

# Clapper Chatter

Minnesota • North Dakota • South Dakota • Wisconsin • Manitoba



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Handbell Musicians  
OF AMERICA

## From the Chair

*by Anita Fraundorf*

This is the last Clapper Chatter for 2021 so Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! (Remember to breathe.)

As thankfulness is a big focus during the month of November, I want to let you know that I am grateful for our Area 7 members all year! This includes our dedicated Area 7 Board which has been working and planning to bring back the events we have missed. We've all experienced grief in many ways over the past 20 months, but little by little we are beginning to experience the joy of ringing and being in community with other like-minded individuals, as we will be at Anthornis, 2021 on November 12-13. (Take a satisfying breath.)

I'm also grateful for the many published composers and arrangers that are, or have been, associated with Area 7: Lee J. Afdahl, Gloria Axelson, Joshua Bauder, John A. Behnke, Mark E. Bloedow, Karissa Dennis, Mitchell Eithun, Sandra Eithun, Jacob Erdman, Jeffrey Honoré, Patricia Hurlbutt, Lloyd Larson, Amy Maakestad, William H. Mathis, Paul McKlveen, Patrick Meyer, Cathy Moglebust, Sandy Mullaney, Timothy O'Grady, Scott Pfitzinger, Carol Scheel, Julie Stitt, and Karen Van Wert. An impressive list! (Take a thankful breath.)

Ask any soloist, small ensemble member, or bell choir member, and without a doubt she or he will tell you that they have been rehearsing Christmas music since the second rehearsal in September (or even earlier). And yet, do we ever feel prepared when December rolls round? Are we ready to play for worship or to present that concert? (Now is definitely the time for a calming breath.). It's good to focus on the fact that music is a gift for the listeners and ringers alike. May you be so blessed by these gifts this Christmas season!

In January: Cold December Flies Away: "In the hopeless time of sin shadows deep had fallen. All the world lay under death, eyes were closed in sleeping. But when all seemed lost in night, came the sun whose golden light brings unending joy, brings the endless joy of our hope, highest hope, of our hope's bright dawning, Son beloved of heaven." (Catalonian carol, Lo Desembre Congelat, English translation by Howard Hawhee). Here's to a hopeful New Year! (Breathe in the promise.)

On the journey with you,  
~Anita

# Board Notes

The Handbell Musicians of America organization celebrated New Year on October 1. This may seem a bit early, but October 1 is the beginning of the new fiscal year for HMA as well as the transition date for area leadership. In Area 7 we welcomed three new Board members: Jordan Goodwater (Northern Minnesota Sub Area Chair), Chad Winterfeldt (Southern Minnesota Sub Area Chair), and Stacey Nordmeyer (Southern Wisconsin Sub Area Chair). We are so fortunate that they said "yes" when asked to serve, and we look forward to working with them over the next two years.

In July the **HMA National Seminar** had two options for participants: an in-person event in Glendale-Phoenix, Arizona or a virtual component. While there's nothing like being in person, having virtual access to classes and concerts is an excellent option for the membership.

The **National Staff and Board** will meet virtually with leaders from all 12 Areas on November 6, and provide some training for Chairs, Chairs-Elect, Secretaries, Treasurers, Membership Chairs, and Publication/Communication Managers.

The **Holiday Party Ring-a-thon** is scheduled for December 10! This is a National Event and fundraiser.

Watch for more information in *Overtones* and in e-blasts/messages from National.

This fall we were unable to hold the **Kids' Ring** event, but we are exploring other dates for 2022. Stay tuned for more information!

**Anthornis** is on the calendar for November 12-13, with Kathleen Ebling Shaw. At the last Board meeting, the members discussed COVID protocols for this event. You should have received an email about the plans, but if you did not receive that message, contact the [Chair](#) or check the [Area 7 website](#) for more information.

The **Area 7 Nominating Committee** has been working hard on the slate of nominees for Chair-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. You will be able to meet these candidates in the February *Clapper Chatter*. Make certain that you participate in the online voting when it opens in early spring. The new officers will be announced at the 2022 Festival Conference.

Speaking of the **Festival Conference**, make plans to attend the event in [Duluth June 10-12, 2022](#)! Thanks to our Events Coordinator, Alanna Teragawa, things are coming together nicely, so watch for registration to open after the first of the year. More information about the Festival Conference can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

## Area 7 Published Handbell Composers

Lee Afdahl	Karissa Dennis	Jeffrey Honore	Patrick Meyer	Carol Scheel
Gloria Axelson	Mitchell Eithun	Lloyd Larson	Cathy Moglebust	Julie Stitt
Joshua Bauder	Sandra Eithun	Amy Maakestad	Sandy Mullaney	Karen Van Wert
John Behnke	Jacob Erdman	William Mathis	Timothy O'Grady	
Mark Bloedow	Patricia Hurlbutt	Paul McKlveen	Scott Pfitzinger	

*Let us know if we have left someone off the list.*



Carol Scheel

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If you would like to know more or have questions, please contact Bill Alexander at [editor.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:editor.area7@handbellmusicians.org)



## From the Northern Wisconsin Sub-Area Chair



### Leigh-Ann Lethco

As the newly appointed Sub Area Chair for Northern Wisconsin, I look forward to getting to know members and helping with membership renewals, recruitment of members, working at events, and encouraging members to participate in handbell activities. I'm looking forward to being more involved in HMA.

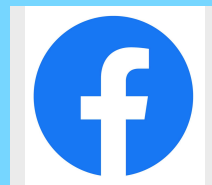
I have been directing the handbell choir at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh (UWO) for about 15 years. I also teach a variety of music and music education courses. Prior to university teaching, I was a public school teacher in Ohio where I taught 5-12 band and K-6 general music. My graduate degrees are in music education and conducting. I started ringing during my master's degree program when a graduate student offered a handbell methods course. I was hooked! I have rung in choirs in Louisiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin for about 20 years.

The UWO Handbell Choir is comprised of students from all colleges on campus. It is required that ringers already read music, but they are not all music majors. Most are ringing for their first time. After two semesters of small COVID ensembles that rang 12 bells, I'm excited to have my largest group yet of 14 fabulous students. We don't have enough bells to keep all of these energetic ringers busy, so when this happens I borrow bells from a local high school or my church. We perform all styles and genres of music, but we particularly enjoy new original works for handbells as well as unique arrangements. We are fortunate to get to work with UWO composition faculty and their students and have read and performed several of their works. I hope that my students will one day fill community bell choirs around the state.

I'd like to give a special welcome to new members Joan Northouse and Saydi Olson. I'm looking forward to seeing you at an event.

**Thank you to all the members who renewed their membership! Please invite others to join and consider adding your ringers for only \$10/year per person. Let's keep our handbell organization strong and vital both now and into the future!**

**There are many ways to keep up with what Area 7 is doing. The more you explore, the more you will know. Click for more.**



## International Handbell Symposium Heads to Nashville in 2022

Join handbell musicians from around the world for the 20th International Handbell Symposium at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center in Nashville, TN, August 1-6. Come early for the bonus events, College Ring-In International with Dr. William Payn and Mr. Toshikazu Yoshida or the HMA Seminar Experience for access to extra handbell classes and handbell industry exhibits.



# Area 7 Events

by Events Coordinator Alanna Teragawa

## ANTHORNIS

### *Ringing Event This Month!!*

As of this writing, this event WILL happen—masked, but it will happen. Registration closed last month, but if you would still like to participate, contact the Registrar today for registration details:

[registrar.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:registrar.area7@handbellmusicians.org).

To be as COVID-safe as possible, Area 7 has implemented some protocols that adhere to CDC guidelines and protocols adopted by the venue.

If you are participating in the event, you will be sent documents by the Registrar to self-check yourself each day of the event, and other Covid guidelines that must be followed.

If the outbreak numbers stay about where they are today, the public concert will go on. However, the 3:30 Saturday concert will be open to only those who are friends or family of the participating ringers. This is so we can ensure that we have enough space to social distance in the audience area. If we must limit the audience numbers, the participating ringers will be asked to inform their guests of the limited space.

Whether you're participating in the event or just a spectator, you are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item to support the local STEP Food Shelf.

## Notes: Karen Van Wert–Conference Choir Conductor

**Conference Choir** is an opportunity for ringers to excel at their craft, work with a group of equally dedicated musicians, and present three well-prepared pieces in concert. Come with music prepared and we will fine tune it as an ensemble during the festival. Lake Superior is the inspiration for the selections we will be performing.

Kathleen Wissinger's Call of the Water "**Living Water**" is an original work that includes bell tree, singing bells, wind chimes, and finger cymbals. Envision awaking to the undulating sound of the waves coming ashore in the Duluth Harbor, quietly beckoning you to the water. The piece builds as a typical day in the harbor: people gather and there is a natural bustle of activity, with the lake always a constant in the scene. There is a sense of the water getting deeper, a reflection of a deepening faith found in "Living Water." I feel the sun shining throughout and the calm that water often brings.

While at the lake shore, you might want to wade in the water on a hot day. Sandra Eithun captures this feeling with the rhythmic African-American spiritual, "**Wade in the Water**". The ringers are going to love this piece because it is energetic, powerful, and satisfying. The audience will hate to see this piece end, so pay attention, as it goes quickly.

We will be premiering "**Built on the Rock**" (arr. Kevin McChesney), commissioned by Area 7 in honor of my time as the Area 7 Chair and to those who served with me. When I hear this piece, I think of Split Rock Light House standing tall on the rocky cliff of Lake Superior. This strong beacon shines bright like the church bells—calling, praising, warning. Kevin's arrangement features an optional bell tree because I love a good bell tree part. I love the diversity of emotions in the piece, from crumbling spires to strengthening spirit, all while the bells are still chiming and ringing.

I am overjoyed to be directing the Conference Choir at the 2022 Area 7 Festival in Duluth, MN. I've been waiting almost five years for this event. I hope you will consider participating in the Conference Choir. I promise an unforgettable experience.





# Bronze Plus Choir Notes

The Bronze Plus choir at the Festival Conference will be comprised of a single six-octave group, performing music at levels 4-5. It will be a wonderful opportunity for 13-14 outstanding handbell musicians to perform very challenging, engaging music in a professional atmosphere. Musicians must arrive with the music fully prepared, and be willing and able to make any changes when needed.

**"Prologue and Rhythmic Dance"** is an original composition by Cathy Moglebust, commissioned in honor of the 10th anniversary of the Back Bay Ringers of Boston, Massachusetts. The mystical mood of the Prologue is followed by a light and lively dance, using triangle, bongos, and tambourine to accentuate the rhythmic patterns of 7/8, 4/4, 6/8, 3/4, and 10/8.

Area 7's community of Waupaca, Wisconsin commissioned Cathy in 1997 to write a piece in memory of Ms. Margaret Miller, a champion of the fine arts in her community who was selected as Wisconsin's "Most Active Senior," and honored at the 1987 State Fair. **"Remembrance"** illustrates Margaret's passion for the arts combined with the hard work, diligence, and perseverance required to bring quality music to her community.

And now for something completely different... Hart Morris' arrangement of the Irving Berlin classic **"Puttin' on the Ritz."** Drum set and string bass combine to form a swinging, energetic rendition of the song made popular in the 1974 Mel Brooks movie "Young Frankenstein"—or is it "Frankenstein?" Lol...

See you next summer! ~Cathy Moglebust

## Equipment Needed

To offer the superior classes at the Festival, lots of equipment is needed. Handbells. Handchimes. Foam. Bell trees. All borrowed equipment is covered by insurance from the time it leaves your church/organization up to its safe return. Because all registrants through the years have been so respectful of borrowed equipment, nothing has ever gotten damaged or lost. Contact Michelle Finlon at [chime.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:chime.area7@handbellmusicians.org) if you have equipment to loan. Michelle, Bonnie Tranby, and Alyssa Boock have agreed to secure, protect, and transport all loaned equipment.

Thank you!

# Area Events Calendar

## November 12, 2021 – ANTHORNIS Reading Session

7:00-8:15pm Westwood Lutheran Church, 9001 Cedar Lake Road, St. Louis Park, MN

**Clinician: Kathy Ebling Shaw**

Sight read a variety of music that highlights ringing techniques and is just plain fun to ring.

## November 13, 2021 – ANTHORNIS Event

**Clinician: Kathy Ebling Shaw**

A one-day event for adult/college ringers who rehearse challenging yet attainable music to present at a free concert that Saturday afternoon.

## November 13, 2021 – ANTHORNIS Concert

3:30pm concert open free to the friends and family of the registered ringers. See the article elsewhere in this newsletter for the explanation.

Westwood Lutheran Church, 9001 Cedar Lake Road, St. Louis Park, MN

## June (9)10-12, 2022 – Area 7 Festival Handbell Conference

Duluth, Minnesota – Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center (DECC)

(Thursday evening - optional pre-Festival events), classes and rehearsals Friday and Sunday.

**Clinicians: Cathy Moglebust, Bill Alexander, and Karen Van Wert**, with experienced faculty teaching a variety of classes on Friday and Saturday.

## June 10, 2022 – Strikepoint in Concert

7:30pm Friday Symphony Hall, (DECC), Duluth, Minnesota

Tickets available to the public online or at the door. Festival registrants admitted free.

## June 12, 2022 - Closing concert of the Festival Handbell Conference

1:30pm open and free to the public at the DECC, Duluth. A food or cash donation to the local Foodshelf will be collected.

# More Information Coming

The February issue of the Clapper Chatter will include much of the Festival information, including class schedules, hotel registration information, and Festival registration information details. As information gets finalized, the Area 7 website will be updated, if you simply can't wait until February.

# From the Southern Wisconsin Sub-Area Chair

## Ready to Rebuild! By Stacey Nordmeyer

I am excited to join the Board as the Southern Wisconsin Sub-Area Chair! As my term has just begun, I'm still learning many (OK, all!) of the ropes on what to do and how to best serve Area 7 and all of you!

As I type this, my "handbell heart" is full! As a ringer in the Milwaukee Handbell Ensemble, we're preparing for in-person concerts this Christmas season. After missing that last year, I can hardly wait!

This weekend at my church, we were able to ring as a full choir for the first time in over a year. Oh, how we all missed that big, glorious five-octave sound! After a year of smaller ensembles, distanced, and on individual music stands, it was so good to feel a bit "normal" again.

This has certainly been a challenging time for many of us. But even with those challenges, I've been encouraged at how we as ringers have not only been able to adapt, but to become stronger. I hope these ring true for you as well:

- Our sightreading skills were sharpened, as at times we met, learned the anthem, and shot the video for our weekend's services, all in one night.
- Our listening skills were made keener, as distanced ringing meant the musical lines were "farther away" from us than we were used to.
- Our comfort level with different ringing positions increased, too. That flexibility is always a plus.

On a personal note, one of the biggest lessons I've learned from these past months is how to manage expectations. "We've always done it this way" has become a thing of the past, and this is a good thing! Perhaps the repertoire is a little easier than it was before. That's OK! Perhaps the same group of ringers from before can't commit to a full season of

ringing. That's OK, too! Our "October" group at church is different than our "November" group, and we'll be different still for December.

I'm also excited that our annual Area 7 event, Anthornis, has returned for 2021. If you're looking to ring some challenging music with a great clinician, this is the place. I hope to meet many of you there, or at other events in the coming months.

Best wishes for the rebuild!  
~Stacey



We are searching for a way to express our appreciation to Area 7 member, former Board Chair, and Festival Conference 2022 Clinician, Karen Van Wert, for her generosity. During the Silent Auction at the National Seminar in July, Karen bid on and won a certificate for Michael Glasgow to be the Clinician at an Area 7 event (to be determined). **Thank you, Karen!**

## Cynthia Dobrinski



Well known composer and arranger Cynthia Dobrinski died October 12, 2021 at the age of 71. Cynthia earned her Bachelor of Music at Texas Christian University and her Master of Music in organ performance at Northwestern University. She was a Fulbright scholar. Cynthia was a frequent guest clinician and massed ringing conductor in Area 7, and there are 175 of her works currently in print.

### The Raleigh Ringers

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 [/RaleighRingers](https://www.facebook.com/RaleighRingers)

 [@RaleighRingers](https://twitter.com/RaleighRingers)

 [@RaleighRingers](https://www.instagram.com/RaleighRingers)

# Anthornis — 2021 Details — St. Louis Park, Minnesota

**November 12-13, 2021**

## Friday: Reading Session. 7:00-8:15PM

*Sight-read fun music while refreshing your handbell skills.*

*You may attend just the reading session.*

Saturday: 8:30AM-3:30PM—Massed Rehearsals,  
preparing event repertoire for the concert.

**The 3:30 concert is open only to those who are  
friends or family of the participating ringers.**

This event is for those who want to ring  
more challenging music. Start lining up your ringing buddies.

## Westwood Lutheran Church

9001 Cedar Lake Road,  
St. Louis Park, MN

### Registration Deadline is October 30, 2021.

**\$15** for Friday night Reading Session only 7-9PM.

**\$65** for both days, 8:30-3:30PM.

Due to COVID-19 guidelines, no meals will be provided.

Please bring your own beverages, snacks and lunch.

[Follow this link to register.](#)

Credit Cards or Checks are accepted.

Contact: Trevor Lee [registrar.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:registrar.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

Everyone should register as an individual ringer.

There will be an extra set of handbells & handchimes available for those attending without a choir. The registrar will contact you to place you in a ringing position.

## ORPHAN CHOIRS

If you would like to rehearse with a group and either of the locations listed below are nearby, contact the director below before September 19th to obtain your ringing position and more information.

### North Twin Cities Metro: PLYMOUTH Tuesdays 7:00-9:00PM

October 5, 12, 19, 26, Nov 2, Nov 9

Church of the Epiphany, 4900 Nathan Lane N. 55442

Sandy Mullaney: [msmullaney@q.com](mailto:msmullaney@q.com) 763-229-5386

### South Twin Cities Metro: APPLE VALLEY Saturdays 9:00-11:00AM

October 16, 23, 30, Nov 6

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran, 12650 Johnny Cake Ridge Road

Alanna Teragawa: [alanna.k9@gmail.com](mailto:alanna.k9@gmail.com) 612-819-5778

The event **REPERTOIRE LIST**,  
updates for the event and registration information  
are available at

<https://area7.handbellmusicians.org/anthornis-2021/>

## Kathy Ebling Shaw, Conductor



Marking her almost thirtieth year as conductor of the Westminster Concert Bell Choir, Kathleen Ebling Shaw is a member of the sacred music department at Westminster Choir College of Rider University, where she teaches classes in handbell training and conducts a second handbell choir. She is a graduate of Westminster Choir College.

Well known as a handbell clinician, Mrs. Shaw has conducted sessions for the Handbell Musicians of America (AGEHR) both on the local and national levels. Other engagements have included sessions for the American Guild of Organists; the New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Texas Music Educators Conferences; Choristers Guild; Presbyterian Association of Musicians Conferences; the St. Olaf Church Music Conference; and International Handbell Symposia.

She traveled with the Westminster Concert Bell Choir during a critically acclaimed 15-city North American "A Royal Christmas" tour, performing with Julie Andrews, Christopher Plummer, Charlotte Church and the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra.

Choirs under the direction of Mrs. Shaw have performed at Carnegie Hall and the World Financial Center's Festival of Light and Sound. They have also been featured on Lifetime Television, QVC, NBC's Today Show, New Jersey Network, Mister Rogers' Neighborhood and NBC's nationally televised Lighting of the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree.

Mrs. Shaw is also the recipient of an Alumni Merit Award from Westminster Choir College of Rider University in recognition of her dedication to the art of handbell ringing and her enthusiasm and accomplishments in the classroom as well as the concert hall.

## SERVICE PROJECT

Non-perishable food item(s) will be collected to help support the local food shelf— St. Louis Park STEP Program.

*"Helping Hands from Handbells"*



The event is named "Anthornis" after New Zealand bellbirds. The bellbirds sing loud, rich rambling songs, often in duet or with neighboring birds in concert. They

have three distinct songs; one most often sung at dawn, is a series of pure, bell-like tones from which the bird gets its name. Note that a bell shape is formed when the two birds are combined in the logo above.





# Congratulations to Lee Afdahl



Luther College announced the 2021 recipients of the Distinguished Service Award. The award is presented to alumni or individuals with strong connections to Luther College who have exhibited admirable service to society in areas such as education, government, the arts, business, church, labor, industry, agriculture, research, medicine, and community affairs. One of the nine recipients is Area 7's own Lee Afdahl!

Lee Afdahl's 50-year career as a church musician, organist, conductor, and composer has taken him from Michigan to St. Paul. In 1991 he moved to Rochester, Minnesota, where he served 28 years as director of music and organist at First Presbyterian Church. He retired as director of music emeritus in 2019.

Lee has been a conductor and clinician for handbell, choral, and church music conferences nationally and internationally. He is a past president of the Handbell Musicians of America and represented the organization as a conductor at the International Handbell Symposia in Australia in 1994, the United Kingdom in 2012, and South Korea in 2014.

He is an active organ recitalist, published composer, and arranger of handbell, instrumental, and choral music with over 100 compositions and arrangements in print. He continues to volunteer time for the American Guild of Organists, Choristers Guild, Handbell Musicians of America, and the Rochester Music Guild. Prior to retiring Lee organized an extensive free concert series for 28 years, and additional seasonal recitals to serve the Rochester community.



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## Twin Cities Bronze announces Artistic and Music Director Search



### Are you the next Twin Cities Bronze Artistic and Music Director?

When Amy Maakestad was selected as AMD, she told us that she would give us 10 years. Time flies...VERY FAST! The time for Amy to leave the position of AMD has come.

We are looking for someone to continue the body of work that Twin Cities Bronze represents.

***Performing. Innovating. Educating.***

Information is available at [TwinCitiesBronze.org](http://TwinCitiesBronze.org) or send an email to [SearchCommittee@TwinCitiesBronze.org](mailto:SearchCommittee@TwinCitiesBronze.org)

## Mid-Winter Workshop

**Cathy Moglebust**

and Twin Cities Bronze



**ONLINE REGISTRATION OPEN NOW!**

[TwinCitiesBronze.org](http://TwinCitiesBronze.org)

Join Twin Cities Bronze and Cathy Moglebust for a day of ringing and fellowship as we explore a wide variety of repertoire.

Review or learn the techniques for successful performance, strategies for teaching tricky passages, and how to turn the notes on the page in to beautiful music. Nothing to "schlep."

Twin Cities Bronze provides the equipment.

January 22, 2022 9:00am-3:00pm  
Path of Grace UMC  
759 County Rd B East Maplewood MN

## Twin Cities Bronze *Christmas Concert*

December 5, 2021  
4:00 PM

Our annual Christmas Concert returns as a celebration of light, joy, and beauty.

Immerse yourself in the experience as we welcome the Holiday Season with familiar carols, world premieres, and a live audience!

Incarnation Lutheran Church  
4880 Hodgson Road Shoreview, MN

Adults \$20 in advance / \$25 at the door  
Students \$5

Tickets available now at [TwinCitiesBronze.org](http://TwinCitiesBronze.org)



We care about your health and safety! All members of the ensemble and volunteer staff are vaccinated against SARS-CoV-2. We follow safety measures recommended by the

Minnesota Department of Health and the venues where we rehearse and perform.

Please check our website prior to concerts and events to review updated safety information.

Our Mission Statement: *to provide musical excellence through innovative performances and education using the medium of handbells*

***PERFORMING. INNOVATING. EDUCATING.***

# From the CHIME Representative

**by Michelle Finlon**

Area 7 has two 3-octave sets of handbells and two 3-octave sets of handchimes to provide to area schools, churches, senior living facilities, and other community organizations through the CHIME Grant program. We want everyone to have the opportunity to experience the fun and learning that handbells/handchimes offer.

Recipients of the grant are awarded a set of handbells or handchimes from September through May, as well as music, technique manuals, curriculum suggestions, and support needed to start and grow a handbell/handchime program.

If you are interested in learning more or applying for a grant for your organization, you can find more information at <https://area7.handbellmusicians.org/c-h-i-m-e-grant-program/> or email [chime.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:chime.area7@handbellmusicians.org).

## **Exciting updates from previous and current grant recipients:**

2019-2021 grant recipient Reek Elementary School in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, displayed their learnings and new talents in a virtual concert in the spring of 2021. A link to the concert was shared by their teacher, Susan Gali. <https://youtu.be/Jg-ftx4wHdM> The handbell groups begin at 5:40.

They have since received funding for two octaves of handchimes and are looking forward to their arrival.

*"We LOVED having the handbells. My students were able to learn to read bass clef and treble clef and learned to work as a team. They also learned quite a bit about just ensemble playing and counting carefully. I am excited to use the handchimes that we are getting to continue learning, and hopefully have the older students accompany the littles singing."*

~Susan Gali

## **St. John's Evangelical Lutheran School in Corcoran, MN is a grant recipient for the 2021-2022 school year.**

*"We have 12 students in 7th and 8th grade ringing this year. Everyone is new to ringing! We are pretty good at reading rhythms but our latest challenge is remembering which hand rings which bell. We hope to share some music at one of our weekly chapel services in the upcoming weeks. Parents and teachers have*

*commented on how they like hearing the bells and would like to give it a try sometime. Thank you for this amazing opportunity for our students."*

~Katie Moss

## **The Homestead in Rochester, MN, is a past and current grant recipient.**



*"Thank you, Area 7, for your lending chime program. The Homestead Chimers, residents at The Homestead at Rochester, a senior facility in Rochester, MN, began in October 2017 with your Malmark chimes. They purchased their chimes in May 2018. The fall of 2018 had many new members joining the group, so it was wonderful to continue borrowing Area 7 chimes."*

*The group practices weekly with December and May programs with about 200 residents and friends in attendance. We also play for the Rehab Unit monthly as well as playing for the Chapel service and Memory Unit twice a year. In October 2019, we had a joint concert with The Charter Chimes, residents of a senior facility, Charter House. We each played several pieces for each other and our audience."*

*The picture included is from our Christmas concert in December 2019.*

*Some of our favorite pieces to play were:*

*O Come Let Us Adore Him      Arr. Sherman*

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing      Arr. McKechnie*

*Morning Has Broken      Arr. Linker/McFadden  
with keyboard*

*Since COVID closed us down, we have been able to get together again this fall. The group LOVES learning something new (only one person played bells previously) and being challenged.*

*Again, thank you Area 7 for your lending program."*  
~Deedee Odell, Director



# Starting a Handchime Choir in a Senior Living Community

*submitted by Judy Kereakos*

In the summer of 2017, Judy Kereakos, resident of Charter House in Rochester, MN, proposed to the administration that a handchime choir could be pursued and added to the wide variety of programs already in place at this Continuing Care Retirement Community. That resident, Judy Kereakos, who



would lead the choir, along with the Activities/Event Coordinator, scheduled an informational meeting in August 2017, for those interested in participating in a handchime choir.

There were 16 residents who attended. Information on the handchimes, how they are constructed, and why they were chosen over handbells, as well as watching a video of chimes being rung constituted the meeting.

Following that introductory meeting, one resident attending asked to meet with Judy. The resident shared that she had been wishing for many years to have a bell choir at Charter House. She then offered that she and her husband would like to provide the funds for whatever equipment was needed. What a lovely surprise and show of support.

They ordered three octaves of chimes, and the choir was named Charter Chimes. Rehearsals began on September 12, 2017. The 16 residents present at the

introductory meeting all returned. By December 2017, more ringers had joined and, fortunately, Charter House purchased a fourth octave of chimes at that time.

Each weekly rehearsal, the facility's staff sets up the rehearsal room with a chair and stand for each ringer. All residents are seated. A stand attachment with a small shelf is provided for the stands of those who ring more than two chimes.

A notebook for the music is available for each ringer.

If needed by a resident, the size of the music is enlarged either through use of Finale™ music software or enlarging the music on a copy machine. The lighting in the room is very important and, if possible, includes both natural and ceiling lighting.

Not all present at the introductory meeting and first rehearsal were music readers, but the majority had played some band instrument or had taken piano lessons in their youth.

Based on this scenario, a system that Judy had used with a church youth choir was put into place where chime pitches are assigned a color: for example, C notes are red, D's are yellow, E's are blue, and so on with all notes of the scale. The ringer's



music is color-coded by the director. A corresponding color dot is placed on the chime handle and the spine of the ringer's notebook. This allows non-music-readers to participate more quickly. For the first several weeks of rehearsals, in addition to note

*—continued on next page*

—Starting a handchime choir, continued from page 11

reading there was a focus on note values, rests, repeat signs, and dynamic markings, and soon the choir began to learn the necessary skills to move forward.

The Charter Chimes rings at the facility Sunday vespers and Variety Show, has done a combined concert with Homestead Chimes, a local senior living facility, and looks forward to additional performance opportunities in the future.

During the past four years of the group's existence, residents have shared several motivations for their participation. Several shared their desire to learn a new skill knowing that the challenge will be beneficial to them. Some have been in other music groups but no longer find that to be possible. The comment is also made that a chime choir provides a way to be with others, share and achieve a goal, and socialize.

A quote from [science.news.org](https://www.science.news.org), August 14, 2010, states, "Music lights up almost every area of the brain, which shouldn't be a surprise since it makes people tap their feet, encourages reflection on memories, and has the potential to lighten the mood."

## List of Publications Used:

Beginning Busy Ringers	Kirsty Mitchell
Clapper Classics	Martha Lynn Thompson Frances L. Callahan
More Clapper Classics	Martha Lynn Thompson Frances L. Callahan
Easy Christmas Pops	Douglas Wagner
Easy Inspirational Pops	Douglas Wagner
Keep It Simple	
Carols for Christmas	Lloyd Larson
Christmas Sacred & Secular	Lloyd Larson
Mouseterpieces (Disney classics)	Martha Lynn Thompson
Ring Together Patriotic	Kevin McChesney
Starting Point, Vol. 2	Sandra Eithun
Timeless Tunes	Martha Lynn Thompson
Ready to Ring!	Martha Lynn Thompson Frances Callahan
Ready to Ring ! III	Martha Lynn Thompson Frances Callahan
Successful Ringing	
Step by Step	John A. Behnke

**Look for the Manitoba Guild's newsletter**  
***Ringers' Roundtable***  
**on our website**

## Bells of the Bluffs to Perform Holiday Concerts

"Can You Hear the Christmas Bells?" A program of holiday music that will include a community choir and a fun sing-along.

**December 5, 2021, 4pm**

**First Lutheran Church**

**615 West 5th St.**

**Red Wing, MN**

Joint Holiday Concert with River Valley Band  
Musical surprises and holiday classics for band and bells alone and together.

**December 12, 2021. 3pm**

**St. Philip's Lutheran Church**

**1401 15th St. West**

**Hastings, MN**

Contact: Cynthia Clanton

651-334-3965, [caclanton@gmail.com](mailto:caclanton@gmail.com)

## COVID-19 Daily Self Checklist



Complete this COVID-19 Daily Self Checklist before attending school each day  
**If you reply YES to any of the questions below STAY HOME**

What is your temperature today without having taken fever reducing medications?  
\_\_\_\_\_ oF

Do you have a fever over 100.4oF? ☐ Yes ☐ No

*Low risk symptoms:*

Muscle Aches? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Sore Throat? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Headache? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Nausea, Vomiting, Diarrhea? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Fatigue? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Runny Nose? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Congestion? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

*High risk symptoms:*

Loss of Smell or Taste? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Shortness of Breath? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Cough? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
--	---	---

Have you experienced any gastrointestinal symptoms such as nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite?  
☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you, or anyone you have been in close contact with been diagnosed with COVID-19, or been placed on quarantine for possible contact with COVID-19?  
☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you been asked to self-isolate or quarantine by a medical professional or a local public health official?  
☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you recently returned from domestic or international travel on the CT or CDC Travel Advisory List?  
☐ Yes ☐ No





# Duluth 2022

**NOTE NEW DATES:**  
**JUNE 10-12 \***

**Area 7 Handbell Festival Conference**

**Closing Concert Sunday 1:30PM**

**open FREE TO THE PUBLIC**



**Cathy Moglebust**



**Bill Alexander**

**Festival Conductors**

## OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES—DON'T MISS!



### Thursday night June 9

Area 7's private party at HOOPS BREWERY. Sing-a-long beer songs, including one written just for Area 7 ringers.



### Saturday night June 11

Train cars reserved for Area 7 ringers only. Music, games, pizza, beverages all aboard the North Shore Scenic Railroad.

## A GREAT VARIETY OF CLASSES TAUGHT FRIDAY & SATURDAY

Bal-A-Vis-X Exercises:  
Balance-Auditory-Vision  
Boomwhackers  
Chair Yoga  
Conducting  
Craft Class  
Handbell Tree Techniques  
Mallet Madness  
Preparation Away from the Table

Reading Session: Sight Reading for Full Choirs  
Reading Session: Sight Reading for Small Ensembles  
Ringing Games  
Ringing Techniques  
Ringing Handbells/Handchimes Expressively  
Small Ensemble Basics-Duets/Trios  
The Doctor Is In



## STRIKEPOINT

**In concert Friday June 12, 7:30PM**

Free to Festival registrants. Tickets on sale for the community.

## SPECIALTY CHOIRS

For those who want to ring more than attend classes, two choirs will be formed. Conductors are Cathy Moglebust and **Karen Van Wert**.



## FESTIVAL REPERTOIRE:

**MASSED RINGING—ALL RINGERS WILL PERFORM THESE 5 PIECES**, in addition to either the COPPERS or BRONZE pieces.

***On This Day Earth Shall Ring***—Moglebust, 3-5 oct., L3, Choristers Guild Publishing, CGB461, Full Score-CGB460

***Gaudete***—Compton, 3-6 oct plus handchimes, L3+, Alfred Publishing 45753

***Sojourner's Prayer***—Buckwalter, 3-6 octs, L3, AGEHR Publishing, AG36060

***Roundelay***—Phillips, 3-6 oct, L3+, Red River Publishing, RRBL5050, Full Score MRRFS5050

***Acclamation on Azmon***—Sherman, 3-6 oct, L2+, Hope Publishing, HP2395, Full Score HP2395D

## COPPERS RINGING DIVISION REPERTOIRE

***Be Still, My Soul***—Moglebust, 3-5 oct plus handchimes, L3, Alfred 25338

***Elijah Rock***—Tucker, 3-6 oct, L3, Alfred 46877

**BRONZE RINGING DIVISION REPERTOIRE**—ringers in this division should be proficient at ringing Level 5 music.

***Toccata Ritmica***—Joy, 5-7 oct, L5, Red River Publishing, RRG5004

***Faith That Never Dies***—Strepka, 5 oct, Level 3, From the Top Publishing, FM20287, Cello: FM20287i

\* Because the COVID-19 pandemic forced the cancellation of the 2020 Festival, the only dates available at the DECC in 2022 were two weeks earlier than previous Festivals. Duluth is such a favorite Festival venue for Area 7, make plans now to attend this popular event at the earlier date. Refer to the Area 7 website for ongoing updates. <https://area7.handbellmusicians.org/festival-2022-early-notice/>



# → BellFest! 2022 ←

February 26, 2022

North Heights Lutheran Church,  
1700 West Highway 96, Arden Hills, MN 55112



**GILLIAN  
ERLENBORN**

Guest Clinician  
BellFest! 2022

## Repertoire

Glorious Celebration - Cynthia Dobrinski

.....

The Lord Is My Shepherd - Cathy Moglebust

.....

Fum, Fum, Fum - Gregory Pysh

.....

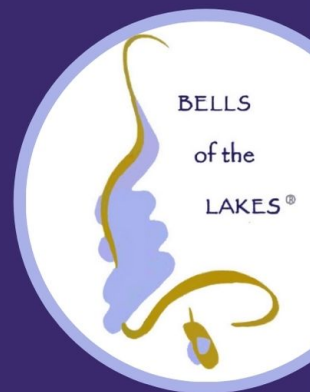
As the Deer - Patricia Cota

.....

Acclamation on Azmon - Arnold Sherman

# Register now!

## [www.bellsofthelakes.org](http://www.bellsofthelakes.org)



## Area 7 Board

### **Chair**

Anita Fraundorf

[chair.area7@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:chair.area7@handbellmusicians.org)

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Jennifer Cadwell

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### **Southern Minnesota Sub-Area Chair**

Chad Winterfeldt

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### **Twin Cities Metro Sub-Area Chair**

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