



# QUAVERS

AREA VIII: ILLINOIS, IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA  
SEPTEMBER, 2005

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## FESTIVALS & CONFERENCES

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### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

It's time to plan your next summer's handbell events! The most important event is our **AREA VIII 2006 CONFERENCE**.

♪ **THE DATE:** June 29-July 1, 2006.

♪ **THE PLACE:** The Mid-America Conference Center Council Bluffs, Iowa.

♪ **THE DIRECTORS:** David Davidson and Jason Wells.

♪ **THE COST:** Final tabulations are not yet complete, but in your financial planning the early bird registration fee will be in the range of \$225-240 per person. We are working hard to make it as reasonable as possible.

♪ **FEATURES:** Massed ringing, classes, solo concerts, fellowship, fun. Reasonably-priced hotels with free expanded continental breakfasts plus *free parking*.

There will be opportunities for your choir to ring either in the Showcase Concert, which features choirs ringing one piece, or in a Solo Concert setting, which features choirs ringing 30-minute concerts. If you are interested in performing, please contact me.

Please make your plans to attend your own AREA VIII CONFERENCE. You will find it worthwhile, educational, informative and a rewarding event.

Hope to see **YOU** June 29-July 1, 2006 in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

*Marilyn Droke, Area VIII Chair*

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## ELECTED OFFICERS

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### *Chair*

**Marilyn Droke**  
College of the Ozarks  
Point Lookout, MO 65726  
417.334.6411  
ddroke@cox-internet.com

### *Chair-Elect*

**Debbie Llewellyn**  
3643 Cleveland  
Brookfield, IL 60513  
708.387.0858 (H)  
708.352.2565 (W)  
Dal60525@sbcglobal.net

### *Secretary*

**Cheryl Abney**  
417.886.6892  
cabney8762@  
worldnet.att.net

### *Treasurer*

**Mike Lamb**  
RR1 Box 313A  
Petersburg, IL 62675  
217.632.3153 (H)  
217.899.2128 (cell)  
mikeL3153@earthlink.net

### *Past Chair*

**Burnell Hackman**  
3517 Jeffco Blvd.  
Arnold, MO 63010  
636.464.0096 (W)  
636.464.8645 (F)  
burnell@bhackman.com

### *Website*

**www.areaviii.org**




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ILLINOIS  
STATE  
COMMITTEE

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*Chair*

**Kim Congdon**

207 S Pine St  
Lexington, IL 61753  
309.365.2910  
lm2bz2p@gmail.com

*Secretary*

**Beth McFarland**

bethmcfarland@  
ureach.com

*Treasurer*

**Sharon Schmidt**

skschmidt@  
wideopenwest.com

*Chimes*

**Diane Oster**

doster@msn.com

*Food*

**Anna Pugsley**

annadesign@ameritech.net

*Handbell Services*

**Debi Robey**

debi@wideopenwest.com

*Logistics*

**Dan McFarland**

dan@afinityimports.com

*Webmaster*

**Gary Dietschweiler**

garydgss@hotmail.com

*Website*

**www.il-agehr.org**

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## FUNDRAISING & FESTIVAL TIDBITS

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**Pocket Change Sunday** by Diane Oster. In the closing comments of the liturgy, the worship leader tells the congregation that they will encounter some 'street musicians' as they are dismissed – a quartet of ringers from the bell program who are raising funds for their ministry. As we play, we have two open and empty handbell cases at our feet for passers-by to throw in their "pocket change" and/or bills of various denominations (we hope large ones). Yes, I do put in *seed money*, which is returned to me ceremoniously after the event. The quartet-of-the-hour (we use two quartets) rehearses for about 40 minutes in a separate and quiet location and comes into position during the last hymn and we play for about 20 minutes.

We have been able to purchase a case of handchimes, a case of baby bells and one of our lower bass bells this way. I also submit a bulletin article for that weekend to briefly tell the specific item we're fundraising for and invite those who want to give at a later time the opportunity and directions for doing so. It is probably a wise thing that I schedule myself to be the extra ringer because my eyes get all misty at the generosity of my fellow parishioners – from the preschoolers shaking out the contents of their little coin purses to the elderly bachelor peeling off a \$20.

**Fundraising for Fun & Profit** by Anderson is available through our Area VIII resource library or for purchase through [www.agehr.org/store](http://www.agehr.org/store). One of the cutest ideas I saw was a *bell telegram*. The author has arranged an easy plan for transportation and for learning the music. These *telegrams* are delivered to anyone for all occasions: shut-ins, Valentines' day, birthdays, anniversaries, Veteran's day, etc. After learning the author's system, you can use any sort of music to brighten someone's day.

**How do you prepare for a festival?** Diane has the luxury of a large living room and invited the group over to her house to introduce them to the music and for a potluck lunch. They spent about 90 minutes working their way through each song. She said that once, she didn't have time for the potluck so she used their normal rehearsal time to learn the music. Boy! Did she ever hear the complaints! She didn't realize what an impact that potluck had on her people.

**Why is it important to attend a festival?** Choirs need to observe things outside their own little world as this will help stretch them. They will see other concert attire, they will hear other choirs perform, and they will learn new and different things. As my father once told me, "you can learn what *to do* as well as what *not to do*." You, as the director, also get to see other ways to communicate with ringers...some ways that work as well as some ways that don't. Observation is a great learning tool.

So, whether it be a local, state, area or national festival, you should at least try it once!

*KC ~ Illinois State Chair*



## KANSAS STATE COMMITTEE

### Chair

**Marilyn Lake**  
142 Terrace Trail S  
Lake Quivira, KS 66217  
913.962.4005  
Lqrngldr@kc.rr.com

### Past Chair

**Eunice Tarum**  
Tarum@mpks.net

### Treasurer

### Open

### Chimes

**Margaret Burnette**  
Msburnette@sbcglobal.net

### Workshop

**Julie Glaum**  
Tglaum@agris.com

**Brenda Heard**  
Brenda@ehumc.org

### Website

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

Congratulations to Mrs. Theresa Walker at Cheney Elementary School in KS. She is the newest recipient of the Kansas Handchime Program for the 2005-2006 school year. She has seen bells and chimes before and is excited to try the chimes as a new teaching aid for her classroom. Theresa was happy to know that chimes are user friendly and can be used by anyone.

If you would like to be a part of this exciting opportunity next year, please contact the Chime Chair listed above.

## WHY SHOULD YOU ATTEND?

Wanna ring some bells? *You'll get to do that.*

Wanna shop for gifts items? *You can do that as well.*

Wanna perform REALLY big numbers with LOTS and LOTS of other ringers? *Yep...you got it...you will have that opportunity.*

BUT...do you REALLY want to know WHY you should go to Festivals?

Drum roll, please.

**You go to Festivals for the FELLOWSHIP.** Not only the fellowship within your own choirs, but also with other folks who ring in your community. There is just something about bell ringers that makes them friendly, caring, fun-loving and sensitive. It is just the right amount of ringing and playing that makes it the MOST enjoyable experience...the type of activity that keeps you coming back year after year. It is absolutely worth all the schlepping of equipment, worth all the angst of getting the money in and through your church office, worth all the Christmas ornaments/trash bags/spaghetti supper tickets you have to sell. It can really strengthen the ties that bind us all together...and it'll last until you get the information in the mail for NEXT summer's festivals!

But, you say, they NEVER have a festival in my home town! You are not looking very hard. Our own Area VIII hosts a Youth Festival at Camp Windermere (Lake of the Ozarks) every other year, as well as our Area Festival (in Council Bluffs, IA in June, 2006). These are big festivals and are well attended. But each State offers plenty of activities throughout the year for youth, adults, directors, intergenerational groups, overnights, one day, one afternoon...you name it.

These festivals are not just for church choirs, either, many community choirs attend. During the school year there are several youth festivals designed for school groups. Handbells AND chimes are both represented at these festivals. What a GREAT way to meet all those National Music Standards.

There are a few folks you need to contact in Kansas when you are wondering about festivals and workshops:

Julie Glaum, Tglaum@agris.com

Brenda Heard, Brenda@ehumc.org

Kipp Willnauer, willnauk@hotmail.com

Remember...festivals are for fellowship...oh yeah, you also get to ring some bells!

For further updates on ringing activities in your neck of the woods, check out our Kansas website: <http://home.kc.rr.com/kansasarea8>.

I'd LOVE to help you organize a festival/workshop in your hometown!

*Marilyn Lake ~ Kansas State Chair*



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MISSOURI  
STATE  
COMMITTEE

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*Chair*

**Kathy Harrison**  
2377 S Hilton Ave  
Springfield, MO 65807  
417.889.2555  
kathy917@aol.com

*Past Chair*

**Anne Miller**  
AnneMiller\_handbells@  
yahoo.com

*Chimes*

**Ed Rollins**  
Rollins@fbc-columbia.org

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## CHOOSING A FESTIVAL

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Looking through my mail, I have already received several brochures for upcoming handbell festivals. Considering registration fees, music purchases, travel and lodging expenses, not to mention ringers personal schedule conflicts – is it worth the effort and expense to take my ringers to a festival?

**Most definitely, yes!**

I see festivals as great opportunities for my ringers to gain valuable musical experience with other directors. Festival clinicians reinforce concepts and techniques we have been working on, as well as giving us new ideas to take home.

Festivals that include workshops provide my ringers, as well as myself, access to specialists in everything from bass bells to four-in-hand, solo ringing to change ringing, healthy ringing to rhythm games. Encouraging ringers to attend reading sessions will nearly always result in my buying a couple of pieces of music that “we just have to have.”

I try to include festivals in our performance schedule each year, but with so many choices, how do we decide which festivals to attend? Although registration fees and expenses are a consideration, there are other aspects to contemplate.

More and more festivals are being developed for specific age groups or experience levels. I look for festivals appropriate for each of my groups – children’s chime choir, middle school and high school, and adults. These can range from half-day workshops to weekend events. Some festivals are geared for particular levels of experience, while others invite groups with many different levels of skills and abilities.

Distance and duration are factors in selecting a festival as well as expenses for travel, lodging, food and the registration fee. Local, one-day festivals are often the least expensive option, and because they are close to home, more of your group’s friends and supporters may be able to attend the final concert.

I take into account clinicians and repertoire when selecting a festival. A clinician who will add something of value to my ringers’ musical experience, in turn, enriches our total handbell program. The festival repertoire should provide a variety of musical textures and styles to challenge the ringers just enough to make the program exciting.

Look for a festival that will help take your handbell program to the next level. It is an experience you and your ringers will really enjoy.

*Kathy Harrison ~ Missouri State Chair*



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## NEBRASKA STATE COMMITTEE

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### *Chair*

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

### *Secretary*

**Janet Chiocchi**  
janetch@neb.rr.com

### *Treasurer*

**Mary Kettelhut**  
makettel@inetnebr.com

### *Chimes*

**Nancy Youngman**  
nyoungm@lps.org

### *Others*

**Mike Allen**  
jmallen@hamilton.com

**Gaye Schlichting**  
glschlichting@msn.com

**Vicky Vandervort**  
paradox616@aol.com

**Joyce Miller**  
Joyce-Miller@msn.com

**Sarah Strawn**  
figment\_86@hotmail.com

**Angela Wright**  
angela.wright@  
kearneypublic.org

### *Website*

[www.agehr-ne.org](http://www.agehr-ne.org)

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## IMAGINATION IS YOUR ONLY LIMITATION

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For the **Fall Workshop** the state committee members conduct the massed ringing and are the instructors for the classes. Only three classes are held, dealing with basics of course, and all participants attend all classes. This workshop is held in three locations in the state so the groups are smaller and the ringers are able to receive more individualized instruction.

During the same year a nationally-known clinician is hired for the **Spring Workshops** and the format is along the same lines as the Area Conference Festival. The committee chooses the music to be used for the massed ringing and then the committee members are the instructors for the classes. For our most recent workshop we selected two pieces that we asked the participants to learn prior to attending the workshop. The idea behind this was so the clinician would be able to work on musicality instead of just teaching notes. The committee chose the two pieces considering the usability for most choirs and this seemed to work out quite well. The Spring Workshop is usually held in Lincoln because of the locality as well as the availability of a church that has the space to accommodate our ringers. This is a very well attended workshop.

Whether you are in need of funds for traveling to conferences, touring or the purchase of new bells or equipment you are only limited by your imagination. Some of my ideas have been tried by our church and some are still in the "idea" stage.

At Christmas time three churches in Kearney combine and prepare a Vesper Service. A free will offering is collected and split between the choirs. The event rotates from one church to the next each year and the size of the facility dictates how many choirs can be involved.

Another idea I've had for a long time is to host a dinner where the ringers are the entertainment. I envision strolling bells (strings) during the meal and then a concert at the end. You could break your group into smaller units to learn the music for the strolling. If your group traditionally rings for church services only this would be a time to break out of the mold and perform some secular music.

Another idea would be to sell a bell (or partial bell) if you're in need of funds for equipment. Or you could sell a "seat on the bus" if you're in need of conference or tour funds. And of course, there are always the bake sales, car washes, concerts, etc. If you are presenting a concert, consider raffling off a chance to direct the choir on one of their pieces.

A resource that I have in my library, and I know there are lots of resources out there, is *Fund Raising 101* by Silvia Doak Loe. It is published by Kimmel Publications and my edition has a 1993 copyright date.

Think out side the box and use your imagination! There will be no limit to what you will be able to accomplish.

*Natalie Radcliffe ~ Nebraska State Chair*



## AGEHR SPONSORED EVENTS

2005	EVENT	CLINICIAN	LOCATION
Sep 24	Beginners' Workshop	Nebraska State Committee	Omaha / Lincoln / Kearney Contact: Natalie Radcliffe www.agehr-ne.org 308.236.9815
Oct 21-22	Area V Fall 2005 Festival/Conference	Debra Carr	Kentucky International Conference Center Louisville, KY Contact: Skip Sluder 812.332.7323 Sluderc@indiana.edu www.areavagehr.org
Oct 22	Ringers' Workshop Sponsored by the Illinois State Committee	Bells in Motion	St John's Lutheran 2477 W Washington St Springfield, IL Contact: Kim Congdon www.agehr-il.org 309.365.2910
Nov 11-12	Eastern Iowa Children's Handbell & Handchime Festival (with Directors' Seminar)	Shosh Meyer	St Andrew Pres 1300 Melrose Ave Iowa City, IA Matthew Penning 319.338.7523 Matthewp@saintandrew-ic.org

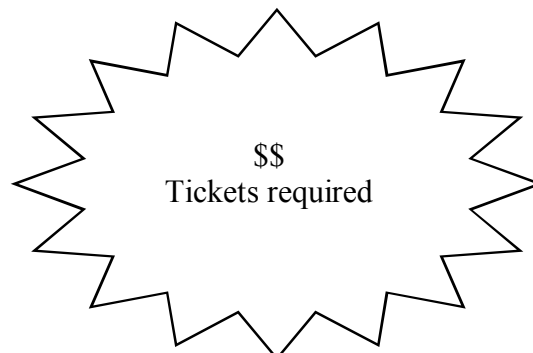
## UPCOMING CONCERTS

2005	CONCERT	LOCATION	CONTACT
Sept 18 3:00p	Psalms, Hymns & Spiritual Songs—A Hymn Festival with Dr. John Behnke	Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 2030 Union Rd St Louis, MO	Jeff White 314.340.0760 (d) 314.846.0568 (e) jwhite@htlutheran.org
Sept 18 4:00p	The Agape Ringers \$\$	Wesley UMC 21 E Franklin Naperville, IL	David Weck 630.665.3200 x 120 www.agaperingers.org
Oct 2 1:45p	Gateway Ringers	Westminster Presbyterian 5300 Delmar Blvd St Louis, MO	Maxine McCormick 314.367.0900



# UPCOMING CONCERTS

2005	CONCERT	LOCATION	CONTACT
Oct 16 3:30p	Chicago Bronze	Southminster Presbyterian 916 E Central Rd Arlington Hts, IL	Phil Roberts 800.442.1358 x 21 www.chicagobronze.com
Oct 16 4:00p	The Agape Ringers \$\$	St. Patrick's Church 15000 W Wadsworth Rd Wadsworth, IL	David Weck 630.665.3200 x 120 www.agaperingers.org
Nov 6 3:00p	Bells in Motion	St. Paul's Episcopal Church 10 E 3rd St Alton, IL	Mike Lamb 217.632.3153 www.bellsinmotion.org
Nov 6 3:00p	Gateway Ringers 10th Anniversary Celebration	Kirkwood Baptist Church 211 N Woodlawn Ave St Louis, MO	Andy Eversole Akeversole@yahoo.com
Dec 3 7:30p	Bells in Motion	1st Congregational Church 2100 Bates Ave Springfield, IL	Mike Lamb 217.632.3153 www.bellsinmotion.org
Dec 4 2:30p	The Agape Ringers With North Shore Choral Society \$\$	St Faith, Hope & Charity 191 Linden St Winnetka, IL	David Weck 630.665.3200 x 120 www.agaperingers.org
Dec 9 7:00p	Gateway Ringers Holiday Concert	O'Fallon UCC 206 W Adams O'Fallon, IL	Phil Wilhelm 618.632.3496
Dec 10 7:00p	Gateway Ringers Holiday Concert	St Paul UCC 200 N Main St Waterloo, IL	Andy Waggoner 618.939.7123
Dec 11 3:00p	Gateway Ringers Holiday Concert	Overland Presbyterian 9424 Everman Ave Overland, MO	Candy Parson 314.428.2185
Dec 17	The Agape Ringers in conjunction with Joel Raney \$\$	1st Presbyterian Church Quick & Lathrop River Forest, IL	David Weck 630.665.3200 x 120 www.agaperingers.org





## MEMBER BENEFITS

### Help to Get You Started

- Handbell Notation Booklet
- Local Support
- Scholarships
- Chime Loan Programs
- Mentors
- Lending Libraries

### Support to Keep You Going

- National journal, *Overtones*
- Members-Only Online
- Area Newsletters
- Handbell Hotline
- Voting privileges in local, area and national elections
- Salary survey information

### Events to Help You Grow

- National Festivals
- National Directors' Seminars
- Area Festivals
- State workshops
- Repertoire reading sessions
- New releases from the publishers
- Technique workshops
- Massed ringing opportunities
- Classes on issues regarding handbells/handchimes
- Networking opportunities with other handbell enthusiasts
- Courses of study tailored to special interests

### Endorsement for Your Events

- Mailing labels at a discount

## A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

College Ave Presbyterian  
Lanita Sims  
Alton, IL

Discover Music:  
Discover Life  
Orbert Davis,  
Mark Ingram  
Chicago, IL

Sts Peter & Paul RCC  
Rev Thomas Flack  
Waterloo, IL

Good Samaritan Home  
Nancy Nemeč  
Quincy, IL

Glencoe Union Church  
Ross Updegraff  
Glencoe, IL

Queen of Rosary RC  
Gail May  
Elk Grove Village, IL

Bethel Lutheran Church  
Marti Pavletich  
Gurnee, IL

St Marcelline Church  
Pat Stewart  
Schaumburg, IL

Mt Olive Lutheran Church  
Andy Gavrun  
Urbandale, IA

Immanuel Congregational  
Rev Ed Sheppley  
Dubuque, IA

Fjeldberg Lutheran Church  
Karen Hilger  
Huxley, IA

St Mark Lutheran  
Deb Paul  
W Des Moines, IA

Grace UMC  
Nora Biegler  
Spencer, IA

Zion Lutheran Church  
Barbara Scott  
Hering, KS

Grace UMC  
Nora Biegler  
Spencer, IA

Zion Lutheran Church  
Barbara Scott  
Hering, KS

United Church of Christ  
Renee Clifford  
California, MO

Cheryl Abney  
Springfield, MO

Shari Steen  
Lees Summit, MO

1st Baptist Church  
Sean Gushing  
Centralia, MO

Jeryn Preston  
Neosho, MO

River of Life Lutheran  
Edick Hakala  
Rogersville, MO

Christ Lutheran Church  
Judy Gilkerson  
Falls City, NE



Visit our website to have free access to our resource library. Lots of great tools available for new members.  
[www.areaviii.org/rl.htm](http://www.areaviii.org/rl.htm)



# Area VIII Conference



**Mid America Center  
Council Bluffs, Iowa  
June 29 – July 1, 2006**

*2006 Area VIII Conference  
Council Bluffs*

**David Davidson & Jason Wells  
Conductors**

featuring

**Massed Ringing • Solo Concerts  
Classes & Workshops**

Lodging in adjoining hotel or nearby hotel  
Free expanded continental breakfast in hotels  
2 banquets & 1 lunch included in registration fee  
Other lunches available at reasonable price in Center

*For Additional Information*

**Watch future issues of Quavers and  
Area VIII Website: [www.areaviii.org](http://www.areaviii.org) for details**

**Marilyn Droke, Conference Chair  
ddroke@cox-internet.com • P.O. Box 6533, Branson, MO 65615**



## RESOURCE LIBRARY

The following materials are available to all Area VIII members and their choirs to be checked out. There is no rental fee; we just ask that you pay postage both ways and a small packaging charge. Materials should be returned within two weeks unless other arrangements are made or instructions sent. We hope that these materials will be another area of assistance for you and your handbell choir.

### Videos

- **Advanced Solo Ringing and Handbell Techniques.** Demonstration by Erin Downey
- **Alive!** Featuring the Echo Handbell Ringers under the direction of Katsumi Kodama.
- **Area II Massed Ringing, 1991.** Wayne, NJ. Bill Goff and Dick Frey, organist. Howard Moser and Hart Morris conducting.
- **Area VIII Massed Ringing, 1992.** St. Joseph, MO. David Davidson conducting.
- **Area VIII Massed Ringing, 1994.** Cedar Rapids, IA. Hart and Marty Morris conducting.
- **Bell Basics.** David Weck and Susan Berry walk us through the ringing skill demonstrations. An excellent tape for the beginning ringer or director.
- **Bell Lore.** Ellen Jane Lorenz. Historical bell facts. (1986)
- **Celebration: The Story of Handbells.** (35 mm film strip with cassette)
- **Christine Anderson in Concert.** Solo ringing concert.
- **Developing Skills for Solo and Ensemble Ringing.** Jessup and Calkins.
- **Facing the Music: Seven minutes that will change the way you think about copyright laws.** Produced by the Church Music Publishers Association. This short video gives clear information about copyright laws in an entertaining format.
- **Intro to a Handbell Festival.** Produced by AGEHR, Inc. This video provides a glimpse of what a handbell festival is all about.
- **Masteringers Festival, 1988.** Allentown, PA. Filmed by PBS. Massed ringing and solo concerts plus commentary on techniques and history of handbells.
- **Music Makes the Difference: Action Kit for Music Education.** National Coalition for Music Education. Complete with booklets and two videos. This kit will assist the music educator with supportive material for the arts in education.
- **Ring of Fire.** Videotaped at the United Church of Christ in Claremont, CA. This tape will bring you to their May 2000 concert when they played 12 of their most popular songs.
- **Songs for the Solo Ringer.** Instructional with David Weck and Christine Anderson. Video with accompanying music text.
- **Songs for the Solo Ringer.** Christine Anderson in concert.
- **Sound Advice from Malmarmark.** Care for your Malmarmark handbells.
- **Tinkling Handbells.** A CBS/Sony, Inc. video production featuring the Echo Handbell Ringers under Katsumi Kodama's direction. Produced in Japan in 1987, this video, visually blended with pictorial settings of European culture and countryside, is a new experience in visual handbell performance.
- **Woodson Handbell Choir.** Demonstration of a program for special needs ringers.
- **Tempo Setter Videos.** Interviews of prominent handbell folks throughout handbell history.

### Books and Papers

- **Adaptive Notation for Handbells.** Letha McGrew
- **Bass Bells.** Various authors



- **Bell Lore.** Ellen Jane Lorenz
- **Conducting Technique for Beginners and Professionals.** Brock McElheran
- **Copyright: The Complete Guide for Music Educators.** Jay Althouse (1984)
- **Creative Use of Handbells in Worship.** Hal Hopson
- **Dalcroze Applications for Handbells.** Marilyn Kielnarz
- **Developing Conducting Skills.** Michael Keller
- **The Director as Teacher: Working with the Beginning Handbell Choir.** Venita McGorman
- **Director's Manual.** Janet Van Valey and Susan Berry
- **An Ear Training Course for Handbell Directors and Ringers.** Fred Merrett
- **The First Quarter Century.** Elizabeth Bradford (1979)
- **Focus on Participation: Alternative Methods for Special Groups.** Joe Pinson
- **Fundraising for Fun and Profit.** Marlene Anderson
- **A Guide to Handbell Assignments.** AGEHR
- **Handbell Assignment Book: The Eight-ten System.** Bob Ivey (1993)
- **Handbells in Education: A Guide to Learning.** Various authors (1990)
- **Handbells Making History: A Bell Tree.** Margaret O'Sullivan-Hillman
- **Handchimes in General Music: A Curriculum Guide Grades 1-3.** Janet Van Valey and Martha Avery
- **Handchimes in General Music: A Curriculum Guide Grades 4-6.** Janet Van Valey and Martha Avery
- **Mastering Musicianship in Handbells.** Don Allured (1992)
- **The Modern Conductor.** Elizabeth Green (1981)
- **Musical Elements: A Classroom Method for Handchimes.** Kenneth Liske
- **168 Non-musical Ways to Improve Your Band or Choral Program.** Jay Althouse (1986)
- **Overtones 1955-1986.** Joan Shull, editor
- **A Practical Handbook for Handbell Directors.** Valerie Stephenson
- **Quick Foundations.** Kirtsy Mitchell
- **Rehearsal Planning, Techniques and Procedures.** Michael Keller
- **Schulmerich Learning Package: A Complete Curriculum for Music Education and Performance.** Dr James Fisher
- **Score Study Techniques.** Michael Keller
- **Songs for the Solo Ringer.** Christine D. Anderson
- **Solo Ringing Musically.** Michael Kastner and Kevin McChesney
- **Teaching Young Ringers.** Carolynne Mathis
- **We Can All Ring.** Aaron Champagne

## **Miscellaneous**

- **Mallets.** From Jeffers, Malmark and Schulmerich. To borrow and tryout on your bells prior to purchase.

## **Send Requests to**

Kelly Stohl  
1916 Melody Lane  
Arnold, MO 63010-1206  
ladybunnykjs@netzero.com




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## APPOINTED CHAIRS

---

*Education***Sandy Denton**

2301 W Claire  
Lincoln, NE 68523  
402.477.4199 (w)  
Sandy@FBCLincoln.org

*Historian***Mary Kettelhut**

17205 Yankee Hill  
Bennet, NE 68317  
402.782.8743 (h)  
Makettel@inetnebr.com

*Membership***Kipp Willnauer**

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

*Resource Librarian***Kelly Stohl**

1916 Melody Ln  
Arnold, MO 63010  
636.296.6678  
Ladybunnykjs@  
netzero.com

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## IOWA STATE COMMITTEE

---

*Chair***Chris Peck**

2404 N 8th St  
Lot 84  
Red Oak, IA 51566  
712.623.4096  
Iowabells@hotmail.com

*Secretary***Kathryn Jaeger**

Jkjdjaeger@juno.com

*Western Rep***Marilyn Strachan***Membership***Allison Hicks**

Ahicks1000@aol.com

*Eastern Rep***Aaron Hansen**

Hansena@  
waverly-shellrock.k12.ia.us

*Webmaster***Carolyn Sternowski**

Carolynlfs@mchsi.com

<p><b>Is your address incorrect? Are you moving? Then contact Headquarters: Dan Virzi 800.878.5459 x 112 membership@agehr.org</b></p>
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**AREA VIII**

American Guild of English Handbell Ringers  
PO 6533  
Branson, MO 65616-6533

**NON-PROFIT**  
Organization  
US Postage Paid  
Wheaton, IL  
**Permit #21**