

The Twelfth Tone

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

Claremont, CA Volume XVII Number 5

October-November, 2005

FROM THE CHAIR

Dave Ruder

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair David Ruder 423 Palo Verde Drive Sunnyvale, CA 94086-6762 (408) 732-0760 (408) 771-0737 (FAX) chair@areaxii.org

Chair-Elect William Kyle 72 Rudden Avenue San Francisco, CA 94112 (415) 586-4456 (H) (415) 586-5454 (FAX) chairelect@areaxii.org

Past Chair Lee Waggener 1631 Oxford Avenue Claremont, CA 91711-3464 (909) 624-0236 (H) pastchair@areaxii.org

Secretary Paulette McFarlin 960 Scenic Drive Porterville, CA 93257 (559) 781-3340 secretary@areaxii.org

Treasurer
Kathy Arnold
1228 Isabelle Avenue
Mountain View, CA 94040
(650) 962-0375
treasurer@areaxii.org

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Membership Chair Larry Sue 1350 Phyllis Avenue Mountain View, CA 94040 (408) 756-9514 membership@areaxii.org

Twelfth Tone Editor William L. Waggener 1631 Oxford Avenue Claremont, CA 91711-3464 (909) 624-0236 (H) twelfthtone@areaxii.org

Event Coordinator Lee Waggener 1631 Oxford Avenue Claremont, CA 91711-3464 (909) 624-0236 (H)

Bells in Education Karen Curry 300 W. Latchwood Lane La Habra, CA 90631 (714) 879-0777 education@areaxii.org

NEVER TOO OLD...OR TOO YOUNG!

The past summer I had the privilege of meeting one of Area XII's most active members, Elaine Nelson, 83, who directs a church bell team in Ojai, CA. This vivacious lady is not the oldest in her group for at least five others of the twelve are her age or older, and proud of it!

They regularly attend Area XII conferences (San Diego, Visalia, Ontario, Reno, etc.). They give at least six Christmas concerts and ring for church services as well as other activities.

Elaine is always looking for ways to improve her handbell ringing and knowledge, something to pass on to the "younger" ones. If she attends an event, she expects to attend various workshops and classes. As she was planning to attend a family reunion this summer in North Dakota, she looked on the website to see if there were any bell events nearby. She found that the International Music Camp on the North Dakota-Canadian border at the International Peace Gardens was holding handbell classes. (This handbell week at the beautiful camp is one of the best kept secrets in the handbell world, offering nearly 40 contact hours for less than \$300, registration, room and board included.)

This is where Monica McGowen (co-teacher) and I met Elaine. Her enthusiasm, energy and involvement belied her age. She participated in everything...and rang very well. At the end of camp, she hopped on a bus to her family reunion in another part of ND.

At another handbell event I met two young ladies, 10 and 11, at the back of the massed ringing area. There were standing on boxes with their bell ensemble in a large hockey arena, ringing up a storm. They were all smiles, and obviously having a great time. They were part of a team of adults, but holding their own very well.

These different ringers were more than 70 years apart in ages, yet making music in a most delightful way! Having fun; ringing with friends; making beautiful music. Ringing was uniting them in a special way. Go to any large handbell event, like the Belmont Festival next June, and you will see the young and the old, often ringing side by side.

The Area XII Board welcomes Diane Levorsen to the position of Northern California Regional Coordinator. Diane was appointed to the position of Area XII Historian earlier this year and as such she is collecting historical data and memorabilia from the last 30 plus (Continued on Page 5)

REGIONAL COORDINATORS

Northern California
Diane Levorsen
313 Pattie Way
Napa, CA 94558
(W) (707) 259-1500 x208
nocalif@areaxii.org

San Francisco Bay Area Carol Smith 406 Mt. Sequoia Court Clayton, CA 94517-1612 (925) 672-2920 bayarea@areaxii.org

Central California Shirley Werner 1913 Bella Vista Court Paso Robles, CA 93446 (805) 227-6412 cencalif@areaxii.org

> Los Angeles Metro Shirley Heckman 2717 Park Avenue La Verne, CA 91750 (909) 392-4012 lametro@areaxii.org

Southern California Micki Mennet-Martin P. O. Box 2827 Ramona, CA 92065 (760) 789-0802 (H) (760) 789-1424 (W: M-W-F) socalif@areaxii.org

Barbara Walsh
3300 Deer Foot Lane
Reno, NV 89506-9735
(775) 677-8119
nevada@areaxii.org

Hawaii Karen Laflin P. O. Box 1682 Kailua, HI 96734 (808) 295-2107 hawaii@areaxii.org

APPOINTED LIAISONS

Special Groups Liaison Diane Bell 735 Icarus Court Reno, NV 89512-1342 (702) 827-2312 specialgroups@areaxii.org

Electronic Liaison Mel Tully, Jr. P. O. Box 4361 Visalia, CA 93278-4361 (559) 636-0903 (H) (559) 625-5111 (W/FAX) webmaster@areaxii.org

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NEW MEMBERS

New Members in July

Mary Kay Evanko St. Mary Magdalene Church San Diego, CA

Linda J. Fisk Fontana, CA

Art Maramba Our Lady of Refuge Church Long Beach, CA Patsy Toy Franklin Year Round School Oakland, CA

Carolyn Hein Apostles Lutheran Church San Jose, CA

Charles Kyeong Lee Wilshire Korean United Methodist Church Los Angeles, CA

New Members in August

Shannon Mack Culver-Palms United Methodist Church Culver City, CA

Jim Yowell Saratoga High School Saratoga, CA

Lois Nichols Simpson University Redding, CA

IN THIS ISSUE

The Twelfth Tone October-November, 2005

To submit articles or for advertising information, please contact:

William L. Waggener, Editor

1631 Oxford, Claremont, CA 91711-3464 (909) 624-0236 or WaggWL@aol.com

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

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REGIONAL REPORTS



Nevada Report Barb Walsh

nevada@areaxii.org

Howdy!

Well, I'm sad because summer is gone and all that horseback riding I was doing has to be cut back dramatically. However, there's lots of bell ringing to replace it! I hope everyone took advantage of the workshops that were available this fall! We have some upcoming events that I hope you can make it to. They are:

January 7th-8th, Las Vegas 12th Night with Doug Benton. I understand that there's a free session the evening before as well. Good value for your money!

March 11th, Reno Directors' Seminar with Larry Sue. You would not believe all the stuff he has planned for us already! Hint: he loves bass bells and has a wicked sense of humor!

May 6th, Sierra Spring Ring at Carson Middle School in Carson City. Do you have a favorite piece that we should play this year? We had over 100 ringers last year. Can we top that this year?

May 23rd, Young Ringers' Festival with Jim Smith. My kids love "the dude from Texas". I wonder what interesting bell/Orff arrangement he'll do this year?

June 23rd-25th, Area XII conference in Belmont with Fred Gramann How can you NOT go to a bell conference in a place called Belmont? By the way, the Young Ringers' event is the 22nd-23rd with Shosh Meyer.

July 30th-August 3rd, Zephyr Point Handbell Conference with Mary Balkow and Bill Alexander. What could be better than handbell ringing while looking at sunsets over Lake Tahoe? Maybe handbell ringing on horseback while looking at sunsets over Lake Tahoe?

San Francisco Bay Area Report Carol Smith bayarea

bayarea@areaxii.org

With the warm after glow of The Ringers' Feast and the SEE conference in Colorado Springs still in my memory, it's time to begin a new musical year. Hopefully many of you were able to take advantage of the many handbell festivals and conferences offered across the US this summer and have returned refreshed, inspired and eager to try new ideas. If you are a new or experienced director or ringer who didn't get the opportunity to attend a conference this summer, you certainly won't want to miss the annual Bay Area Handbell Seminar Oct. 1

at Valley Church in Cupertino. This half-day event

from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm is designed to help

directors and ringers polish up their handbell skills

and learn new techniques. Jim Meredith, director of Sonos, will teach a class on musicality, Martin Morley, Director of Music at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Lafayette, will give an interesting presentation on the History of Handbells, Dave Ruder, Area XII Chair, will teach Change Ringing and A Guide to Rehearsal Pacing, Dian Ruder, Youth Choir Director, will help you brush up on your Basics and Battery techniques. Larry Sue, an innovative bass bell ringer, will give you ideas for arranging hymn tunes, processionals and how to lead your bell team to greater precision, and yours truly will teach Multiple Bell Techniques. In addition to the outstanding classes, three reading sessions will be offered. Nancy Stouie from The Handbell Mart will have a music store from 8:00 am. to 1:45 pm. For complete information and registration materials web site at www.choraegus.com/ check the handbells/2005bayareahandbellseminar/index.html or email Dave Ruder at daveruder@comcast.net

Bay Bells, a community group in Palo Alto, is offering an eight session Workshop Ensemble beginning Sunday September 18 from 4:00-5:15 at Grace Lutheran Church, 3149 Waverley St. Palo Alto, CA. for a fee of \$60.00. This workshop will focus on training and building ability for ringers who many not be confident with their current skills and would like to challenge themselves beyond their current positions. For further information contact Bay Bells at (650) 887-2243.

The Golden Gate District of the UMC will hold their 2nd Annual Methodist Mass Ring at the Burlingame UMC, 1443 Howard Avenue in Burlingame on October 22. Lynnelle Bilsey, Director of Music at the Burlingame UMC, will be the conductor. All Methodist choirs, which are in the Golden Gate District, (includes the five counties along the coast from San Mateo north to Mendocino) are invited to participate. This all day event will culminate in a concert at 6:30 pm at the Burlingame UMC. Individual choirs and small ensembles are invited to do a solo piece. Contact Bruce Pettit at golden gateumc@sbcglobal.net for further information.

Three outstanding handbell ensembles from the Bay Area will be going on tour this fall. Velocity, a community quartet, will be touring the East Coast from October 1-5 with their latest program titled Vintage and Vogue which will feature classical and contemporary music. Sonos Handbell Ensemble, under the direction of Jim Meredith, will depart for Japan on December 7. They will be giving a total of 14 concerts between December 10 and 24 in some of the best concert halls in the world. The Golden Gate Boys Choir and Bellringers, under the direction of Steve Meyer, will be going on a musical pilgrimage to Italy beginning December 26. While in Rome, they will provide special music for the Papal Mass inside Saint Peter's Basilica on New Year's Day, January 1,

REGIONAL REPORTS, continued

2006. Michele Sharik, outstanding handbell soloist and member of Sonos, joined Kevin Holsinger, harpist, for an afternoon of chamber music on August 28 at the St. Bede's Episcopal Church in Menlo Park. Larry Sue, piano and clarinet, and Susan Smith, flute, provided appropriate accompaniment.

Other upcoming events you should mark on your calendar are:

Christine Anderson in concert at the First Presbyterian Church, 1667 Miramonte Ave, Mountain View on February 5, 2006 at 3:00 pm.

Michele Sharik, handbell soloist, in concert at the Arts of St Bede's Music Series Saturday February 18, 2006 at 7:30 pm. St. Bede's Episcopal Church is located at 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park.

The 12th Annual Oakland Handbell Festival, February 25, 2006 at the First Covenant Church in Oakland. Tim Waugh will be the clinician. Contact Dolores@handbells.com

Area XII 2006 Belmont Conference June 23-25, 2006. As a member of the organizing committee, I can tell you that this intimate conference promises to be one of AreaXII's most unique and exciting events. Concerts featuring 5 community choirs: Sonos, Bay Bells, Canto Bello, Opus, and RiverBells will be one of the highlights. Composer and director, Fred Gramann, will be the mass conductor. Check your *Twelfth Tone* for further information.

Los Angeles Metropolitan Region Shirley Heckman lametro@areaxii.org

A new event has been added to the LA Metro handbell calendar this Fall! At the "Brush Up on Bell Basics – A Ringers' Workshop," Martin Morley will teach ringing skills within the context of Level 1 and 2 music. The repertoire list, which can be found on the LA Metro home page of the Area XII website, includes four pieces, two for general use and two that are appropriate for Christmas. The music is to be purchased, but not learned, before the workshop. What a deal – come with your choir and go home with a great start on learning music that you can use in the next couple of months!

The Workshop will take place on October 15, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, at the Claremont United Church of Christ, Congregational, Claremont, CA. The cost of \$20.00/ringer (\$15.00/ringer for AGEHR members) includes lunch. Flyers, including the registration form, have been mailed and are also available on the Area XII website. If this Workshop meets your needs and is within your driving range, come join us. We are going to have a great day! Questions? Call (909)

392-4012.

A second new event for the LA Metro Region will be an Ensemble Workshop to be held on February 11, 2006 at the Garden Grove United Methodist Church. The clinician, Lee Waggener, promises that this day will be a lot of fun. In the morning, all participants will learn to ring a quartet piece together, and the afternoon will provide opportunities for coaching individual ensembles. So, ensemble ringers, choose your music and start rehearsing! February comes very quickly after the holidays.

The LA Metro Spring Ring is planned for March 18, 2006, at the Grace Church of Glendora, 1515 S. Glendora Ave., Glendora, CA with Lee and Bill Waggener as clinicians. There will be Division A, Division B, and massed ringing. The repertoire is listed on Page 11 of this issue. (If you wish to be on the LA Metro Handbell eNewsletter mailing list, send an email to lametro@areaxii.org.)

Southern California Report Micki Mennet-Martin socal@areaxii.org

September 10, 2005 "READ & RING 2005, LEVELS 1 AND 2" - Clinician for this one day event in North San Diego County is Nancy Jessup, Associate Director of Handbells, Concordia University, Irvine, CA. This event is for individual ringers as well as full handbell groups. Emerson from Emerson Music will provide the music and a handbell store for the participants' purchases. The music Nancy has chosen for the event is: "Shenandoah" by Bill Ingram, Level 1, "This Joyful Day" by Douglas Wagner, Level 1+, "For the Beauty of the Earth" by Kocher-Arr. Sondra Tucker, Thou My Vision" by Paul McKleveen, Level 2, and "Grazioso" by Arnold Sherman, Level 2+. **Twelfth Tone** deadline is before that date. However, by the time The Twelfth Tone reaches you, this wonderful event will be history. It is promising to be a most interesting and musically skill building day.

January 7, 2006 JoAnne Hammond is sponsoring the Twelfth Night at First United Methodist Church, Chula Vista. She is looking for handbell groups, singing, and instrumental groups to complete this annual event's program. Contact JoAnne Hammond at 644 Mission Court, Chula Vista, CA 91910 or call her at (619) 426-4101 for additional information.

January 21, 2006 JoAnne Hammond has invited Mel Tully of WestCoast Handbell Supply to provide a Reading Session ~ all levels of music. The event, led by Rudy Rodriquez, will be at St. Marks United Methodist Church in the Clairemont area of San Diego County. The cost and specific hours have not been set. Contact JoAnne at (619) 426-4101 or 644 Mission Court, Chula Vista, CA 91910 for registration information and cost.

REGIONAL REPORTS, continued

March 18, 2006 Southern California Spring Ring's Third Annual Event will be held at Emmanuel Faith Community Church on Felicita in Escondido. The clinician for the event is William Kyle, Chair-elect of AGEHR, Area XII. William is the director of Bay Bells a community handbell program in the San Francisco The flyer and register for Southern Bay Area. California's Spring Ring will be out in early December. Registration fee will be \$85.00 per AGEHR member choir, \$110.00 per non-member Further information will be out in early December. For those choirs looking forward to participating again this year, the massed ringing pieces will be: "Animato" by Arnold Sherman, "O Day of Peace" by CHH Parry, arr. Lee Afdahl, " Prelude on Herzleibster Jesu" arr. Fred Gramann, "There's A Wideness in God's Mercy" arr. by Sondra Tucker and "This Land is Your Land" by Woodie Guthrie, arr. Paul McKlveen. All are Level 2+ or 3 with one challenge piece of Level 5. Nancy Stouwie of The Handbell Mart will provide the store for Southern California's Spring Ring 2006.

Northern California Report Diane Levorsen nocalif@

nocalif@areaxii.org

As a new appointee to the Area XII Board, let me introduce myself. I have been living in Napa for over seven years and directing Bonner Bells at the First United Methodist Church. Prior to that time I lived in San Diego, California. I started ringing in 1974 (yes, that's over 30 years ago!), at St. Mark's United Methodist Church and started directing a year later. I was first appointed to the Area XII Board in 1978 and was on the Board in various capacities, including Area XII Chair from 1990 – 1992, and 1996 Conference Chair. I attended as many events as I could and continue to learn and be challenged in my ringing and teaching.

This summer I attended two musical events. This first one was the FUMMWA (Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts) 50th Anniversary Convocation in San Francisco. I've been involved in Methodist churches for over 30 years, but had not heard of this organization. It is apparently a well-kept secret. The event was four days long with about 650 registrants and featured evening worship services in three different locations: Palo Alto First UMC, with a mariachi band and a service of honoring

and remembering; Jones Memorial UMC in San Francisco, featuring gospel and rejoicing in our present; and a joyous, traditional service at Grace Cathedral. I was privileged to sing in the 100-voice choir under the direction of Joseph Jennings, Music Director of Chanticleer. We were also treated to an outstanding concert by Chanticleer at Mission Dolores. There was a pre-selected handbell choir that presented a concert the first evening, directed by Jason Wells. He also taught one class (which I attended twice!), and there was one handbell music reading session, but not nearly enough handbell stuff for me - no bells were used in any of the worship services! If you're interested, the next convocation will be July 16 - 19, 2007, in St. Louis. Their website is www.fummwa.org.

I also attended the Zephyr Point Presbyterian Handbell Conference at their facility in incomparable Lake Tahoe from July 31 - August 4. This is a super ringing event with about 100 ringers and an inventive staff led by Mary Balkow of Sacramento. Bill Alexander, director (in a loose interpretation of the word) of Strikepoint in Duluth, Minnesota, was the guest conductor again this year. Like our Area XII conferences, it's a great time to have tons of fun, enjoy the incredible beauty of the facility, learn new music, greet old friends, and make new ones. I find that handbell ringers are the nicest people in the world.

Coming next spring is a new event in Sacramento, sponsored by event veterans in the handbell world. Be sure to put this on your calendar!

TIMFOOLERY – a day with Tim Waugh – Saturday April 8, 2006

This event will be at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Sacramento and sponsored by Riverbells. For more information, watch *The Twelfth Tone*, or contact Paul Allen at (916) 428-9719 or Wendy Williams at (916) 371-5772.

Please let me know what you are doing, and what you'd like to see happen in our Region. As we start a new year, take advantage of the many handbell opportunities offered, both in our Area and around the world.

FROM THE CHAIR, continued

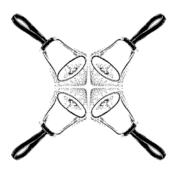
year. She is well qualified having served as Area XII Chairman, Conference Chair, and Treasurer among many other activities. Welcome aboard Diane. We

are delighted to have you on the Board again! - Dave Ruder



Pre AGO Winter Convocation Event

THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL LAS VEGAS TWELFTH NIGHT HANDBELL FESTIVAL



WHEN: January 6 - 8, 2006

WHERE: Faith Lutheran Jr. Sr. High School Gymnasium

2015 South Hualapai Way

Las Vegas, Nevada

FESTIVAL DIRECTOR: Douglas Benton

COST: \$20.00 per Ringer w/Lunch

FURTHER INFO: Janet Ty (702) 363-7428

E-Mail JYTY@aol.com Dixie Bailey (702) 431-9759

E-Mail DXBAIL@earthlink.net

CONDUCTING ISSUES FOR THE HANDBELL DIRECTOR

#3 - How can I keep my weakest ringer up with the rest of the choir?

This is a problem that undoubtedly is faced by the profound majority of handbell directors! In a most practical sense, the weakest ringer in a choir is the primary limiting factor in determining the potential accomplishments of the group. So how *does* one mitigate this limitation? It seems to me that there are several approaches that can successfully enhance the musical achievements of your ensemble.

Position Assignments - One approach is to assign the weakest ringer to the least technically challenging position on each piece. There are both advantages and disadvantages to this method. The primary advantages are that (1) the liabilities of this ringer will be minimized; (2) this ringer will be able to learn more than one position but with the least level of anxiety; and (3) the ringer will still sense his/her importance to the rest of the group. The primary disadvantages are that (1) you, as director, must analyze each new piece critically to ascertain which position is the least challenging; (2) the ringer will take much longer to master any given position (a contradiction to advantage (2) above); (3) this ringer may find the constant movement to be distracting; and (4) the least challenging position may not be appropriate for this ringer [such as G3-B3 for a ringer with severely arthritic hands]. Therefore. when using this approach, you must balance these advantages with the disadvantages to determine the best path to follow for your ringer and your group.

<u>Doubled Parts</u> - If you happen to have the luxury of an additional set of bells (or a set of handchimes), assigning another, more experienced ringer to cover the same part can work wonders. If the weaker ringer knows that whatever he/she doesn't get will be covered by the more experienced ringer, his/her anxiety level will be dramatically lower, and without the pressure to ring the part perfectly, the learning process will actually be enhanced. As this weaker ringer rehearses his/her part, the frequency of ringing the right notes at the right time will gradually increase - even perhaps to the point of mastery. Hearing one's part rung correctly is a tremendous boost to learning to ring it correctly as well.

<u>Private Instruction</u> - Giving individual, private rehearsals to this ringer also is a very efficient and effective way to enhance his/her development. Without the inherent pressure that comes just from the presence of the rest of the ringers, the weaker ringer is freed to work at a pace suitable to his/her learning needs. Patience on the part of the director may be the most important element in these sessions. However, learning rhythmic and pitch patterns usually takes considerably more time for a novice ringer than for an experienced musician, and giving your novice ringer that additional learning time in an individual, non-threatening manner may

well facilitate your rehearsals with the full group. After mastering a part in isolation (that is, mastering the two-bell part without hearing anything else), your novice ringer may benefit tremendously from having the rest of the notes played on a keyboard so that he/she can hear how his/her part fits within the context of the whole piece. Discuss with your ringer what he/she feels is the best approach: for some, seeing the whole picture from the beginning is the most effective learning environment [then use the keyboard throughout these private sessions!]; for others, mastering their small part is essential before they can place that part into the bigger picture [which would imply adding the full sound of the piece via the keyboard only at the very end].

Overall, providing a supportive learning environment is the key to bringing your weaker ringer up to the next level of competence - although that wisdom would seem true for all of your ringers as well! Give praise when discernable improvement occurs; give supportive but specific instruction to correct mistakes as they take place. Assume that your ringers - all of them (!), not just your weaker ringer of concern - want to learn and will welcome instruction that is given in a positive and constructive manner, then provide that environment.

Over the years, we have used all three of these schemes to support our handbell program. Which scheme seemed appropriate was usually dictated by the personalities of the ringers involved, but it would not be unusual to use more than one approach simultaneously because these three ideas are not mutually exclusive in the slightest. Furthermore, our more experienced ringers virtually always have been completely supportive of a weaker ringer because they recognize the benefit his/her growth will provide to the choir as a whole.

The notions of a chain being only as strong as its weakest link and a handbell choir being only as musical its weakest ringer are highly analogous. However, the huge difference between that chain and your handbell choir is that you CAN strengthen your weakest ringer through your time, energy, and encouragement.

Although it is prudent to pick one's battles judiciously (that is, decide what problem is the most important to solve at any given moment and let those problems of lesser importance go until the more critical ones have been fixed), be insistent on those issues that have the greatest impact on the musical outcomes you have in mind for your group - even with that weakest ringer. Being demanding should be completely positive if what you are demanding is appropriate for the music and appropriate for your ringers.

What you get in performance is a direct reflection of what you have demanded in rehearsal. - William L. Waggener



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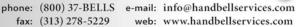


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RUDY'S ROOST

Tips and Tricks - The Four Temperaments Part 1: What personalities are your ringers?

There is an old joke which goes like this:

There are three kinds of people in this world: Those who **make** things happen. Those who **watch** things happen. And those who **wonder**, "What happened?"

Actually, the joke almost got it right. It just missed the fourth kind of people: Those who didn't go out to where things were happening. They stayed home because it was just too much work to go.

Starting with this column, I want to explore the world of the human temperaments and how understanding them can help you, Master Conductor, to relate to your ringers in a more meaningful and productive way. Have you ever wondered why Sandy always comes to bell rehearsal with a smile on her face? Or why Mel is always, but ALWAYS, so serious that you begin to think that his face just might break into pieces and fall off if it ever smiled? These ringers are just exhibiting the temperament that is within them. The key here, Master Conductor, is that you need to deal with each of them in very different ways because they are very different temperaments. If the bell choir is to move forward smoothly, it will do so only if you know how to effectively interact with each different type of temperament.

Twenty-four centuries ago, Hippocrates was the first to recognize and record the four basic human temperaments. They are:

Choleric CALL-er-ik

Those who make things happen.

Melancholy MEL-en-ka-lee

Those who watch things happen.

Sanguine SAN-gwen

Those who wonder what happened.

Phlegmatic flag-MAT-ik

Those who stayed home.

The following graphic is a visual depiction of the 4 Temperaments which we will be using through-out these columns. As we add to the graphic, you will see how the temperaments work and interact with each other.

So what is a temperament? Imagine if you will 4 mannequins such as you see in the department store. Each of the four is different sizes, different colors, different styles and move in different ways. This would be analogous to the 4 Human Temperaments. Now, dress these mannequins in clothes of different types. The clothes are the personalities that we all have and show to the world. Because there are infinite varieties of clothes, we see infinite types of people. Yet, there are only 4

underlying temperaments which "fill-out" the clothes, giving them their shape and defining how the clothes will move. If you look closely at the dressed mannequin, you can see glimpses of the underlying temperaments like the mannequin's hand and face. If you know what to look for, you can see the underlying temperaments of each person.

	1			
SANGUINE	CHOLERIC			
The Talker The Smiling One	The Doer The Born Leader			
The Watcher The Good Listener	The Analyst The Serious Pessimist			
PHLEGMATIC	MELANCHOLY			
Human Temperaments				

For you Techie-types, think of it this way: The 4 Temperaments are like the "hard-wiring" of the Mother Board. The personalities are the software that the Mother Board runs. Together they make a machine that can do wonderful things, but the machine will always be limited and directed by the characteristics of the Mother Board.

Our children were still in Grade School when my wife started studying and teaching the 4 Temperaments. The knowledge of the 4 Temperaments made a HUGE impact on our children and how they related to each other. It was very different from the childhood I experienced with my brother and two younger sisters. Armed with the knowledge of the 4 Temperaments, my children were able to understand why their siblings acted the way that they did and why they should not do nor say certain things. This, of course, also worked in the opposite way as well: They also learned how to "get at" each other very effectively, but we won't go there in this column.

Next time, we are going to party with Sandy the Sanguine and see what makes her so much fun to have around. So, until next time, Cholerics permitting. - Rudy Rodriquez

Pithy question for the day:
"Birds of a feather flock together –
unless they are Cholerics."



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Capital Area Young Ringers Festival Tim Waugh, guest conductor March 4, 2006 * Raleigh, NC

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The Raleigh Ringers 8516 Sleepy Creek Drive Raleigh, NC 27613 1-866-717-7464 rradmin@rr.org WWW.RR.ORG

Area XII Workshop Registration Form

Event	
Email	
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 need to communicate with the contact person to determine such details as the event's beginning and ending times, driving directions, what to bring, etc. Check the Area XII website for registration forms and related information for larger Area XII events.

IMO: LET'S BACK UP FOR A MINUTE - A RINGER'S THOUGHTS

What a great article Bill Waggener has written (The Twelfth Tone June-July, 2005) on how to get your ringers to watch the director! Directors need to have technique worth watching and need to train ringers to follow visual cues with precision. Have you noticed that the skill level of a group is easily identified by how well the ringers follow? Level "A" catches the prep beat and the final cutoff; Level "B" also watches at special points like fermatas, ritards, and the Grand Pause; Level "C" glances up every measure or so; Level "D" (and this does exist!) watches every beat, memorized, or close to it. Most directors are happy and exhausted just getting to a For massed ringing, with a different conductor far, far away, we really need to be at Level C, minimum.

Those are great goals, but as a ringer, I know we can't get there just by the director being more demanding. Sure, expectations are very important to the final result, but there are obstacles to watching the director besides forgetting to look up. Two of these need to be addressed before the director cries, "Watch me!" These are familiarity with the music and knowing how to find one's place again after looking up. First, I think directors tend to forget that when we watch, we are playing from memory, even if it's just remembering that our long note is three beats. Of course, in performance we are ready to watch to the best of our training and ability, but in early rehearsals directors need to be better teachers and patient enough to give ringers a chance to learn their notes before requiring memory or speed. One of my favorite sayings is, "I haven't learned to sight read from memory yet."

If a section of music is hard, we need to examine it briefly before gaining the confidence needed to look up. Honestly, if ringers are struggling, directors have two choices: buried-nose ringing or random-ring watching. This is where skillful rehearsal may require a variety of techniques: a thirty-second study break, a sectional rehearsal or the opportunity to

take the music home for a week to work out a hard spot.

With some knowledge of where their notes are, how to count them, and what techniques are needed, ringers can be expected to watch. Mastery is not required yet, just familiarity. We need many more repetitions with the goal of staying together and emphasizing the emotional dynamics.

A second issue is knowing where to look when you go back to the music. Again, a back-to-basics approach will prevent panic. Not all ringers are pianists, adept at deciphering a full score. Most ringers need to be taught how the music notes relate to the sounds heard, so they can find their place by sight if they lose count of the beats. Long chords, shakes, or running eights both look and sound different, and may be spotted easily. Other cues are more subtle and need to be pointed out. We play a game which I call "Playing Lost." One ringer closes her (or his) eyes, or goes outside while the starting measure is silently communicated to the others. When the group starts playing, the "lost" ringer opens her eyes and starts hunting for where we are, joining in when she finds a likely place. Then we stop and ask her at which measure she thinks we ended and what cues she used. For competition, the director decides how many measures it took for her to find the right spot and start ringing. Everyone wants to try it, and all are motivated to find those cues. As a bonus, when the piece is repeated several times for others to try, everyone can get reps on the "hard" section.

As ringers improve, they will be more adept at the skills needed for watching, but with harder music comes sporadic tough spots needing a "back-up-for-a-minute" approach. Giving ringers these basic skills may seem to take more time, but confidence, freedom, memory, and following the director come from the knowledge of what and how to play. - Dian Ruder

LA METRO SPRING RING REPERTOIRE

Massed

Within the Darkest Night, Derek Hakes, 3-6 octaves, Level 2 AGEHR AG36028

This Joyful Eastertide, arr. Jayne McFadden, 3-5 octaves/3-4 octaves optional handchimes, Level 2+ **Agape 2276**

Meditation on "Beautiful Savior", arr. Cathy Mokelbust, 3-5 octaves [Level 2] **CGB175**

Division A

Grand March, Kevin McChesney 3-5 octaves, Level 2

Beckenhorst Press BEHB132 (Handbells)

BEHB132A (French Horn Part)

Division B

Bwana Asifiwe, Cathy Moklebust 3-5 octaves, Level 3+ **Choristers Guild CGB366** (Full Score) **CGB 367** (Handbell Part)

For more information, contact Shirley Heckman at lametro@areaxii.org.

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COMING EVENTS

	Б.	CI: : :	T	0. 1	G + + I f + !:
Event	Date	Clinician	Location	Cost	Contact Information
Ringers' Workshop	October 1, 2005	Lee and Bill Waggener	First Presbyterian Church 1515 W. Charleston Las Vegas, NV	\$18.00 (includes lunch and music)	Barb Walsh <u>nevada@areaxii.org</u> or Dixie Bailey dxbail@earthlink.net
Bay Area Handbell Seminar	October 1, 2005 8:00 am to 1:45 pm	Jim Meredith Martin Morley, Larry Sue, Dian Ruder, Dave Ruder Carol Smith	Valley Church 10885 N. Stelling Road Cupertino, CA	\$21.00 in advance \$25.00 at the door \$7.00 for music packet	Dave Ruder <u>daveruder@comcast.net</u>
Directors' Workshop	October 1, 2005	Christine Anderson	Lutheran Church of the Redeemer Atascadero, CA	\$25.00 in advance \$28.00 at the door	Shirley Werner shipley712@charter.net
Distinctly Bronze 2005	October 6-9, 2005	David Davidson	Marriott Waterside Hotel Norfolk, Virginia		http://www.agehr.org/
Ringers' Workshop	October 8, 2005	Jim Smith	Reno, NV	TBA	Barb Walsh nevada@areaxii.org
Ringers' Workshop	October 15, 2005 9:00 am - 3:00 pm	Martin Morley	Claremont UCCC 233 W. Harrison Claremont, CA	\$15.00 per AGEHR member, \$20.00 per non-member (includes lunch)	Shirley Heckman <u>lametro@areaxii.org</u>
Golden Gate District Methodist Mass Ring	October 22, 2005	Lynnelle Bilsey	Burlingame UMC 1443 Howard Avenue Burlingame, CA		Bruce Pettit goldengateumc@ sbcglobal.net
Seventh Bellfest	October 30, 2005	Christine Anderson	The Master's College	\$25.00 per choir	Claire Blackwell The Master's College Music Department cblackwell@masters.edu
Second Annual Twelfth Night Handbell Festival	January 6-8, 2006	Cathy Mokelbust	The Master's College 21726 Placerita Canyon Road Santa Clarita CA	\$32.50 per ringer before November 15, 2005; \$37.50 after November 15, 2005	Keir Karzin (661) 297-9282 (H) (818) 638-8600 X102 (W) keirnjules@aol.com
Fourteenth Annual Las Vegas Twelfth Night Festival	January 6-8, 2006	Douglas Benton	Faith Lutheran Jr/Sr HS Gymnasium 2015 S. Hualapai Way Las Vegas, NV	\$20.00 per person (includes lunch)	Janet Ty (702) 363-7428 jyty@aol.com Dixie Bailey (702) 431-9759 dxbail@earthlink.net
Twelfth Night	January 8, 2006 Afternoon - 7:00 pm	JoAnne Hammond	First United Methodist Church Chula Vista, CA	\$7.50 per person	JoAnne Hammond (619) 426-4101
Directors' Workshop	January 21, 2006	Bill Waggener	Claremont UCCC 233 W. Harrison Claremont, CA	\$20.00 per AGEHR director but free with 7 or more paid registrations for the 2006 LA Metro Spring Ring	Shirley Heckman <u>lametro@areaxii.org</u>
Southern California Reading Session	January 21, 2006	Rudy Rodriquez	St. Marks United Methodist Church Clairemont, CA	\$5.00 per person (does not include music packet)	JoAnne Hammond (619) 426-4101
Ensemble Workshop	February 11, 2006	Lee Waggener	Garden Grove United Methodist Church 12741 Main Street Long Beach, CA	TBA	Shirley Heckman lametro@areaxii.org
12 th Annual Oakland Handbell Festival	February 25, 2006	Tim Waugh	First Covenant Church Oakland, CA		dolores@handbells.com
Central Coast Spring Ring	March 11, 2006	Dave and Dian Ruder	United Methodist Church Arroyo Grande, CA	TBA	Shirley Werner shipley712@charter.net
Reno Directors' Seminar	March 11, 2006	Larry Sue			Barb Walsh nevada@areaxii.org
LA Metro Spring Ring	March 18, 2006	Lee and Bill Waggener	Grace Church of Glendora, 1515 S. Glendora Avenue Glendora, CA	TBA	Shirley Heckman <u>lametro@areaxii.org</u>
Southern California Spring Ring 2006	March 18, 2006`	William Kyle	Emmanuel Faith Community Church Escondido, CA	\$85.00 per AGEHR member choir; \$105.00 per nonmember choir; \$20.00 per individual AGEHR member; \$30.00 per individual nonmember	socal@areaxii.org

COMING EVENTS, continued

Bakersfield Spring Ring	March 25, 2006	Bill Waggener	St. John's Lutheran Church, 4500 Buena Vista Road, Bakersfield, CA	TBA	bellsofpraise@yahoo.com
Bay Area Spring Ring	March 25, 2006		Valley Church 10885 N. Stelling Road Cupertino, CA		daveruder@comcast.net
Cathedral Bells in Concert	April 2, 2006 at 4:00 pm		St. John's Lutheran Church 185 S. Center Street Orange, CA	Free will offering	Ramona Miller brmiller2@cox.net (714) 633-3034
TIMFOOLERY A day with Tim Waugh	April 8, 2006 8:00 am to 8:00 pm	Tim Waugh	Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd 1615 Morse Avenue Sacramento, CA		Paul W. Allen (916) 428-9719 Wendy Williams (916) 371-5772
Inland Empire Spring Ring	April, 2006	Bill Waggener	Riverside, CA	ТВА	Shirley Heckman lametro@areaxii.org
Sierra Spring Ring	May 6, 2006		Carson Middle School Carson City, NV		Barb Walsh nevada@areaxii.org
Young Ringers' Festival	May 23, 2006	Jim Smith			Barb Walsh <u>nevada@areaxii.org</u>
Area XII Ringers' and Young Ringers' Conferences 2006	June 22-25, 2006	Fred Gramann Shosh Meyer	Notre Dame de Namur University Belmont, CA	TBA	David Ruder chairelect@areaxii.org
Zephyr Point Handbell Conference	July 30 - August 3, 2006	Mary Balkow and Bill Alexander	Zephyr Point Presbyterian Conference Center Zephyr Cove, NV		zephyr@zephyrpoint.org

To submit your events, please email all relevant information to twelfthtone@areaxii.org.

AREA XII HANDBELL AND CHIME LOAN PROGRAM

Fall is a very exciting time for the bell loaner program, as groups report on the things they've accomplished and new groups get ready to start bell programs.

The loaner bells are moving onward, and one three octave set is on its way to the Carmel Mission and Junipero Serra School. They will be using them for both a school choir and a church group as well. A second three octave set of bells has been designated for the International High School in San Francisco. They are being transferred from Frich Elementary in Reno, Nevada. This is a particularly exciting loan, as the music teacher at International High School is taking responsibility for the bells, and then they will be used by a student director to start a bell choir on campus. This loan was in large part due to the concentrated efforts of Bay Area bell ringers and

directors, and as you can see, it paid off.

We have a set of handchimes now at Valley Therapeutic Center in Los Angeles from St. Mary's Catholic School in Apple Valley. St. Mary's was the recipient of a brand new set of chimes from National through an endowment program this year. If you may be interested in borrowing handbells or handchimes for your school, then send in an application today!

For further information and an application for next year's loan, contact:

Karen Curry 300 W. Latchwood Lane La Habra, CA 90631 (714) 879-0777 education@areaxii.org

A NOTE FROM THE KEYBOARD, continued

the ringers. I'm guessing this director's mindset is, "I can't do much if anything about these mistakes, so there's no point trying."

Honestly, now, where are you, and what is your relationship with your ringers - which well could have a major influence on your rehearsal philosophies? Have you even thought about what your umbrella goal for your ringers should be? Perhaps now at the beginning of the new ringing season is a good time to think about these questions.

So what triggered all of this? Thoughts of the upcoming Solo Concerts at the Ringers' Conferences 2006 as well as what I hope to achieve with my own ringers. Personally, I would much rather hear a less difficult piece presented confidently and magnificently than a fancier work that wasn't prepared to perfection! And the more handbell choirs I hear, the more firmly I'm convinced of this.

William L. Waggener Editor

REPERTOIRE FOR RINGERS'S CONFERENCES 2006

Young Ringers' Conference

Ringers' Conference

Massed

Bell Peal on Lasst Uns Erfreuen, arr. Linda Lamb 3-5 octaves, Level 1

Shawnee Press SPHP5453

Bound for Glory, arr. T. Waldrop 2-3 octaves, Level 1+ Alfred AP17551 Animato, Arnold Sherman
2-5 octaves, Level 3
(Division B plays Choir 1, Division A plays Choir 2)

AGEHR AG25002

Star Spangled Banner, John Bartsch 2-5 octaves, Level 2+ Jeffers JHS9040 (Handbell Part) JHS9040B (Brass Ensemble) JHS9040FS (Full Score)

Within the Darkest Night, Derek Hakes 3-6 octaves, Level 2 AGEHR AG36028

Division A

Hymn to Joy, arr. Kevin McChesney 2-3 octaves, Level 1+ Jeffers JHS9376

March of the Chimes, L. Hollander 2, 3 or 4 octaves, Level 2 Ring Out Press RO3236 Grand March, Kevin McChesney 3-5 octaves, Level 2 Beckenhorst Press BEHB132 (Handbells) BEHB132A (French Horn Part)

How Firm a Foundation, Sandra Eithun 2-3 octaves, Level 1+ Choristers Guild CGB305

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy, Sondra Tucker 3-5 octaves, Level 3

Augsburg Fortress Publishers AU0800674901

Division B

Cantad Al Senor, arr. Susan Geschke 3-5 octaves, Level 2 Agape HP2335

Ringing Victoriously!, Michael Mazzatenta 2-3 octaves, Level 2+ AGEHR AG23025 Bwana Asifiwe, Cathy Moklebust 3-5 octaves, Level 3+ Choristers Guild CGB366 (Full Score) CGB 367 (Handbell Part)

Change Ring Prelude on Divinum Mysterium, Fred Gramann 3-6 octaves, Level 3+ Lorenz LC201239L

> Thaxted: O God Beyond All Praising, Lee Afdahl 3 or 5 octaves, Level 3 Augsburg Fortress Publishers AU1110982

RINGERS' CONFERENCES 2006

Within a short time, you should receive a special mailing containing a four-page General Information sheet and the two Registration Forms for the Young Ringers' Conference 2006 and the Ringers' Conference 2006 which will be held on the campus of Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont, CA between June 22 and June 25, 2006.

The Young Ringers Conference (Thursday, June 22 - Friday, June 23) will be directed by Shosh Meyer. This event is planned for younger ringers (4^{th} through 8^{th} grades) with easier music and will culminate in a concert which will be part of the opening exercises of the Ringers' Conference. The Ringers' Conference (Friday, June 23 - Sunday, June 25) will be directed

by Fred Gramann, Director of Music at the American Church in Paris.

The setting for these Conferences is a beautiful college campus with native vegetation and wildlife all around. We will be using the University's facilities for classes, massed ringing, housing, and meals, and as a consequence, this event should be less costly overall than our recent Conferences.

The ringing space is smaller than we have used in the recent past. The advantage is that everyone should have a good view of our conductors; the disadvantage is that we will not be able to accommodate as many registrants as we could in

RINGERS' CONFERENCES 2006, continued

Ontario and Honolulu.

Early registration is strongly encouraged to avoid disappointment. Because space is quite limited, the registration mechanics will be somewhat different from those of the recent events. There will be no "early bird" deposit deadline - the nonrefundable deposits required to hold registration space will be accepted until all ringing space has been filled, A waiting list will be established for those whose registration material reaches us after the maximum capacity has been achieved. The final payments for those whose registrations have been accepted will be April 1, 2006, and any incomplete registration requests will be replaced with those on the waiting list at that time.

The Ringers' Conferences Committee has planned a number of special features for this event. Among other things, a Sonos concert is included in the fees for the Ringers Conference, and four other Area XII community ensembles will perform: Bay Bells, Canto Bello, Opus, and Riverbells. In addition, there will be a silent auction in support of the Area XII Handbells in Education Program, about which you will hear much more at a later date.

The main registration packages will include the registration fees, housing, and meals for each event. Commuter and Chaperone/Non-ringing Family packages will also be provided. In addition, a Conference T-Shirt and pin will be included for both events, and a special outdoor barbeque dinner is planned for the Ringers' Conference.

The housing arrangements are still in process but will be finalized shortly. For those who do not wish to be housed on campus, there are a number of local motels that are relatively close.

AGEHR and Area XII both have stipulations in their By-Laws requiring the membership to honor the copyright laws that apply to music. Consequently, photocopies of published music which are not accompanied by written approval from the copyright owner will not be allowed. Plan your budgeting to provide legitimate printed copies of the Conference Repertoire for your ringers.

The earlier you can begin teaching your ringers the music, the more comfortable they will be when they arrive. As those who have attended previous Ringers' Conferences would agree, watching the conductor is a very different issue when he or she is high up on a podium and a long ways away rather than standing within a few feet of the choir. The more thoroughly your ringers have prepared the music, the more they will get from the experience.

Since looking down for long periods risks rhythmic disasters, it is a good idea to be conservative with

your bell assignments for the Conference repertoire. If you choose to risk heroic assignments in order to perform this music at home, also practice a set of assignments that will allow your ringers to ring smoothly and competently - and plan on letting others in the massed ringing setting cover those few bells that you can't. Alternatively, indicate on the Registration Form that you expect to have openings for orphan ringers whom you will welcome at the opening rehearsal to bring your partial choir up to full strength!

Another feature of Ringers' Conferences is the opportunity to participate in a solo concert. Preparing a piece thoroughly enough to play it musically before the rest of the assembled group can give your ringers a tremendous boost in their technique, confidence, and musicianship. Start thinking now about what might be an appropriate piece for your group to present. You won't find a more supportive audience!

If you are bringing ringers whose ages by the end of the events is less than 18, you will need to provide chaperones who will guide and assist them through the activities of the event. A reduced fee schedule has been established to minimize the cost of bringing these very necessary assistants. More information regarding the duties and expectations of those serving as chaperones will be included in the Ringers' Conference packet now in preparation.

As in 2004 and 2005, email will be the primary means of communication between the Registrar and each registrant. Registration confirmation, additional information, arrival instructions - all sorts of information will be disseminated electronically. You will be asked to provide an email address for each registrant on your roster. All email addresses will be considered confidential and will be used only in conjunction with these events. If any registrant happens not to have access to email, we request that you supply the email address of someone is willing to forward a hardcopy anything sent out to registrants as soon as it has been received.

Those who will be attending their first Ringers' Conference are eligible to apply for one of the Jim Scott Memorial Scholarships. Two scholarships will be awarded: one for a ringer and one for a director. The criteria for eligibility will be included in the forthcoming Conference packet, and the application materials will be sent to each registrant whose registration request is received before the ringing space is filled. The awards will cover the registration fee, housing (at the double-occupancy rate) and all meals that are covered by the registration fee. The two honorees for 2006 will be introduced during the event and will be featured in a future issue of **The Twelfth Tone**.

2005-2006 Directors'/Ringers' Workshops

Ringers' Workshop

October 1, 2005 Lee and Bill Waggener, Clinicians

First Presbyterian Church 1515 W. Charleston Blvd,. Las Vegas, NV Contact: Barb Walsh nevada@areaxii.org

Directors' Workshop

October 1, 2005
Christine Anderson, Clinician
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer
Atascadero, CA

Contact: Shirley Werner shipley712@charter.net

Ringers' Workshop

October 15, 2005
9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Martin Morley, Clinician
Claremont UCCC
233 W. Harrison, Claremont, CA
\$15.00 per AGEHR member
\$20.00 per non-member (includes lunch)
Contact: Shirley Heckman lametro@areaxii.org

Reno Directors' Seminar

March 11, 2006 Larry Sue, Clinician Reno, NV Contact: Barb Walsh nevada@areaxii.org

Director's/Advanced Ringer's Seminar

October 1, 2005

Martin Morley, Larry Sue, Dian Ruder, Jim Merideth, Carol Smith, and Dave Ruder, Clinicians Valley Church 10885 N. Stelling Road, Cupertino, CA

Contact: Dave Ruder <u>DaveRuder@comcast.net</u>

Ringers' Workshop

October 8, 2005 Jim Smith, Clinician Reno, NV

Contact: Barb Walsh nevada@areaxii.org

Directors' Workshop

January 21, 2006
Bill Waggener, Clinician
Claremont UCCC
233 W. Harrison, Claremont, CA
\$20.00 per AGEHR director but free with
7 or more paid registrations for the LA Metro Spring Ring
Contact: Shirley Heckman lametro@areaxii.org

Southern California Reading Session

January 21, 2006
Mel Tully, Clinician
St. Marks United Methodist Church
Clairemont, CA
Contact: JoAnne Hammond (619) 426-4101

Ensemble Workshop

February 11. 2006 Lee Waggener, Clinician Garden Grove United Methodist Church 12741 Main Street, Long Beach, CA Contact: Shirley Heckman lametro@areaxii.org

2006 Spring Rings

LA Metro Spring Ring

March 18, 2006
Lee and Bill Waggener, Clinicians
Church of the Brethren
2425 E Street, La Verne, CA
Contact: Shirley Heckman lametro@areaxii.org

Bay Area Spring Ring

March 25, 2006 Valley Church 10885 N. Stelling Road, Cupertino, CA Contact: Dave Ruder <u>DaveRuder@comcast.net</u>

Central Coast Spring Ring

March 11, 2006
Dave and Dian Ruder, Clinicians
United Methodist Church
Arroyo Grande, CA
Contact: Shirley Werner shipley712@charter.net

Bakersfield Spring Ring

March 25, 2006

Bill Waggener, Clinician

St. John's Lutheran Church
4500 Buena Vista Road, Bakersfield, CA
Contact: bellsofpraise@yahoo.com

Inland Empire Spring Ring

April, 2006 Bill Waggener, Clinician Riverside, CA Contact: Shirley Heckman <u>lametro@areaxii.org</u>

Southern California Spring Ring

March 18, 2006
William Kyle, Clinician
Emmanuel Faith Community Church
Escondido, CA
Contact: Micki Mennet-Martin socal@areaxii.org

Sierra Spring Ring

May 6. 2006
Carson Middle School
Carson City, NV
Contact: Barb Walsh nevada@areaxii.org

The Area XII Ringers Conference 2006



Fred Gramann

Conductor

June 23 - 25, 2006

Young Ringers Conference 2006 Shosh Meyer, Conductor

June 22 - 23, 2006

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Belmont, California

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For more information, contact:

David Ruder, Area XII Chair chair@areaxii.org

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	Douglas E. Wagner, 3 octaves, L2-		arr. Mary Kay Parrish
HB-592	On that Wondrous Silent Night	HB-348	Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior
	Dan R. Edwards, 3 octaves, L2		arr. Dick Wall
HB-593	Fantasy on 'When I Survey the Wondrous Cross'	HB-601	Serenity
	Dan R. Edwards, 3 octaves, L2+		Aaron Moreno

HB-608 Covenant of Love Sondra Tucker, 3-5 octaves, L3 Nancy Jessup



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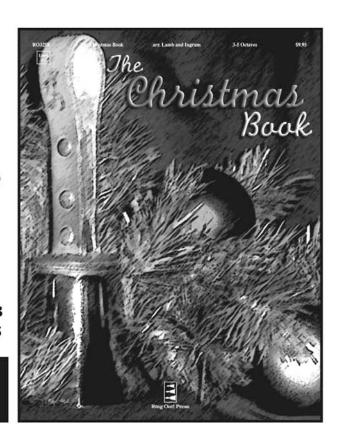
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A NOTE FROM THE KEYBOARD

Perfectionism, mediocrity, and complacency in handbells. We've all begun our fall season of rehearsals by now, and beyond the usual issues of who's coming back and what are we going to play, it would seem prudent to examine the philosophical approach we plan to take into those rehearsals, especially because most of us are under at least some pressure to produce - an anthem for Thanksgiving, a program for the women's fellowship, whatever it might be.

Perfectionism to some may seem to be an extreme, but let's look at its definition: seeking that quality of something that is as good or suitable as it can possibly be and the process of becoming or making something perfect.

To me, this definition ought to describe the vision a director has for the performance of each piece that is brought before the choir. In other words, not only will each bell be rung at the right time but also all of the musical nuances - dynamic and tempo changes, melodic versus harmonic structure, etc. - will be flawless.

What sort of mentality would be expected of the director who achieves perfection? I'm guessing that this director has spent a lot of time out of rehearsal thinking about a lot of things: the match between

his/her choice of repertoire and the technical skills and musicianship of the ringers, an analysis of the piece for form, structure, melodic line, and any idiosyncracies of the handbell idiom. I'm guessing that this director will work tactfully but very directly to correct mistakes as they occur and to guide the ringers through the learning process. I'm guessing that this director is able to prioritize problems as they arise, work immediately on those of greater significance, and return later to the lesser ones so they are neither ignored nor forgotten.

What about mediocre and complacent? The definitions I found are: a quality that is acceptable but not very good or somebody who is not particularly good at anything and being self-satisfied, usually in an unreflective way and without being aware of possible dangers, respectively. What would this director's rehearsals be like?

I'm guessing that this director hasn't taken the time to do much homework. I'm guessing that this director either hasn't yet learned how to analyze what's happening in the rehearsals in order to know what to fix or has become jaded to the imperfections taking place. I'm guessing that this director, consciously or unconsciously, has given up to some degree - either on him/herself or on one or more of (continued on Page 14)