



Handbell Musicians
OF AMERICA

Area 11

Newsletter

Volume 11
Issue 5
September 2018

Area 11 2018-2019 Board Members



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Area 11 Website

area11.handbellmusicians.org

National Office Website

Handbellmusicians.org

Back row L-R: Katie Gant (Desert Sub-area Chair),
Sandy Barstow (Secretary/Treasurer), Janet Lake (Mountain Sub-area Chair),
Mary Moffett (Communications Chair)

Front Row L-R: Shannon Casey (Past Chair), Lorrie Hart (Chair), Anne Kleve (Chair-Elect)





From the Chair:



Hi, everyone! Another year, another chance to ring handbells! As I take over as chair this year, I'm very excited about all the work the board did at our first board meeting. We have 2 new board members that I would like to welcome, Sandy Barstow who is now secretary/treasurer, and Katie Gant who will serve as Desert sub-area chair. Anne Kleve moved to Chair elect after winning the election and Janet Lake agreed to serve as Mountain sub-area chair. They are all hard at work already! We have introduced a new event, Ringers Roundup which will be annual, so mark your calendars for Sept. 28, 2019 for the next one! We will teach different skills each year, with the goal of getting everyone back into handbell ringing with a review of basics plus new skills. The first year was very successful and even more fun—we had almost 100 attendees around the area in 8 sites! Thanks to all who attended!

We continue to work on providing events in all the states, and you can see our upcoming events on the website and elsewhere in this newsletter.

The 2018 Festival was a rousing success, and we are working on the 2020 Festival which will be in Phoenix from June 4 to 7, 2020. More info will be available as details are worked out. And this year we will be offering the Young Ringers Camp in June, again more info on the website. Did you know that we are one of the only areas to have a successful Young Ringers Camp? So if you know some ringers that are under 18, pass this on and let's get even more involvement going.

As we prepare for this year, one of the goals the board set is to reach out to more of our membership and have more people aware of and involved in the area events. To that end, we would love it if directors or others would encourage members of your choirs to send individual email addresses to Mary Moffett, so that they too can see our announcements. So many times an announcement has been sent out and then I hear "Really? I didn't know anything about that"! We are also going to work more at getting things on Facebook and Instagram. If you haven't already 'liked' the Area11 Facebook page, stop reading this, go there and like it, and then come back! And if your choir members haven't liked it, perhaps you could take 5 minutes at the start of rehearsal and everyone could like it. The more 'likes' we get, the more things get passed around. After all, with such a large geographical area, the more communication the better. And we're going to have another membership drive coming up—keep an eye out for that announcement.

And finally, introduce yourself to any board members you see at events or anywhere else for that matter. We try to have a board member at all events. Email me any ideas you might have about events you'd like to see the area put on (all our emails are on the area website) and by all means volunteer! We will put you to work somewhere. The benefit for you is you get to make lifelong friends and support what is all our passion, HANDBELLS!

Happy Ringing everyone!

Lorrie Hart



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Area 11 is getting our sport on!

Let's 'knock it out of the park' during our Area 11 Membership Drive starting soon!
Then, let's 'cross the goal line' with the highest registration and attendance at our
Super Bell Saturday VII on February 2, 2019!
Watch for more information on both events!

Super Bell Saturday VII



Our seventh annual area-wide Read and Ring will be held on Saturday, February 2, 2019 at several locations around Area 11!

Registration Form coming soon!

*We are currently looking for more hosts and venues.
If you can host this event in your city, please contact either of our sub-area chairs.*

Desert Sub-Area Katie Gant
desert.area11@handbellmusicians.org
Mountain Sub-Area Janet Lake
mountain.area11@handbellmusicians.org

COMING SOON

Join our
team



MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



We had a wonderful festival in Albuquerque last June! In our last issue, we highlighted the wonderful classes and pre-conference workshop. This month, we'll highlight time with Alex Guebert in rehearsals and our Ring of Fame banquet and recipient of this wonderful award.



Alex Guebert from Orange, California, was our lead clinician for our Albuquerque 2018 Festival!

His many talents include being a composer, arranger, percussionist, music director and music teacher. We were not only fortunate to have him teach and guide our attendees in their rehearsals and teach a couple of wonderful classes at our festival, but he also wrote an original composition just for our Area 11 Festival! The **Area 11 Jam** was a huge hit with the ringers and the audience!



Ring of Fame Award, 2018 Recipient Handbell Musicians of America, Area 11

George Cannon

October 14, 1934-July 25, 2008



Area 11 is pleased to honor George Cannon with the Ring of Fame Award for 2018. George and his family were residents of Casper, Wyoming, where George worked for Texaco and then as an Administrative Law Judge for Wyoming. George and his family moved often in his early career and that although George was a musician and played piano and organ, he had never heard handbells until he was sent to Salt Lake City. After hearing a handbell group there, he became fascinated with them, and when he moved back to Casper, he was determined to bring handbells with him. He got donations from his family and others to buy a set of handbells and started the handbell choir at First United Methodist Church, the Koinonia Handbell Ringers. He was director of this group from 1974-1998, and retired from this program as Handbell Director Extraordinaire in May 1998. During his time as director, more than 170 ringers rang with him. That group is still in existence today, led by one of his initial ringers, Dana Deuel.

George held numerous offices in the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, and served as both state chair for Wyoming for many years and as Area chair for Area 11 from 1988-1990. He looked for ways to foster the use of handbells, including setting up concerts where his group played with the Casper Symphony Orchestra, the Wyoming Symphony Orchestra and the Powder River Symphony Orchestra and using handbells with the choir regularly. He also had two pieces commissioned for the Koinonia ringers: *Christ is Born*, later published as *While by My Sheep*, arranged by Cynthia Dobrinski and *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*, arranged by Doug Benton for handbells and organ.

George was instrumental in promoting bells in Wyoming. He helped many handbell choirs get started, and perhaps even more importantly, he mentored several new directors. He personally organized and led two area festivals in Casper in 1990 and 2000. He started the Wyoming Spring Rings and organized many of these festivals over the years. He directed some massed choir settings and presented workshops at the state and area level. As I talked to people in Wyoming, everyone described him as “delightful” and fun, while at the same time setting high expectations. He was very focused on details, and could be exacting. However, universally this was viewed as a good thing, making him successful in whatever he tried.

George was married to Claranne Cannon for almost 32 years and had 2 children, Beth and Dean. George’s wife described him as the social butterfly of the family and like all good directors, all of the family played in the handbell choir at various times! He valued family and friends, and he enjoyed many activities including hiking, skiing, hunting and rafting as well as traveling. But his passion was handbells and he was a force to be reckoned with in the handbell world!



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George Cannon's family enjoying the Ring of Fame Banquet



Lorrie Hart presents the award to George's widow, Claranne Cannon



Previous Ring of Fame recipients Doug Benton and Bill Wood being recognized at the banquet





Meet Our Two New Area 11 Board Members



Katie Gant is Area Eleven's new Desert Sub-Area Chair. She has been a general music teacher in Phoenix for eight years. Last Fall, Katie started a brand new community handbell ensemble in the Phoenix Area called Rhapsody. She is also the newest handbell director at her home church in Scottsdale. Katie graduated from Northern Arizona University where she received her degree in Choral Education and fell in love with handbells. She has attended the last four National Seminars and has participated in the All-Star auditioned choir at the seminar twice. Her first Area event was this past June in Albuquerque, NM. Katie is excited to grow the community of handbell ringers and directors in the Arizona and New Mexico areas.

Sandy Barstow is a new addition to the Area 11 board. She was recently elected to a two-year term as secretary/treasurer, and attended the September board meeting. She immediately discovered that she has a lot to learn about Area 11 as well as the Handbell Musicians of America national organization. Taking the minutes of the three-day board meeting provided an excellent overview along with a severe case of writer's cramp. The role of the treasurer involves keeping track of bank accounts, contracts, payments, and other financial matters. Until her recent retirement, Sandy was the head of collection development at the University of Wyoming Libraries, so she's well acquainted with monetary transactions and is looking forward to supporting Area 11 in her new role.



The Raleigh Ringers

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Our Area 11 Facebook page can be found here:

<https://www.facebook.com/HandbellMusiciansofAmericaArea11>



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facebook®



Our First Annual

RINGERS ROUNDUP

**which was held on September 15th was a big success!
Make plans to attend next September at an Area 11
location near you!**

Those attending this year enjoyed a 3½ hour workshop at various locations around Area 11 and had the chance to learn handbell warm ups and stretches while ringing with several other Area 11 members.

The workshops focused on basic music and bell notations, weaving,
ringing complex rhythms, and four-in-hand.

All left with skills that will be applied in their next rehearsal!

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! 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.





VIRTUOSO

An Extraordinary Performance Experience

WHEN:

Friday, May 31 – Sunday, June 2, 2019

WHERE:

Raleigh, North Carolina

CLINICIAN:

Dr. William Payn



This event is being organized by
The Raleigh Ringers. Further information
will be released online.
www.rr.org/events/virtuoso

Space will be extremely limited.
Participants will be determined by audition.



UPCOMING EVENTS

For additional information about each event on this website at <http://area11.handbellmusicians.org/events>

Saturday, February 2, 2019:

Super Bell Saturday Read and Ring

Locations: We need host sites all around Area 11! Please contact us if you are able to host this event in your city!

We take care of getting the music to you!

All you have to do is provide the venue and help run the read and ring, sell any music people want to purchase, and return the unsold music back to Jeffers with the prepaid shipping label! Simple as that!



Saturday, March 9, 2019: Utah Spring Ring

Location: Jordan High School, Sandy, Utah

Clinician: Carlos Rivera

Friday - Saturday, March 29 - 30, 2019: Colorado Spring Ring

Location: Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church, Greenwood Village, Colorado

Clinician: Jason Krug

Saturday, March 30: New Mexico Spring Ring

Location: Host needed

Friday - Saturday, April 26-27, 2019: Wyoming Spring Ring

Location: Ramkota Hotel, Casper, Wyoming

Clinician: David Harris

Saturday, May 4, 2019: Handbells Rising

Location: Mountain View Lutheran Church, Phoenix, Arizona

Clinician: Debbie Rice

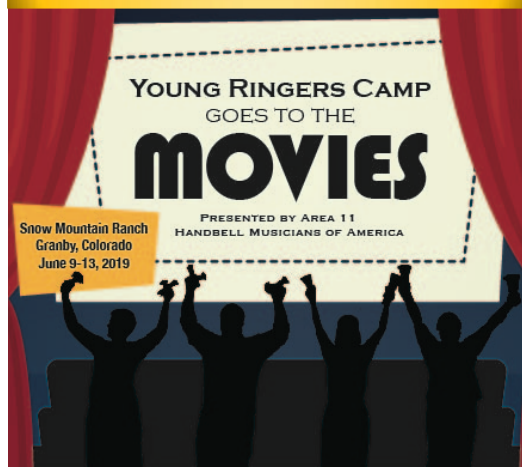


Sunday - Thursday, June 9-13, 2019:

Young Ringers Camp

Location: Snow Mountain Ranch, Granby, Colorado

Clinician: Marilyn Lake



Save
the
Date