



# QUAVERS

AREA VIII: ILLINOIS, IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA  
MARCH, 2009

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## DIRECTORS' SEMINARS

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What would possess a person to go to one of *THOSE*? Why would you want to spend any time and energy with bell directors and ringers? Give up a perfectly fine Saturday? NO WAY! I need to mow the yard...or fold the laundry...or...or...*Au contraire, mon cheri!*

Let me just briefly highlight the benefits of Director Ringing Seminars:

- For directors and ringers alike – ALL levels
- Performances not required
- Music preparation not required
- Classes on a variety of topics and PLENTY of space for you to participate!
- Handbell store open all the time
- Opportunity to read and ring the latest music, including music for Topeka 2010!
- Fellowship with other directors and ringers from your state
- Smaller class sizes
- Short driving distances within your state
- No hauling bells! They are provided for you!

The Area used to host these events, but we are trying something new this year with each state hosting their own Director Ringing Seminar. We are hoping that the closer proximity, and smaller class size will be enticing.

These events used to be JUST for directors, or directors-in-training...but now we have tailored them to appeal to ringers as well. Have you ever felt the frustration of attending a national or area-wide ringing event only to discover that there aren't enough seats in the rehearsal space? Or maybe there aren't enough bells in the Four-In-Hand classes? Or the bass bell positions were already taken when you walked in the door? Then Director Ringing Seminars are just the thing for you!

Our state chairs have been busy organizing many events to encourage the art of handbell ringing: Fall Rings, Spring Rings, Youth Retreats, reading sessions, guest clinicians, and the list goes on and on. But Director Ringing Seminars are in a class by themselves! I will guarantee that you will enjoy your day more than mowing the yard or folding clothes! Hope to see you on the other side of the table!

*Marilyn Lake ~ Area VIII Chair*

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## ELECTED OFFICERS

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### *Chair*

**Marilyn Lake**  
142 Terrace Trail S  
Lake Quivira, KS 66217  
913.302.1010  
bolake@smsd.org  
LQRngLdr@kc.rr.com

### *Chair-Elect*

**Ed Rollins**  
c/o 1st Baptist Church  
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rollins@fbc-columbia.org

### *Secretary*

**Natalie Radcliffe**  
1211 12th Ave  
Kearney, NE 68845  
308.236.9815  
Natalie\_radcliffe@  
hotmail.com

### *Treasurer*

**Cheryl Abney**  
2063 S Glenn  
Springfield, MO 65807  
417.886.6892  
CherylAbney@ymail.com

### *Past Chair*

**Debbie Llewellyn**  
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### *Website*

**www.areaviii.org**



**ILLINOIS STATE  
COMMITTEE**

**BELLS DON'T NEED TUNING...**

*Chair*

**Kristin Kalitowski-Kowal**  
230 Duane St  
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Glen Ellyn, IL 60137  
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Chair@il-agehr.org

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sksbell@gmail.com

*Librarian*

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**Diane Oster**  
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garydgss@hotmail.com

*Website*

**www.il-agehr.org**

...but directors do! What better way to “tune-up” your directing skills than to attend a workshop just for directors? The Illinois State Committee is planning a fun day that will hone your directing skills and increase your handbell knowledge.

The day will have a maximum of 40 registrants to keep classes small and give you lots of hands on time with the handbells. The morning will consist of class sessions that will include:

- Exercises & Skills Development: Get resources for teaching technique and skills, such as eighth notes and easy bell changes, and a second session on more advanced topics such as articulations and weaving.
- Teaching Beginning Bells: Suggestions for welcoming the new ringer, teaching them the basics, and integrating them into your ensemble.
- Level System & Bell Assignments: Discussion of the AGEHR graded level system for handbell music and different handbell assignment methods.
- Conducting: A review of the basics, including beat patterns and cueing, and a second session for an introduction to more complicated issues, including mixed meter and articulations.
- Stopped Sounds & More: Hands on review of all articulations, techniques, and notations.
- Round Table Discussion: Bring your questions! You will have a chance to share your situations and solutions.
- Children’s Handbell Ensembles: How to get started and a list of resources and considerations.

In the afternoon, we will have a “Read and Ring” session to sight-read through a number of selections of varying difficulty. It is very important that ALL directors get behind the table every once in a while, and this session will give you a practical review and demonstration of the morning topics.

Look for a postcard in your mailbox this spring about “Tune-up! A Workshop for Directors” to be held on a Saturday (or two) this summer. If you are interested in hosting such an event at the place you direct, please email me and let me know!

*Kristin Kalitowski-Kowal~ Illinois State Chair*

The Springfield Area Arts Council and the Office of the Mayor are pleased to announce the 2009 Mayor’s Awards for the Arts. Congratulations to *Bells in Motion* of Springfield, Illinois for receiving the Outstanding Performing Arts Organization.



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## IOWA STATE COMMITTEE

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### *Chair*

**Kathryn Jaeger**

1720 N 3rd St  
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563.242.0416  
Jkjdjaeger@juno.com

### *Treasurer*

**Anabeth Voigts**

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### *Secretary*

**Carolyn Sternowski**

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### *Membership*

**Jessie Kruger**

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### *Chimes*

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### *Eastern Rep*

**Terri Hodge**

### *Central Rep*

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### *Webmaster*

**Bob Sternowski**

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### *Website:*

**www.agehr-ia.org**

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## DO YOU HAVE A DIRECTOR QUESTION?

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As a director, have you ever wished you had someone to answer your handbell question? Hopefully all directors know that your state and area representatives are here to help you out. In Iowa, we try at every event to offer something to help directors learn and grow. We usually offer classes with every workshop. For example: *Bell Basics*, *Bass Bells*, *4-in-hand* and *Solo/Ensemble*. Even at our Youth Ringers Event we plan to have a round table discussion to give directors some time to share ideas and answer questions.

The hardest part for your state committee is that we don't know what you are seeking. Are you a person who wants help directing? Or maybe you are a person who was given bells and told to make music with them and have no prior experience? Regardless of where you are as a director, we believe that there is a lot to be said for attending any type of handbell workshop or festival and getting on the ringing side of the table.

I personally find that I learn quite a bit more from standing on the ringing side of the table and spending my time *doing* so that I can go home and teach my ringers. For instance, when trying to teach 4-in-hand, I believe it is easier to teach if you have actually had to put the bells in your hands first, rather than just learning from reading a book.

Most importantly, if you are a director and have a question or need to know where to find an answer, you need to ask. Let your state and area representatives know what you want. That is one of the perks of being a member of AGEHR. Your state and area representatives are here to help and if they cannot answer the question, I would bet they know somewhat who can.

Let us know how we can help you, we are waiting.

*Kathryn Jaeger ~ Iowa State Chair*





**KANSAS STATE  
COMMITTEE**

**AREA VIII 2010 SNEAK PEEK**

*Chair*

**Kathy Leonard**  
526 Bluemont Ave  
Manhattan, KS 66502  
785.317.0598 (cell)  
Kleonard@  
fumcmanhattan.com

*Past Chair*

**Marilyn Lake**  
Lqrngldr@kc.rr.com

*Treasurer*

**Karen Blakeslee**  
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*Secretary*

**Angela Krueger**  
AJK200@hotmail.com

*Chimes*

**Shirley Myers**  
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hotmail.com

*Workshop*

**Brenda Heard**  
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*Website*

**home.kc.rr.com/  
kansasarea8**

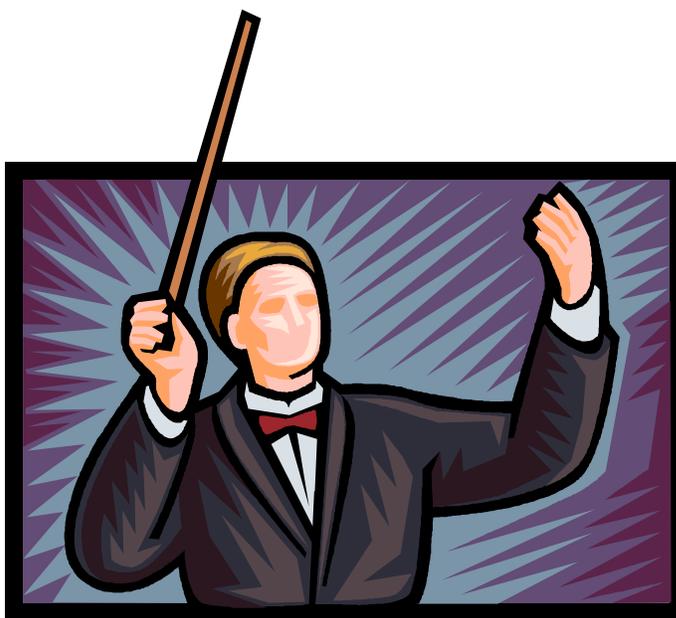
This is NOT for directors only. Ringers are more than welcome to attend. (We need *lots* of ringers.)

- April 25, 2009
- 8:30am—3:30pm
- Southminster Presbyterian Church  
6306 Roe Ave  
Prairie Village, KS
- \$35.00/person (includes lunch)
- Area VIII Executive Board as clinicians
- Reading Sessions will include repertoire for the Topeka 2010 Festival—Tins, Silver, Gold, Bronze and Massed
- Classes will include: bell repair, treble techniques, bass techniques, working with children/youth, score study/repertoire selection, conducting techniques, and more.
- Registration deadline is: April 10, 2009
- Questions or registration form requests should be directed to:
  - Kathy Leonard  
1st UMC  
612 Poyntz Ave  
Manhattan, KS 66502  
kleonard@fumcmanhattan.com

I hope to see many of you there as we get a head start on our 2010 Festival!

Ringin' in Him ~

*Kathy Leonard ~ Kansas State Chair*






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## MISSOURI STATE COMMITTEE

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### Chair

**Dolan Bayless**  
Krikwood UMC  
201 W Adams  
Kirkwood, MO 63122  
314.966.8167 (w)  
DolanBayless@sbcglobal.net

### Treasurer

**Dolan Bayless**  
Dolanbayless@  
sbcglobal.net

### Chimes

**Ed Rollins**  
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### Webmaster

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Burnell@bhackman.com

### Others

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columbia.k12.mo.us

**Sherry Boland**  
BolandSE@aol.com

**Ray Haring**  
joahH@showme.net

**Sally Johnson**  
BellLadySally@  
sbcglobal.net

### Website

**www.areaviii.org/  
Missouri.htm**

### Postscript:

If you would like to host, sponsor, or attend a director's seminar in Missouri, please contact me, [dolanbayless@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dolanbayless@sbcglobal.net).

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## ARE YOU A POTENTIAL DIRECTOR?

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I have a theory about handbell ringers. I have never been able to prove my theory, but the more I speak with ringers and directors, the more convinced I am about this theory.

Theory: *Every handbell ringer is a potential handbell director.*

As recently as this morning just before finalizing this article, I received an email from a brand new director who had moved from the ringing side of the table to the director's stand. Why is a ringer a potential director? The jargon, the execution, and the ringing ensemble itself are unique features of handbells.

- The jargon: unless the director completely understands terminology like swing, shake, thumb damp, and martellato, the director is at a tremendous disadvantage in directing a handbell ensemble!
- The execution: many of the above mentioned articulations are unique to the handbell ringing art. I have never heard of an orchestral instrument executing a thumb damp, or a martellato. Directors must know the instrument and how to teach the execution of a myriad of techniques and articulations.
- A person who has some time-keeping abilities (rhythm skills), who also has some adeptness at conducting (moving their arms), and who has a keen ear for correcting errant notes can be an okay director of handbells. But what is missing is the particular knowledge of the instrument!

Consider this idea about handbells—handbells is the only single instrument that is played by many people! A set of handbells is one instrument, no matter how many octaves—usually, played by an ensemble of personnel consisting of from 4 - 15 people. Many people playing one instrument. This uniqueness was made apparent to me several years ago while attending a National Seminar. The virtuosic group Ring of Fire had performed an impeccable concert. At the luncheon following there was a grand piano over in the corner of the hall. Their director Jason Wells invited his ringers to move to the piano. Some of the ringers sat on the floor, some leaned over others, and some could barely fit their fingers on the piano keyboard. But with precision and musicality they played a piece from their concert on the piano. Now 13-15 people playing a single piano seems a bit bizarre! However, it brought the point home to me—that many people are required to play the *single* instrument of handbells.

So every handbell ringer who has been taught the jargon, knows how to execute the articulations, and knows about a ringing ensemble, IS a potential handbell director.

How can a motivated ringer move from behind the table to the director's stand and learn the craft of conducting handbells? The simple answer is *by attending a director's seminar!* See you at the next seminar!

*Dolan Bayless ~ Missouri State Chair*

It's February . . .

A great time to plan ways to show your ringers



### THROW A PARTY!!

~Seasonal parties, welcome back in the fall parties, we-just-rang-a-great-concert parties...are a great time for fellowship and to let your ringers know how much you appreciate them!

~Kids love pajama parties!! Have everyone wear their jammies, pop some popcorn, and watch the video of their latest performance – everyone has fun and it's a great time to see what we're doing well and what we need to work on.

~For the adults, a progressive party is fun, or even just a group outing after rehearsal. Anytime you can bring fellowship opportunities into the group, everyone benefits.

### CELEBRATE SPECIAL OCCASIONS

~Remember your group members' birthdays with a card and letting the group sing to them.

~Kids love having a special game they get to play at the end of rehearsal when there is a birthday, let the birthday child start the game (or pick the game.)

~Can't give up enough rehearsal time for a party during a holiday? Even your adults will enjoy finding a little *treat* waiting for them when they get to rehearsal. Whether it's a small bell ornament or a piece of candy, you are letting your ringers know they are special.



### PRAY WITH THEM AND FOR THEM

~If you are a church-affiliated group, your rehearsals should allow for time to share joys, concerns, and prayer requests; and to pray together as a group.

~Be sure to follow up on specific prayer requests. Keep your members in your prayers, and then check back with them if the situation allows (for example, if someone asks for prayers for a sick family member).

~Give your members a call, drop them a note, or even shoot an email just to let them know you are thinking about them and that you continue to keep them in your prayers.





NEBRASKA  
STATE  
COMMITTEE

**Dinner Bell Recipe**

Beef & Black-Eyed Pea Soup

*Chair*

**Joyce Miller**  
16105 Spring St  
Omaha, NE 68130  
402.333.0715  
jmiller@tconl.com

*Secretary*

**Janet Chiochi**  
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*Treasurer*

**Mary Kettelhut**  
makettel@inetnebr.com

*Chimes*

**Nancy Youngman**  
nyoungm@lps.org

*Others*

- Mike Allen**  
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- Gaye Schlichting**  
glschlichting@msn.com
- Vicky Vandervort**  
paradox616@aol.com
- Sarah Strawn**  
figment\_86@hotmail.com
- Angela Wright**  
angela.wright@kearneypublic.org
- Linda Ashley**  
Lsashley@inebraska.com
- Kyle Smith**  
Ksmiff79@hotmail.com
- Natalie Radcliffe**  
Natalie\_radcliffe@hotmail.com

*Website*

**www.agehr-ne.org**

- |                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2 lbs ground beef            | 1 c celery, chopped        |
| 1 green pepper, chopped      | 2 T beef bouillon granules |
| 1/2 c butter                 | 1 T pepper                 |
| 1/2 c flour                  | 1/2 t salt                 |
| 8 c water                    | 1/4 t garlic power         |
| 16 oz frozen black-eyed peas | 1/4 t onion powder         |
| 1 onion, chopped             | 1 1/2 c prepared rice      |
| 8 oz frozen diced carrots    |                            |

Brown beef and green pepper in skillet; drain. Melt butter in a Dutch oven; add flour, whisking until smooth. Cook one minute, stirring constantly. Gradually add water; stir until bubbly. Stir in beef mixture and all remaining ingredients, except rice. Bring to boil; cover and simmer 45 minutes to one hour. Add rice during the last 15 minutes. Serves 6-8

*Marilyn Lake ~ Area VIII Chair*



**APPOINTED  
CHAIRS**

*Membership*

**Kipp Willnauer**  
PO Box 364  
Gardner, KS 66030  
913.884.6935 (h)  
Willnauk@hotmail.com

*Resource Librarian*

**Kathy Harrison**  
2733 E. Battlefield Rd  
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*Education*

**Sandy Denton**  
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*Historian*

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AREA VIII  
YOUNG RINGERS



JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup> – 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2009  
Branson, MO

Our 2009 Young Ringers' Conference will once again be held in fantastic Branson, MO, in the heart of the beautiful Missouri Ozarks. The conference will feature many activities to enjoy while participants are not ringing. We are within walking distance of great shopping, "The Track" go carts, restaurants, and entertainment. The conference hotel provides reasonably priced rooms, free breakfast, and features 2 large pools and a hot tub. Registration fees include: 2 lunches, 2 dinners, an afternoon and evening at White Water and a show/lunch after the pre-show concert at Dixie Stampede. We will also be the pre-show at the Branson Landing on Saturday evening.

**COME PERFORM WHERE THE STARS PERFORM!**

The Conference will begin with registration at 2:00 PM on June 18<sup>th</sup> and will culminate with a concert on stage in a Branson Show Theatre!

Ringers will be divided into 2 skill levels: tin/silver and gold/bronze. Both full and partial choirs are welcome to participate. Please do not feel it is necessary to have a full choir to attend.

**Registration Information**

**Super Early Bird:** \$150.00 per ringer if registered by March 1, 2009 (Chaperones \$130.00 each)

**Early Bird:** \$160.00 per ringer if registered by April 15, 2009 (Chaperones \$140.00 each)

**Regular Registration:** \$200.00 per ringer (Chaperones \$180 each)

**A \$25.00 Deposit is required for all ringers, directors and chaperones.**

**Deposits are Non-Refundable. After June 1<sup>st</sup>, NO FEES CAN BE REFUNDED.**

**Registration does not include hotel accommodations.**

**Hotel Information:**

Cobblestone Inn and Convention Center  
(formerly known as the Windmill Inn)  
2425 W. Hwy 76  
Branson, MO 65616  
(417)336-2152

**Send Registrations to:**

Cheryl Abney  
2063 S. Glenn  
Springfield, MO 65807  
(417)886-6892  
[cheryl.abney@att.net](mailto:cheryl.abney@att.net)

Make checks payable to: Area VIII - AGEHR

# AREA VIII YOUNG RINGERS



JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup> – 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2009  
Branson, MO

**CAMPERS!!  
COME AND MEET KATH WISSINGER!!**



Kath Wissinger has been directing teen ringing ensembles for 20 years—from 14 ringer powerhouse groups to quartets and everything in between. She also teaches 6th-8th grade handbell classes at a small private school. Her rehearsals are upbeat and lively, with lots of back and forth learning experiences. Kath often writes music for her ringing groups at hand as well as commissioned pieces for other special occasions. She has over 50 pieces in print, many of which include pedagogical (teaching) exercises. Kath has taught environmental education to 3rd graders through high school students and worked as a National Park Ranger. She now teaches piano in her home studio in rural Virginia and travels across the United States to lead ringing events for youth and adults of all levels.

**Music Selection for camp** (all music must be purchased and prepared before coming to camp)

Tins/Silver:	Joyful Celebration L.2+	D Edwards	MCGB458
	Gaudio Exsultans L.2	V Stephenson	MAG35208
	Enter With Joy L.2	K Wissinger	MAP25342
Gold/Bronze	Bell Boogie L.3	J Smith	MRRBL5014
	Exuberant Joy L.2+	P McKlveen	MJHS9028
	Rhythmic Rondelle L.3	C Dobrinski	MHP1735
Massed Pieces (everyone rings these 3 pieces)	Fantasy on Kingsfold L.2+	HD Wagner	MHP2134
(2-3oct choirs)	Toccata L.2	M Helman	MCGB335
(4-5oct choirs)	Toccata L.2	M Helman	MCGB336
	One Great Spirit L.2	K Wissinger	MSASPHB136

AREA VIII  
YOUNG RINGERS



JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup> – 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2009  
Branson, MO

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Directors Name: \_\_\_\_\_ AGEHR Membership #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Church/School: \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Information**

\_\_\_\_\_ Super Early Bird Registration @ \$150.00 each (by March 1, 2009)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chaperones @ \$130.00 each)

\_\_\_\_\_ Early Bird Registration @ \$160.00 each (by April 1, 2009)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chaperones @ \$140.00 each)

\_\_\_\_\_ Regular Registration @ \$200.00 each      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chaperones @ \$180.00 each)

Sub Total      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Deposits @ \$25.00 each      - \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Balance Due by May 15, 2009      \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Please make all checks payable to: Area VIII – AGEHR  
Mail completed registration form and money to:  
Cheryl Abney  
2063 S. Glenn  
Springfield, MO 65807  
(417) 886-6892 or cheryl.abney@att.net



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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2009	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
Mar 7 8:45a—4p	Ring in the Spring 2009 Clinician: Hart & Brad Morris	Church of the Resurrection 13720 Roe Ave Leawood, KS	Gwen Gepford 913-491-6461 <a href="http://home.kc.rr.com/kansasarea8/">http://home.kc.rr.com/kansasarea8/</a>
Mar 21	Nebraska Handbell Workshop Clinician: Janet Carter	St Mark's UMC 8550 Pioneers Blvd Lincoln, NE	Joyce Miller <a href="http://www.agehr-ne.org">www.agehr-ne.org</a>
Apr 17—19	Ring in the Rockies 2009 Clinician: John Hooper, Jubiloso	Keystone Resort & Conference Center Keystone, CO	Anne Miller 970-302-1903 <a href="mailto:AnneMiller_handbells@yahoo.com">AnneMiller_handbells@yahoo.com</a>
Jun 8—16	International Festival of Handbells	Edinburgh, Scotland & London, England	Debbie Rice <a href="http://www.harmonyinternational.com/Festivals.html#Handbells">www.harmonyinternational.com/Festivals.html#Handbells</a>
Jun 18—21	Area VIII Young Ringers Camp	Branson, MO	<a href="http://www.areaviii.org/YR/2009/2009YRC.htm">www.areaviii.org/YR/2009/2009YRC.htm</a>
Jul 15—18	National Seminar	Hilton El Conquistador Golf & Tennis Resort Tucson, AZ	<a href="http://www.agehr.org">www.agehr.org</a> 800-878-5459

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## UPCOMING CONCERTS

2009	CONCERT	LOCATION	CONTACT
3/1 6:00p	The Agape Ringers	Ascension Lutheran Church 1415 Dopp St Waukesha, WI	Heidi Bischmann 414.305.7812 www.agaperingers.org
4/17 8:00p	Chicago Bronze	South Park Church 1330 S Courtland Park Ridge, IL	Cheryl Ondratschek www.chicagobronze.com
4/18 4:30p	Capital City Ringers of Lansing Chicago Bronze Kalamazoo Ringers	2nd Reformed Church 2323 Stadium Dr Kalamazoo, MI	Cheryl Ondratschek www.chicagobronze.com
4/25 7:30p	Chicago Bronze	St Mark's Lutheran Church 27 S Edgelawn Dr Aurora, IL	Susan Hilderbrand 630.897.6891 x 24 Sa.hilderbrand@yahoo.com
4/26 2:30p	Chicago Bronze	Friendship Village of Schaumburg 350 W Schaumburg Rd Schaumburg, IL	Cheryl Ondratschek www.chicagobronze.com
4/26 3:00p	Singing Men of Oak Brook <i>guests</i> The Agape Ringers	Christ Church of Oakbrook 31st St & York Rd Oak Brook, IL	www.agaperingers.org www.thesingingmenob.org
4/26 4:00p	Gateway Ringers	1st Presbyterian Church 100 E Adams Ave Kirkwood, MO	Bill Stein 314.965.0326 bstein@kirkwoodpres.org
4/26 5:30p	Evensong	St John's Lutheran Church 3517 Jeffco Blvd Arnold, MO	Burnell Hackman 636.464.0096
4/26 7:00p	Raytown Christian Bells <i>Spring Concert</i>	Raytown Christian Church 6108 Blue Ridge Blvd Raytown, MO	Suanne Comfort 816.358.0292 music@raytownncc.org
5/3 4:00p	The Agape Ringers	St John Lutheran Church 215 S Lincoln Lombard, IL	Fred Hoebel 630.975.3733 www.agaperingers.org
5/17 7:00p	The Chancel Ringers Westminster Handbell Ensemble	1st UMC 1032 Maple Downers Grove, IL	Pattie Barnes 630.953.0146 Bellhog@juno.com
5/30 7:30p	Bells in Motion with The Jane Hartman Trio	Springfield Hilton Rendezvous Room 700 E Adams Springfield, IL	Mike Lamb 217.899.2128 www.bellsinmotion.org