



# Newsletter



Volume 10

Issue 5

September 2017

### From the Chair:



Happy Fall, Everyone! Rehearsals have started for most everyone, the evenings are starting to feel cooler and pumpkin spice items are every where you look! I love this time of year! It is also the time of year that the Area 11 board has its only in person board meeting of the year. We will be doing that in Albuquerque this coming weekend(9/15-9/17). We will be working on everything from making sure that the Rules of Procedure are up to date, finalizing

the events that will be happening this year (see page 6 for a preview) and working to get everything finalized for our Area 11 Festival Conference on June 21-24, 2018. Please see info on the next page about our lead clinician and class teachers! There is also a great informational article about the Festival/Conference logo.

We have a bunch of events coming up in Area 11 before the Festival conference. There are a few Back to Bells sessions scheduled in the area over the next few weeks. We are also hosting a Level 1 Handbell Certification Workshop this fall and the deadline to register is fast approaching!

Check out the list of the recipients of the Handchime Loan program for 2017-2018.

Lorrie Hart has written an article on membership about some of benefits of membership. Don't forget that membership dues increase to \$95 on October 1st, so renew early to keep the \$90 dues price for another year!! Joell Wilkins from Utah has written a fantastic article about the experience of attending National Seminar for the first time.

Finally, I would like to announce that we have a vacancy on the Area 11 Board for the Desert Sub Area Chair. This is an appointed position that serves as the liaison between the Area 11 Board and the membership in the states of Arizona and New Mexico. If you are interested in serving in this important position, please contact me directly at [chair.area11@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:chair.area11@handbellmusicians.org). I would be happy to go over all of the details of the position with you. I hope your first few rehearsals have gone well so far! Enjoy the change of season and we will see you at the upcoming events!!

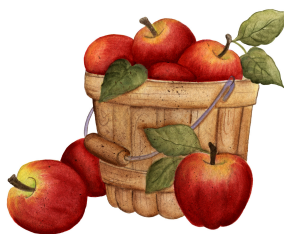
Happy Ringing!

Shannon Casey, Chair

Area 11

Handbell Musicians of America

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



happy  
fall Y'ALL

# Area 11 2018 Festival/Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico

## 2018 Area 11 Festival/Conference

June 21-24, 2018

Embassy Suites Hotel and Spa in Albuquerque, New Mexico



*We are excited to announce our lead clinician will be **Alex Guebert**, a composer, arranger, percussionist, music director and music teacher from Orange, California.*

### **Forté Handbell Quartet**

*from Colorado Springs, Colorado*

*will be our Featured Showcase group and teachers for our classes and workshops.*

**Registration will open in October!**

## **The Story behind Our Logo...**

Our 2018 Festival Logo was conceptualized by Larry Luna from Albuquerque and designed by Wendi Levitt, co-owner of Third Bell on the Right, a Kansas based company specializing in handmade gifts for handbell ringers. In the center of the bell the Zia Sun Symbol is featured. You might recognize this symbol from the New Mexico state flag and license plates. This symbol originated with the Indians of Zia Pueblo in ancient times and has significant religious importance to the Zia people, reflecting the basic harmony of all things in the universe.

The Zia Pueblo reservation is located 35 miles northwest of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The Zia regard the sun as a sacred symbol and the number four as a sacred number. Their symbol begins with a red circle representing the sun with groups of rays that shine in the four cardinal directions and four individual rays in each group. The number four is embodied in:

the four points of direction - north, south, east, and west

the four seasons of the year – spring, summer, autumn, and winter

the four periods of each day – morning, noon, evening, and night

the four seasons of life – childhood, youth, middle years, and old age

The Zia people also believe that man has four sacred obligations: to develop a strong body, a clear mind, a pure spirit, and a devotion to the welfare of the people. The circle, or sun in the middle, binds all these aspects together in a circle of life and love.

**Area 11 would like to thank the Pueblo of Zia and especially Zia governor, Cart Brent Schildt for granting us permission to use their sacred symbol in our Festival logo. In return, donations will be solicited during the Festival to go towards the Zia Pueblo Cultural Preservation Fund.**



# Area 11 Level 1 Handbell Certification Workshop this Fall

## Level 1 Handbell Certification Offered in Area 11 This Fall

Area 11 is offering Level 1 Certification for  
**Conducting, Handbell Techniques**, and **Music Theory**.

The Certification workshop will be on October 27-28, 2017 at the  
Wellshire Presbyterian Church in Denver, Colorado.

**Registration Deadline is September 15.**

This workshop will give you most of the coursework required  
to receive Level 1 Certification.

Please consult the Handbell Musicians of America website for  
Certification requirements and additional information

<http://certification.handbellmusicians.org>

For more detailed information about this workshop and to register for the event,  
visit our Area 11 website at <http://area11.handbellmusicians.org/events-4/events/>

## Handchime Loan Placement 2017-2018

*We're happy to announce that the following people have been selected to use our  
Area 11 handchimes through our Handchime Loan Program.*

*We look forward to hearing about the wonderful experiences they will have with their students this year!*

Set 1: Laya Field, Christ Anglican Church, Carefree, AZ

Set 2: Roz Garland, United Church of Angel Fire, Angel Fire, NM

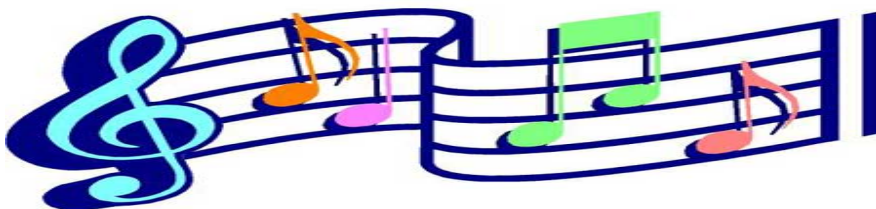
Set 3: Karen Penman, DaVinci Academy of Science and the Arts, Ogden, UT

Set 4: Pennie Greelee, Boys and Girls Club of Northern Utah-Brigham Club, Brigham City, UT

Set 5: Stephen Schermitzler, Church of the Beatitudes, Phoenix, AR

Set 6: Kay Coryell, Redstone Elementary Centennial, CO

Set 7: Diana Hatch, Old Mill Elementary School, Stansbury Park, UT





# Handbell Musicians of America Membership

## Area 11 Welcomes our New and Renewing Members

Diana Hatch, Utah

Elena Fox, AZ

Matthew Hoehne, CO

Natalie Grapes, CI

Amy Jo Martinson, WY



Happy October and new ringing season!

As we move into the fall season, I wanted to take this opportunity to remind you to make sure your Handbell Musicians of America membership has been renewed if it's due! I know sometimes reminders come over the summer and if you're not in the office during that time, the reminder may get overlooked. HMA continues to try to provide more membership benefits that people want—in particular the last membership chat focuses on use of handbells in contemporary worship with Brenda Austin. I was able to attend a class she gave, and she has many very practical suggestions and wonderful ideas. So be sure to check that out. It's free to members.

Also as you start your handbell group this fall, don't forget there are classes you can take online in the virtual academy section of the website for a nominal fee to improve your ringing. Perhaps you have a couple of people that want to learn 4 in hand ringing, or maybe the whole group wants to work on improving musicianship. Both of those classes are available!

Finally, don't forget to refer a friend and earn handbell bucks if they become a member. These handbell bucks are good to use with events and purchases on the website! If you have any questions about membership renewals or new memberships, please contact me at [chairelect.area11@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:chairelect.area11@handbellmusicians.org) and happy ringing this year!

Lorrie Hart



The advertisement for The Bellman's 30th Anniversary Handbell Service Sweepstakes. It features a background image of hands ringing handbells. The Bellman logo is at the top right, with the tagline "Serving America's most discriminating ringers since 1987". A large blue and red banner in the center reads "30th ANNIVERSARY HANDBELL SERVICE SWEEPSTAKES". To the right, text says "YOU could be one of 30 Winners of Free Handbell Service just for registering, with no purchase necessary." Below this, it says "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." At the bottom, it says "REGISTER at TheBellman.com Today!" and provides the phone number "800-375-BELL" and "888-311-9955". A small Facebook logo is in the bottom right corner. The text "Void where prohibited." is at the very bottom.



# Thoughts From a First-time Attendee at National Seminar

I was very excited to attend the National Seminar in Garden Grove, California this summer. I had attended area festivals before, but this was my first national event, so I wasn't sure what to expect. I found the experience educational, fun, and inspiring.

The classes offered were excellent and the presenters for each were experts with great information from how to practice, to ringing techniques, and how to ring more musically. My personal favorites were Linda Krantz' travelling four in hand class where I learned not just how to do a traveling four in hand technique, but how to figure out which bells should remain as constants in my hands. Barb Walsh's "Let it Go" session gave me some great exercises to improve weaving. Kevin McChesney read some meaningful passages from his book Limericks Lessons and Life in Handbells, which included great advice, humor, and inspiration for ringing handbells.

As a ringer, I fall in between intermediate and advanced ability. I chose to take the intermediate track playing bells I was very unfamiliar with for challenge, rather than the advanced track with more comfortable bells. I was not at all disappointed in my choice. Michael Kastner was our clinician for these five sessions. I learned so much from his sessions, and the change in our group's musicality in ringing was astounding. Kevin McChesney visited our sessions a couple of times to be an audience and give us some feedback. By the end, I wished there were someone else to hear us play our greatly improved songs, and it was kind of sad when it was over to be leaving this group that had bonded over the music.

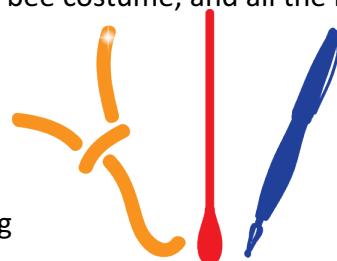
There were many composers and people who are prominent in the handbell world. I saw clinicians from former area events. My friends and I found ourselves having dinner with composers Michael Joy and Ron Mallory. It was interesting to listen to them discuss some of the difficulties of composing handbell music for various octave-sized groups. Besides all the handbell celebrities I saw at the conference, it was always interesting to talk to people from all over the United States and the world. In fact, I enjoyed ringing with and getting to know someone from Hong Kong.

One of the highlights of the conference for me was the concerts. There were two handbell concerts each day. These groups, ensembles, and soloists were amazing to watch and listen to. Each performance was a different style showing the great range of musical variety handbells can entertain. The concerts inspired me to ring more musically, and to hopefully one day reach the ringers' level of technical ability as well. Our own area's Bells on Temple Square played the closing concert to great acclaim. It was fun watching them play Flight of the Bumblebee complete with a beekeeper costume, bee costume, and all the ringers wearing antenna.

I chose to join the Distinctly Teen group along with a bunch of other adults for a performance at Disneyland the day after the festival ended. While memorizing the music was a challenge, it was worth it. We got to see a part of Disneyland not everyone sees, and there's just something special about playing at "The Happiest Place on Earth". Besides the excitement of playing where we were, it was also a great way to put the new performance skills I'd learned at the festival to work.

The festival was an amazing musical experience that I will never forget. I hope one day to make it to another one, but for now I'll just look forward to our next Area 11 event.

~Joell Wilkins, Utah



Handbell Musicians of America  
**NATIONAL SEMINAR**

ANAHEIM, CA • 2017

# Area 11 Upcoming Events

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



Handbell Musicians of America is offering **FREE Back to Bells** workshops across the country to help you get your handbells out of the closet and restart your handbell program – or start a brand new program.

Details for Fall 2017 workshops are listed on page 7 of this newsletter.

<http://handbellmusicians.org/national-events-learning-opportunities/>

Check our website under the events tab.

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

## Level 1 Certification Workshop

**Date:** October 27-28, 2017

**Location:** Denver, Colorado

## Super Bell Saturday VI, Area-wide Read and Ring

**Date:** Saturday, February 3, 2018

**Location:** Several locations around the Area, check our website frequently for more information.



## HANDBELLS – A TO G”, A Ringing Techniques Workshop

**Presented by** Bells of the Rockies

**Date:** Saturday, September 30, 2017

**Location:** Longs Peak United Methodist Church  
1421 Elmhurst Dr in Longmont, CO

**Time:** 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Ringing Basics, Advanced Ringing, Bass Bells, Malleting, 4-in Hand (octave and chromatic), Percussive Techniques.

There will be a massed ringing session to implement the skills you learned in classes!

*Registration Information on the events page on our Area 11 website.*

## 2018 Spring Ring Events Around Area 11

### Northern Colorado Handbell Festival

**Date:** Saturday, March 10, 2018

**Clinician:** Sondra Tucker

**Location:** Loveland, Colorado

*Additional details coming soon.*



### Utah Spring Ring

**Date:** Saturday, March 10, 2018

**Clinician:** Deborah Carr

**Location:** Riverton HS, Utah

*Registration form and repertoire are available on the Area 11 website.*

### Wyoming Spring Ring

**Date:** Friday-Saturday, April 13-14, 2018

**Clinician:** Monica McGowan

**Location:** Ramkota Hotel, Casper, Wyoming

*Additional details coming soon.*



### Arizona Spring Ring

*Additional details coming soon.*

## Area 11 Festival 2018 Albuquerque, New Mexico

June 21-24, 2018  
Embassy Suites Hotel  
in Albuquerque  
More information  
will be coming soon!



## Area 11 2017 Back to Bells Workshops

Handbell Musicians of America is offering FREE Back to Bells workshops across the country to help you get your handbells out of the closet and restart your handbell program – or start a brand new program.

**There are three Back to Bells Workshops listed below that are scheduled in Area 11 in the next few weeks.**

For those that live in Utah, you can contact Mary Moffett at [communications.area11@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:communications.area11@handbellmusicians.org) if you would like to schedule one of our Traveling Back to Bells Workshops at your location.

**Date:** September 30, 2017

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**Location:** Catalina United Methodist Church in Tucson, Arizona

**Date:** October 14, 2017

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**Location:** St. Timothy Episcopal Church in Littleton, Colorado

**Date:** October 14, 2017

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**Location:** Summit of Peace Lutheran Church in Thornton, Colorado



## Concerts Around Area 11



If you would like to see what concerts are being performed around Area 11, check out our calendar on our Area 11 website at:

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

If you would like to include your handbell choir's concert, use the website submission form found on the same calendar page of the Area 11 website.

*The Raleigh Ringers*

**STAY UP TO DATE WITH US!**



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## 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](mailto:Communications.area11@handbellmusicians.org). We're looking forward to hearing about the wonderful things happening with the handbell ringers in Area 11! You may also write an article on a topic of interest to the members of our area.

*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.*