



Handbell Musicians  
OF AMERICA

Area 11

# Newsletter

Volume 12  
Issue 3  
May 2019

**Apply NOW for our  
Chime Loan Program!  
The application deadline  
is May 15<sup>th</sup>!**



**Our Area 11 Handchime Loan program is an excellent opportunity to introduce handchimes to children for FREE for one full school year!**

That's right! It doesn't cost any money to apply for the chime loan or to use them for the entire school year.

Each recipient is loaned 3 octaves of chimes to use along with material to help teach the children! Those applying now

and selected will receive them in time for the 2019-2020 school year.



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## Area 11 Website

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

## National Office Website

[Handbellmusicians.org](http://Handbellmusicians.org)

***If you would like to apply or know a teacher or a church music person that might be interested, please share this information with them! Area 11 will also provide a mentor to help any recipient who would like one.***

You can find the application on the Area 11 website at <http://area11.handbellmusicians.org/education/handchime-grant-program/>

**The March issue of our newsletter had some fabulous articles written by the current recipients! If you didn't get the chance to read them, click on the following link to the newsletter and go to pages 4-6!**

<http://area11.handbellmusicians.org/files/2019/03/Area-11-Newsletter-March-2019.pdf>





### ***From the Chair:***



As we get to the end of the ringing year, I look back on the visible results of board activities this year and I wanted to share them with you. As I've mentioned before, we have an in-person meeting in Sept and then meet monthly by phone. Over the year, we have organized and started a new event, Ringers Roundup, which was a great time and I hope more of you will attend next year. We already have several sites set up to register for, so keep an eye on that for next Sept. The goal of that event will be to sharpen skills and introduce some new bit that people can use in their ringing the next week if they want. We oversaw 4 spring rings, all of which had a larger attendance than last year! Good job attending events, everyone and I hope you had a blast! We had a good turnout for Super Bell Saturday and other Areas in Handbell Musicians of America are planning to adopt this idea. And finally we are one of only a couple of areas that sponsor a youth festival, and this year we have an increase in youth attending! Thanks to everyone who worked on these events; it's no small thing to put one of these together, and many people help. We have added

some new members this year, although of course we always lose some as well. We are continuing to work on getting a list of all the churches that have handbells, either in the closet or as groups that are non-members, so that we can reach out to them. If you know of a situation like that, would you get in touch with me ([chair.area11@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:chair.area11@handbellmusicians.org)) or Anne Kleve at [chairelect.area11@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:chairelect.area11@handbellmusicians.org). Looking to the future, we have the area festival in June 2020 in the Phoenix area, so consider attending that event. Details will be available by fall. At the festival we give the Ring of Fame award, so think about who you might nominate. Details are on the website. We will also be having elections next spring for chair elect and treasurer positions. Please consider running or nominating someone to run. Or if you just have a suggestion and want to pass it on to me, I will be glad to take those as well. I can tell you that it is a rewarding experience to be part of the Area 11 leadership. You get to associate and work with people who love and value handbells, and handbell people are the best! You make long term friends from all over Area 11 and the US, and I even met a long-lost cousin! You get to meet and hang around the composers you've admired, and you get the satisfaction of knowing you've furthered the art of handbells in some way. What's not to love about all of that?

So join us, the Area can always use help!

Good luck in all concerts to come and have a great summer. If you miss handbell ringing too much, you can attend the National Seminar in St. Louis, and I'll see you there. We always have an Area 11 get together and photo op.



Happy Ringing,  
Lorrie Hart  
Chair, Area 11





## Utah Spring Ring 2019

“ESTAS LISTO? SI, SENOR!”

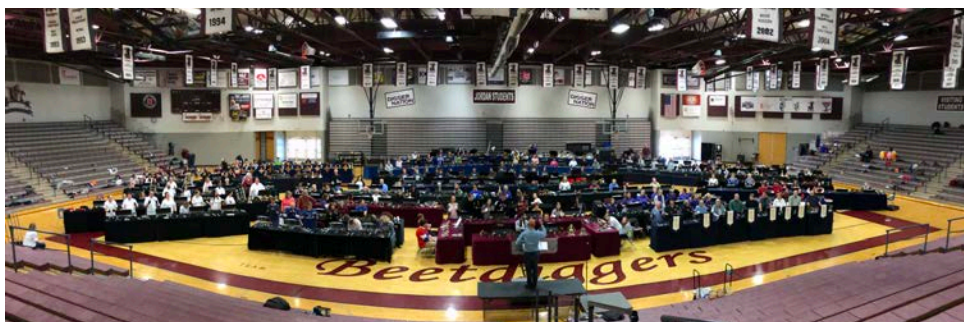
On Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 273 handbell ringers from all over Utah gathered together at Jordan High School for the annual Spring Ring in a day full of rhythm, raw talent, and ringing. We were privileged to have our clinician Carlos Rivera, who came to us from Puerto Rico, teach us about how physical movement can improve our rhythmic skills and add emotion and zeal to our performance. One could see the ringers really responding to Carlos’ instruction by the way they were dancing and bobbing up and down to the beat as they rang. Carlos often counted in Spanish and asked us to count our beats with a “Cha-cha-cha” which added to our fun!

After our day of rehearsing, a well-attended program was performed that evening including soothing and inspirational pieces such as “Be Still My Soul” and “You Raise Me Up”. The audience was delighted with recognizable songs such as “Washington Post March”, “I Got Rhythm”, and “Kids” from the popular Netflix series “Stranger Things”. Songs like “How Far I’ll Go”, “Cantad al Senor”, and “The Banana Boat Song” gave the concert a distinct Latin/Tropical feel that delighted ringers and listeners alike!

We had a wonderful day of ringing, learning, and performing, and after all the excitement and fun we were ready to say “Daylight come and me wan’ go home”. Thank you again to our family, friends, community, directors, clinician, and Area 11 for support of us ringers and this event!

Shaury Searle

Utah Spring Ring 2019 Chair





## 2019 Ring in Spring in Colorado

Snow and rain didn't put a damper on this year's Ring in Spring in Colorado held at Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church in Englewood, Colorado, March 29 and 30, 2019. As nice spring weather turned chilly and splatters of rain became wet snow, 135 ringers from all over the Denver metro area, Colorado Springs, Boulder, Greeley, Fort Collins, Loveland, Silverthorne, as well as our Mountain Sub-Area Chair from Sundance, Wyoming, Janet Lake, began arriving Friday afternoon and early Friday evening hauling in tables and bell cases greeting folks they hadn't met before and those they hadn't seen in some time. Several vendors attended providing opportunities to shop and share information about their companies.

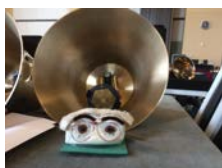
Jason Krug, our guest conductor and clinician, began the festival with stories that brought laughter and musical expertise that made the first rehearsal fun and yet educational for even seasoned ringers. Saturday morning's coffee and donuts allowed for more fellowship and "bell talk." As Jason led the morning's warm-up exercises, he was joined with a "pair of eyes" (ping pong balls that had been artfully created into looking like eyeballs) on his music stand. Laughter erupted as the previous evening's expertise instruction had included watching the director is highly suggested for moments in musical time when there are certain markings....perhaps a fermata, a ritardando, or the scary moment in time where one might find themselves to be "lost," not that anyone attending this festival was ever not watching or lost....

The 2019 Ring in Spring in Colorado culminated in a well-attended concert to include several group solos, an individual solo and six massed pieces, which included several that Jason had composed. "Milele," an original composition by Jason Krug, was the concert finale. Meaning "forever" in Swahili, Jason recited the Lord's Prayer in Swahili to the concert attendees before the 135 ringers rang this exceptional piece.

Many folks shared the festival was a great experience and fun! We are looking forward to our next event together and encourage ringers of all levels to participate!

Becky Stevens

2019 Ring in Spring in Colorado Registrar







## Wyoming Spring Ring 2019

Sixty-three ringers from Colorado, Utah, Kansas, and Wyoming gathered for the Wyoming Spring Ring, April 26-27, in the ballroom of the Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center. David Harris, Director of the Raleigh Ringers, rehearsed us with skill and humor, asking for many elements that he included in his session on "Musicality in Handbells."

Three of the Five mass numbers were repeats that we have enjoyed ringing in the past – "Toccata on 'King's Weston,'" arr. Compton, "Fantasy on 'Kingsfold'" arr. Wagner, and McChesney's arrangement of "Now the Green Blade Riseth." We were happy to learn Eithun's beautiful and stirring "Ah, Holy Jesus" and ended the concert with Sherman's tuneful, flowing "Grazioso."

The Koinonia Ringers of First United Methodist Church of Casper played the stirring Frizzell "Easter Triumph," and Casper's Phoenix Ringers continued the week after Easter joy with McChesney's arrangement of "Give Thanks." The Mountain View Belles sextet from Loveland, CO stirred the crowd with "Americana" by Sanders Cota.

We would love to have you join us for the 2020 edition of the Wyoming Spring Ring under the direction of Michael J. Glasgow on April 17-18. Let me know of your interest at [artcorewy@aol.com](mailto:artcorewy@aol.com).

Wishing you joy,  
Carolyn Deuel  
Wyoming Spring Ring Chair





## Why Go to Events?

*By Janet Lake, Mountain Sub-Area Chair*

My first exposure to handbells was when I was asked to be the director of our small town community handbell choir. I responded with, “What are handbells?” Sundance Community Handbell Choir had been in existence for a couple of years, and their director had recently moved. I was studying Music Ed at the time, so, of course, I loved all things musical, and I said, “Why not?”

I knew nothing about handbells, but I’m a musician! How different could handbells (and their music!) be? I’d soon find out! Neither the previous director nor most of the ringers had had much handbell training, so when I took the helm, it was the blind leading the blind.

None of us knew what the special symbols meant, so we just made up our own definitions! For instance, we called a mart a table thunk (and we weren’t doing it properly!). The music that the choir had was pretty simple, mainly collections of pieces one to two pages max. We played pretty regularly, at various churches and at long-term and assisted care centers. Everyone loved us (but maybe it was because they didn’t know any better either!).

None of us had ever heard of the Guild (now Handbell Musicians of America--HMA) and the educational and fun ringing events that they sponsored—until a handbell friend from another part of the state asked me that question. She immediately got my attention, and I wanted to know more! Next thing I knew my small handbell choir had become a member and was registered to attend Wyoming Spring Ring. Wow! What a fabulous world we were introduced to (and became a part of)! We soaked up instruction like sponges and came home from that first event knowing a WHOLE lot more about bells and their music.

We purchased more challenging music, accessories like mallets and dowels, and later purchased handchimes (which we heard for the first time at an event). We improved basic ringing techniques, dynamics, rhythms, damping, etc., while learning many new techniques: singing bell, echo, four-in-hand, and shelly. Our choir even got confident enough to do some solo pieces at later Spring Ring concerts!

*Overtones* magazine has been a real benefit to us, as well. The articles are great, and the free reprintable music is da bomb! In fact, we just incorporated into our warm-up routine the Bach Warmup Chorale from a recent issue.

Aside from all the technical stuff our choir has learned, we have made some fabulous friendships and made musical connections we never dreamed of! Those friendships and connections lead me to service on the Area 11 board, which has been such a wonderful experience for me. After serving as Secretary-Treasurer for four years, I’ve recently filled the position of Mountain Sub-Area chair and will help organize Area 11 HMA events in UT, CO, and WY. Let me know how I can help YOUR choir in YOUR area!

Maybe your choir isn’t as “basic” as when I started directing mine, but I can guarantee you that your choir WILL benefit from being a member of the Guild and attending events that are offered in your area (it’s even way worth it to travel a little!!). Doing so has made a world of difference for our choir!!







## Membership in Handbell Musicians of America

### Choose Your Renewal Date

*Beginning in our fiscal year 2020 (October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020), we are making a change in the schedule for membership renewal. Rather than renewing memberships every month of the year, we will move everyone to their choice of one of three renewal dates – November 1, January 1, or March 1.*

Beginning in our fiscal year 2020 (October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020), we are making a change in the schedule for membership renewal. Rather than renewing memberships every month of the year, we will move everyone to their choice of one of three renewal dates – November 1, January 1, or March 1. This change in schedule leads to several benefits for the organization:

- Reduced costs in invoice mailing as we consolidate the work to three projects rather than twelve.
- By completing renewals by March 1, the mid-point of our fiscal year, we have the time needed to adjust our financial planning based on actual membership revenue received.
- Moving the renewal period to a shorter time-frame, we can launch a concentrated membership campaign and better use our staff and volunteer resources to promote member benefits and services.

*Please complete this by September 1, 2019  
Your new renewal date will take effect in fiscal year 2020.*

No matter which date you choose, you will continue to receive uninterrupted access to a wealth of benefits through [handbellmembers.org](http://handbellmembers.org) where you will find all the online editions of *Overtones*, numerous in-depth resources, and much more. Questions about this change? Contact your regional membership coordinator.

### [Choose Renewal Date Online](#)

*Our Area 11 Facebook page can be found here:*

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

## Handbell Earrings

Wear Handbells in Style

[melodictreasures.etsy.com](http://melodictreasures.etsy.com)





### Young Ringers Camp

We now have 54 campers and chaperones registered for Young Ringers Camp!

19 from Colorado

15 from New Mexico

9 from Utah

7 from Wyoming

2 from Kansas

2 clinicians

Music will include: A Medley from Walt Disney's Pinocchio, Hallelujah, Chariots of Fire, Pirates of the Caribbean, Muppets, and Ghostbusters!

Workshops may include: Maori Sticks, Cahons, Folk Dance Movement, Change Ringing, and KAZOOS!



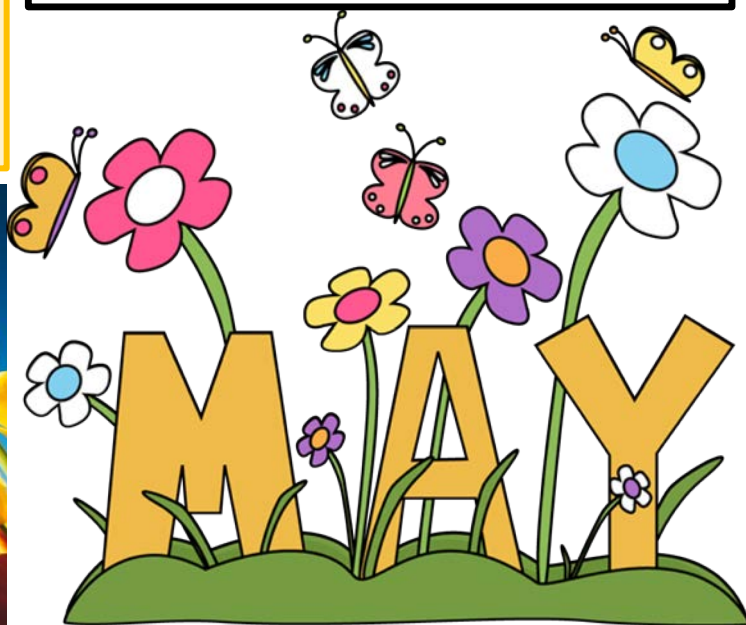
**Would you like to attend a Handbell concert near you?** Check out our Concert Listing on our Calendar tab on our Area 11 website.

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

*You may also submit your concert information to be included by completing the website submission form which can be found on the calendar page as well.*

**We are looking for a new volunteer to be our Area 11 Webmaster!**

If you would be willing to jump in and help out in this position, please contact Mary Moffett, Area 11 Communications Chair at [communications.area11@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:communications.area11@handbellmusicians.org)







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OF AMERICA

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/>

**Sunday – Thursday, June 9-13, 2019:**

**Young Ringers Camp**

**Location: Snow Mountain Ranch, Granby, Colorado**

**Clinician: Marilyn Lake & Brian Childers**

# RINGERS ROUNDUP

**Date: Saturday, September 28, 2019**

**Location: Several Around the Area**

**More information to come**

*Save  
Date*

**YOUNG RINGERS CAMP  
GOES TO THE  
MOVIES**

PRESENTED BY AREA 11  
HANDBELL MUSICIANS OF AMERICA

Snow Mountain Ranch  
Granby, Colorado  
June 9-13, 2019

**Clinicians: Marilyn Lake and Brian Childers**

Registration form available at [www.area11.handbellmusicians.org](http://www.area11.handbellmusicians.org)  
Information on Snow Mountain Ranch: [snowmountainranch.org](http://snowmountainranch.org)

*The Raleigh Ringers*

**STAY UP TO DATE WITH US!**



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