



Handbell Musicians
OF AMERICA

Area 11

Newsletter

Volume 13
Issue 4
July/Aug 2020



&



RINGING IN 2020!

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE
TO YOUR CHOIR?
THIS NEWSLETTER ISSUE WILL
ADDRESS SOME OF THE
POSSIBILITIES!

Inside this issue:

Letter from the Chair	2
To Ring or Not to Ring	3
Notes from National Leadership on Ringing in 2020	4
HMA Membership Renewals	4
Young Ringers Camp 2021	5
Adult Ringers Camp 2021	5
Upcoming Events	6

Area 11 Website

area11.handbellmusicians.org

National Office Website

Handbellmusicians.org



From the Chair:



It's happened, the last letter from me as the Chair of Area 11! My term ends as of the beginning of September. And though the year did not turn out as we planned and I *really* missed having Festival this year, overall it's been a wonderful experience and I wanted to share some parting thoughts.

First, bell people are the best!!! That has been reinforced to me numerous times over the last 2 years. Thanks to everyone who has helped over the last 2 years and supported me and the board in any way. It sounds trite, but the Area works best when everyone takes a part in making things happen. To all the people I've met, visited with and worked with and had fun with, you have made being chair a pleasure, (well, most days!) and I appreciate you all. To the people who gave me ideas, told me I'm too "wordy" (I was shocked!) or told me to calm down, thank you especially. Just know that you helped.

Second, as we go forward and bell ringing resumes, I really urge you to donate a little of your time to the area in some way, or run for an office in two years. It's a very rewarding experience and I can promise you that you will be glad you did. I know I am glad I said yes to running! But the bell world goes on and I wanted to highlight a few things we have going on this year. **If you are looking for guidance in getting your bell group up and running the Handbell Industry Council has some guidelines**

<https://handbellindustrycouncil.org/covid-19-information-2/> & <https://handbellindustrycouncil.org/quick-guide/>.

Handbell Musicians of America is compiling lists of 12 bell music so that you can ring without tables. We will make that available when we see it.

Area 11 is going to host a virtual Ringers Roundup on Oct. 10, 2020. This will be free with donations accepted and this year we will focus on discussions about getting bells back up and going, things you can do to ring in a pandemic, and other topics of current interest. No bells will be needed. We hope to even have a (bell) celebrity guest!

We're still working on what other events can happen this year, but we do definitely have plans for the Youth Camp and the Adult Camp. You can find more information about these in the rest of the newsletter. Obviously both depend on things getting better between now and then, but right now we think it is worth planning and I personally am really looking forward to Adult Camp! As I see it, it involves mountains, playing music for 3 days, hanging out with friends, hiking and outdoor activities, bonfires and low stress! We will get more details to you when we have them, but keep in mind that your registration fee will cover room and meals so there are no extra expenses once you've registered and arrived.

Finally, National Seminar is going to be in our Area this year, in Phoenix in July 2021. You can check handbellmusicians.org for more info. This year's National Seminar was online and although I was not looking forward to sitting in front of a computer for 4 days, they did a wonderful job, and I ended the four days feeling like I'd been to Seminar. I learned a lot, felt like I had seen my bell friends, and they even had online games at night. You can watch the concerts from Seminar on the Handbell Musicians YouTube channel. They were definitely inspiring.

Thanks again, Area 11. You're the best!
See you around!

Lorrie Hart
Chair, Area 11
Chair.area11@handbellmusicians.org



To Ring or Not To Ring



The past five months certainly have been the weirdest and unexpected for our handbell program at church. We came to an abrupt damp on March 12. No ringing for Holy Week, no ringing for my high school seniors, no confirmation, no banquet, no good byes. For the first time since I was in high school, I didn't have a bell in my hand, or a choir to direct. I also didn't have almost every evening taken up with rehearsals!

The only constant was teaching my private clarinet and saxophone online. We were also lucky to continue to serve our church congregation with Facebook Live services, which I am 1 of 10 to help produce. I create and run the ProPresenter projection slides.

I am sure I'm not alone in this situation! Not until very recently did I submit my proposal to our church to starting ringing again. We are first trying small family groups, which will make things inter-generational! We'll start by ringing 12-bell pieces with just a music stand and record and play the video during our church service. So that's the first option! I hope to continue to ring more, and even introduce new people to bells since our vocal choir will not be meeting at all.

I wanted to take this newsletter article and just share with each other. I am open to conversation and really want us to rely on each other for ideas and support! I definitely miss ringing and my bell friends. So what are your plans? Do you have any ideas where to start? Have you read the suggestions on ringing safely from the Handbell Industry Council?

Our board will be changing over in September, so you will see new names associated with new emails! Please be watching for more information about our new contacts. My new email will be: chair.area11@handbellmusicians.org I am looking forward and excited for Young Ringers Camp next June 2021! That email contact is camp.area11@handbellmusicians.org

Please contact any of our board members with questions, concerns, ideas, or just to chat! You can also call/text me at 303-898-7056! You may also find us on the Area 11 Facebook page or group. <https://www.facebook.com/HandbellMusiciansofAmericaArea11> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/159339860862514>

Happy Ringing!

Anne Kleve, Area 11 Chair-Elect 2018-2020



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

Notes from National Leadership Meeting

There was national leadership meeting on Aug. 8, 2020. Because it was virtual, 70 of the Area leaders around the country attended.

One of the discussion points was the unique way that handbells are positioned once churches reopen, since singing is probably not going to occur for a while. This leaves a gap that handbells could fill easily and your congregation would probably appreciate it.

There was also a discussion about ways different Areas are getting back to ringing. Here are some ideas you might want to try:

1. Having smaller groups play music with fewer bells.
There is a lot of 12 bell music being published right now that sounds great. That means you need 6 people with 2 bells each and no tables. I have been told there are numerous new publications being written, many of them in reproducible books. You can maybe have fewer ringers too if the top parts play 4-in-hand.
2. Play something on a bell tree.
3. Have family members play together so you don't have to be 6 feet apart.
4. One group set up parking lot sing and rings where they took 12 bell music and played for retirement homes with balconies so that people could come out on their balcony and participate.
5. One group is visiting shut-ins and playing in their driveway, something their vocal choir used to do but can't because of concerns about singing.
6. One group set up in a park and played a free concert, just to play.
7. You can record a concert and play it on YouTube.

So get creative and let us know what you come up with!

*Lorrie Hart
Area 11 Chair*



HMA Membership Renewals

by Anne Kleve

Handbell Musicians of America offered to delay membership renewals back in March. This allowed memberships who had an expiration date of March 31, to delay renewals by 60 days. Many of you took advantage of that option! However, now our Area 11 has 45 memberships that have lapsed since then.

Our board will be following up with those people, to see how we can best help and serve you!

We understand that many people may not have functioning churches, schools, and choirs. We want you to know that Area 11 and Handbell Musicians of America are here for you! Let us know your situation.

Please double check your membership, or with your church/school administrator if yours has lapsed.

If you are able to renew your membership, please login here: <https://handbellmusicians.org/membership/>

We certainly appreciate your support, as we figure this out together! If you have ANY membership questions, please contact Chair-Elect Anne Kleve at chairelect.area11@handbellmusicians.org

303-898-7056

Young Ringers Camp 2021

Sunday, June 20 - Thursday, June 24, 2021

Clinicians: Matthew Compton and Marilyn Lake
Snow Mountain Ranch in Colorado

Save
the
Date!

Registration
Coming
Soon!



Presented by Area 11 Handbell Musicians of America



Adult Ringers Camp 2021

Sunday, June 13 – Wednesday, June 16, 2021

YMCA in Estes Park, Colorado

That's right! We're having an Adult Ringers Camp next summer as well!
We had to cancel our 2020 Festival, so we're going to have a little fun ... oh who are we kidding?... **a lot of fun** - in a very relaxed atmosphere next summer! So save the date for this! You won't want to miss it! More information coming soon!

Save
the
Date!



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

[Area 11 Events Page](#)

RINGERS ROUNDUP

Date: Saturday, October 10, 2020

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Location: Right in your own home! This workshop will be done virtually this year
More information to come!



Summer FUN In 2021!

Young Ringers Camp *Ring Around the World*



Date: June 20-24, 2021

Location: Snow Mountain Ranch in Colorado
Clinicians: Matthew Compton and Marilyn Lake

Registration and more information to come

Adult Ringers Camp

This is a Brand New Event for Area 11!

Date: June 13-16, 2021

Location: YMCA in Estes Park Colorado



More information to come