



Handbell Musicians
O F A M E R I C A

Area 2 Twice Tolloed Tales

June 2020

www.area2.handbellmusicians.org



From the Chair . . .

What a different world it is since our last edition of Twice Tolloed Tales went out to our Area 2 family! The spread of COVID-19 has changed the landscape of normal for our choirs, orchestras, bands, and handbell ensembles. Our hearts are with our members who have lost their lives or the lives of loved ones to the virus, with the members who've experienced sickness either themselves or in their loved ones, with the members hit with unemployment or economic lost, with the members hurt and struggling with isolation. We've seen so much suffering, but we've also seen the ingenuity of human creativity in the music our homebound musicians are sharing over the internet and social media. We believe the time will come when we stand shoulder to shoulder again, sharing bells and music and once again doing the things we love with the people we love.

We were crushed to cancel our March Madness events this spring, even as we agreed it was for the best. We are also officially canceling our Destination Ring at Lake George in August as a precaution. This is an event I was personally looking forward to, partly for the gorgeous vacation location and partly because of the amazing Michael Helman as the clinician – we are now on a mission to actually have him at an Area 2 event one of these days!

In the midst of all this upheaval, however, I am pleased to introduce Billy Mild as our new Communications Coordinator. Billy is taking over the Area 2 social media duties, so please tag @hmaarea2 on Instagram or Twitter (Handbell Musicians of America Area 2 on Facebook) as you share your quarantine bell activities! We'd love to share how our members are making music and coping with the pandemic.

Lastly, we are in need of a new Membership Coordinator to welcome new members and manage our membership list. If you might be interested in volunteering, please contact me!

Liz

Elizabeth Nowik
chair.area2@handbellmusicians.org
Chair, Area 2

➔ Please Forward and Share!

Attention Directors – don't forget to forward all Area 2 e-mails and Twice Tolloed Tale issues to your ringers. As members of your choir, they are also members of Area 2. Help keep them in the Area 2 loop and encourage them to be active participants in their handbell community.

Area 2 Destination Ring - August 2020 CANCELLED

Unfortunately, Our Destination Ring scheduled for this August at the beautiful vacation spot below has been **CANCELLED** due to our country's situation with the Covid19 pandemic. It would have been so nice! Hopefully we can plan this again some year in the future!



WHERE CAN YOU HELP?

If you are a seasoned director/ringer who has an interest in helping others learn handbell skills and techniques., we'd like to include you in our pool of those willing to teach.

If interested, please contact Kaye Miller,
Mentor and Workshop Coordinator, Area 2

mentoring.area2@handbellmusicians.org

or

workshops.area2@handbellmusicians.org.

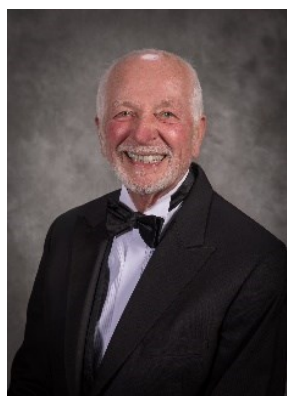
Report from Recent Area 2 Board Meeting

The HMA Area 2 Board held their quarterly meeting on Ring Central™ on May 15-16, 2020. Here are some of the decisions made and actions taken by the Board:

- Cancelled the Destination Ring event scheduled for August 2020, due to COVID 19
- Allow the 2019-2020 recipients of chime lending to extend their loan agreement to the 2020-2021 academic year
- Welcomed Billy Mild as a new Board Member, serving as Communications Chair
- Identified the Area 2 Composition Contest Winner. The composition, “Together as One” by Jason Krug, will be premiered at the Area 2 Handbell Festival to be held at the Lancaster Conference Center, Lancaster, PA, on June 25-27, 2021
- Selected the ringing repertoire for the 2021 Festival to be directed by Dr. William Payn
- Continued planning for the 2021 Masterclass (part of the 2021 Handbell Festival) with clinician, Karen Lakey Buckwalter
- Began work to identify a site for the 2023 Handbell Festival
- Reviewed Scholarship and Endowment information to be finalized in September 2020
- Continued work to plan the Young Ringers Festival to be held on May 21-23, 2021, with Elizabeth Nowik, conductor



2021 Festival Conference



Bill Payn
Festival Conductor



Karen Lakey Buckwalter
Masterclass Clinician

Lancaster Convention Center
June 25-27, 2021

Coppers

Exultate Deo – J Fedon	Level 3	3-5 oct	AG35355
I Will Arise and Go to Jesus – M Compton	Level 3	3-5 oct	AG35313

Bronze

Elegy – W Payn	Level 4	4-5 oct	HP1277
Te Deum – D Wagner	Level 4	4-7 oct/opt chimes	BL5027

Massed Ringing

Exuberance – W Payn & M Glasgow	Level 3	3-7 oct bells/3 oct chimes	CGB1100
Majestic Alleluia – J Raney	Level 2+	3-5 oct	HP2876
Soliloquy for Bells – K Buckwalter	Level 2+	3-5 oct	SPHP5175

2021 Festival Conference Composition Contest Winner

Together as One

Jason Krug

Publication Details TBD

Mentoring and Workshop Information

Kaye Miller, Mentoring & Workshop Coordinator

Needless to say, Area 2's March Madness Read and Ring events didn't happen exactly how we thought they would. First of all, the board would like to thank all those who were willing to coordinate and host our Read and Ring events, clinicians who were willing to give of their time, and Jeffers Handbell Supply for their help with supplying music. Prior to any of our events being held, we found it necessary to cancel all events for the safety of all involved. We are hopeful to provide these events in the future. Please be reminded your Area 2 board is here to serve you in any capacity we can. If you find you are in need of a refresher session with your ringers, to get you back to ringing when we are given the go-ahead. or if there is a special need/interest you have for yourself or a topic that might even be able to be taught virtually, please contact us. workshops.area2@handbellmusicians.org.

Techniques and Skills

Finding that your choir could use a refresher course on their ringing techniques and skills? mentoring.area2@handbellmusicians.org

Mentoring

Have you been ringing for years and now find yourself the "Director"? Area 2's clinicians are eager to mentor and guide you. Not only will your role become enjoyable, you will build a lasting relationship with your mentor. mentoring.area2@handbellmusicians.org

Back to Bells

Maybe through all of this, church members have an interest in dusting your churches handbells off and getting back to ringing. We are eager to help. We can offer assistance in training directors, attracting ringers and getting your bell program started again. mentoring.area2@handbellmusicians.org

**Let us be open to new changes,
let us ring together again soon,
and let us support each other
in our endeavors.**



Handbell Musicians
O F A M E R I C A
Area 2



Interested in Composing?

The bell tree community is seeking music to help move bell trees from the periphery into the mainstream by seeing more bell trees playing with handbell choirs in concerts, church services, and other venues. We are defining the mainstream as handbell choirs who play level 2+ to 3 music and have 3 to 5 octaves of bells and probably chimes. We are seeking more music for this range.

2020 Bell Tree Composition Contest

\$2000 Contest Prize

Entries must be postmarked or submitted via email by August 15th, 2020

TO ENTER:

Submit a cover letter, manuscript PDF and MP3 together in a single mailed packet or via email by August 15th, 2020. The cover letter must contain the title, performance duration, composer's name, address, telephone number and email address. The manuscript must include the title, bell used chart (if applicable), optional instruments, and separate handbell tree part.

DO NOT INCLUDE THE COMPOSER'S NAME ON ANY PAGE OF THE MANUSCRIPT.

MAIL SUBMISSIONS TO: Jane Vakoc at jane@vakoc.com or 18160 Cottonwood Rd. #259, Sunriver, OR 97707.

1. Composition requirements:

- a) An original composition or public domain arrangement.
- b) Bell tree part for a moderately skilled ringer and a handbell choir part Level 2+ to 3.
- c) Bell tree part may include C5-C7 and/or bells down to G4 and up to G7, requiring 2 mallets (or minimum use of 4 mallets).
- d) Must include 3-5 oct handbell choir or optional 3-5 oct handchime choir or parts of both; optional additional instruments acceptable.
- e) Performance duration guideline: 3 - 4 minutes.

2. Please use most current HMA publication Handbell Notation and Grading System as a guide for all handbell notations.

3. Composers may enter as many manuscripts as they wish but each one must be sent under a separate cover letter.

4. Decision of the judges is final and will be announced in November 2020.

5. The winning entry will be published by Jeffers Handbell Supply and will be submitted for performance at the 2021 National Seminar.

6. Into the Forest will request a suitable dedication line.

7. Adherence to copyright laws is expected for all compositions.

QUESTIONS: Contact Karen Van Wert from Into the Forest at kvwcreations@yahoo.com.

This contest is focused on increasing compositions which will bring bell trees from the periphery into the mainstream of the handbell world.

The goal of the music is to have the bell tree and the handbell choir part interrelated, woven together musically. The bell tree part is not a descant, an ostinato, or a repeat of the handbell choir part. It is a significant part, equal with the handbell choir part. The handbell choir part is not an accompaniment to the bell tree nor a stand-alone part with the bell tree optional. Both are necessary for the whole.

The goal is to have a composition playable by the mainstream of handbell choirs, level 2+ through level 3. The challenge is to compose it with what many handbell choirs in this category have – that is, a 3-to-5 octave set of handbells and/or a 3-octave set of chimes. Other ideas will be considered, but top priority will be given to this arrangement of equipment.

The bell tree part is to be interesting and playable. It should require the skill of a moderately skilled handbell ringer but not require the skill of an advanced bell tree ringer. Compositions which limit the number of sharps and flats to 2 are encouraged. Key changes are acceptable as long as they use two sharps/flats or less. Standard setup is preferred but not required. (See *A Bell Tree Keyboard Manual*, Tree-O Publications 117.) While you are composing, be aware that many handbell choirs in this range do not have duplicate bells.

The compositions will be evaluated without identification of the composer on the manuscript. Two handbell choirs will read through the compositions, Bells of the Lakes in Minnesota, and The Bells of Sunriver in Oregon. Both handbell choirs have experienced bell tree ringers who can evaluate the bell tree part. Evaluations will be made by the ringers, the directors, and the bell tree players.

The winning composition will be published by Jeffers Handbell Supply and will be submitted for performance at the 2021 National Seminar. “Honorable Mention” manuscripts will be promoted for publication to support the goal of having more compositions for bell tree and handbell choir available.



New Members

New Jersey

Kimberly Lawton
Martinville, NJ 08836

Sharon Lawton
Martinville, NJ 08836

Jose Daniel Mojica
Flemington, NJ 08822

Ned Perwo
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Bordentown, NJ 08505

Margaret Sheneman
Flemington Presbyterian Ch
Flemington, NJ 08822

New York

Ontario

Pennsylvania

Marilyn Hines
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

Larry Allen
Mount Lebanon U. Lutheran Ch
Pittsburgh, PA 15228

Richard Minnotte
Pittsburgh, PA 15216

MaryRita Rosetti
Our Lady of Fatima Church
Aliquippa, PA 15001

Welcome!
(and maybe Welcome Back!)

Note from the Editor:

It has been my pleasure to be the editor of the Area 2 Twice Told Tales for at least 10 years. Taking over as editor after my term on the board seemed like a natural way to be sure I stayed in tune with all that our area had to offer. So many things have happened over the years: obviously new board folks to work with, printing and mailing the TTT is now easier with most receiving it electronically, a name change from AGEHR to HMA, new styles of workshops and festivals, and changing venues for our Area 2 Festival from a college campus to a conference center. My work with my handbell choir continues to take me (and them) to many places locally, nationally, and even internationally (we've been to 3 symposiums)! One thing that hasn't changed is the mission of our Handbell World, the terrific friends I've made - and will continue to do make, and all of our love for what we do! I wish you the best and hope to see you many more times in the future. Good luck to Billy as he takes over this important task. Continue to share this newsletter with your ringers, and to take advantage of all Area 2 and national offers! Thank you.

Kathie Bittenbender

Area 2 Board Members 2019–2021



Handbell Musicians
OF AMERICA

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Chairman

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Past Chair

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APPOINTED POSITIONS

Membership

Needed!
Can you help us??

Education Chair

Cynthia Reineke
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518 368-6514
1052turtle@gmail.com

Historian

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bellkagan@gmail.com

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67 Clover Place
Lebanon, PA 17042
717 679-0041
kmm5775@comcast.net

Communications Coordinator

Billy Mild
600 Church Street
Bound Brook, NJ 08805
732 844-9772
billy@mild.net

Next TTT deadline is
August 15, 2020

www.area2.handbellmusicians.org



HMA Area 2 BELLETIN BOARD

***Still* Happening!
National Seminar 2020
in Orlando, Florida**

July 16-20, 2020
(virtual or attend live!)

Registration info found at:
www.handbellmusicians.org