had their Silver Melody Bells on display which they are bringing back for a limited time and we had a very interesting discussion with one of the White Chapel representatives about their work in tower bells. This was a shopping venue you could visit many times between classes and not see it all.

Joyce Willeke

I loved the knowledge of our clinicians in their special fields. I gain so much enthusiasm from them because they have the answers to a lot of my questions in my situation.

I really appreciate the Malmark/Schulmerich folks and their repairmen who come and show us how to repair bells. I enjoyed talking to them after class and at their exhibits, they were so helpful.

I learned a new way to count triplet figures so that was interesting and I've already incorporated that into my bell choirs. Really enjoyed the Catholic session and how we can incorporate bells in that service.

Ed Rollin's session on a Tremendous Concert Experience was really captivating because we all experience these things but don't always know where the problem is and he addressed several of the areas and had great solutions to them. I enjoyed it because we could discuss different situations from the group.

It was a great conference and best of all it was delightful walking to and from the Convention Center along the river front!



**NORM HEITZ & CAROL SCHEEL
PRESENT:**

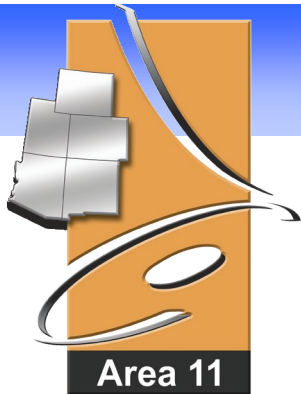
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Handbell Musicians OF AMERICA



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*

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 October Area 11 Newsletter
September 25, 2013**

Advertising deadline September 20, 2013

Email submissions to Mary Moffett at

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 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.

