



QUAVERS

AREA VIII: ILLINOIS, IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA
JANUARY, 2008

FUNDRAISING

Happy New Year to you all!

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday! What a fantastic but hectic season. Time to take a breather and then get right back to it.

As you all know, we have a conference coming up in June, **Peoria Rings My Bells**. I am so looking forward to seeing you all. For some of you, a big part of being able to attend the conference is raising the money to do so. Fundraising, you either hate it or love it. It can be easy or hard, depending on what you need to raise. We try very hard to keep the conferences affordable while offering you top notch clinicians, a variety of classes, opportunities to hear other ringing groups, both small and large, provisions to keep you fed and making the accommodations as accessible as possible. I believe we have done all that with this conference and, no, it is not cheap but it will be well worth it. Below and in the following pages are some ideas about fundraising that I hope will help in your quest to attend this year's conference.

Give a concert! We are performing groups, we are used to playing in church and other places. Usually little or no expense. Take a freewill offering or sell tickets.

Cookbooks! These can be done by members of your choir relatively cheaply and still look nice. If you provide the supplies and can get someone to donate the printing or the use of their copier, you should be able to do these for under \$5.00 each. I don't know about you, but every time my choir has a potluck, everyone always says, "We should do a cookbook!"

Calendars! A community-based group from Alexandria, VA made a calendar as a fundraiser this year of which I received a copy. They cost \$15 each and are beautiful.

Food! Breakfasts and dinners are always good. They are a lot of work but if you work your budget correctly, they can be well worth it. Bake sales are great and can be attached to a holiday – Valentine's Day and Easter are coming.

Services auction! My church does a services auction. People donate everything from a prepared meal to a weekend at their vacation home. I donated a crocheted afghan to the buyer's specification. My husband offered to detail someone's car.

Be creative! These are just a few ideas to get you going. If your whole group is unable to come, something like the cookbook or bake sale can be done easily by a few. Other things, of course, need your complete choir and probably some extra helpers. I hope this helps. I really want to see you all there!!!

Debbie Llewellyn ~ Area VIII Chair

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FUNDRAISING

How to put the "fun" in fundraising? Work at an event! In my town, we have several festivals each year run by groups like the Rotary and Lions, who need plenty of volunteers to serve food, sell tickets, clean-up, etc, and they pay a *wage* to their volunteer workers as long as they're *working* for a charitable organization. We've put in our hours to benefit marching band, winter guard and the animal shelter, among others. And it's FUN! We generally have only 2, 4, or 6-hour shifts. We've met other members of other organizations, plus we get to interact with the general public and often get to tell them all about whatever it is we're raising money for ("The band is going to play at half-time at the Outback Bowl!").

Our congregation is very good about donating money for specific things. Our music ministry has a Christmas Confectionary each year wherein all the musicians bring in baked goods and congregation members get to fill a plate with whatever variety they want and we charge them by the pound. Many of our busy parishioners love the chance to get a variety of Christmas cookies without having to take the time to make them themselves. And as long as we specify to the congregation just what it is the music ministry wants extra funds for *this* time (we need two new microphones for the chapel; we want to send the new bell director to a workshop), they are more than willing to help out.

And of course, no one can turn down a cute little kid at the exit after a service with a collection plate in his or her hands.

Debi Robey ~ Illinois State Chair

The Raleigh Ringers

David M. Harris, Director

8516 Sleepy Creek Drive • Raleigh, NC 27613

phone/fax: (919) 847-7574 • email: rringer@rr.org • web: www.rr.org

A community handbell choir



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FACTS OF LIFE

Nobody likes to fundraise but it seems like a fact of life when dealing with handbells. Fundraising can help you purchase bells (whether it is your first set or that next octave) and can also help to defer the cost of a handbell conference (like Peoria!).

Everyone has had good and bad fundraisers and lately I have found it hard to compete with the school and sport fundraisers. I've tried to find new and unique fundraising ideas that I have not already seen used by the other organizations. Don't forget to talk with others about what works and what doesn't and always keep your ears open for ideas.

No matter what type of fundraiser you plan it is important to get participation from everyone involved. We have even opened up the fundraiser to the congregation and we have had church members take and get fundraising orders.

Below are some ideas that have worked for me:

Selling Flowering Plants: Contact your local florist about selling plants. We sold Azaleas, Begonias, Mums, and Hydrangeas last year for Mother's Day for about \$25. This worked well.

Selling Bulbs: Our local high school sells bulbs in the fall every year but no one sells these in the spring. There are both perennial and annual bulbs for a reasonable price. This is our spring fundraiser.

Bake Sale: Bake sales can be good to have after a church service or even possibly check with your local stores about selling outside their store.

Hamburgers & Hotdogs: A lot of grocery stores have this fundraiser already set up and you just have to work and they supply the goods. This past year our local Farmer's Market let non-profit groups have the opportunity to sell grilled items at the market. This went over well and we look forward to doing it again this next summer.

Fundraising is something that no one likes to talk or think about but we all seem to have to do it in the end. Good luck and I hope to see you in Peoria.

Kathryn Jaeger ~ Iowa Chair

PEORIA CONFERENCE CHANGES

Bronze Level Out of Print—*Festive Sanctus*

Bronze Level Replacement—*Praise His Name in the Dance*
by Derek Hakes, Level 4, Alfred MAP25358



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FUNDING THE PROGRAM

Let me be very clear right now – **I hate fundraising!!** In my own little special world, bell choirs are more than fully funded so the nasty *F word* is never needed. In my reality, not so much, and we haven't had a rich uncle die and leave us money lately, either.

One of the best and easiest fundraisers for the local groups with which I'm affiliated is playing for weddings. I polled a number of bell-friends, and got answers ranging from "our church doesn't allow us to fundraise" to dinners, garage sales, candle sales, work auctions, free-will donations for concerts, etc.

So...I did a "Goodsearch" (<http://www.goodsearch.com>—you can choose who gets the \$.01 donation for each search you make), and found a plethora of resources on the web. A couple of places to start are <http://fundraising.com> or <http://www.fundraising-ideas.org>. There you can find lots of ideas for products, events, etc.

Some questions to ask before you begin your adventure:

- How much money does your group need to make?
- How soon do you need to have the money earned?
- Are there any restrictions against fundraising?
- Are permits needed for the event you are planning
- Does sales tax need to be collected?
- What products or services would your group enjoy selling?
- Are there other groups in your community selling the same or similar items or services?
- Are the items you are selling of high quality? (i.e., would you buy it your self?)
- Are the items reasonably priced?
- Do you have a willing and able treasurer for this project?
- Do you have storage space for the item order to be received?
- Are there up-front costs that your group will need to cover?
- Is the return (profit) a good match for the labor involved?
- Do you have plenty of people willing to work hard enough to earn the money you need, or will you need to do several projects?

Good luck – and let me know if you come up with any really terrific ideas! See you in Peoria.

Kathy Leonard ~ Kansas State Chair



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FOUR IDEAS FOR FUNDRAISING

Anyone who has spent any time at all with a non-profit organization has had to raise funds for operational budgets or special projects. There are several approaches to fundraising.

Direct Appeal: Sometimes the direct approach really is the best; simply state your need to your congregation, audience or patron. The direct appeal can take the form of a special offering at a concert or service, a notice in the bulletin, or a letter requesting donations. A direct appeal is often a short-term plan with a specific amount needed for a specific project. This approach requires that the funds collected are applied directly and only to the named project.

Product Sales: There are two ways to handle this fundraiser: A) either you have the product on hand to sell, or B) you take orders and deliver the product at a later date. Foods, home décor, gift-wrap and magazines are just a few products that students have been selling to family and friends, and door-to-door for decades.

Grants: There are many corporations and foundations that fund the arts and educational endeavors. Finding these organizations and determining their requirements for funding requires a bit of research. Preparing the grant proposal requires writing and organizational skills.

Events: Events invite people outside your circle of contributors to fund your project. Pumpkin patches, Christmas tree lots, fireworks stands, craft fairs and car shows are a few ideas for fundraising events. An event can be a lot of work to plan, but it can also pay off in a big way. You may need to recruit volunteers who are not involved in the handbell program to help you organize and staff your event.

Regardless of the approach you choose, be sure to state your need clearly and convey the importance of your project.

Kathy Harrison ~ Missouri State Chair





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FUNDRAISING

Fundraising—in some ways this is a very scary word. Questions like the following come to mind. “How do we fundraise?” “Why do we fundraise?” “What is the very best fundraising project or idea?”

As I direct community and school choirs, fundraising is not something we do. The community choirs pay dues, which cover the events we attend. In the case of the school choirs, we do not need extra money as it is provided within the school budget.

I put out a call for fundraising ideas, sort of a call and response. In Omaha, we have one very active fundraising director. She sent me her program for fundraising, which I am going to share with you. I hope you will be able to use some of her ideas.

Since 1996, Linda Ashley has had her youth and adults at almost 17 events. That calls for a ton of creative ideas for getting the money to attend. These are her ideas.

1. The most obvious is a concert with a freewill offering basket. Linda sometimes uses her littlest ringers with big smiles to hold the baskets. At one event, they had a prepaid ticket dinner following the concerts that was successful. The parents of the youth ringers worked the kitchen and some of the food was donated.
2. They have had dinners on Wednesday evenings during the school year with anywhere from 30 to 50 people attending. The hosts of the dinner keep the proceeds for their own choice of causes within the church. Linda has done a majority of these dinners with proceeds going to the bell program.
3. This year they are planning a spring flower bulb sale for the first time.
4. When they were raising money for the 4th octave, they used the *Buy a Bell* campaign. She listed the prices of the bells plus the extra items that would be needed. They put an empty bell case in the narthex for donations as people were leaving church. Most of the money was raised in this way.
5. There is a line item in the church budget for travel expenses for the bell choir to go to workshops and festivals. This is used for both youth and adults.
6. They also have a program at the church that raises money for the youth. They work at fundraising functions to earn points to share in the profits of the fundraiser.

Linda sent me a list of all of the events since 1996 the youth and adults from her church have attended. I should say this is a small church without a large church budget.

Her youth choir has attended Omaha in 1996, Kansas City in 1997, Springfield in 1998, Topeka in 1999 and Springfield in 2000. The 1997 to 2000 events were with full choir. They have gone to Windermere twice and in 2007, the Intergeneration Handbell Camp. Her adult choirs have attended the Omaha, Springfield, Topeka, Collinsville, Cedar Rapids and Omaha/Council Bluffs Conferences. They have also attended the National Seminar in Kansas City and Tulsa.

Here is one small church with a very dedicated choir director. I hope all of you will see that, while we might not like fundraising, it can be done in a variety of ways.

Joyce Miller ~ Nebraska State Chair



APPOINTED CHAIRS

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MORE WISDOM FROM KANSAS

I have to agree about Kathy Leonard's (KS) opening *hate* statement. Fundraising is tough. But, it can be fun (seriously, Kathy!) with some of the following considerations:

1. It's NOT the director's job to fundraise!
2. Establish with the group/parents: "Why should we/do we need to fundraise?" Agree on a common purpose and goal!
3. Who's in charge? See #1! It's NOT the director! It should be someone who is enthusiastic about the final goal. Pick someone who is organized and has decent *people skills*.
4. Who are the helpers? What are their responsibilities? Everyone in the group should be involved in the fundraising capacity. Maybe someone works full time at three jobs and just can't be *that* involved. But, maybe that same person would consider pledging to make more money, as there are plenty of selling possibilities at those three jobs.
5. Once the **entire** group agrees on a **common** purpose and goal, *Who's-in-Charge* should confirm that everyone has a task. (See #3).
6. Be sure that *Who's-in-Charge* is organized enough to not interfere with rehearsal time.
7. Don't forget the **thank yous!**
8. Set up something that is visual to inform how the fundraising is going. This visual could be for internal use within the group or a big poster in the social hall at church or at concert venues. You never know who might see that you need just \$500.00 more and just give it to you! Have faith! It does happen.
9. What's in it for me? It's fun to have some sort of thank you such as a bag of candy, a Ziploc baggie with a couple of homemade cookies, recognition in a concert program or bulletin, reserved seating at a concert, or maybe a reserved seat for every \$XX donated.
10. If fundraising was for a specific purchase, celebrate when the goal is achieved. Shout to everyone involved what's going to happen next as a result of the fundraising activity and who will benefit? Show off!
11. Don't forget the **thank yous!**
12. Keep good records. If possible, include names and contact information of those who have contributed. Add them to your mailing list. And be sure to make a personal contact the next time you fundraise. Remind them of their past donation, how it was used, and how a new donation could be used.
13. Remember donors' birthdays. Send them a card!
14. If this is a **big bucks** fundraiser, consider allowing large contributions to be pro-rated over 2-3 (or more) years.
15. Don't forget the **thank yous!**
16. A personal fundraiser favorite, www.carruthstudio.com.



AGEHR SPONSORED EVENTS

2008	EVENT	CLINICIAN	LOCATION
Feb 2 9a-3p	Illinois Young Ringers Festival www.il-agehr.org	Tim Waugh	Santa Maria del Popolo 116 N Lake St Mundelein, IL Debi Robey 630-291-8355
Feb 2	Iowa Winter Workshop www.agehr-ia.org	Marylee Parks	St Henry Catholic Marshalltown, IA Kathryn Jaeger Jkjdjaeger@juno.com
Feb 9	Workshop & Concert For adults and children	Bells of the Lakes	1st UMC 201 E Nebraska St Algona, IA Donna Gadbury Bdgad@netamumail.com
Mar 1 9a-4p	Kansas Ring in the Spring http://home.kc.rr.com/kansasarea8/	Kevin Bogan Cathy Moglebust	Church of the Resurrection 13720 Roe Ave Leawood, KS Gwen Gepford 913-491-6461 Gwen.gepford@cor.org
Mar 8	Nebraska Spring Read & Ring www.agehr-na.org	various	Southwood Lutheran Lincoln, NE OR 1st Lutheran Kearney, NE
Mar 29	Iowa Youth Workshop www.agehr-ia.org	various	Lutheran Church of the Resurrection Marion, IA Kathryn Jaeger Jkjdjaeger@juno.com



2008
Area VIII Conference
June 19-21
Peoria, IL
Mark your calendars!





UPCOMING CONCERTS

2008	CONCERT	LOCATION	CONTACT
Feb 24 4:00p	The Agape Ringers	Cathedral of St Raymond 604 N Raynor Ave Joliet, IL	Nick Thomas 815-722-7465
Apr 13 5:00p	The Agape Ringers	Mt Carmel Lutheran Church 8424 W Center St Milwaukee, WI	Paul Kasten 414-771-6586
Apr 15 7:30p	Hastings College Bell Choir	1st Presbyterian Church 7th St & Burlington Ave Hastings, NE	Byron Jensen Bjensen@hastings.edu
Apr 20 3:00p	Pikes Peak Ringers & Hastings Symphony Orchestra	Hastings College 4th St & Hastings Hastings, NE	Byron Jensen Bjensen@hastings.edu
Apr 26 7:00p	Chicago Bronze	Mount Mercy College 1331 Elmhurst Dr NE Cedar Rapids, IA	Carolyn Sternowski 319-377-6588
Apr 27 4:00p	Chicago Bronze	Federated Church 403 W Main St Sandwich, IL	Judy Rice 815-786-8595
May 4 4:00p	The Agape Ringers	1st UMC 155 S Main St Lombard, IL	Jack Winquist 630-267-9789
Jun 1 3:00p	The Agape Ringers	College Church 332 E Seminary Wheaton, IL	Elaine MacWatt 630-668-0878 x 129

CALLING ALL CHOIRS

Area VIII is again going to feature Break Out Concerts during our conference in Peoria in June. These concerts are 30-45 minutes in length and are featured at the same time as the class sessions. Participants at the conference will have a choice of going to a class session or attending a Break Out Concert. If your choir is interested in ringing in one of these Break Out Concerts please contact **Marilyn Droke** 417-334-3462 or ddroke@suddenlink.net.

REGISTRATION FOR:
Area VIII – “Peoria Rings My Bells” Festival/Conference
June 19-21, 2008 – Peoria, IL



Note our “**SUPER EARLY BIRD**” and “**EARLY BIRD**” rates!
Super Early Bird Rates must be postmarked by March 1, 2008
Early Bird Rates must be postmarked by April 15, 2008



REGISTRATION OPTIONS

The following registration prices are per person and do not include hotel accommodations

	<i>Super Early Bird</i>	<i>Early Bird</i>	<i>After 4/15/08</i>
FULL TIME REGISTRATION Includes 2 banquets, Saturday night Gala Reception, classes & notes, “Special” concert admittance, and conference pin	\$235.00	\$250.00	\$275.00
COMMUTER FEE per person – If not staying at the Pere Marquette			\$50.00
DAILY REGISTRATION Includes class sessions and concerts on day(s) of registration	Thursday		\$75.00
	Friday		\$90.00
	Saturday		\$90.00
NON-PARTICIPATING GUEST/CHAPERONE REGISTRATION Includes 2 banquets, Saturday night reception and “Special” concert admittance.			\$80.00

ADDITIONAL FEES

TABLE RENTAL (per 8 foot table)	\$12.00
DIRECTOR’S LUNCH <i>The Directors Lunch is Area VIII’s Bi-annual meeting where all directors can come together, meet one another, meet your Board, and discuss the direction that you would like Area VIII to go.</i>	\$15.00
AGEHR Membership (for non-member groups only; required to participate)	\$65.00

DEPOSIT REQUIRED!

A deposit of \$25.00 per person is required. **DEPOSITS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.**
Balance of fees due postmarked by May 15, 2008. After June 1st, 2008, NO FEES CAN BE REFUNDED!

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Registration fee **DOES NOT** include hotel accommodations. Special group-rate accommodations are available to Conference registrants at the Pere Marquette for \$109.00 + tax per room, per day, for occupancy of 2, with **free parking and cook-to-order breakfast**. Call the hotel directly at 309-637-6500, ask for the “reservations” desk and **BE SURE** to identify yourself as a participant in the “Area VIII Handbell Conference”!

Completely fill out reverse side, **MAKE A COPY FOR REFERENCE**, and send to:
Cheryl Abney, 2063 S. Glenn, Springfield, MO 65807
Registration questions? Contact Cheryl Abney, Area VIII Treasurer, 417-886-6892 or CAbney@mchsi.com

REGISTRATION INFORMATION
One registration per choir

PLEASE PRINT

AGEHR Membership Number _____
(Can be found on your *Quavers* or *Overtones* mailing label)

Director's/Leader's Name: _____

Home Address: _____ Daytime Phone (____) _____

City, State, Zip _____ Evening Phone (____) _____

Fax Number (____) _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Name of Sponsoring Organization _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

FEE CALCULATION

(see explanations on reverse)

FULL-TIME REGISTRATION FEE:	_____ persons @ \$ _____	each = \$ _____
DAILY REGISTRATION FEE:	_____ persons @ \$ _____	each = \$ _____
GUEST/CHAPERONE FEE:	_____ persons @ \$80.00	each = \$ _____
TABLE RENTAL FEE:	_____ 8' Tables @ \$12.00	each = \$ _____
NON-AGEHR MEMBER ADDED FEE:	_____ @ \$65.00	= \$ _____
DIRECTORS LUNCH:	_____ persons @ \$15.00	each = \$ _____
TOTAL COST:		\$ _____
LESS REQUIRED DEPOSIT PAID:	_____ persons @ \$25.00	each = \$ _____
BALANCE DUE POSTMARKED BY MAY 15th, 2008:		\$ _____

*Please make payments with **ONE** check per group for the deposit and **ONE** check per group for the balance due!*

Make checks payable to "Area VIII, AGEHR – Festival 2008"

GROUP INFORMATION

- 1. LINEAR FEET YOUR SETUP REQUIRES:** _____
(Straight-line setups are required in mass ensemble)
- 2. YOUR MASED RINGING CATEGORY:** (CIRCLE ONE) **Tins** **Silver** **Gold** **Bronze**
(Bronze choirs must have performed bronze group selections at least once prior to the conference.)
- 3. DO YOU UTILIZE UPRIGHT BASS BELL RACKS?** **Yes** **No**
(Choirs with racks higher than regular tables will be placed so as not to obstruct the view of others)

***Please attach a written description if special accommodations are required for full participation.**

For Registrar's Use Only:

Date Registration Received: _____



Have a bake sale

PLEASE NOTE
If ordering Bronze level music for the Area VIII Festival please see page 3 for **CHANGES!**

**Is your address incorrect? Are you moving? Then contact Headquarters:
Dan Virzi 800.878.5459 x 112 membership@agehr.org**

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NON-PROFIT
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