



Handbell Musicians
OF AMERICA

QUAVERS

AREA 8: ILLINOIS, IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA
MARCH, 2012

Captions from the Chair

Greetings Ringers and Directors,

I encourage you to read every word in this edition of *Quavers* because it contains such enlightening information about handbell artistry and the upcoming Area 8 Festival.

Lauran Delancy is our Education Chair for the Area and has put together an outstanding faculty, including members of The Agape Ringers and Velocity. Our Area is very fortunate to have outstanding performing groups and a cadre of superb teachers. Groups that I have taken to festivals over the last 30 years have learned so much from the classes! They hear different words, or at least from different teachers and assimilate information in a different way than in regular rehearsals! Even after directing and ringing bells for more than 30 years, I **will** learn something new in the classes at festival.

Will you join me in learning something "new" from those classes?

The early bird deadline is approaching very soon! We want you to learn as much as is possible about handbell ringing and artistry by attending the classes at the Missouri River Ring Festival in St. Charles, Missouri, from June 20-23, 2012.

Dolan Bayless ~ Area 8 Chair

Sneak Peak: Faculty

Kim Ahlgrim-Heine	Mike Allen	Dolan Bayless
Travis Bonczkowski	Janet Carter	SuAnn Comfort
KC Congdon	Cherryl Cox	Lauran Delancy
Patrick Gagnon	Joel Gingrich	P.L. Grove
Nick Hansen	Kathy Harrison	Karen Johnson
Kristin Kalitowski-Kowal	Karl Kay	Marilyn Lake
Kathy Leonard	Linda Lunt	Kurt Mockenhaupt
Kristin Paul	Debbie Perisho	Natalie Radcliffe
Michael Raposo	Darren Reynolds	Ed Rollins
Sharon Schmidt	Jeannine Schwartz	Carolyn Sizemore
Andrew Volk	Sarah Ward	David L. Weck

www.area8iii.org



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		Webmaster	Wendi Calkins-Levitt Webmaster@Area8.handbellmusicians.org



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Pre-Conference Director's Track

I often hear from handbell directors who are challenged by the unique issues associated with leading a group of ringers. If that sounds familiar, you or your director should consider attending the Area 8 pre-conference director's track at the June 2012 **Missouri River Ring** in St. Charles, MO.

We'll have four hours to cover five topics:

- Selecting Music & the Level System
- Resources for Skill Building
- Handbell Assignment Methods
- Recruiting, Retention & Motivation
- Rehearsal Techniques

Sessions will be lead by members of your Area 8 Board in a combination of classroom, hands-on ringing and round table discussion.

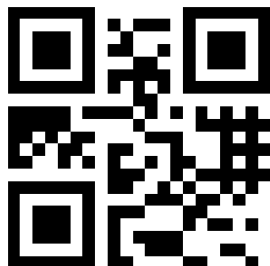
These specific topics were selected to focus on key areas that will allow ringers and directors to have positive, musical and successful experiences. Participants will learn from the experienced directors leading the sessions, as well as each other. Of course, there are various other topics that could be covered and many of those will be covered in the main conference class offerings.

This track should address the needs of directors of varied experience levels, including those who are just thinking about becoming a director, directors new to handbells, or ringers who advise their directors on bell techniques and music selection.

Schedule & Cost: The track will run 7-9 pm on Wednesday, June 20 and continue on Thursday morning, June 21 from 8-10 am and costs \$75 in addition to your festival registration fee. You'll be finished in time for the opening bell and the Young Ringers Concert.

The registration form can be found at this link: www.areaviii.org/Festival_Information/festival_information.htm.

Sharon Schmidt ~ Illinois State Chair



The Raleigh Ringers

David M. Harris, Director

8516 Sleepy Creek Drive • Raleigh, NC 27613

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A community handbell choir

www.il-aggether.org



Fundraising

www.agehria.org

Money makes the world go round! Every note that we ring follows some sort of monetary exchange. We can count the dollars it took to purchase or rent our instruments. We can easily count the money it took to purchase the music we ring. We add our event registration fees to our travel and housing costs and come up with some staggering numbers. Whether we pay for these things ourselves or whether we rely on the generosity of others, handbell musicians are constantly involved with **fundraising**.

The first and most important piece of advice I can give about fundraising is that you must believe without any doubt in what you are doing. I love handbells/handchimes and I love teaching young people to become more tuneful, rhythmic, creative, coordinated, reflective and mature. I can speak and write at great length (as you know) about these things, and about the *value* of these things. This has allowed me, in several different districts, to get grant money for the purchase of handchimes and curricular materials for use in my classroom.

Residents of Iowa are fortunate to have Community Endowment Foundations. You can visit www.iowacommunityfoundations.org and learn more about grants awarded locally in many areas, including *Arts & Culture* and *Education*. Even if your region does not have a state-wide program like that found in Iowa, certainly your local business association or local sorority or fraternity would have funds available for your purpose of purchasing new instruments and music.

The job of fundraising becomes a bit more difficult when we move into the realm of festival attendance. Here we are paying for travel, housing and registration fees and grants are generally not a source for those monies. Here we need to be more creative. Here, however, the same belief in the *value* of our activities is crucial to fundraising success.

Many of us are involved with handbells through our religious organizations. There may be a source of funding available to you through your synod,

other regional group, or even in your local church. There are also financial organizations with religious affiliations that may provide funding for "special projects," which could include "congregational life" activities like the handbell choir hosting a special event and then going to festival. One choir I directed in an ELCA Church raised the funds to purchase 5-octaves of chimes, more tables and foam and a couple of 4th and 5th octave bells by hosting a "chocolate dessert bar/handbell petting zoo/mini-concert" event, where congregation members could pledge toward our "buy a chime" program. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans matched 100% of the funds raised at the local church event which put us over the top and allowed us to purchase lots of new ringing equipment.

An internet search for "handbells fundraising" brought me to one of our Handbell Musicians of America area sites. Area 2 (NY, NJ, PA and Ontario) has a dedicated page for fundraising ideas. They list both the good and the bad! The good include food sales, sale of items and services. The bad include magazine sales, church cookbook sales and bake sales. It seems that the increased specificity yielded better fundraising results in each suggestion. <http://area2agehr.org/resources/fundraising.shtml>.

Perhaps your funding needs are taken care of by your church's memorial fund. Perhaps you have a generous member in your handbell organization that is able to finance your group. Perhaps your Powerball investment was a lucky one. If this is not the case, you will be forever involved in fundraising and constantly creating and recreating ideas for finding funds for your group. These suggestions and those found on the Area 2 website are a few for you to consider.

Sometimes I have found that simply telling people about your need is the most effective fundraising technique. **Know** what you need. **Tell** people about the need. **Believe** in the importance of what you are doing. **Unite** people through a musical art.

Patrick Gagnon ~ Acting Iowa Chair



Sneak Peak: Classes

There will be a wide variety of classes offered at the Area 8 Festival this summer. Over the course of three days, attendees will have the opportunity to attend more than fifty different classes offered during eleven class sessions.

Whether you are interested in improving your technique, learning a new skill, connecting with other ringers, finding resources, or just plain having fun, there are classes for you! Our class selections will be beneficial and interesting whether you are coming from a church background, an educational perspective, or a community group. There will be classes for all skill levels: Beginning Bells, Be a Better Ringer, Advanced Bass Bells; as well as technique classes: Bell Trees, Shelley, Bass Bells; and even non-bell classes: Rhythm Games, Maori Sticks. There will also be class sessions on practical matters like Fundraising, Publicity and Recording Considerations. Members of The Agape Ringers and Velocity will be among the teachers offering their knowledge and expertise. Watch for a full list of classes and descriptions to be posted on our website soon.

This year, we are adding an Unpublished Music Reading Session to the list of opportunities. This will be a fun open reading session for composers who are wanting to bring an unpublished original composition or arrangement to be sight-read on bells and for others who just want to listen or who are looking for another opportunity to ring. Composers will be asked to submit a copy in advance and to help read through others' work at the festival. More information and instructions about submitting a piece for this session will be available on the website soon. If you have questions or a work that you would like to have considered for this session, please contact me at education@area8.handbellmusicians.org. We look forward to hearing the "world premier" of some new handbell pieces!

Lauran Delancy ~ Education Chair

4-in-Hand	Composing, Arranging & Publishing	Recording Considerations
7 P's	Concert Programming	Rehearsal Techniques
Advanced Bass Bells	Conducting 101	Rhythm Drills & Resources
Advanced Ensemble Ringing	Creative Assignments	Rhythm Games
Advanced Solo Ringing	Drumline Diversions	RT: Community Groups
Assessing Ringer's Skills	Ensemble ABCs	RT: Directors
Assignments and Levels	From C-C (Toolkit for C5-C7)	RT: Inclusive Ringing
Basic Music Theory	Fundraising	Score Study
Bass Bells	Information Session on The Guild	Shelley I & II
Be a Better Ringer	Healthy Ringing	Small Ensemble Repertoire
Beginning Bells	How to Plan a Tour	Stem Direction Does Count
Beginning Solo/Ensemble Ringing	Intermediate Bells	Stopped Sounds
Bell Trees	Kitchekapoom!	Tips for Sightreading
Bells in Worship	Maintenance 101	Touring with Youth
Beyond Beginning	Maori Sticks I & II	Weaving
Change Ringing	Problem Solving	When Left is Right
Chimes	Publicity	Working with Young Ringers
Chimes in Education	Reading Sessions	World Drumming

www.agaperingers.org



Touring with Youth

www.agehr-mo.org

If you would like to build enthusiasm and loyalty in your choir while increasing their confidence and musicianship, consider taking them on tour. Having the goal of a tour at the end of the year can increase the focus and commitment of your ringers throughout the year.

When planning a trip with youth, you will have a lot of decisions to make. Several months ahead, determine the destination and approximate route. Make your contacts early to schedule the locations for your performances—evening concerts in churches, day programs in nursing or retirement homes, Sunday morning worship services, programs for summer camps or day care facilities, ringing at historic sites or tourist attractions—the possibilities are endless. Have the arrangements and contact information for each location spelled out in detail.

How will you travel? By bus, van, cars, air flight? Plan how many chaperones you need for the number of youth. Assign an adult with several youth for each work crew needed, i.e., loading, program setup, food crew, church cleanup, etc. Plan the number of drivers needed for the vehicles and be sure they have the required CDL or commercial licenses. Use AAA or Google maps to determine realistic travel times. Road construction, vehicle breakdowns, or traffic problems can destroy a well-planned itinerary. Allow appropriate time for setup and rehearsal before each performance. What opportunities for sightseeing and recreation are there on your route? What cost does that add?

What housing arrangements will you use? Will you stay in homes at each location, stay in hotels, or take sleeping bags and stay in the church? Staying in the church allows you to be in control of the youth at all times, permits wonderful group devotional opportunities in the evening and makes morning departure times easier to control. What are your plans for meals? Will the host church provide dinner and/or breakfast? Will there be fast food or meals out? Will you plan to take much of your food in coolers and prepare some of your own meals or picnic lunches along the way? If your group is very large, eating out becomes prohibitive both in time and money.

Once you have determined housing, meals, travel arrangements and sightseeing plans, put together your budget. How will this be financed? Will your ringers each pay their share or any part of the cost? How much fundraising will be necessary? Will the church budget or other funds help support your tour? How much time do you have to prepare?

What will be the nature of your musical presentation? Will it be a handbell concert or a worship service? Will there be added elements—vocal opportunities, readings, dramatic presentations, prayers? How will your group be costumed? You will find that when you are performing one or more times a day for a week to ten days, your group will mature amazingly in a short period. Each performance makes them more confident. The more they can get their heads out of the music, the more the conductor can do with the music.

Even though planning and executing a tour with youth can be daunting, traveling with your musicians offers spiritual, social, musical and sightseeing experiences that provide memories for a lifetime.

Suanne Comfort ~ Missouri State Chair



Sneak Peak: Feature Concerts

Among all of the wonderful activities that can be enjoyed at a large handbell festival, one of the most exciting experiences one can have while attending the upcoming Area 8 Missouri River Ring Festival this summer in St. Charles, MO., is the opportunity to learn from and be entertained by some professional handbell ensembles.

This year, our featured concerts will be presented by the Velocity Handbell Ensemble with P.L. Grove and The Agape Ringers led by David Weck. Both events should be treats for not only our ears, but our eyes as well. Today's top level handbell choirs continually strive to not only master the music but include in their performances humor, choreography and eye-popping visuals that transform a normal concert piece into a total experience for the senses. This year will be no exception considering the two featured choirs we will have performing for us!

The Velocity Handbell Ensemble, www.velocitybells.org, started in 2001 and comes to us from San Francisco, California. Velocity is a community handbell ensemble dedicated to moving the artistry of handbells towards musical excellence and a truly superb level of performance. A Velocity concert is considered more than just a typical concert experience. Their combination of humor, scripted choreography and masterful quartet ringing, makes their "concept concerts" much more than a concert...they are truly an experience one should not miss. Their performances are both compelling and entertaining and will leave you in a state of amazement as you marvel at the musicianship and the ability of four ringers to play up to 5-octaves of bells. They are most proud of the fact that their music is music that "moves!" My guess is that as we partake in their concert, they will have the audience "moving" as well! And that is always a good thing!

www.youtube.com/watch?v=OaOSqkYX3FQ&NR=1&feature=endscreen

Our second featured concert will be a wonderful evening of entertainment led by Area 8's own The Agape Ringers . . . www.agaperingers.org under the direction of Mr. David Weck. We are particularly pleased to have them back for a featured concert as it will be their first in 12 years at an Area 8 event. The Agape Ringers are considered Chicago's premier handbell ensemble, founded by Mr. Weck in 1992 and they have traveled extensively spreading their wonderful handbell artistry, both here and abroad. They have several CD recordings as well as multiple promotional recordings released by Hope Publishing Company. They are also noted for providing workshop educational opportunities. Currently they have 15 ringers who display their musical skills on 203 bronze handbells and 73 handchimes as they entertain at various events around the world. [Http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5qkI9FkYjlo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5qkI9FkYjlo). In addition, they will be presenting a public debut of a commissioned piece in memory of Past Guild President, Mary Kettelhut. Again, this will be a concert for the ages as we will be enchanted by the skills and musicianship on display during their concert.

Please make plans to attend both of these excellent concerts and see what you might glean from watching the pros. We often can pick up things through observation that we can take home and adopt to make our choirs better both musically and to improve our performance/entertainment skills.

We may not be able to play as superbly as Velocity and Agape, but as long as we keep getting better, we will all benefit; the ringers, the directors and also our audiences and isn't that the name of the game? Sharing our passion!

Enjoy the winter, but let's all hope it goes fast and we can look forward to seeing everyone this June, in St. Charles, Missouri.

Michael Allen ~ Nebraska State Chair

www.agaperingers.org



2012 Festival Rehearsal Notes

Please contact me if you have any questions.

P.L. Grove ~ plgrove@jps.net

MASSED

BWANA ASIFIWE!, Cathy Moglebust

- There are very distinctive parts to the “A” portion of this piece – you can identify them as either two or three parts. The treble melody is very clear when it enters for the first time at ms. 17. The other part(s) resides in the accompaniment and can either be considered as one accompaniment part, or a bass (stems down bass) and a “middle” accompaniment (stems down treble and stems up bass, for the most part).

A Section (main theme): mm. 1-52; 61-68; 89-118

- If you play the bass, please use mallets.
- If you play the “middle” accompaniment part, please put a slight emphasis on the AND of beat 1 for the odd-numbered measures. This should create an Oom-PAH effect. (Note that is Oom-PAH, not OOM-Pah – emphasis on PAH, not on Oom. That would be like the Oom-Pah that is sung by the Oompa Loompas in Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. Sorry, Willie, but there are no Oompa Loompas in this song!)
- If you play the melody or any variation thereof (mm. 45-52; mm. 61-68), you are the *singer* in this piece. All of your notes should be lyrical and should carry out over the top of all of the accompaniment. It is your job to make your notes sound both loud enough for the listeners to know for *sure* that you are the melody (think **Diva!**), but lyrically beautiful enough so as to *sing* (not pound or whack as percussion instruments tend to do).

B Section (second theme): mm.53-60; 77-88; 119-end

- Now you are allowed to be percussive – obviously. However, do **not** pound the marts in mm. 53-60. These are just the “introduction” to the “B” section. Think of it this way: you’ve been going along singing the song and everything’s been fine. Now you decide to try something new: perhaps you shouldn’t be completely **bold** about it until you know it works. That’s the dynamic level/feeling we want here.
- Ms. 60 decrescendo back down to *mf* in the bass and middle bass. The top can stay loud (but lyrical!).
- Ms. 77 Now you can whack away! Have at it! Make it **huge** through ms. 88. This should sound like it’s a completely different song! You tested the waters with this “B” section at mm. 53-60 and you know it will work, so now you’re having a party! However, **caution**: The party cannot go too fast! There’s always a tendency to rush when we get excited (and when playing stopped sounds.) *Please don’t rush this section.*
- Change the dynamic marking at ms. 89 to *mf*.
- If the dynamic level at ms. 109 increases to *f* in the accompaniment, the treble needs to be even louder. Careful treble, still keep it lyrical. Don’t ever stop singing!
- Consider mm. 117-118 as an echo. Play this as softly as you possibly can. Everyone needs to contribute to the softness—even the bass mallets.
- Mm. 119 to the end should be played the same as ms. 77, etc.

(Continued on page 10)



2012 Festival Rehearsal Notes

(Continued from page 9)

GOLD (LEVEL 3-4)

FOUNTAINHEAD, Donald Allured

- Please take special note of (and over-exaggerate) all of the dynamic markings in mm. 1-4.
- Change the dynamic marking at ms. 5 to *pp*.
- Slight *ritard* in ms. 6, beat 4.
- Ms. 7 should be *p*. Ms. 9 should be *mp*. Ms. 11 should be *mf*. Ms. 12-13 should be *f* (and all the varying shades of crescendo in between, please.)
- Note the accelerando doesn't start until ms. 9.
- Note the *ritard* and diminuendo in ms. 14.
- Note that the previous two rehearsal notes mean you must **know the music** so you can **watch the director**.
- Do not start ms. 17 without me!
- Ms. 18, melody *lean* into beat 4 (i.e., beat 4 should be the loudest portion of the phrase, but don't "whack" it – I call this "stroke" vs. "strike" of the bell). Same with all similar phrases in the piece.
- Ms. 21 has a crescendo to *mf*. Please crescendo to *f* in order to make it really effective (bass notes are generally softer, so they need more).
- Pull way back at the downbeat of ms. 22.
- The crescendo in ms. 27 is mostly for bass and stems down treble. While the stems up treble 16th notes can help *slightly*, they need not *whack away*. Keep the 16th notes light and airy as they should almost always be. The loudest point in the phrase is beat 3 of ms. 27.
- As light and airy as the trebles are on the 16th notes in mm. 26-28, the battery bells need to continue and be even lighter when they enter with their 16th note pattern. Make sure the 16th notes *flow* from the treble section to the battery and don't get *stuck*.
- Ms. 29 start the crescendo shown in ms. 30 back in ms. 29.
- Ms. 30 should be *mf*.
- Ms. 34 stay at *pp* through ms. 35.
- Ms. 38 start beat 1 at *p*. Crescendo to *f* on downbeat of ms. 39, then diminuendo and *ritard* as noted in ms. 39.
- *Tenuto* in ms. 39 will not be long. Think of it as hanging at the top of a cliff before falling over.
- Ms. 45 start shake behind/below the table and bring up in the air as you crescendo.
- Mm. 42-43 and 46-47 No backing off of the *ff*! Every note needs to remain extremely loud and incredibly intense!
- Ms. 50 start *pp* and crescendo to the end (ms. 51 is *p*, ms. 52 is *mp* and accelerando, ms. 53 is *mp*, ms. 54 is *f*, ms. 55 is *ff*.)
- Ms. 54 watch the director for every note/beat in this measure!
- Ms. 55 watch the director for every note/beat in this measure!

CARILLON FESTIVA, Cathy Moglebust

- Ms. 1 desired tempo is 100.
- Ms. 1 is *pp*, ms. 3 is *p*, ms. 5 is *mp*, ms. 7 is *mp*, ms. 9 is *f* (and all the varying shades of crescendo in between).
- Mm. 12-33 in general, bring the dynamics up when the treble melody goes up the scale and bring the dynamics down when the treble melody goes down the scale.
- Make sure LVs are held only until the next LV marking (unless your note is in the next chord).

(Continued on page 11)



2012 Festival Rehearsal Notes

(Continued from page 10)

- For ms. 17 and following:
 - Bass players take note of the swinging down on beat 2 and up on beat 3. Use beat 4 as a preparatory beat before striking the downbeat of the next measure.
- If you play *on* the beat in mm. 39, 40 and 41, please watch. You are responsible for ensuring the group *ritards* at the director's tempo.
- Ms. 42 do not play without looking up.
- Mm. 43-46 is marked "decisive," but it also needs to be *precise*. **All** ringers are strongly encouraged to memorize these measures so they can have eyes glued to the director to ensure notes and chords are clean and together. Also, I would like to take this section no slower than 102 (but we need a contrast from the "A" section, so 112 would be awesome!)
- Ms. 46 *crescendo* to ms. 47.
- Ms. 47 *diminuendo* to *mp* at ms. 48.
- Ms. 47 and following: I prefer plucks, but again, the tempo and rhythms need to be precise. If we are experiencing difficulty plucking this section at tempo, we *may* need to switch to mallets. Try plucking first please (and practice plucking fast and clean). Also, make sure the treble melody can be heard over the bass plucks. This means the bass needs to be softer (not the treble louder).
- Ms. 51 *crescendo* beats 3 and 4, then *subito mp* again (bass) at ms. 52.
- If you are able, I would like to switch to mallets at ms. 56 (to the end) for all staccato/dot markings (although I reserve the right to change my mind).
- Ms. 60 *crescendo* beats 3 and 4, then pull back again at ms. 61.
- **All** marts should be mellow (i.e., soft) except when in the middle of a *crescendo* (mm. 46, 51, 60, etc.)
- Ms. 65 treble should be no louder than *mf* for this whole page. Bass clef should be *f* and stems up melody in the bass should be *fff*.
- I would like to try adding a 2-beat "all stop" (caesura) at the end of ms. 72 before going on to ms. 73. (Again, I reserve the right to change my mind.)
- Ms. 76 *crescendo* beats 3 and 4.
- Ms. 80 *crescendo* through the end of the measure.
- Mm. 81-84 should be played the same as mm. 43-46.
- Please adhere to all of the markings at ms. 88 in order to get the desired effect.
- Swings, again, use beat 4 as the prep beat.
- Ms. 104 to end—again, if you play *on* the beat, watch!
- On page 13, everyone should have long, extended arms – no punchy motions on this page.

Vendors

Exhibit space is still available for the Missouri River Ring, June 21-23, at the St. Charles Convention Center. Vendors have a premium opportunity to showcase their products and services to handbell enthusiasts from a five-state area.

Whether a music publisher or equipment supplier, gift store or service provider, exhibitors always find appreciative and loyal patrons at an Area 8 conference. There is plenty of time in the conference schedule for shopping.

If you are interested in exhibit space at the Area 8 conference, contact Kathy Harrison at resourcelibrarian@area8.handbellmusicians.org or 918.261.4102. We'll send you the details for space and pricing. We look forward to seeing you in St. Charles this summer.



2012 Candidate Bios

SECRETARY of Area 8:

Kathy Leonard is currently serving Area 8 as Membership Chair and is past-Kansas Chair (2007-2010) and member of the Topeka 2010 Festival Planning Committee. Kathy started ringing bells in 1990 and began directing the children/youth bells and adult beginning bells at 1st United Methodist Church in Manhattan, Kansas, in 2007, where she continues ringing with Allegro Ringers and singing in the Morning Glory Choir. A Music Education (Choral Concentration) graduate of Bethany College, she is also an active member of her local P.E.O. Chapter (where she has served all offices—twice as secretary and president) and is a lifetime member of Sigma Alpha Iota. Days are spent working as an IT Licensing Specialist for K-State's Information Technology Services.

Stephen Swanson has been studying music since he was in 4th grade when he began playing the saxophone. He has been ringing for over 15 years, but in some respects he has a newcomer's view of the handbell world. In 2008, he was asked to conduct and lead his church's handbell choir. Since taking on this position, he has challenged his ringers, improved the group's musicianship, increased members, purchased a five-octave set of chimes, started a second ensemble and coached duets and ensembles. He also has dreams to start a community ensemble in the Quad City area. Steve is a CPA for a local accounting firm in Davenport, IA and would be honored to serve Area 8 in any capacity he can help be effective to promote excellence for our art. He lives in Moline, IL.

TREASURER of Area 8:

Kristin Kalitowski-Kowal is currently Treasurer of Area 8. She serves as Missouri River Ring Registrar. She previously served Area 8 as Illinois Chair and equipment loan coordinator for the festival in Peoria. She is also the current Illinois Registrar. Kristin caught the handbell bug early, began ringing at Santa Maria in Mundelein, IL and went off to college to be manager and sectional leader in Purdue Bells. When not ringing, she studied civil engineering, working now as a project engineer, preparing plans and cost estimates for road projects. For four years Kristin acted as President of The Agape Ringers. She has taught classes at private and Guild sponsored workshops, as well as Area 2, 8 and 10 Festivals. Sunday mornings she directs Glory Ringers, a junior/senior high choir, at Gary UMC in Wheaton, IL.

Burnell L. Hackman has served as Director of Music Ministry at St. John's Lutheran Church in Arnold, MO, since November 2000 where he directs a multi-faceted music program. In August 2010 he was also appointed Director of the St. Louis Archdiocesan Handbell Choir. His handbell ensembles have provided worship leadership on six occasions for Handbell Musicians of America (AGEHR) Area 8 Conferences and had the honor of leading a worship service for the AGEHR National Directors Seminar at the Basilica of St. Louis, King of France (the Old Cathedral) in 1995. He has served Area 8 as Treasurer from 1992–1996 and Chair from 2002-2004. He was awarded the Outstanding Service Award from Area 8 in 2000. Hackman is a member of the American Guild of Organists, Association of Lutheran Musicians, American Choral Directors Association, Handbell Musicians of America, the Committee on the Creative Arts of Arnold and Handbell Association of Greater St. Louis, of which he is Chairman.

CHAIR-ELECT of Area 8:

Area 8 has been in a unique situation for the last year or so: Our esteemed Chair, Ed Rollins, was asked to run for President-Elect for the Handbell Musicians of America. In fact, he won that election and per our By Laws, we held an election at mid-term to fulfill the office of Chair-Elect for Area 8. Our current Chair is Dolan Bayless (who will serve the Area for 3 years in this capacity) and our Chair-Elect is Patrick Gagnon (who will also serve 3 years in this position). Our Slate of Officers, whose bios you will find in this issue, consist of only the offices of Secretary and Treasurer of Area 8. The vote will take place in July 2012. You will receive ballots by U.S. Mail following the festival in St. Charles. I hope you will take the time to meet our candidates!

Respectfully submitted, the Nominating Committee of Area 8: Debbie Llewellyn, Marilyn Wilgocki and Marilyn Lake, Chair



Sneak Peak: Festival Schedule

Subject to change

Wednesday, June 20

10:00a-1:00p YR Registration/Set-up
 1:00p YR Opening Bell
 2:00-4:45p YR Rehearsal/Classes
 6:00-9:00p YR at Fun Town
 6:00-9:00p Registration/Set-Up
 7:00-9:00p Pre-Conf Dir Track

Thursday, June 21

7:00-10:00a Registration/Set-Up
 8:00-10:00a YR Rehearsal
 Pre-Conf Dir Track
 9:00-10:00a Reading Session
 10:30 Opening Bell
 YR Concert
 11:15-Noon Mass Rehearsal
 12:30-1:15p Bronze Rehearsal
 Box Lunch
 1:00-1:15p Bronze Box Lunch
 1:30-2:30p Tins Rehearsal
 Show Me Rehearsal
 Class Session A
 2:45-3:45p Silver Rehearsal
 Show Me Rehearsal
 Class Session B
 Atrium Concert
 4:00-5:00p Gold Rehearsal
 Class Session C
 5:15-6:15p Mass Rehearsal
 6:45p Banquet
 8:00p Velocity Concert

Friday, June 22

7:00-7:45a Reading Session
 7:30-9:00a Director's Breakfast/Mtg
 8:00-9:00a Mass Rehearsal
 9:15-10:15a Bronze Rehearsal
 Class Session D
 Atrium Concert
 10:30-11:30a Gold Rehearsal
 Class Session E
 11:30a Box Lunch
 Noon-1:00a Atrium Concert
 1:15-2:15a Silver Rehearsal
 Show Me Rehearsal
 Class Session F

2:30-3:30p

Tins Rehearsal
 Show Me Rehearsal
 Class Session G
 Atrium Concert
 3:45-5:30p Mass Rehearsal
 5:30-8:00p Dinner on own
 8:00p The Agape Ringers
 Concert
 10:00p Unpub Reading Session

Saturday, June 23

7:00-7:45a Reading Session
 Show Me Rehearsal
 8:00-9:00a Tins Rehearsal
 Show Me Rehearsal
 Class Session H
 9:15-10:15a Silver Rehearsal
 Class Session I
 Atrium Concert
 10:30-11:30a Worship
 11:30-1:00p Lunch on Own
 1:00-1:45p Show Me Concert
 2:00-3:00p Gold Rehearsal
 Class Session J
 3:15-4:15p Bronze Rehearsal
 Class Session K
 Mass Rehearsal
 4:30-6:00p Box Dinner
 6:00-6:45p Closing Concert
 7:00p Reception
 9:30-11:00p





2012 Show Me Ensemble

The Show Me Ensemble track at the Area 8 Festival is for those ringers and directors who want more ringing experience and desire the challenge of some advanced music under another conductor. This was the Ad Astra track in Topeka. This extra ringing track has been created for 36 ringers who would like to spend six additional rehearsal hours in preparation of five additional pieces to be performed during a concert on Saturday, June 23, directed by P.L. Grove, one of our massed conductors. The rehearsals will be held during the regular class session times for Missouri River Ring, on June 21, 22 and 23. Registrants are expected to attend every rehearsal time of the Show Me Ensemble during the festival.

If interested in participating in this ensemble ringing track, please go to the Area 8 website, click on Festival Information and the application and repertoire are there. Notification of acceptance will occur by the early bird deadline for Missouri River Ring April 15. Each selected applicant must purchase and rehearse the music selections prior to the festival.

Consider taking advantage of this opportunity to study some fine repertoire under a delightful conductor.



www.bellsinmotion.org

Bells in Motion, a well established Community/Professional Handbell Ensemble based in Springfield, IL, is now accepting applications for Music Director effective August 2012.

Interested candidates will forward letter of interest and current resume including Handbell/Directing experience to: Bells In Motion, PO Box 9791, Springfield, IL 62791-9791 or submit by email to, Resumes@bellsinmotion.org. **Deadline for submissions: March 31, 2012.**

For more information see our web site, www.bellsinmotion.org or contact one of the following: Pam Wall (plwall2010@yahoo.com), Jean Welch (Jrwelch53@msn.com); or Gail Joslin (josling2355@comcast.net).

Youth Directors

Handbell directors working with children and youth in churches, could you please take 10 minutes and complete a survey? Results will be reflected in my final paper, required for the Master of Church Music degree at Concordia University Wisconsin. Questions? Please contact me (bethannedwards@msn.com; [515.490.9408](tel:515.490.9408)). Thanks! To access the survey, please go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/8T3S3R8>. Beth Anne Edwards



Upcoming Concerts

2012	CONCERT	LOCATION	CONTACT
Mar 11 4:00p	The Agape Ringers	Christus Victor Lutheran Church 1045 S Arlington Heights Rd, Elk Grove Village, IL	www.agaperingers.org
Mar 18 3:30p	Handbell Ensembles of Gary UMC	Gary UMC 224 N Main St Wheaton, IL	Sharon Schmidt www.garychurch.org
Apr 15 4:00p	The Agape Ringers	1st Congregational Church 1106 Chestnut Western Springs, IL	www.agaperingers.org
Apr 29 3:00p	Concordia University Handbell Choirs	Concordia University Music Center Recital Hall 800 N Columbia Ave Seward, NE	Jessica Kite Jessica.Kite@cune.edu
May 5 7:00p	Bells in Motion	Wesley UMC 1203 W Green St Urbana, IL	Angi Chase www.bellsinmotion.org
May 6 3:00P	Annual Spring Ring Concert	Manchester UMC 129 Woods Mill Rd Manchester, MO	Sherry Boland bolandse@aol.com
May 6 4:00p	Bells in Motion	Kirkwood UMC 201 W Adams, St Louis, MO	Angi Chase www.bellsinmotion.org
May 6 4:00p	The Agape Ringers	1st UMC 155 S Main St, Lombard, IL	www.agaperingers.org
May 6 6:00p	Chicago Bronze	Immanuel Lutheran Church 1225 E 2nd St, Belvidere, IL	Martha Swanson www.chicagobronze.com
May 19 7:00p	Spring Ring XX Handbell Concert	1st UMC 1032 Maple Ave Downers Grove, IL	Pattie Barnes bellhog@juno.com
Jun 22 8:00p	The Agape Ringers <i>Area 8 Festival</i>	St Charles Convention Center St Charles, MO	www.area8.org http://areaviii.org/
Jun 23 7:00p	Bells in Motion	1st Presbyterian Church 116 E Franklin, Taylorville, IL	Angi Chase www.bellsinmotion.org
Jun 24 4:00p	Bells in Motion	St John's Lutheran Church 2477 W Washington, Springfield, IL	Angi Chase www.bellsinmotion.org
Jun 25 7:00p	The Agape Ringers	St Mark's UMC 6422 Sante Fe Dr, Overland Park, KS	www.agaperingers.org
Jun 26 7:00p	The Agape Ringers	St Paul's Lutheran Church 13271 Millard Ave, Omaha, NE	www.agaperingers.org



Upcoming Events

2012	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
Mar 3	Ring in the Spring Lloyd Larson, Marci Larson, Pat Latshaw	UMC of the Resurrection 13720 Roe Ave Leawood, KS	Gwen Gepford www.cor.org/handbells/ringinthespring
Mar 3	Handbells, Handbells Illinois Ringer's Workshop	Barrington UMC 98 Algonquin Rd Barrington, IL	www.il-agehr.org
Apr 21 9a-3:15p	Iowa Director's Workshop	St John's Lutheran Church Ely, IA	www.agehr-ia.org
Apr 21	Iowa Ringers' Workshop	Wilson Performing Arts Center Red Oak, IA	www.agehr-ia.org
Jun 20-23	Area 8 Festival <i>Missouri River Ring</i> P.L. Grove, Nick Hanson, David Weck	St Charles Convention Center St Charles, MO	http://www.areaviii.org/Festival_Information/festival_information.htm
Jul 8-12	Intergenerational Handbell Camp	Heartland Presbyterian Center Parkville, MO	Kipp Willnauer www.handbellcamp.org
Jul 13 9a-3	KC Rings! Reading Session	Heartland Presbyterian Center Parkville, MO	Kipp Willnauer willnauk@gmail.com
Jul 18-21	National Seminar	Duke Energy Convention Center Cincinnati, OH	www.handbellmusicians.org
Jul 31- Aug 4	International Symposium	BT Convention Center and Echo Arena Liverpool, England	http://www.symposium.hrgb.org.uk/

Attendees

Coming to the Missouri River Ring this summer? Be sure to stop and see each of our exhibitors. They're bringing some great handbell products and gifts, the newest music titles and repertoire standards, as well as equipment supplies and services.

Exhibitors will be set up near the massed ringing space, so you won't have to go far to find them. They're eager to meet you and answer your questions about how they can help you with your handbell needs.

We're expecting longtime Area 8 friends Shattering Music, Handbell Services and Jeffers Handbell Supply. We also plan to have newer vendors with unique handbell products and services, along with representatives from handbell manufacturers.

Bring your list; this is a shopping experience you won't want to miss.