



The Twelfth Tone

The American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, Inc. - Area XII
California · ❖ · Guam · ❖ · Hawaii · v · Nevada

Claremont, CA

Volume XVI Number 2

April-May, 2004

A NOTE FROM THE ARM OF THE CHAIR

Lee Waggener
Fifty for Fifty

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Area XII is a busy place! Over 500 ringers will be participating in Spring Rings throughout our area! Many of the choirs are new to massed ringing events and are eager to attend another one. This is fabulous participation as we celebrate our 50th year. Still to come are the two conferences in Ontario and Honolulu. It is not too late to sign up for an experience ringing with David Davidson. Registration forms and repertoire list are available at www.areaxii.org or by contacting Bill Waggener, registrar.

Volunteers are the heart of our organization, and I want to thank two individuals who have served Area XII. Debbie Davis was elected Treasurer in 2000 and brought her expertise as an accountant to our board. She resigned in January and Jo Anne Hammond, a former treasurer, has stepped in to fill the rest of her term. Cheryl Baker, currently Past Chair and formerly Secretary and Conference Chair, also resigned and her position will be vacant until September 1 when the new officers begin their terms. Both of these very competent officers will be missed on the Board.

This year, in addition to voting for new officers, Area XII will be voting to approve minor revisions to the bylaws. With the reorganization of the National Board, it was necessary to change some of the language in each Area's bylaws. A full explanation will accompany the ballot.

As you read through this edition of *The Twelfth Tone*, check the names of the new members. If there are new members near you, give them a welcome call. Invite them to a rehearsal or concert. Tell them about a ringing event for their entire choir. Rudy and the Regional Coordinators do a great job of contacting new members, but there's nothing like a friendly call from another member to say, "Welcome! How can I help you?" You may find a group that would love to combine with you for a concert or to sponsor a workshop. And that new member will learn that our Area XII is committed to the AGEHR motto of "Uniting PEOPLE Through a Musical Art."

See you at a Spring Ring...or in Ontario...or Honolulu...or...

- Lee Waggener

NEW MEMBERS

New Members in December

Karen Smith
Seaside Community Church
Torrance, CA

Kevin Dornwell
Hilo, HI

Bruce Vandervalk
Trinity Presbyterian Church
Camarillo, CA

Terri Kubow
San Diego, CA

Michael D'Spain
Long Beach Polytechnic High
School
Long Beach, CA

Linda Galligan
First Presbyterian Church
Burlingame, CA

New Members in January

Ann Lyle Van Atta
San Diego, CA

Deb Yowell
Palo Alto, CA

Handbell Director
William Snyder Elementary School
Las Vegas, NV

Frank Brownstead
Cathedral of Our Lady The Angels
Los Angeles, CA

Robert G Carson
St Mary Magdalene Church
San Diego, CA

Scot Benton
Rescue, CA

New Members in February

Keith Shackelton
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA

Melanie Taylor
Chino Hills High School
Chino Hills, CA

Jennifer Stanley
Arroyo High School
El Monte, CA

Shannon Watts
Coalings, CA

Catherine Harvey
First Presbyterian Church
Templeton, CA

Dana Vivit
Sacred Heart School
Salinas, CA

Joyce Lilyquist
Harris UMC
Honolulu, HI 96813

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The Twelfth Tone

April-May, 2004

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ADVERTISING RATES

	Single	Annual
	<u>Run</u>	<u>(6 issues)</u>
Full Page Ad <small>(Up to but not larger than 7.25"W x 9.75"H)</small>	\$75.00	\$375.00
Half Page Ad <small>(Up to but not larger than 7.25"W x 4.75"H or 3.5"W x 9.75"H)</small>	\$45.00	\$225.00
Quarter Page Ad <small>(Up to but not larger than 7.25"W x 2.25"H or 3.5"W x 4.75"H)</small>	\$22.50	\$112.50

Camera-ready advertising copy is due on the tenth of each odd-numbered month for publication in the following even-numbered month (e. g., the deadline for the February issue is January 10).

OVERTONES REVISITED



In this series celebrating the 50th Anniversary of AGEHR, we are reprinting articles of historical interest from the early days of the organization's existence. The following article appeared in the September, 1959 issue of **OVERTONES**. It is retyped verbatim as it appeared in that issue.

Authorship is not indicated; however, the editor in 1959 was Bessie Erb, and the Recording Secretary was Mrs. Raymond Marlow – and one of them could have written this piece.

A MOST IMPORTANT BUSINESS MEETING

“**THE FAMILY** is growing and something must be done!” If these were not the exact words used at the Annual Business Meeting, they certainly express the way the leaders of the AGEHR felt. We are facing the same kinds of problems that a small business faces when it suddenly finds itself growing into a big business. Consequently, certain important changes were voted affecting (1) staff, (2) budget, (3) membership, (4) meetings, and (5) bylaws.

To take up the matter of staff first, until now all of the work of the AGEHR has been done on a voluntary basis. All officers and committeemen gave their time to the organization, with Mrs. Erb acting as executive secretary. The work of the latter grew into that of corresponding secretary; editing all publications and seeing them through the printing and mailing stages; and carrying out all projects such as the Festival registration and furtherance of the growth of AGEHR in other ways. With the increasing membership, this amount of work has become too great for any person to do on a voluntary basis. Therefore, it was decided that the AGEHR would employ a part-time corresponding secretary at the very modest expenditure of \$100 a month.

It was decided further that the AGEHR should accumulate permanent office equipment and start a reserve fund and a contingent fund. The cost of the Festival, Board meetings, and expenses of the president and committees were also considered. Finally, a modest budget of \$3,600 was arrived at. But even this small amount was not available in the present receipts of the AGEHR. Something had to be done to produce it.

The first suggestion for raising the extra money was to raise the dues. Up to now, the dues have been nominal and not realistic. Therefore, it was voted to double the amount of both *Individual* and *Group* dues, making them \$5.00 and \$10.00, and creating a new kind of membership – *Associate*.

Heretofore, some people who joined as *Individual*

members really should have joined as *Group* members, and we hope they will correct this in renewing their memberships this fall. An *Individual* member will receive one copy of each **OVERTONES** and one copy of all free publications of AGEHR, and will be entitled to one vote in any business meeting of the AGEHR. A *Group* membership will receive two copies of each **OVERTONES** and two copies of all free publications of AGEHR, and will be entitled to two votes in any business meeting of the Guild. It was also decided that we would publish six issues of **OVERTONES** at least two of which will be eight pages.

We realize that, though many churches and organizations have more than one group and in reality should pay more, they may not be able to afford to do this. Ringers who enjoy being a part of a ringing group could, however, be appealed to for support of the AGEHR as *Associate* members.

An *Associate* member must be a ringing member of a group. He will pay \$1.00 dues per year, for which he will receive one copy of each issue of **OVERTONES** sent with the *Group* mailing, and a membership card for his wallet; and, if instructed to do so by his group, he may cast one of the two votes granted to a group membership at any AGEHR business meeting. It is hoped that the directors of ringing bands and choirs will encourage their ringers to become *Associate* members. With the growing number of groups in America, it is not unrealistic to hope for 1,000 *Associate* members. Beginning with the next issue of **OVERTONES**, the number of *Associate* members will be published and the names of the bands or choirs with 50% or more *Associate* members will be listed.

The details of membership are listed as usual in the last column of this issue. Read them again. Remember, if you have a band or choir, you **MUST** register as a *Group*. Only non-ringing interested persons or generous ringers should apply for *Individual* memberships. Gifts of money to the AGEHR should also be encouraged.

Meetings of our growing Guild were carefully considered. It was decided that Castle Hill was no longer large enough for the Festival, though the New England Guild could use it very well and carry on the Festival tradition. The nationwide growth of the handbell movement was noted. The excellent area meetings springing up all over the country were discussed. Finally, it was voted to hold the national Guild Festival in June in the *odd* years and to encourage the areas to hold festivals in the even years.

This means that the next national AGEHR Festival will be held in 1961. Where it will be held is not yet known. Several invitations for places have reached the office. If you want to entertain that Festival, let us hear from you before January 1, 1960; state place and cost, and

OVERTONES REVISITED, continued

describe accommodations, etc.

A standing Committee on Areas was created. The details of the composition and operation of this committee will be presented to each area for consideration, revision, and final adoption.

AGEHR BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 1959-61 **Officers**

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The above article appears in **OVERTONES 1955-1986**, an anthology of the first 32 years of its publication which was created and printed in 1987. Copies are still available from the National Office in Dayton.

REGIONAL REPORTS



Southern California Report

Micki Mennet-Martin so_cal@areaxii.org

The winter handbell season started with The Twelfth Night held January 3 at Chula Vista United Methodist, chaired by Jo Anne Hammond. Participating choirs each presented one or two solo selections and together rang one massed piece in their early evening concert. Dinner together preceded the concert.

March's Adventist Schools Handbell Festival was a wonderful experience, say the students and their directors. Thirteen schools participated in the day-long massed ringing event for which Donovan Gray from Azusa Pacific University was the clinician.

The First Southern California Spring Ring was held on March 13. St. Mary Madgalene Catholic Church's Hall was filled with 113 ringers and directors for the day-long event. The downbeat was at 9:00 am and the concert began at 4:00 pm. Massed ringing began the day, then classes, a lunch break, additional classes followed by a massed ring rehearsal, solo rehearsals and So Cal Spring Rings Concert at 4:00 pm. Special clinicians were Dave and Dian Ruder, Ginny Fleming and Mel Tully. The day's classes included Treble Bell Techniques by Dian, Brushing up on Basic Articulations by Dave, Traveling and Touring with Handbells by Ginny, and The Healthy Instrument: Care & Maintenance by Mel in the morning. The afternoon's classes were Multiple Bell Techniques by Dian, Cross and Stretch and More by Dave, Stopped Sounds and Malleting by Ginny, and a second offering of The Healthy Instrument by Mel. The massed ringing was led by Dave Ruder and included Bell Jubilee, Fantasy on Hyfrydol, and Materna from the Area XII Conference Music list. With this practice and rehearsal, these choirs will be warmed up for our area conferences in Ontario and

Honolulu, Hawaii this summer. West Coast Handbell Supply was on hand for shopping needs, and next year's Southern California Spring Ring will be held on April 16, 2005.

May 15 brings the Young Ringers Conference at San Dieguito United Methodist Church in Encinitas. Popular director and ringer Barb Walsh from Reno, Nevada will be the day's clinician. Young Ringers are one of Barb's special strengths. Contact Rudy Rodriguez at membership@areaxii.org for additional information.

June 5 will bring North San Diego County Handbell Choirs together at Christ Presbyterian Church in the Vista/Carlsbad area. The theme of the day is "Ring-A-My-Soul". Each choir will present a spiritual selection as a solo piece. Nancy Jessup from Concordia University is the day's clinician and brings her wealth of experience to share. She will conduct the massed ringing for the day's rehearsals and concert. For information, contact Ruth O'Neil at ruthrings@hotmail.com.



Nevada Report

Barb Walsh

nevada@areaxii.org

Howdy! We just had Bill and Lee Waggener here for our Directors' Seminar and we had a great time! We were so into discussing bell things that we didn't even stop the discussion when it was lunch time. It just moved into the lunch area! Several directors commented to me that it was wonderful to get some fresh ideas about how to teach such simple things as to how to physically ring a bell more musically and how to get the melody line heard. They also commented that it was great to meet and work with people on the Area XII Board and to connect names with faces. Thanks, Bill and Lee! Don't miss other opportunities to meet with fellow

REGIONAL REPORTS, continued

bell ringers and Board members! April 3rd is our Sierra Spring Ring in Bishop, CA. Tessique Koening is our director, so why don't you come on out and see what color hair she'll have then? After that, we have our umpteenth annual Young Ringers' Bell Festival in Reno on May 25. Dr. Jim Smith is our clinician/director, and he's written a neat piece especially for us called "Bingo's Travels". Why not

come and be a part of the premier of the piece? Don't forget the great learning opportunities we'll have at the Area XII conferences in Ontario, CA and Hawai'i. You'll hear top groups performing, and I understand we'll have some bell people teaching classes that have taught nationally! When will we have that opportunity again? I'm sure it's not too late to register. Come on out and ring!

AREA XII HANDBELL AND CHIME LOAN PROGRAM

How would you like the free use of a three-octave set of handbells or handchimes next year for one semester? The American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, Area XII, has a set of each available exclusive for public or private school use.

Use them with your vocal choir, start a handchime or handbell performance group, or use them with your music appreciation classes. The equipment, complete with pads, instructions, and a consultant (by phone!), is available for all grade levels through university. For further information and application for next year's loan, contact:

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SILENT AUCTION INFORMATION

WHAT IS A SILENT AUCTION? A Silent Auction is just that, silent. There is no verbal bidding, instead a bid sheet is placed next to the item; a starting minimum bid is given as well as bid increments and people write their bids on the bid sheet. At the close of the bidding, the highest bidder wins the item.

WHY DO WE HAVE A SILENT AUCTION? Area XII has had a Silent Auction at the last three Conferences. At the Reno Conference, it was decided that all monies were to go towards purchasing additional chime/bell sets for use in our "Handbell and Chime Loan Program"

WHO CAN BID? Anyone attending Conference!!! You don't have to be a ringer or a director.

WHO CAN DONATE? Anyone can donate. You do not have to attend Conference to be a part of the Auction. You do not even have to be a ringer or director to donate. You can go to your congregation, school, or community and ask for donations as well

as getting donations from members or your choir who are not planning on attending Conference.

IS IT TAX DEDUCTIBLE? Yes, at the close of the bookkeeping, one copy of the triplicate bid sheet will be returned to the person donating the item, one copy will be given to the person winning the bid, and the third copy is turned into the Area XII Treasurer.

WHAT CAN I DONATE? Remember that many people are coming by plane and have limited space, so be creative. The following are suggestions/ideas for donations: small theme gift baskets, jewelry, anything musically themed, gift certificates, candy, homemade cookies, stuffed animals, needlepoint, cross stitch, knitted or quilted items, weekend getaways, B&Bs, or something that reflects the area that you live in (we had wine from Napa and a Disneyland package). Again, be creative but remember that the larger the item, the harder it will be to transport home. - Norma Rose

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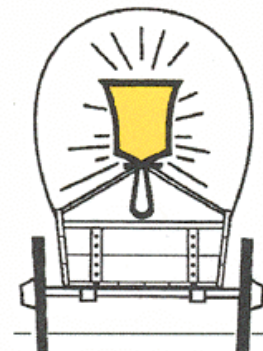
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Mel & Gail Tully

RUDY'S ROOST

The Care and Feeding of Ringers Part 9: *The Miracle of the First Pew!*

A long time ago when I first started conducting handbells and the moon was still young, I learned a very valuable lesson: *The Miracle of the First Pew!*

The Setting: I was conducting a new 2-octave handbell choir. We were carefully feeling our way into the wonderful world of ringing. We rehearsed once a week and rang in our church once a month. We found this monthly deadline to be a real challenge, since some of us were still trying to master the quarter note ring and damp technique.

The Train Crash: We had prepared an arrangement of a familiar hymntune for Sunday Morning Worship which started with a single line of eighths notes starting in the Bass Bells with Ringer No.1. The musical line moved to Ringer No. 2 and then Ringer No. 3 and finally to Ringer No. 4 before it went back down the table to Ringers 3 and 2 and 1 where the line repeated itself for eight bars of introduction. To make matters a little more challenging, the dynamic marking was **p** (*piano*.) It was a nice introduction that we would never hear.

Well, we started well. The first two ringers played well, but Ringer 3 missed her note. Maybe she rang so *piano* that it didn't ring or maybe she lost her count, but the derailment had begun. Since Ringer 3 did not ring, Ringer 4 was unsure of when to ring. She started to ring, but froze before making any sound. The music was now back to Ringer 3, who by that time had a marked resemblance to a doe staring into the car headlights. And like that doe made no sound and rang no bells.

Ringer 2 did ring his bells, but his tempo was off so he rang at the wrong time. Ringer 1 was on tempo. Bless his heart. I thought we might recover but this hope was short-lived. Ringer 2 was still off tempo when the music returned to him, so he did not follow Ringer 1 correctly when the music started to repeat itself. Silence and still bells became the *soup du jour*. I was conducting feverishly trying to get the music out of the derailing train, but Ringer 3 stood there meekly looking at me and asked, "Where are we?"

Decision time. For the first time in my fledgling handbell career and the first time in my many years as choral director, I stopped the choir. I whispered, "Bar 9." I gave them a second to collect their thoughts and their courage; and to find Bar 9, it was there somewhere on the page. Then I gave the upbeat and we restarted. Thankfully.

We finished the piece without further bloodshed.

The Miracle: At the end of the Worship Service while we were packing up the bell equipment our Minister of Music came up to me. Now, this is the

man who has more than 25 handbell pieces published as well as several choral pieces published. He even has a hymn published in our hymnal! This very musical man came up to me. Before he could say a word, I started to apologize for the bell choir. We will do better next time, we will be better prepared next time, sorry that went so wrong this morning. He looked at me with a puzzled look on his face and asked, "What are you talking about?"

I replied, "Didn't you see where I had to cut off the choir and restart the piece??"

He said, "Yes, but I thought it was part of the music."
WHAM-O!

He thought it was part of the music!

The Lesson: When we practice a piece of music to prepare it for performance, and we practice it and practice it and practice it some more, a strange thing happens. At some point in rehearsal, we actually hear each measure of music rung correctly. Unfortunately, we usually don't hear *all* those correct measures back to back for the whole length of the piece, but we do hear them correctly rung at some time. We know what the music is supposed to sound like. We have glimpsed the mountaintop of Perfect Music.

But what we forget is that our audience or in this case the congregation, hasn't seen that mountaintop. They don't *know* what the music is supposed to sound like, at least not this arrangement.

What I learned that fateful, scary morning was this: As we rang the music, the God who created eyes and ears, took our music, flawed as it was and "fixed" it as it crossed over the First Pew so that it was "correct" and blessed the hearts of the congregation on the other side of the First Pew! That was the lesson of a life-time.

We directors work our choirs hard to achieve that elusive goal of Note-Perfect Music, which is a noble

The Raleigh Ringers

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www.rr.org



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RUDY'S ROOST, continued

goal, but many times we forget that our audience is much more accepting than we give them credit for. If we do not tell them that it is "wrong" they will never know. If we do not "make faces" with each wrong note, they will never know that that chord wasn't suppose to sound like a 9th diminished oriental chord in H-flat. The Miracle of the First Pew works!

So ring! Ring well when possible! But always, always rely on the Miracle of the First Pew to make

your music acceptable to your audience.

Next time we will explore the use of cookies in your rehearsal, and we are not talking about the kind made by little elves. These are cookies that will help you in "**The Care and Feeding of Ringers.**" - *Rudy Rodriguez*

Pithy saying for the day: "*What we prepare for is what we shall get.*" - *William Graham Sumner*

IMHO: OUTREACH CONCERTS, A WASTE OF TIME OR A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE?

It seems to me that school, church, community, and professional groups miss an extraordinary experience when they overlook performing in outreach concerts. IMHO all types of bell ensembles should consider them. Let me tell you what outreach concerts are and why I think they present a wonderful opportunity for bell teams.

Outreach concerts are those that are given without expectation of monetary reward. It's an altruistic experience. A giving experience. Now I know that groups that play in church give of their time for rehearsals and worship services on a regular, altruistic basis, not expecting monetary returns. However, even those groups should consider opportunities to perform outside of their church's worship center.

Are they a positive experience? Are there rewards? I believe there are many.

When I was teaching school in Menlo Park my performance groups gave ten to twenty outreach performances every school year. Sometimes two or more were given the same morning or afternoon. While I was directing a community group we gave four to six outreach concerts each season. Basically, these recitals were held at convalescent hospitals, assisted living centers, retirement homes, community centers, special education centers, schools and even one on a Native American reservation.

We offered our services without charge. Usually we received a free lunch or dinner or a small monetary gift. The students loved the candy, cookies, and drinks! We always received expressions of joy, happiness, handshakes, hugs, many thanks, and wishes for a quick return. Guests often sang along on familiar tunes, bouncing along with the rhythms or clapping their hands. Experiences quickly became delightful memories. But we soon discovered that

there were some other tangible returns as well.

These performances gave our ringers a marvelous opportunity to develop and polish their presentation before they stepped out in front of the "big" audience. Some tough spots we thought we had nailed were really a bit shaky in front of a live audience. The presentation we had rehearsed so carefully was still a bit rough. The program outline probably needed a bit of reworking. These concerts also offered a splendid opportunity to get some of our nerves under control.

In addition, there always seemed to be visitors and contact people at the outreach events who were either looking for a good performing group, or could give a solid recommendation to others. As a result, our outreach gigs inspired invitations to perform for service clubs, company parties, TV shows or entertainment centers, all paying much bigger bucks or providing higher visibility.

After each outreach concert, our next rehearsal was much more focused. We all knew what needed to be improved. Each ringer was highly motivated. Evaluations were detailed and precise.

It's not necessary, however, to perform outreach concerts with the goal of possible monetary rewards. Church groups, in particular, may wish to perform for the sheer joy of community service and witness. Other groups might perform to help a charitable organization raise funds. This would be altruism at its highest level.

Yes, it can be a pain to get the kids out of school and make all the logistic arrangements. And yes, we weren't always completely ready to perform. But, was it a waste of time? A resounding NO. Was it a positive experience? Absolutely YES!

- *Dave Ruder*

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COMING EVENTS

Event	Date	Clinician	Location	Cost	Contact Information
Sierra Spring Ring	April 3, 2004	Tessique Koenig	Bishop, CA		Barb Walsh nevada@areaxii.org
26th Annual Spring Concert	April 4, 2004 at 3:00 pm	The Ringing Belles, The L.V.s Handbell Choir, and handbell soloist, Carol Smith	Walnut Creek United Methodist Church, 1543 Sunnyvale Ave., Walnut Creek, CA		Jane Patty at janeepatty@aol.com
Area XII Spring Board Meeting	April 16-17, 2004		Cupertino, CA		Lee Waggener or any Board Member
Solo/Ensemble Festival	April 17, 2004		Las Vegas Academy for Performing Arts 315 S. 7th Street, Las Vegas, NV	1-4 ringers - \$5 each; Full Choir - \$8 per ringer	Marshall Townsend (702) 799-1639 martown@aol.com
Sacramento Area Handbell Directors Association 21st Annual Spring Ring	April 24, 2004	Randy Knutson, Tammy Siegl, Arlene Michael, David Ruder	Florin High School, 7956 Cottonwood Lane Sacramento, CA	\$45.00 per choir	Susan Coddington-Allen pwallen@gotnet.net (916) 428-9719
Kids' Fest	April 24, 2004	P. L. Grove	Los Gatos Presbyterian Church	\$5.00 per person	Dian Ruder dianruder@aol.com
Directors' Workshop	May 1, 2004	Jason Wells	Walnut Creek United Methodist Church, 1543 Sunnyvale Ave., Walnut Creek, CA		Jane Patty at janeepatty@aol.com
Young Ringers' Conference	May 14, 2004	Barb Walsh	Garden Grove United Methodist Church	\$20.00 per ringer; \$10.00 per director	Rudy Rodriquez therudybell@aol.com
Young Ringers' Conference	May 15, 2004	Barb Walsh	San Dieguito United Methodist Church	\$20.00 per ringer; \$10.00 per director	Rudy Rodriquez therudybell@aol.com
Spring Concert	May 16, 2004	Bay Bells and Valley Church Handbell Ensembles	Valley Church, 10885 N. Stelling Road, Cupertino, CA		elsbellz@aol.com or daveruder@aol.com
A Day With Val	May 22, 2004 8:00 am - 5:00 pm	Valerie Stephenson and Riverbells	Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Sacramento, CA	\$45.00 per person; \$5.00 for lunch (optional)	Paul Allen musicallen@sbcglobal.net
Young Ringers' Festival	May 25, 2004	Jim Smith	Reno, NV		Barb Walsh nevada@areaxii.org
North San Diego County Ring: Rock-A-My-Soul	June 5, 2004	Nancy Jessup	Christ Presbyterian Church 7807 Centella Street, Carlsbad		Ruth O'Niel ruthrings@hotmail.com
Area XII Ringers Conference	June 25 - 27, 2004	David Davidson	Ontario Convention Center Ontario, California	\$180.00	Lee Waggener chair@areaxii.org www.areaxii.org
Area XII Ringers Conference	July 1 - 4, 2004	David Davidson	Renaissance Ilikai Waikiki 1777 Ala Moana Boulevard Honolulu, Hawaii	\$225.00	Lee Waggener chair@areaxii.org www.areaxii.org
Handbell Spectacular 2004	July 24 - 27, 2004		Marriott Waterside Hotel Norfolk, Virginia		Jane Mary Tenhover (800) 878-5459 executive@agehr.org

COMING EVENTS, continued

Zephyr Point Handbell Conference	July 25-29, 2004	Bill Alexander and Mary Balkow	Zephyr Point Presbyterian Conference Center Zephyr Cove, NV	Zephyr@ZephyrPoint.org
11 th International Handbell Symposium	August 3-7, 2004		Westin Harbour Castle Hotel and Convention Center Toronto, Canada	http://www.agehr.org
Summer Ring Workshop	August 4 - 6, 2004	Carolynne Mathis	Concordia University, Irvine, CA	Nancy Jessup (959) 854-8002 ext. 1522
Bakersfield Spring Ring	March 12, 2005	Lee and Bill Waggener	St. John's Lutheran Church 4500 Buena Vista Bakersfield, CA	Lori Barnett bellssofaraise@yahoo.com
Southern California Spring Ring	April 16, 2005	Lee and Bill Waggener	St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church 1945 Illion Street San Diego	Micki Mennet-Martin so_cal@areaxii.org

Boldfaced events are AGEHR-Sponsored or -Endorsed.

Area XII Workshop Registration Form

Event _____

Date and Location _____

Name of Director _____

Institution _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Email _____ Phone _____

I/We are bringing _____ participants X \$_____ /person = \$_____ enclosed.

I/We are also bringing _____

Please photocopy this form as necessary and mail with your registration fees to the contact person listed for the event. You may have to communicate with the contact person to determine such details as the event's beginning and ending times, driving directions, what to bring, etc.

HELP WANTED!!

Help is needed in helping us find the adoptive parents of both Bronzer and Martalina. Their adoptive paper work was lost following the Conference in Reno.

If anyone knows of the whereabouts of either of the adoptive parents, please email Norma Rose at Gmrose1234@aol.com as soon as possible or contact her at (408) 354-9148 (H) or (408) 356-6156, ext 34 (W).

We need to know what their travel plans are for the upcoming Conferences in Ontario and in Hawaii. - *Norma Rose*

AREA XII MEMORABILIA

Artifacts from ancient Area XII history are need for temporary display at the Handbell Spectacular in Norfolk next July. Anything from earlier Area XII events that could be used in our presentation would be welcome. Items that are loaned will be returned after the event.

If you have anything to loan, please contact Lee Waggener [chair@areaxii.org]. Although we have found a few choice relics in the Area XII archives, we are certain that there must be much more "...out there..." that reflect our history. Please search your own personal hiding places for whatever tidbits you might have to share.

THE AREA XII RINGERS CONFERENCES 2004

Golden JubELLee
AGEHR celebrates 50 years!

SILENT AUCTION DONATION FORM

Ontario

(Please use one form for *each* item for *each* event.)

Hawaii

Donor: _____

Institution (if any): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

Item: _____

Brief description: _____

Approximate Value: \$ _____

How will you transport your donated item to the Ringers' Conference? _____

If you are returning your Silent Auction Donation Form(s) only with no other Ringers' Conference material, please mail it by June 20, 2004 to:

Norma Rose, Silent Auction Coordinator
51 Whitney Avenue
Los Gatos, 95030
(408) 356-6156 Ext. 54
gmrose1234@aol.com

Otherwise, please return your Silent Auction Donation Form(s) with your other Ringers' Conference documents by May 1, 2004 to:

Bill Waggener, Registrar
1631 N. Oxford
Claremont, CA 91711-3464.
twelfthtone@areaxii.org

(Before mailing, make a copy for your own records.)

The Area XII Ringers Conferences 2004



Our Golden Jubilee!

Conductor: David Davidson

June 25 - 27, 2004
Ontario Convention Center
Ontario, California

July 1 - 4, 2004
Renaissance Ilikai Waikiki
Honolulu, Hawaii

Two Divisions Featuring the "Golden Oldies" of Bell Music

\$180.00 per Person

\$225.00 per Person

featuring

Massed Ringing

Solo Concerts

Classes on Handbells

Classes in Hawaiian Culture (Hawaii only)

[For web-based Registration Forms, go to http://www.areaxii.org/Conf/04_conf/Reg200401.html]

Lee Waggener, Area XII Chair
chair@areaxii.org

Bill Waggener, Registrar
twelfthtone@areaxii.org

The Young Ringers' Conferences 2004

Barb Walsh, conductor

Garden Grove

Garden Grove United Methodist Church
May 14, 2004

Encinitas

San Dieguito United Methodist Church
May 15, 2004

8:00 am set-up through 3:00 pm Final Concert
Ringers: \$20.00; Directors and Chaperones: \$10.00

For more information on all of these events, check the Area XII Website:

<http://www.areaxii.org>

As of the deadline for this issue, the registration for our two Ringers' Conferences stands at 314 Directors, Ringers, and Chaperones for Ontario and 199 for Honolulu.

Late Charge Waived

Although the combined registration numbers approach the total registration for our previous Ringers' Conference in Reno, massed ringing floor space is still available for both events. Consequently, **THE CONFERENCES COMMITTEE HAS CHOSEN TO POSTPONE THE \$25 PER PERSON LATE CHARGE** until May 1, 2004, which is the due date for final payment of all registration fees and most of the various supplemental forms that have been distributed to all current registrants. Although the vast majority of our registrants did strive to honor the March 1 Early-Bird deadline, any later registrations will also be processed without penalty - *as long as they are postmarked prior to May 1.*

How To Register

If you have not yet registered for either event and would still like to do so, please complete the on-line Registration Form [go to www.areaxii.org and follow the links to the Ontario or Honolulu registration forms] and download two copies to your printer: one for your records and one to send with your deposit check. NOTE: because your deposit check must be *mailed* with your registration form, the registration process cannot be completed on-line.

The Conference Schedules

Many of those already registered have contacted us about the schedules for these events. The difficulty for the Conferences Committee is that we anticipated considerably higher registrations and planned the classes, solo concert slots, and several other Conference activities accordingly. Although our tentative schedules look as though they will work with the present registration, we may have to consider revisions once the May 1 deadline for returning all outstanding materials. [The single exception is the Conference Shirt Order Form which can be returned as late as June 1.]

What we can publicize at this time is that the Ontario Ringers' Conference will begin with the opening bell and first massed rehearsal at 3:00 pm on Friday, June 25, and will conclude with the final concert at 4:00 pm on Sunday afternoon. The closing bell should be rung about 5:15-5:30 pm. The Honolulu Ringers' Conference will begin with the opening bell and first massed rehearsal at 1:00 pm on Thursday, July 1 and will conclude with the final concert at 4:00 pm on Sunday afternoon. The closing bell for Honolulu should also ring about 5:15-5:30 pm. Armed with this information, you should be able to

make your arrival and departure plans. We do hope to email the detailed final schedule to all registrants shortly after June 1 so that you'll have a month or so to plan any non-Conference activities as well.

Meals for Ontario

The one meal that is included in the Registration fee is a banquet-style dinner on Saturday evening. If you are staying in the Ayres Suites, breakfasts on Saturday and Sunday are included with the room. Friday dinner, Saturday lunch, and Sunday lunch are on your own. The Convention Center concessionaire will have an assortment of lunch items available for purchase for Saturday lunch so that anyone who would like to browse the vendor area or participate in several lunch-time activities that are being planned can do so without leaving to find food. A list of the many nearby restaurants and fast-food places is being prepared and will be emailed to all registrants about the middle of June.

Meals for Honolulu

The only food provided in Honolulu will be a festive reception at 6:00 pm on the first evening. Although this is planned as a finger-food event, those who prefer a light dinner will probably consider it their evening meal. All other meals are on-your-own, and time has been built into the schedule to allow ample time for finding food. We are planning to email a list of restaurants in the immediate area of the Renaissance Ilikai to all Hawaii registrants, also. The most probably site for lunches is the Ala Moana Center food court - which is about a 15-minute walk from the hotel and offers just about any kind of food ever considered edible by the human being.

Classes and Clinicians

A wide variety of handbell musicianship classes has been planned by David Ruder, Chair-Elect, for both events. In addition, Susan Hitch will repeat the glove tie-dyeing session that was highly popular in Reno, and Hawaiian culture classes are being organized by local Area XII members for the Honolulu event. Clinicians who are confirmed to date are:

Susan Berry
Parker Emerson (Ontario only)
Ginny Fleming (Hawaii only)
Susan Hitch
Monica McGowan (Hawaii only)
Debbie Rice (Hawaii only)
Rudy Rodriguez
David Ruder
Diann Ruder
Larry Sue
Bill Waggener
Lee Waggener
Wendy Waggener

RINGERS' CONFERENCES UPDATE, continued

Reading Sessions

Reading sessions in which participants sight-read new music for their own personal evaluation of its usability will be held at both events. The purpose is to give the participants a sense of each piece, so in the interest of exposing you to the greatest number of pieces in the limited time of the session, each piece may not necessarily be read in its entirety.

Email Communication

There may be other bits of communication to be disseminated by email to all registrants as the time for these events draws closer. As we anticipated, using email to communicate back to registrants has already saved us considerable expense. Not only has email eliminated postage charges, but also the recipients of the folder of Conference forms have been able to print out only those they wish to use, thereby saving print and paper costs at both ends for paper

that otherwise would have been destined only for the circular file.

If you are among the very few who submitted only your own email address with your registration form, please consider expanding the email roster to include at least some of your ringers. That way, more than one member of each group will receive what is sent so that we may have complete confidence that all Conference organizations have received their messages. This file will be used for *nothing* other than these two events, so the privacy of all email addresses is absolutely secure. That is why group emails generally have been sent only to members of the same organization and any exceptions have been sent BCC.

If you have any questions, please email them to Bill Waggener, Registrar, at twelfthtone@areaxii.org. - *wlw*

AREA XII ELECTIONS

Within the next month, you should receive a ballot for the election of the next set of Area XII officers. The biographical statements of the candidates will be included with this special mailing.

Please read the candidates' statements carefully and mail your ballot *as soon as it arrives*. Only ballots that are received by the deadline (to be specified in the election material) can be counted.

Late Registration Fees Waived Until May 1, 2004

As announced above, the 2004 Area XII Conferences Committee has elected to waive late registration fees for new registrations that are postmarked by May 1, 2004.

The main purposes of the Early-Bird deadline are (1) to encourage early registration by the majority of our participants so that class space, banquet room layout, and many other details can be planned realistically, which is to the benefit of everyone in attendance and (2) provide an equitable means of determining where to close the registration process should membership interest overwhelm the space available within the Conference facilities.

Because ringing space is still open at both events and because we wish to encourage the registration of those who discover after March 1 that they are able to participate after all, the Committee has taken this action.

**The deadline for paying final
fees and returning most forms is
May 1, 2004!**

are needed to see this picture.

CHORAL MUS

RiverBells

SACRAMENTO

presents

A DAY WITH VAL!

•Valerie Stephenson•

Saturday, May 22, 2004

**Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 1615 Morse Avenue,
Sacramento**

8:00 am - **Registration.** Location: Fellowship Hall.

8:30 am - **Reading Session.** Location: Fellowship Hall.

A packet of music will be made available to all registrants. Anyone may ring at the tables. The session will be coordinated by Valerie Stephenson and Paul W. Allen.

10:30 am - **Workshops.** Registrants may choose *two* of the following four *advanced* offerings. It is recommended that ringers choose at least one class corresponding to their current ringing assignment. Directors may choose the class corresponding to their level of inexperience.

1. **Bass Bell Ballet (ringers of D4 and below).** Sandi Walker-Tansley, Barbara Red-Horse and Keith Mockford will present their "dance" including assigning bass bells, arranging large bells on the tables, and organizing their patterns. Location: Classroom TBA
2. **4iH Is Not a Disease (ringers of C6 and above).** Wendy Williams and Susan Coddington-Allen will demonstrate applications of four-in-hand techniques, different 4iH set-ups, the pros and cons of 4iH *vs.* Shelly, and the physical, visual and musical aspects of each. Location: Classroom TBA
3. **Charging the Battery (ringers of E4-B5).** September Hope and Jenny May Moore will explore battery issues including accompaniment *vs.* melody, three- and five-bell weaves, table set-up, borrowing and giving bells, 4iH recommendations, ringing extra bells, and passing bells. Location: Classroom TBA
4. **There's No Dictator Like *the* Director (directors).** Paul W. Allen will host a lecture/demonstration on organizing a rehearsal, selecting music, directing from in front of the tables, assigning ringing positions, setting up a concert. Ringers will find this presentation insightful and challenging as well! Location: Fellowship Hall.

1:00 pm - **Coordination Conundrums.** Location: Fellowship Hall. These special exercises *for everyone*, led by Valerie Stephenson, are designed to free handbell ringers from their left and right hands *and* brains. They challenge executing multiple skills at the same time, as are often needed in handbell ensemble performance.

3:15 pm - **Coaching Session.** Location: Fellowship Hall.

What does it look like when *another* handbell choir rehearses? How would *you* design the perfect rehearsal? RiverBells will be the willing subject! Registrants will watch, comment, and may ask questions. Several selections from the morning's reading session will be used, as well as pieces from tomorrow's RiverBells concert. The ensemble will polish a few pieces, and will demonstrate how they approach a work never seen before. Valerie Stephenson will coordinate the discussion.

All registrants should bring a pair of gloves and a binder to hold their music. Mallets will be available, but registrants *may* bring their own if they are clearly identified. All registrants will receive a packet of music for the Reading Session, and a copy of the music used during the Coaching Session.

Please join
RiverBells
SACRAMENTO
for their concert tomorrow right here
Sunday, May 23rd, 3:00pm

RiverBells

SACRAMENTO

presents

A DAY WITH VAL!

•Valerie Stephenson•

Saturday, May 22, 2004

**Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 1615 Morse Avenue,
Sacramento**

REGISTRATION FORM

(name of registrant)

(full residence address of registrant)

(home telephone number of registrant)

(E-mail address of registrant)

How long have you been **ringing** handbells?: _____

How long have you been ringing four-in-hand?: _____

How long have you been **directing** handbells?: _____

What other directing experience do you have?: _____

What level of music do you typically play or direct?: _____

What position(s) do you typically play?: _____

The workshop classes will be approximately 40 minutes long, are designed for the intermediate or advanced musician, and will be offered twice during the early afternoon. Please list your top **three** choices from the attached schedule. We will make every effort to schedule you into your top two choices.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

Please join us for lunch and get to know Valerie Stephenson and each other better. An all-you-can-eat salad bar with all the fixings will be supplied for an extra **\$5.00**, or you may bring your own bag lunch. Drinks and desert will be provided by RiverBells for everyone, free of charge.

____ Yes, I would like to have lunch supplied for \$5.00.

Please complete this form, with a check or money order payable to "**RiverBells**," for \$45.00 per participant (plus \$5.00 for lunch per participant, as appropriate), and submit it to:

Wendy Williams

Workshop Coordinator

8245 Silverside Drive

Antelope, CA

95843-4806

For additional information,
call (916) 428-9719 or contact...

musicallen@sbcglobal.net or Wendy.Williams@ci.west-sacramento.ca.us

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 Dayton, Ohio 45459-5503
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All returned checks will incur a \$25 processing fee.

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 Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____
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 Is this a New Membership Renewal (Member # _____)

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A NOTE FROM THE KEYBOARD

Traditional events. *How do they originate, and how are they perpetuated?*

In the middle of February, we went to Bakersfield to do a Spring Ring at the St. John's Lutheran Church. It was their first attempt to promote a handbell event of any kind, least of all a spring ring. The host choir, another full choir, and a trio of ringers from a third group were scheduled to appear, and the two full groups were committed to presenting solos during the concluding miniconcert.

On the day of the event, however, only the host choir and the minigroup showed up - about 15 ringers in all. After much speculation and not just a little worry about the missing group, we decided to go ahead with the day's program with those present and rehearsed the four massed pieces that had been chosen for the event. Needless to say, those 15 ringers and those four pieces got considerably more individual attention than anyone would have predicted, and when the miniconcert began with a "massive" but clearly loyal audience of about 15 friends and family, the little group did a very good job. No one would claim it was a perfect performance, but on the other hand, a huge amount of progress was made during the day in terms of technique, learning, and handbell musicianship.

At the end of the day, these rather tired ringers began talking excitedly about "...next year!" and how to get other

local choirs much more involved. Perhaps a new, small tradition is about to be born.

So how do traditions originate? It would seem to me that the first step is a vision - in this case, the vision of just one director who took the time and energy out of a very busy personal schedule to get something going for that first time.

How, then, are traditions perpetuated? The most obvious factor is that someone must care enough to guarantee that the event occurs over and over again. When that happens, others who might be less directly involved come to know that they can count on and plan for the event in their annual calendars.

There are a few traditional events already well established in Area XII, but I believe that there is room and need for considerably more. Although innovative ideas are also indispensable in planning new events, it is through our ongoing events that our passion and interest in handbell ringing can be kept fully alive.

William L. Waggener
Editor