



Newsletter



Volume 9

Issue 4

September 2016

From the Chair:



Hi all! I hope that your rehearsals have started back up and that you are getting back into the swing of things. The weather is starting to cool off in some parts and it will be the holiday season before we know it!

The Area 11 Board just wrapped up our Fall Board meeting. We got a ton of stuff done and have a ton more to do! We welcomed two new members

to the board, Lorrie Hart, Chair Elect and Anne Kleve Mountain Sub-area chair. You will learn more about them later in the newsletter. We are very excited to have both on the board!! Area 11 is hosting three Back to Bells events in the next few weeks. On October 1st we will host Back to Bells events in Tucson, AZ and Denver, CO. On October 22nd we will host a Back to Bells event in the Phoenix area. Please visit the national website to attend. handbellmusicians.org/backtobells On October 8th, Doug Benton and Libbie Randels are the clinicians for an event called Ringing, Singing and ORGAN-izing in Phoenix, AZ.

Just about a month later, WyoRing will be held in Torrington, WY on November 12th with Michael Kastner as the clinician. Check out our website for more information.

We are working on getting venues for the 5th annual Ring Around the Area event (aka Super Bell Saturday) on February 4th, 2017. If you are interested in hosting at your church, please let us know ASAP so that we can include your location on the registration form.

These are just the tip of the iceberg of what is coming up in Area 11!

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or if you want to help out with any event. We are here to help!! Have a great fall season!

Shannon Casey, Chair
Area 11, Handbell Musicians of America
chair.area11@handbellmusicians.org



Area 11 Website

area11.handbellmusicians.org

National Office Website

Handbellmusicians.org

Inside this issue:

BOOTS & BELLS	pg 2-7
Pictures and class comments	pg 2-7
Request for Special Feature Articles	pg 6
Meet our New Board Members	pg 8
International Symposium articles	
Karen Eskew-Wyllie	pg. 9
Rick Meurer	pg 10
Upcoming Events	pg 13-14



Area 11 Board Member Email Addresses

Chair: Shannon Casey

Chair.area11@handbellmusicians.org

Chair-Elect: Lorraine Hart

Chairelect.area11@handbellmusicians.org

Mountain Sub-Area Chair: Anne Kleve

Mountain.area11@handbellmusicians.org

Desert Sub-Area Chair: Jan Powell

Desert.area11@handbellmusicians.org

Secretary/Treasurer: Janet Lake

Treasurer.area11@handbellmusicians.org

Communications Chair: Mary Moffett

Communications.area11@handbellmusicians.org

Event Planner: Claudette Rothwell

Events.area11@handbellmusicians.org

Youth Representative: Casey Turner

Youth.area11@handbellmusicians.org

Area 11 Festival/Conference 2016

Boots & Bells

As we shared last issue, our Area 11 Festival was a huge success! We had a fabulous time with Hart Morris, our guest conductor/clinician, Timbré, our featured concert performers and class clinicians, and Josh Fitzgerald, our clinician for our pre-conference solo/ensemble workshop! Over the next few issues of our Area 11 newsletter, we will continue to include features and pictures from this wonderful event, so be sure to look for them! The July issue featured pictures from our fun first day and in this issue, we are sharing some pictures and evaluation comments from the amazing classes taught by the members of Timbré.

BOOTS & BELLS – The fun continues! Pictures and comments from our classes!



With Mallets aforethought *with Alex Guebert*

- ◆ Learned so much – made such a difference in the sounds that come out of the bells.
- ◆ It's very helpful to know the correct way to hold the mallet as a hinge – I will practice this!
- ◆ Very fun; love the chance to practice what you taught.
- ◆ Didn't know there was so much to malleting! Alex teaches the progression of correct malleting technique in a way that makes the technique presentation and sound blend so well. Thanks Alex! Great Job!!
- ◆ Alex was very thorough in his step by step instruction. Best class I've taken to date. Very knowledgeable!
- ◆ Awesome! Could you make a YouTube video?
- ◆ Great instruction! Knows his material! Covered a lot of information/hands on/ useable for our bell ringing.
- ◆ I liked everything about this class. He went step by step and he had the front row sit so the back row could see.

Area 11 Festival/Conference 2016

Boots & Bells

Damp through the air with the greatest of ease *with Cyndi Tully*

- ◆ Great presentation of material. I loved that we played actual music while practicing the techniques! Cyndi rocks!!!
 - ◆ Very helpful technique to know; really like how “being up” helps with the presentation overall.
 - ◆ My choir will love this change!
 - ◆ This is exciting and I will use this tomorrow when my choir plays in the showcase. Watching Cyndi play in Timbré was fascinating and I watched her finger damping and am glad I could learn the technique! WOW!
 - ◆ The best class yet!!
 - ◆ Loved this technique. The enthusiasm of Cyndi was contagious!
 - ◆ I learned a lot that I can take back to my bell choir.
- You don't have to shoulder damp!



The camera doesn't lie *with Marquise Usher*

- ◆ Marquise has a great way of getting his points across with humor! He was a perfect example of what not to look like when you're playing!
- ◆ This is something I talk with my choir about all the time! I will take his information back to my choir!
- ◆ I hope our group can use a camera!

Area 11 Festival/Conference 2016

Boots & Bells

Four in hand – use it or loose it *with Beth Mays*

- ◆Excellent class; the instructions were very clear.
- ◆I have never rung 4-in-hand and was able to ring A5-B5 and finger damp! Good job!
- ◆I wish this class was an hour longer. It was so interesting to learn the different methods and techniques with 4-in-hand. Loved it!! :>)



HASTINGS COLLEGE

rings.....

- 18+ member bell choir
- 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 bjensen@hastings.edu

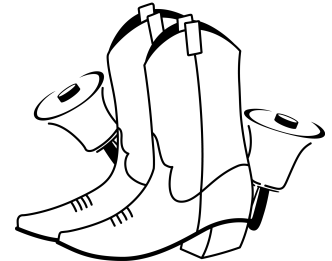


Hastings College
Music

Hastings College-710 N. Turner-Hastings, Nebraska 68901
www.hastings.edu

AREA 11

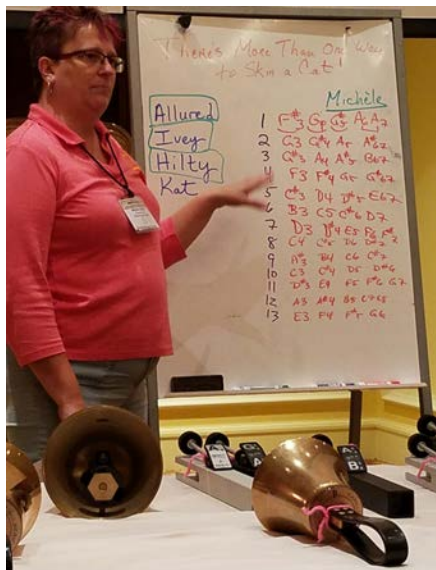
HANDBELL MUSICIANS
of AMERICA



BOOTS & BELLS
CHEYENNE, WYOMING 2016

There's more than one way to skin a cat *with Michèle Sharik*

- ◆Loved this class! I wish it had lasted another hour! :>)
- ◆Excellent presentation style; awesome experiential learning!
- ◆It was nice (and challenging) to try ringing with the kat signing.
- ◆Very informational, presented clearly.
- ◆The hands-on experience really makes it click.



Area 11 Festival/Conference 2016

Boots & Bells

Dream Weaving with Cyndi Tully

- ◆Appreciated Cyndi's enthusiasm and patience; she took it step-by-step and even threw in one extra exercise that the entire class participated in.
- ◆Lots of fun and willing to take time for everyone – thanks! Great classroom awareness.
- ◆A little hard for me, but I improved as time went by. Fun and enjoyable class!
- ◆Well done! I appreciated how Cyndi took the time to explain why weaving properly is important.
- ◆She is an awesome, fun teacher and it's great to learn new techniques.
- ◆I would give her a "10"!!
- ◆Following each other during scales was a great exercise! Excellent job breaking down steps
- ◆Wonderful hands-on demo! Very easy to follow! Excellent teaching!!



Metal and Muscle with Brianne Pituley

- ◆Best class; great info; terrific presenter!
- ◆Knows her subject matter; a relaxed atmosphere.
- ◆Knows the subject well; I play small bells; interesting to learn more about big bells.
- ◆Nice to stretch at the end of the day.
- ◆Stretching and stance were stressed. Good information.



Area 11 Festival/Conference 2016

Boots & Bells

Beyond the Basics with Mary Liao

- ◆ A good review of frequently used techniques. Nice suggestions on cleaning up and getting different sounds out of marts.
- ◆ Class was very fun!! You made it very entertaining and very informative! :>)
- ◆ Learned a lot of new techniques.
- ◆ Very Good!
- ◆ So fun and informative! My favorite class of the event!! :>)



Malmark maintenance with Brianne Pituley

- ◆ We got to take a bell apart- totally awesome.
- ◆ We learned what different parts were called and how they affect the ringing.
- ◆ It was great to see a bell taken apart and put back together. I learned a lot!
- ◆ Very useful information!
- ◆ Need this class at each session. Great presentation!



Accepting Submissions for Special Feature Articles

If you and/or your choir would like to share an event you have participated in or organized, we would love to feature you in our Area 11 Newsletters. If you would like to submit an article, send your submissions, including any pictures you have, to Mary Moffett at Communications.area11@handbellmusicians.org. We're looking forward to hearing about the wonderful things happening with the handbell ringers in Area 11!

Special Feature Articles may be sent at any time and will be included in any future issue of our Area 11 Newsletter. You will receive an email telling you in which issue your article will be featured.

Area 11 Festival/Conference 2016

Boots & Bells

There ain't no such thing *and* Katsigning with Marquise Usher

- ◆Excellent! Great Teacher! Easy to follow what he's teaching. Great explanations!
- ◆I haven't played any solo or small group ensembles so I don't have any real life experience with these techniques, but I can now add traveling 4-in-hand to my list of skills learned at this conference. :>)
- ◆Excellent! Very practical – I'll use it!
- ◆Fun and eye opening! :>)
- ◆We loved this guy! So funny and knowledgeable! :>)
- ◆Thank you. Stretching my limits!



Advanced damping with Michèle Sharik

- ◆Excellent class!
- ◆You even made all the more advanced theory info understandable. This class was packed with excellent instruction to take back to my choir to really make a difference in our playing and damping. Amazing!
- ◆It's amazing to hear all of her music theory knowledge and how well she explains it. This is a very logical, exciting technique.
- ◆New information; refreshing; great presentation!
- ◆I loved learning the Pre-Damp Technique! It was a nice addition to the finger damping class.
- ◆Great info – she is terrific!
- ◆I love the more advanced classes!



New Area 11 Board Members Lorrie Hart and Anne Kleve

Lorraine (Lorrie) Hart, Chair Elect

I am excited to be starting my tenure as the Chair Elect of Area 11! I have been involved in music most of my life, even majoring in music briefly in college. I started ringing handbells when the music director of my church bought a set and started a choir over 20 years ago. I rang in this group until about 9 years ago when I was asked to take over as director, following the primary handbell director's rule of "*someone* has to do it!" I served as director for 4 years. I also auditioned for and joined Denver Bronze at this time and have played with them for the last 9 years. Throughout my handbell life, festivals have always been a highlight--the company is exceptional and I have always improved as a ringer. I hope in my tenure as Chair Elect and then Chair of Area 11 I can contribute to everyone else's positive experience at these festivals as well.

In my "regular" life, I am a psychologist and have my own private practice. Other experiences that I believe are relevant are that I have served as president of Colorado Women Psychologists and president of Denver Bronze, both of which I believe have furthered my leadership abilities.



Anne Kleve, Mountain Sub-area Chair

I am proud to be the new Mountain Sub-Area Chair for Area 11. Originally from California, I attended the University of Colorado as a music major. I studied clarinet with Dr. Phillip Aaholm and played saxophone in the "Golden Buffalo Marching Band". My interest in ringing handbells began in high school. For the past 13 years, I was director of four handbell choirs ranging from children to seniors at Risen Savior Lutheran Church in Broomfield, Colorado. I am now the Youth Bell Choir director for Summit of Peace Lutheran Church in Thornton, Colorado.

I also volunteer as Region 1 officer for Sigma Alpha Iota, an International Music Fraternity for women. In addition, I manage our vacation rental property in Estes Park, CO and also teach private clarinet and saxophone lessons. My husband, Jason, and I just celebrated our 18th anniversary, and have two wonderful children: Gwen, 13, and Nathan, 10.

You may contact me at mountain.area11@handbellmusicians.org



The Raleigh Ringers

David M. Harris, Director

8516 Sleepy Creek Drive • Raleigh, NC 27613

phone/fax: (919) 847-7574 • email: rringer@rr.org • web: www.rr.org

A community handbell choir



Area 11 Goes to the International Symposium

The International Symposium was held in Vancouver, Canada this past July. Some of our Area 11 members attended this fabulous event and two of those share their wonderful experiences in this issue.



Linda Chahal, Sherilee Alford, Karen Eskew-Wyllie

I was asked to give my thoughts after attending the 2016 International Handbell Symposium in Vancouver B.C and so I will attempt to pack into a few short paragraphs what I saw while I was there. As this was my second International festival to attend, I was somewhat aware of what to expect (i.e. pin exchange, but more on that later). Once again I was overwhelmed by the number of ringers, the talent of those ringers and the sense of community that I experienced when 750 + people came together to create beautiful music. We crossed language and cultural barriers to demonstrate to the world that we can create bonds, build friendships and promote peace through the universal language of music.

We came with music prepared and marked, ready to ring, learn, laugh and fellowship. Did I mention eat? The food that was provided by the convention center was varied, tasty and plentiful!! All the dining we experienced while in Vancouver proved to be fantastic.

There were a large amount of classes offered on numerous handbell and nonhandbell subjects. The classes I took included how to incorporate new and/or inexperienced ringers into an establish group. One of the most fun and hands on classes offered was learning to use the boxy percussion instrument called the Cajon!! Classes varied from very practical musical application to the more light hearted Chinese writing. It seemed there was something for everyone.

Tuesday night was the "pin exchange". It is a time for all the ringers to mingle, meet and exchange tokens. This time I came prepared with pins that showed an iconic picture that truly represents the Utah we all know and love. This pin had a picture of Delicate Arch. It was well received and could be seen pinned on everyone's lanyards. In return I received small articles that will forever remind me of the wonderful trip to the beautiful city of Vancouver.

Mini concerts were offered to allow visiting handbell groups to entertain and amaze. We watched groups from all over the world play music written by their local composers and to share with us some of the feeling of their homes and cultures. One of the most touching was to watch an amazing group of very young people from Hong Kong. The music was not only technically perfect but heartfelt and full of emotion. The music was performed by the sweet young faces, with genuine smiles that come from doing what you love. I noticed that when we gave them a standing ovation several of the girls were overcome with tears. It was one of many moments worth treasuring.

There is much more I could say but I know time and space are limited. So I will end with this simple note. You owe it to yourself as a hardworking, dedicated handbell ringer to attend at least one International Handbell Symposium. It is an event that occurs every 2 years and the next is set for Australia. In a few years it will come to the United States and there are rumors that it may happen in Washington D.C. What a wonderful family vacation, to experience the cultural diversity that is an International Handbell Symposium and to visit our nation's capital. Start saving your pennies now because it is a life changing experience!

Karen Eskew-Wyllie



Area 11 Goes to the International Symposium



Karen Eskew-Wyllie, Sherilee Alford, Linda Chahal, Becky Owen, Liz Richie, Barbara Hartman, Rick Meurer, Linda Meurer, Marta Neil, Claudette Rothwell, Sue Hahn

Our quartet, Saguaro Bell Ensemble, was the group that attended. We took all our own equipment including bells and chimes, 24 feet of table pads and drapes. Two of our quartet members couldn't attend, so besides Linda and I, the only other ringer we had along from Arizona was Pat Snyder, a ringer from our church who is also a professional violinist. The three of us picked the bell assignments we wanted to ring, then we added orphans for the remaining positions as assigned by the event registrar. We had an impressive group assigned to us including Allison Wood, Rhoda Murray, Cara Wilson and Tara Gallant from Canada, as well as Paul Kinney, Young Ng and Christina Ng from the United States.

Allison Wood was awarded the Handbell Laureate Award by the International Handbell Committee at the closing banquet.

The event consisted of a series of mass ringing rehearsals leading to a final massed performance Saturday afternoon, four classes of your choice, two showcase concerts and four mini-concerts. There was also a Sound Effects Youth Track and a Festival Bell Choir which performed several selections at the final concert. The massed ringers performed 2 selections from host Canada, along with one selection from committee members United States, Great Britain, Japan, Hong Kong, Korea and Australasia with each selection conducted by a person from the applicable country. The classes were taught by a variety of international faculty. I attended excellent classes on English Style Church Bell Ringing (change bell ringing) taught by Alan and Wendy Walters of Great Britain and The History of Handbells in Germany taught by Thomas Eickhoff from Wiedensahl, Germany.

Area 11 was well represented when the Festival Choir performed Doug Benton's arrangement of Brazil and the Sound Effects Youth Track performed Matthew Compton's Divenire which was commissioned by the Donald E. Allured Composition Award. Besides our Saguaro Bell Ensemble group, we also saw Marilyn Chandler from Arizona. Sue Hahn was there from Colorado and Claudette Rothwell from Utah and a few other Area 11 members. We had a pin/gift exchange event the first evening. The custom is to attach the pins to your event lanyard. It was great to wear their pins and see our SBE pins being worn by other ringers throughout the week. Both Linda and I were surprised by how many people we knew from the United States, and now we have a new group of international bell friends! The camaraderie was amazing. In conclusion we thought attending this event was well worth the time and effort.



New Products

Schulmerich is pleased to announce the launch of two new products.

Trust Schulmerich to keep you ringing.



PRO-SERIES HANDLES

- Smooth and effortless ringing
- Increased durability
- Injection molded handle with pad printed design
- Compatible with current Schulmerich parts and accessories



ALUMINUM CASES

- Light-weight, durable aluminum material
- Protective foam cushioning
- Accessory items are compatible with all new cases
- Accessory add-ons will be available
- Lock and Key included with every case



SCHULMERICH
est. 1935

Schulmerich Bells, LLC, 11 Church Road, Suite 1A, Hatfield, PA 19440

T: +1-800-772-3557, F: +1-215-257-1910, info@schulmerichbells.com, www.schulmerichbells.com



Range.

From symphonic concert halls to the halls of Westminster Choir College, from the G1 to the C9, from Cymbells® to Choirchimes®—range, that's what Malmark is all about. And it's our singular focus on handbells and chimes that means a superior product in your hands, at the most affordable price, with the most expandable line in the world. So whether you need one octave, or 7½ octaves, give us a call and experience the Malmark difference.


Malmark
BELLCRAFTSMEN
malmark.com

When you're ready to experience the best, give your local expert a call.



Doug Benton | 602-710-5425 | bellmaster@mchsi.com

Area 11 Upcoming Fall Events



For additional information about each event, visit our Area 11 website at <http://area11.handbellmusicians.org/events-4/events/>

Back to Bells in Denver, Colorado

Date: Saturday, Oct. 1

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Wellshire Presbyterian Church in Denver, Colorado

Back to Bells in Tucson, Arizona

Date: Saturday, Oct. 1

Time: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Location: Catalina United Methodist Church in Tucson, Arizona

Ringing, Singing, and Organ-izing

Date: Saturday, Oct. 8

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: First United Methodist Church in Phoenix, Arizona



Back to Bells in Sun Lakes, Arizona

Date: Saturday, Oct. 22

Time: 9:00 – 11:00 General class

11:00 – 11:30 Director's class

Location: Sun Lakes United Methodist Church in Phoenix, Arizona



WyoRing

Date: Saturday, November 12

Clinician: Michael Kastner

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Location: Eastern Wyoming College Fine Arts Auditorium

VIRTUOSO

An Extraordinary Performance Experience

CLINICIAN:

Dr. William Payn

DATE:

Friday, June 9, 2017 -
Sunday, June 11, 2017

LOCATION:

Raleigh, North Carolina

Virtuoso was created by The Raleigh Ringers to be a unique opportunity for 29 advanced ringers to participate in a professional performance experience, under the baton of renowned conductor Dr. William Payn.

The three-day event will include all aspects of preparing for and presenting a formal concert, culminating in a featured performance on a concert stage as special guests during The Raleigh Ringers' Spring Concert at Meymandi Concert Hall.

Participants will be determined by an application/audition process. Deadline to apply is December 1, 2016. Email RRadmin@rr.org for an application packet. More information can be found at www.rr.org/events/virtuoso

The Raleigh Ringers, 8516 Sleepy Creek Drive, Raleigh, NC 27613 www.rr.org 919-847-7574

Area 11 Upcoming Events

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.heizhandbells.com

612-208-1741
1 (877 or 866) 426-3235
heizhandbells@yahoo.com

6603 Queen Ave S, Suite S
Richfield, MN 55423



Get ready for Super Bell 5 – Area 11's Read and Ring Around the Area - coming on February 4th! Locations all around the area. Look for the registration form soon!

THE BELLMAN®
*Serving America's
most discriminating
ringers since 1987*



**YOU could be
one of 30 Winners
of Free Handbell
Service** just for registering,
with no purchase necessary.

We're celebrating our 30th anniversary, an accomplishment of which we are very proud. To say thank you for your 30 years of patronage and loyalty we're giving away free handbell service.

**REGISTER at
TheBellman.com Today!**

*Onsite services for American-made
handbells available from coast to coast.*

800-375-BELL
888-311-9955

Void where prohibited.



**Musical
Belles**

Anton Walz
Compositions

NON-PROFITS PLAY FREE !!

Non-profit groups can:
Download for free
Practice for free
Perform for free

Check it out !

MusicalBelles.com