

American Guild of English Handbell Ringers
Uniting People Through A Musical Art

Area XI Newsletter

www.area11.org

Welcome to the “New Area XI”!



As of October 1st, we are now officially structured as 2 geographical Sub-Areas instead of 5 individual states. Our desire is that we will function as a greater Area XI together, offering our members more opportunities for planning events and participation.

I would also like to re-introduce our new Sub-Area Chairs, as the announcement of their appointments along with their bios has been posted previously on our website. They are Sharon Sparlin (Desert Sub-Area Chair) and Michael Kastner (Mountain Sub-Area Chair). They invite your inquiries and are ready to assist members in any way that will help facilitate your events and activities. Sharon and Michael are experienced, creative, leaders you will want to get to know! You will be hearing from them with articles of their own detailing the specifics of their positions in a future e-Newsletter.

Congrats go to Area XI teen member Taylor Goss for his feature interview by Rima Greer in the latest Overtones journal. We are very fortunate to have him in Area XI!

*Dr. Michael Mazzatenta,
Area XI Chair*

Inside this issue:

Handbell Symposium	pg. 2
Pinnacle	pg. 2
Mary Alice Lewis	pg. 2
Ring of Fame	pg. 3
Area XI Festival/Conference	pg. 3
Sub-Area Happenings	pg. 4
New Members	pg. 4

E-notes - Sign up for your monthly national AGEHR news at www.agehr.org. You'll find the link under Music and Resources> E-Notes. You do not have to be a member of AGEHR to get E-notes. Tell your friends.

PLEASE
Be sure to keep your e-mail address current to receive up-to-date news of handbell activities in Area XI.



INTERNATIONAL HANDBELL SYMPOSIUM

The 14th International Handbell Symposium will be held this summer, August 3 - 7, 2010 in Osaka, Japan.

The registration fee is \$850 per person and includes meals (lunch and dinner), excursion and some sightseeing.

The **registration deadline** for this event is **December 25, 2009** with final payments due on April 30, 2010.

Reservations must be made through national AGEHR. See their web site, www.agehr.org/events/2010japanSym.asp for all details regarding hotel reservations, excursions, repertoire, conductors, etc.

AGEHR PINNACLE - July 18 - 21, 2010 "Reaching the Pinnacle of our Art Form"

This AGEHR national event will be all about achieving the best we can as ringers. Headliner concerts will be held each day. Sonos, Agape, the Raleigh Ringers and another "still to be chosen" group will appear.

Auditions will be held for 4 All-star choirs who will rehearse for five 75 minute sessions under marquis conductors, Arnold Sherman, William Griffin, William Payne or Hart Morris. These choirs will present a joint concert on the final day of the event.

If you enjoy lots of ringing, this event is for you. It will be held at Gaylord Opryland Hotel, Nashville, Tenn.

More details at <http://www.agehr.org/events/pinnacle10.asp>

(This replaces National Seminar for 2010)

Remember www.area11.org !

Check back there between newsletters. Things are happening that might interest you - i.e. the Mountain Sub-area had to reschedule their reading session because of low registration. The new date is October 17. Perhaps the new date would have been better for you if you had known about it earlier.



The Sub-area chairs were announced and their bios posted on the web site. Reminders regarding deadlines will appear from time to time. Tell your friends to check there for handbell news even if they are not AGEHR members. Encourage them to join so they can attend events they read about.

SAD NEWS - Word has just been received from Bill Wood in New Mexico about the death of former Area XI Chair, Mary Alice Lewis. She served as chair during the mid-80's, according to Bill, and was instrumental in getting him to join the Guild. Services were scheduled for October 15 at 1:30pm in Tucumcari.

Condolences may be sent to her husband, Jack, and family at P.O. Box 1185, Tucumcari, NM 88401

Ring of Fame Nomination Process to Begin - Input Desired



The Area XI 2010 Festival/Conference to be held in Tucson, Arizona is now only eight months away and one of the highlights of the Festival will be the recognition and induction of our new Ring of Fame recipients. The Ring of Fame was established by the Area XI 2002-2004 Board and the first recipients were announced at the 2006 Area XI Festival in Denver, Colorado. The Ring of Fame is a very special award for those who have made outstanding contributions to the art of Handbell/Handchime ringing. The Area XI Ring of Fame is awarded every two years at the Area XI Festival/Conference. Past recipients include Phyllis Anschicks, Ed Duncan, John Faris, and Everett Jay Hilty from the Class of 2006. Gail Downey and Tom Waldron were

inducted into the Class of 2008 at our Albuquerque Festival. Up to four recipients can be chosen for the honor. Nominations are now being received for this coveted award. Nominations may come from members of the Area XI Board of Directors, Committee members and the Area XI membership at large. The candidate should be a current member of the AGEHR, Inc., however exceptions may be approved by the Area XI Board of Directors. The candidate must have made significant contributions in one or more of the following areas:

- Contributions as an Area XI or Sub-Area elected officer.
- Volunteer work accomplished at Area XI or Sub-Area level.
- Achievement of National recognition for contributions to AGEHR.
- Development of materials or methods specific to handbells/handchimes.
- Extended teaching/conducting that has raised the musical standards for ringing.
- Compositions for handbells/handchimes.
- Efforts to expand the art of handbell/handchime ringing into new areas: Educational, Community, Church, or other populations.

If the nominee's contributions are in a field for which the nominee has benefited monetarily, the nominee must also have contributed to the AGEHR, Inc. and handbells/handchimes in general beyond the scope of the personal interest. And no person is considered while currently serving on the Area XI Board of Directors. For more information about the qualifications, the selection process and the nomination form, please visit the Area XI website at <http://www.area11.org/ringfame/ringfame.html> **Nomination forms must be postmarked no later than November 30, 2009.** And start making plans *NOW* to attend Area XI's 2010 Festival/Conference June 18-20 in Tucson, Arizona and help us honor and celebrate the Ring of Fame Class of 2010!



Area XI Festival Conference - June 18 - 20, 2010
El Conquistador Resort - Tucson, AZ
Massed Ringing Director - Fred Gramann
Featured Choir - Wesley Bell Ringers of Utah

Registration is now open. Forms are available at www.area11.org.

Registration is \$185 if dated by March 1, 2010 and \$235 if dated after March 1, 2010.

*March 1 will be here before you know it!
Don't delay! SAVE \$50!*

Repertoire list is now available.

www.area11.org

Check it out. You might be able to work some of the music into your 2009 - 2010 programming.

Remember Christmas Concerts for fundraisers.

REPORT ON ARIZONA WORKSHOP



It's been a few weeks since the workshop, and most bell choirs are now in full swing. Desert Sub-area reports a most successful workshop in Scottsdale, Arizona at La Casa de Cristo Lutheran Church on September 19 from 9am to 1pm. Lunch

was not included, but snacks and drinks were provided throughout the morning thanks to the efforts of Sue Robinson. Directors report that their groups came away enthused, enabled and ready to tackle the new music for the 2009-2010 season.

There were 54 ringers/directors registered and 13 clinicians/helpers for a total of 67 attending the event. Attendees had 13 different class choices which were taught over 15 one hour class periods. Some of the most popular (from past experience) were taught in two different time slots. Although some classes had only a few people attending, those people received almost individualized instruction in a subject which was really of interest to them.

Roy Blomquist did a great job corralling equipment. Thanks to Paradise Valley United Methodist Church, Lord of Life Lutheran Church and Dove of the Desert Church for loaning their bell sets and foam. La Casa de Cristo's and Roy's church and personal bell/chime sets and foam were also used. Thank you all! These kind of events could not happen without people loaning their sets and foam and the other assorted things one needs to play handbells.

Thanks also to instructors, Marilyn Chandler, Mike Mazzatenta, Kay Cook, Roy Blomquist, Jennie Blomquist, Marcy Hontz, Elizabeth McNab, Shirley Hipwell, Anne Cotter and Sheryl Bertelson who donated their time, shared their expertise and, made the classes so much fun.



Special thanks to Music Mart for sending the music which was used in the reading sessions.

For more about how the day turned out check out the scrapbook pictures at www.areas1.org.

NEW AGEHR MEMBERSHIPS

JULY - Several memberships were registered in July. Some were gift memberships for loaning equipment for National Seminar. Others were gifts received in the daily drawings held by HIC during the festival. Among those receiving gift memberships were Andy Thomas, Catherine Cmiel of Fountain of Life Lutheran Church, Cindy Curtis of First United Methodist Church, Lars Anderson of Dove of Peace Lutheran Church, Keith Weller of St. James United Methodist Church, Steve Keyl of St. Albans Episcopal Church, Susan Schild of Desert Skies United Methodist Church and Karen Kaneko-Baker of Sonoran Bells all from Tucson, AZ. From Oro Valley, AZ, Jean Marie Hulsten of CACC also received a gift membership.

Libbie Randels of Christ Presbyterian Church in Goodyear, AZ and Maggie Wild of Littleton, CO purchased Regular Memberships.

AUGUST - Glenn Peleti of Roy, Utah and Verallen Kleinhenz of Albuquerque, NM purchased regular memberships and Cathy Anderson of Albuquerque became a Ringer member.

SEPTEMBER - Taylor Goss of Payson became a Student member. (Be sure to read Taylor's interview with Rima Greer in the September-October Overtones magazine.)

Welcome to all new members! We hope to see you in Tucson at the Area XI Festival Conference, June 18-20, 2010. Remember there will be a special Youth Ringing Track, so bring your young ringers! Check out the repertoire list at www.areas1.org for choices just for them, or more challenging pieces if they are ready for it.



For the Curious: In case you were wondering, - Classes taught at the Desert Sub-area workshop included - Ringing Techniques Plus (basic ringing), Intermediate "off-the-table" Ensemble, Beginning "off-the-table" Ensemble, Starting a Duet Team, Processionals, Coordination Conundrums (working out the problems in bell changes, rhythms, and changing techniques), Basic 4-in-hand, Intermediate 4-in-hand, Working With Children, Hand Chimes and Change Ringing. There were also two 1 hour reading sessions - one for Level I and II music and another for Level III and above.