



Area 8

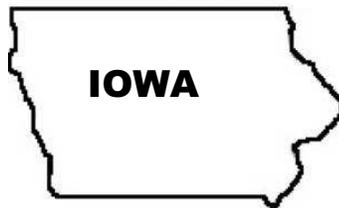
HANDBELL MUSICIANS OF AMERICA

ILLINOIS, IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA

QUAVERS NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER, 2016

Handbell Musicians
OF AMERICA



GO TO LISTS

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KANSAS	6
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ELECTED	ELECTED	APPOINTED
CHAIR: Kristin Kalitowski-Kowal 295 Town Center Blvd Gilberts, IL 60136 630.699.3802 TREASURER: Sharon Schmidt 28 Oriole Ct Naperville, IL 60540 630.369.9879 PAST CHAIR: Patrick Gagnon 211 S Victor (P.O. Box 314) Hubbard, IA 50122 641.373.2972	CHAIR-ELECT: Beth Ann Edwards 1810 NW 80th Ct Clive, IA 50325-5610 515.490.9408 SECRETARY: Pat Latshaw 5205 W 83rd Terrace Prairie Village, KS 66207 913.219.3643  Like us on Facebook Visit us on the WEB	COMMUNICATIONS: QUAVERS: KC Congdon WEBMASTER: Wendi Calkins-Levitt FINANCIAL ADVISOR: Stephen Swanson MEMBERSHIP: Michael Allen EDUCATION: Open HISTORIAN: Open RESOURCE LIBRARIAN: Open

	ILLINOIS	IOWA	KANSAS	MISSOURI	NEBRASKA
Chair	Ben Hafner 1S175 Dillon Ln Villa Park, IL 60181 630.696.6929	Lori Fenton 3213 45th St Des Moines, IA 50310 515.229.6712	Staci Cunningham 21370 Harper Rd Chanute, KS 66720 620.433.7223	Open	Linda Ashley 9107 Meadow Dr Omaha, NE 68114 402.320.5312 402.397.9551 (h)
Treasurer	Open	Mary Lee Parks	Karla Denton	Suanne Comfort	Open
Secretary	Beth McFarland	Donna Sprague	Open	Open	Byron Jensen
Website	Wendi Calkins-Levitt	Wendi Calkins-Levitt	Wendi Calkins-Levitt	Wendi Calkins-Levitt	Janet Chiocechi
Other	<i>Events</i> Sharon Schmidt <i>Registrar</i> Kristin Kalitowski-Kowal <i>Chime Mentor</i> Diane Oster <i>Food Coordinator</i> Anna Piro	<i>Historian</i> Tina Gehrke <i>Chimes</i> Aaron Hansen <i>Eastern Rep</i> Cat Walker <i>Western Rep</i> Yvonne Johnson	<i>Chimes</i> Shirley Myers <i>Past Chair</i> Cherryl Cox	<i>Chime Chair</i> Anne Miller <i>Membership, St Louis</i> Sherry Boland Christie White	<i>Registrar</i> Deann Nicolaus <i>Chimes Coordinator</i> Nancy Youngman Jessica Kite Mike Allen Joyce Miller Angela Wright Charles Cohen

Patrick Gagnon**~Area 8 Outgoing-Chair**

When I learned that we would be moving to Iowa, I had just about completed my term as Chair-Elect in Area 1. I had run events, met hundreds of awesome handbell people in New England, and was a ringer and director in several area church programs and in two community handbell ensembles. I was tethered to Area 1 in just about every way I could be, and it was completely heart-breaking to leave.

Through all of this, I met my first “Area 8 People,” Cathy Moglebust and Joyce Miller. Back Bay Ringers hired Cathy to do a workshop in Boston in June of 2009, and I met Joyce at the 2009 National Seminar in Arizona. Both of these people, as well as everyone else I have come in contact with through handbells over the past eight years, have given me new tethers to Area 8, and my heart is completely full once again. I am very glad for the next two years I get to serve as Past-Chair. I will be fortunate to find the next slate of officers to serve on our board, and to be a part of upcoming events for ringers of all ages.

I would like to thank our Past-Chair, Dolan Bayless, for his long tenure on the Area 8 board. Also, many thanks to Kathy Leonard who has served in several capacities, including Kansas State Chair, Area 8 Membership Chair, and Area 8 Secretary. Many thanks to Dr. Cathy Benton who will step down as the Missouri State Chair, especially for her willingness to host our Certification/Accreditation weekends! We welcome two familiar faces in Beth Ann Edwards, our new Area 8 Chair-Elect, and Pat Latshaw, our new Area 8 Secretary. We are also fortunate to continue to enjoy the stellar work of our Area 8 Treasurer/Registrar, Sharon Schmidt, and our new Area 8 Chair, Kristin Kalitowski-Kowal, who will show us all how to Bring It! Other board members include Dr. J. Michael Allen, our Area 8 Membership Chair.

As I write this we are still looking to fill some of our appointed positions on the Area 8 Board of Directors. I can tell you that the next two years will be a couple of the best ever for Area 8, and I can pledge my full support to anyone willing to serve, particularly as *Missouri State Chair*, *Communications Chair*, *Education Chair for Festival/Conference 2018*, and *Area 8 Historian/Digital Archivist*. Feel free to think of people you know that we might contact, or to contact anyone on the Area 8 board to volunteer yourself. **You** just might be the person for whom we've been waiting.

Kristin Kalitowski-Kowal**~Area 8 Incoming Chair**

Fall on the Area 8 Board is an exciting time, as we welcome new members and thank those who are ending their terms. During the Fall board meeting, we get to share with each other all the happenings closer to our homes, and discuss new things we'd like to see happen in the area. As I was listening to the discussions, it made me think of my day job (which is not handbells, unfortunately!). By day, I design roads and bridges — the way we can connect with each other in terms of physical location. Those are how we get to each event, festival, and concert with our handbell friends. What I heard from the Board, and from those of you I met at last summer's festival, is that you want to build on such connections. It might be staying in touch with the *Quavers*, following along on Facebook and Twitter, or getting fellow festival attendees together to rehearse the music before the main event. Getting out to the events near you that are noted in this edition of *Quavers* is a great way for you to get a jump-start on finding like-minded handbell friends. In the meantime, we'll be trying to keep you all updated on a variety of levels. Your local events are a great preparation for another task the Board has — Festival 2018. It will be here before you know it! We're

excited to meet up with you at all the events before then, and we hope you'll also plan to:

Bring it! Ring it!
June 27-30, 2018
Area 8 Festival —
Handbell Musicians of
America
Ramada Plaza Hotel
Omaha, NE

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Lori Fenton

~Iowa State Chair

The Area Board just announced the initial plans for the 2018 Area Festival. As that's a ways off, what other bell events can we look forward to?

By the time you read this, the Ames Handbell Festival will have taken place. Many thanks to Lois and Patrick for making this happen. I would love to have feedback from those of you who attended.

As we look to plan other events in the state, I would like to hear from you about what types of events you would be most interested in attending. If you have an idea for something but aren't sure how to make it happen, please reach out and ask! We have several people who know all the ins / outs and are happy to help. Some options include:

“Back to Bells”: While several of these events were just completed this fall, we can certainly hold more if you think there is interest in your area. These events are a great opportunity to refresh skills or to get a bell program up and going that may have stalled.

Reading Sessions: If you want to ring and not focus on preparing for a concert, we can sponsor a day just to read through music, whether it's new publications or old favorites.

Local Festivals: We can sponsor one day festivals with guest clinicians where ringers focus on preparing pieces for a performance.

Clinics: We can bring in a clinician or group (think Agape or Rezound!) to work with your choir or multiple choirs in your area on things like techniques, bell maintenance, and performance.

While we don't have anything on the calendar for Iowa, I can say that we are currently working to plan a joint event with Illinois to be held in the Quad Cities area. Watch for more information on that.

I hope you have read through the other articles in this issue to see what else is happening in our area. If you attend any of them, let me know what you think would work in Iowa.

If you just can't get enough handbell events, check out other areas. You don't have to be a member of an area to attend events there; I'm sure they would love to have ringers from anywhere! So if you're on the "edges" of the area, look to see what might be going on in a neighboring area that might actually be closer for you. These include: 5, 6, 7, 9, and 11.

And there are also national and international events. A calendar of national events can be found on the newly redesigned Handbell Musicians of America website. As I write this, I am looking forward to Distinctly Bronze East in NC. Beyond that, I'm excited to head to the Mall of America for the Big Ring in November. February, 2017, will bring Distinctly Bronze West in Oregon while Master Class and National Seminar are at the beginning of July. For international events, our handbell friends in Canada have very active guilds. One event I'm considering is called Classic Bronze in Alberta, Canada. And 2018 will bring another International Handbell Symposium in Australia.

<p>DID YOU KNOW?</p> <p>Iowa nickname: <i>Hawkeye state</i></p> <p>State flower: <i>Wild prairie rose</i></p> <p>State bird: <i>Goldfinch</i></p> <p>State motto: <i>“Our liberties we prize and our rights we will maintain.”</i></p> <p>State song: <i>Song of Iowa</i></p>
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Ben Hafner**~ Illinois State Chair**

We are thrilled to be hosting several events between November and February here in Illinois. On November 12, 2016 we will have our annual Fall Festival. This year David Weck will be the clinician and it will be held at Trinity Lutheran in Crete. This is an opportunity for choirs, partial choirs, and individuals to come together and rehearse several pieces and then give a concert at the end of the day. It also gives a 3-oct choir a chance to hear what a 5-oct piece sounds like too!

In February there will be two events. The first event will be on February 4, 2017. This will be our Young Ringers event. It is a fantastic opportunity for our children and youth ensembles to come together in the joy of handbells. Details for this event are still being finalized.

Our second event is a workshop with The Agape Ringers on February 18, 2017. This is a fun event for all adult choirs. It starts off with a mass ringing session with David Weck, and then it moves into a variety of class sessions where ringers get to learn new techniques from The Agape Ringers. It ends with a mini-concert provided by The Agape Ringers.

We are also working with the Iowa State committee on possibly doing an event soon in the Quad Cities area. I am excited to work with the Iowa State Chair on making this happen! So, please stay tuned for updates on this event.

All the above events and future events will be listed on our webpage, www.agehr-il.org/events. You can also visit our Facebook page, Illinois Handbell Musicians of America, to also learn about these events and so much more!

Staci Cunningham**~ Kansas State Chair**

Two dynamic handbell clinicians are coming to Kansas on Saturday, February 18, 2017. Sara Washington, Copper Clinician, and Kevin McChesney, Bronze Clinician, will be teaching classes and leading the ringing at the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood during their annual *Ring in the Spring* event.

This is a one day event that requires preparation. It includes mass ringing, your choice of one mini-class, shopping and fellowship. A concert completes the day at 3:00pm.

On-line registration is now open and mail-in registrations are also available. An early-bird deadline is December 15, 2016 with a final deadline to register of January 15, 2017. Please visit <http://www.cor.org/handbells> and click on *Ring in the Spring* for more information and contact information if you have any questions.

DID YOU KNOW?

Illinois nickname: *Prairie state*

State amphibian: *Eastern Tiger Salamander*

State snack: *Popcorn*

State pie: *Pumpkin pie*

State insect: *Monarch butterfly*

DID YOU KNOW?

Kansas nickname: *Sunflower state*

State flower: *Sunflower*

State bird: *Western meadowlark*

State animal: *Buffalo*

State reptile: *Ornate box turtle*

Linda Ashley**~ Nebraska State Chair**

Nebraska will be offering their Spring Ring on March 24-25, 2017. This will be held at St. Mark's UMC, 8550 Pioneers Blvd in Lincoln, NE. The registration form will be available soon on our website. Details on times and classes will also be available there. Cost for the workshop will be \$35 for guild members, \$40 for non-members and \$20 for students (secondary and college). Some details listed here may be subject to change.

This will be a great opportunity for individuals and choirs of all levels to work together under the leadership of composer Jason Krug. Music will be provided at the event. You cannot mark on the music or bend page corners, but you may purchase it at the end of the day if you wish.

The weekend begins on Friday evening (March 24) with a director's workshop with Jason. This will be from 7:00 – 9:00 pm at St. Mark's church.

Registration and setup opens at 8:00 am on Saturday morning (March 25). There will be class time and reading sessions throughout the day. A list of classes and descriptions will be available on our website (www.agehr-ne.org) about a month prior to the workshop.

There is also an opportunity for anyone attending the workshop to play for St. Mark's Chapel service at 5:00 pm on Saturday. Between 2 and 4 pieces will be selected from the workshop reading sessions to play during this service.

Other things you need to know:

- Lunch is included in your registration and is available to guests and chaperones for \$8.00
- Childcare will not be provided, so please make other arrangements for your little ones
- Handbell merchandise will be available for purchase from several vendors

Registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis and will be closed when

capacity is reached. Please mail registrations on or before February 24. We reserve the right to cancel this event due to too few registrations or inclement weather.

Questions? Contact:

Deann Nicolaus, Registrar at:

dnicolaus@mcimustangs.org or
970-520-3796

Linda Ashley, Chair at:

lsashley56@gmail.com or
402-320-5312

Website: www.agehr-ne.org

Upcoming concerts in Nebraska by our local community and college groups can be found at their respective websites: River City Ringers, Hastings College and Concordia University.

DID YOU KNOW?

Nebraska's nickname: *Cornhusker State*

State flower: *Goldenrod*

State insect: *Honeybee*

State motto: *"Equality before the law."*

State gem: *Blue agate*

And that...

The 911 emergency system now used nationwide was developed and first used in Lincoln.

Nebraska means "flat water" in the Oto Indian language.

Kearney is the midpoint between Boston and San Francisco.

Spam is made in Nebraska.

Upcoming Events

2016	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
Nov 12 9a-5p	Illinois Fall Festival David L. Weck	Trinity Lutheran Church 1939 Elizabeth St, Crete, IL	Ben Hafner
Nov 19 11am	The Big Ring Guinness Book	Mall of America Minneapolis, MN	National
2017	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
1/4-7	College Ring-In 2017	Lovers Lane UMC Dallas, TX	National
2/18	Ring in the Spring 2017 Kevin McChesney Sara Washington	Leawood, KS	Kansas
2/23-26	Distinctly Bronze West Kathy Ebling Shaw	Welches, OR	National
3/24-25	Nebraska Spring Ring Jason Krug	St Mark's UMC Lincoln, NE	Nebraska
7/11-15	National Seminar	Hyatt Regency Orange County Garden Grove, CA	National
7/13-15	Distinctly Teen	Hyatt Regency Orange County Garden Grove, CA	National
Oct 5-8	Distinctly Bronze East Dr. William Payn	New Bern, NC	National
2018	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
Jun 27-30	Bring It! Ring It! Area 8 Festival	Omaha, NE	Area 8
Jul 17-21	National Seminar	Grand Rapids, MI	National
Jul 19-21	Distinctly Teen	Grand Rapids, MI	National
Aug 6-11	18th International Symposium	Cairns, Australia	International