



Handbell Musicians
OF AMERICA

Area 11

Newsletter

Volume 13
Issue 1
January 2020

happy
new year

We've got **GREAT THINGS** happening in
2020!

Utah
Spring Ring
March 14

Northern
Colorado
Handbell
Festival
March 14



Wyoming
Spring Ring
April 17-18

RINGERS
ROUNDUP
September 26

Inside this issue:

Letter from the Chair	pg 2
Area 11 Festival 2020 Ringing Up! Registration Faculty Application Hotel Information Article By Ellie Hodder, Festival Clinician	pg 3-5
Super Bell Saturday VIII	pg 6
Join Our Bell Bunch Nominations for Chair Elect and Secretary/Treasurer	pg 7
Ring of Fame Nominations for 2020 Award	pg 8
Membership Drive	pg 9
Reaching for Bronze Event	pg 9
Upcoming Events	pg 10

Area 11 Website
area11.handbellmusicians.org

National Office Website
Handbellmusicians.org

Registration is OPEN for:

- ♦ Ringing UP! Area 11 Festival – event date: June 11-14
- ♦ Super Bell Saturday VIII – event date: February 1
- ♦ Utah Spring Ring – event date: March 14
- ♦ Northern Colorado Handbell Festival – event date: March 14
- ♦ Wyoming Spring Ring – event date: April 17-18



From the Chair:



Happy New Year! And Happy New Decade! Last year, as you may remember, I set some New Year's resolutions for everyone, which you all accomplished (for the most part!) Good job, all of you! This year I wanted to share some of what I've learned being chair and chair elect over the last 3 years.

One thing that becomes more and more clear to me is how rewarding it is to work on behalf of something you love. I've really gone from what can handbells and HMA do for me, to what can I do to further the activity of handbell ringing. It's fun to attend a festival; it's even more fun to work with other bell ringers and clinicians to put one together! I am always struck by the thought that if we all put something back into those things we care about, how much we can accomplish!

I have also had my belief confirmed that handbell people are the best! Somehow if you like handbells, you most likely also work and ring well with others. We accomplish so much in this Area with very few resources, largely because many people in addition to the board work hard on different events. There are so many of you in the various states working on local events or helping find bells for festivals, or making sure music is picked for events or offering advice from your past experiences. It is truly humbling to see the amount of help the board has—all of it makes what we do as an area work.

I have learned how we as an area fit into the national world of handbells. Sometimes it feels like we're very isolated out here in the west. It is nice to see that there are those who love bells everywhere! I also enjoy that some of our events are talked about at a national level in terms of how other areas can make them work and that we get some of our ideas from other areas. It has been important to know that the whole country struggles with some of the same issues we do in terms of decreasing membership and that we're all working to make sure that the art of handbell ringing stays strong and is passed on to new generations. To me, that is a goal worth working for!

I wanted to share these thoughts because as we approach elections and choosing new board members, please consider offering your services or saying yes if someone asks you to help. Your assistance is always welcome.

In the meantime, we have a number of fun events planned and this year everything for registration and payment can now be done on line. The events start with Super Bell Saturday on Feb. 1. Check the website for registration info and locations—and then just bring yourself and some bells and come ring with other handbell lovers! In March and April there are Spring Rings in Colorado, Wyoming and Utah that you can attend. Then in June we have our Area festival in the Phoenix area. If you haven't been to a festival recently (or ever) I hope you'll attend. It's 3 days of ringing, fellowship, and learning that is truly a blast! And we already have plans for the Young Ringers Camp in the summer of 2021 up at Snow Mountain Ranch. In fact we have groups from out of state that are planning to attend! Please pass that on to any youth you might know.

So---see you soon at some event! And as always feel free to contact me if you have any thoughts or want to help out!

Happy Ringing,

Lorrie Hart

Chair, Area 11

Chair.area11@handbellmusicians.org



Ringin' Up! Area 11 Festival 2020

June 11-14, 2020

Doubletree by Hilton in Tempe, Arizona

**Registration is OPEN
for our Area 11 Festival
2020 in Phoenix, AZ!**

Lead Clinician: Ellie Hodder

We have two options for registration.

Option 1: Register online and pay a deposit by check, with the balance due later

Option 2: Register online and pay with a credit card (processing fees will apply.)

Registration fee (deadline is March 23, 2020) – \$350.00 If registering online with credit card, processing fees will apply.

Late Registration (between March 24, 2020-May 1, 2020) – \$450.00 If registering online with credit card, processing fees will apply.

You can register for the Ringing Up! Festival 2020 online here:
[Ringing Up! Area 11 Festival 2020 Online Registration](#)



Lodging is NOT included in this registration fee. You will need to contact the hotel to make reservations. Doubletree by Hilton Tempe is offering a special rate to those attending our Festival.

Registrants who live outside a 50 mile radius from the hotel and choose not to stay at the Doubletree by Hilton must pay an Off-site lodging surcharge of \$100.00. This helps insure we meet our contracted room blocks, keeping all costs as low as possible.

We hope to see you Ringing Up with us in June!



Teachers for our classes and workshops:

Would you like to teach a class or workshop at our Festival?

If so, please fill out and submit the Ringing Up! Faculty Application you can find here: [Area 11 Festival 2020 Ringing Up! Faculty Application](#)

Ringin' Up! Area 11 Festival 2020



**I Sure Hope I See You
in Phoenix!!**

Why Should I go to a Handbell Festival?

~ Ellie Hodder, Clinician

It's easy to get comfy in our own handbell world and only ringing in our home choir. Ringing with my buddies is fun; I love ringing handbells with them. Why go out of my way and spend extra money for a festival?

1. Both directors *and* musicians gain from attending festivals. When we attend only our own rehearsals, we know only our own "handbell truth".

But, it's a big handbell world and things are changing rapidly. There is a lot to learn at a festival both from the director of the event and from other musicians in the room both by what they teach us directly and also by what we observe watching others making music.

Did you know that current protocol for correct execution of an echo has changed?

Most of us learned the echo technique this way: bend the hand at the wrist so that the rim of the casting touches the table directly in front of us. It works, but it causes the wrist and shoulder to be stressed and sends the sound of the bell directly into the table rather than to the listener

The new ergonomic preference is to turn the palm down to face the table and then tap the rim of the casting so that it touches the table top. In this way, the wrist is neutral and the casting—the part of the handbell from which sound emanates—is facing the listener rather than facing down into the table.

Wow! The things you learn at events.

2. Events bring groups together and build relationships. It has been a wonderful side benefit to me, as a director, to observe that events are a wonderful interpersonal experience for my musicians.

At events, ringing handbells is the work of the day. The pressure of getting to a rehearsal in heavy rush hour traffic or between errands or school activities is lifted. The pressure of performance is lifted because there are several other musicians playing the exact part. If I miss note, someone else is very likely to nail it!

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

Pressure lifted. So, festivals are filled with good old honest "down time" doing something we all love, ringing handbells.

There's laughter among fellow musicians, comparing notes about what we have learned and there are conversations about hobbies or gardening or grandchildren. Relationships within our choirs are stronger and fuller than before the event.

3. Here's the biggest free benefit from this director's vantage point. Every time members of my ensembles attend a handbell festival, the *entire* ensemble is better musically the very next week! Yes, even those musicians who were unable to attend. The benefit of being in a festival setting is immediate and remarkably satisfying. A new level of musicianship is always the result!

By the way, some of my favorite choirs have been what I call "Welcome" choirs. I know there are folks in my state who would attend but none of their ringing buddies can attend. So, I open a Welcome Choir so that singlet musicians from anywhere can join together and have a great ringing experience with new-found friends. Handbell musicians are fun!

I am looking forward to the Area 11 Festival coming in June and hope to meet you have a chance to chat a bit. Meanwhile, happy ringing.

All the best, Ellie



June 11-14, 2020



Announcing the
newest CD from
The Raleigh Ringers.

ORDER TODAY

WWW.RR.ORG/STORE

919-847-7574

Super Bell Saturday VIII
Annual Area-wide Read and Ring
Saturday, February 1, 2020
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
There will be several locations around Area 11



Location Cities in Arizona:

Apache Junction
Tucson
Flagstaff

Location Cities in Colorado:

Centennial
Thornton

Location Cities in Utah:

St. George
Ogden

Location Cities in Wyoming:

Casper
Laramie
Sundance
Torrington

For exact locations, see the
registration form

Registration Deadline is Sunday, January 13, 2020

Register by clicking the following link:
[Super Bell Saturday Online Registration Form](#)

What is Super Bell Saturday VIII?

This is our 8th annual Area-wide Read and Ring!

It's held the Saturday before Super Bowl Sunday each year, which is why it's called Super Bell Saturday!

Set up begins around 8:30 a.m. and we start ringing through the music at 9:00 a.m. We wrap it up by 12:00 noon at the latest. Each location will vary depending on how quickly you play through the music. Some locations play through each piece more than once if the participants are interested in doing that. It's a wonderful time to get together with other handbell ringers near you in our area and sightread music sent by Jeffers Handbell Supply. At the end of the event, you are able to purchase any of the music you would like...and you'll save money since you don't have to pay shipping costs.

Registration is only \$10 for members
or \$12 for non-members

Join Our "Bell Bunch"
Seeking Nominations for Chair-Elect & Secretary/Treasurer!
Deadline for nominations is February 15, 2020



We are so excited to complete our Bell Bunch with one of you! If you would like to nominate someone you think would be a perfect fit for Chair-Elect or Secretary/Treasurer, please fill out the nomination form found here:

[Area 11 Board Member Nomination Form](#)

**Deadline is
February 15**

Pictured L-R Top row: Anne Kleve, Chair-Elect; Lorrie Hart, Chair; Shannon Casey, Past-Chair & Events
Middle: Janet Lake, Mountain (CO, UT & WY); Katie Gant, Desert (AZ & NM)
Bottom: Mary Moffett, Communications; Paige Erickson, Chime Loan; Sandy Barstow, Secretary/Treasurer

Come See Us!

When it comes to handbells & chimes,
we've got it all!

**Western
Tour
2020**

Utah Spring Ring
Plain City, UT
March 14, 2020

Fremont High School • 1900 N 4700 W • Plain City, UT 84404

Wyoming Spring Ring
Casper, WY

April 17-18, 2020

Ramkota Conf. Center • 800 N Poplar St • Casper, WY 82601

1-800-JHS-BELL

HandbellWorld.com

JEFFERS

**HANDBELL
SUPPLY, INC.**

New Years Surprise!!

Be one of the first 10 people to
respond saying that you saw this
announcement in the newsletter and
**receive \$50 off your registration for
our Ringing UP! Festival 2020!**

Email Mary Moffett at
Mary_moffett@comcast.net

Accepting Nominations for the Area 11 Ring of Fame Award

The Area 11 2002-2004 Board established the Ring of Fame for those who have made outstanding contributions to the art of Handbell/Handchime ringing.

Do you know someone who deserves to be added to this list of recipients?

2006

Phyllis Anschiks, CO

Ed Duncan, UT

John Farris, AZ

Everett Hilty, CO

2008

Gail Downey, NM

Tom Waldron, UT

2010

Dr. William Wood, NM

2012

Doug Benton, AZ

Roy and Jennie Blomquist, AZ

2014

Marcy Hontz, AZ

Roxanne Hammond, CO

2018

George Cannon, WY

2020

Who can you nominate?



Area 11 Ring of Fame recognizes exceptional service and commitment to handbell/handchime ringing in general.

Service and commitment may include:

- Contributions as an Area 11 or Sub-Area elected officer.
- Volunteer work accomplished at Area 11 or Sub-Area level.
- Achievement of National recognition for contributions to Handbell Musicians of America, Inc.
- Development of materials or methods specific to handbells/handchimes.
- Extended teaching/conducting that has raised the musical standards for ringing.
- Compositions for handbells/handchimes.
- Efforts to expand the art of handbell/handchime ringing into new areas Educational, Community, Church, or other populations.

The Area 11 Ring of Fame is awarded every two (2) years at the Area 11 Festival/Conference.

There may be no more than four (4) recipients per festival.

The award may be presented posthumously.

Qualifications for Ring of Fame Nominees:

- The candidate should be a current member of Handbell Musicians of America, Inc. However, exceptions may be approved by the Area 11 Board of Directors.
- The candidate must have made significant contributions in one or more of the areas listed above.

If you would like to nominate someone to receive this prestigious award at our Ringing Up! Area 11 Festival 2020 in Phoenix, Arizona, please use the nomination form found here: [Ring of Fame Nomination Form](#)

Send your submission to Chair-elect Anne Kleve at chairelect.area11@handbellmusicians.org

Deadline for submitting nominations is February 15, 2020

Area 11 Handbell Musicians of America Membership Drive

January 1 – March 31, 2020

Join during our Membership Drive

and save \$15!

Just enter one of these codes:

Area11-G

(for a group membership)

OR

Area11-P

(for an individual membership)

Join our team

→ \$15 off New Memberships ←



MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

To become a member, go to:

<http://handbellmusicians.org/membership/join-the-guild/>

Enter code: Area11-G (group) or Area11-P (individual)

January 1– March 31, 2020

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.



Shop online for unique gifts & supplies
for Handbell & Handchime Musicians

www.handbellservices.com

toll-free: 800-37-BELLS

Artisan-made gifts, unique designs
on promotional products,
Educational resources, table foam,
gloves & shirts.

DETROIT, MI • FOUNDED BY SUSAN & DAVE BERRY

Reaching for Bronze: An Event for Intermediate Handbell Musicians Aspiring to Become Bronze-Level Ringers.

February 28-March 1, 2020 • New Bern, North Carolina

Have you wanted to apply for Distinctly Bronze but worry you are not yet at the skill level to be accepted? Then this is the event for you. Scheduled concurrently with Distinctly Bronze East, this event will give participants the opportunity to learn three pieces from the DB East rep list under the direction of master teacher and conductor Monica McGowan and perform them with the DB musicians on their final concert.

For more information, visit <http://handbellmusicians.org/events-networking/events/rfb2020/>

The Raleigh Ringers

STAY UP TO DATE WITH US!



www.rr.org



[/RaleighRingers](https://www.facebook.com/RaleighRingers)



[@RaleighRingers](https://twitter.com/RaleighRingers)



[@RaleighRingers](https://www.instagram.com/RaleighRingers)

UPCOMING AREA 11 EVENTS



Handbell Musicians of America



Ringing
Up!

Area 11 Festival 2020
Phoenix, Arizona

Dates: June 11-14, 2020

Location: DoubleTree Hotel Tempe, Arizona

Clinician: Ellie Hodder

Register here: [Ringing Up! Area 11 Festival 2020 Online Registration](#)

*For additional information and registration forms for each event ,
visit our Area 11 website at [Area 11 Events](#)*

Super Bell Saturday VIII Read and Ring

Date: Saturday, February 1, 2020

Locations: Several around Area 11,
listed on the Events page of the Area 11 Website

Utah Spring Ring

Date: Saturday, March 14, 2020

Clinician: Stephanie Rhoades

Location: Fremont High School

Northern Colorado Handbell Festival

Date: Saturday, March 14, 2020

Clinician: Brenda Austin

Location: Immanuel Lutheran in Loveland, Colorado

Wyoming Spring Ring

Date: Friday-Saturday, April 17-18, 2020

Clinician: Michael Glasgow

Location: Ramkota Hotel in Casper



Young Ringers Camp 2021

Date:

Sun, June 20 - Thursday, June 24, 2021

Clinicians:

Matthew Compton
and
Marilyn Lake

Location:

We'll be returning to
Snow Mountain Ranch
in Granby, Colorado!