



# HANDBELL MUSICIANS OF AMERICA

## ILLINOIS, IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA

# QUAVERS NEWSLETTER

JANUARY, 2018

Handbell Musicians  
OF AMERICA

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<b>B</b>	<b>XDDIHEALN</b>	— — — — — — — —
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<b>E</b>	<b>YUTCORN</b>	— — — — — —
<b>S</b>	<b>CCSSAALLI</b>	— — — — — — — —
	<b>ONTMPEOAYRR</b>	— — — — — — — — — —
	<b>NOITRATDLAI</b>	— — — — — — — — —

Unscramble the letters to figure out the different styles of music available for worship.  
Answers on page 7.

## WORSHIP GENRES

Ads	<a href="#">2, 6</a>
CHAIR	<a href="#">4</a>
Events	<a href="#">7</a>
<b>Festival</b>	<a href="#">4</a>
<b>Certification</b>	<a href="#">3</a>
<b>Classes</b>	<a href="#">4</a>
<b>Pre-Conf</b>	<a href="#">3</a>
<b>Youth</b>	<a href="#">6</a>

FESTIVAL  
FESTIVAL  
ISSUE

ILLINOIS	
IOWA	<a href="#">5-6</a>
KANSAS	
MISSOURI	
NEBRASKA	<a href="#">5</a>
Officers	<a href="#">2</a>

ELECTED	ELECTED	APPOINTED
CHAIR: <a href="#">Kristin Kalitowski-Kowal</a> 295 Town Center Blvd Gilberts, IL 60136 630.699.3802  TREASURER: <a href="#">Sharon Schmidt</a> 28 Oriole Ct Naperville, IL 60540 630.369.9879  PAST CHAIR: <a href="#">Patrick Gagnon</a> 211 S Victor (P.O. Box 314) Hubbard, IA 50122 641.373.2972	CHAIR-ELECT: <a href="#">Beth Ann Edwards</a> 1810 NW 80th Ct Clive, IA 50325-5610 515.490.9408  SECRETARY: <a href="#">Pat Latshaw</a> 5205 W 83rd Terrace Prairie Village, KS 66207 913.219.3643   Like us on <a href="#">Facebook</a> Visit us on the <a href="#">WEB</a>	COMMUNICATIONS: <a href="#">Laura Kopff</a> QUAVERS: <a href="#">KC Congdon</a> WEBMASTER: <a href="#">Wendi Calkins-Levitt</a>  FINANCIAL ADVISOR: <a href="#">Stephen Swanson</a> EDUCATION: <a href="#">Lauran Delancy</a>  HISTORIAN: <a href="#">Open</a> RESOURCE LIBRARIAN: <a href="#">Open</a> MEMBERSHIP: <a href="#">Michael Allen</a>

	<a href="#">ILLINOIS</a>	<a href="#">IOWA</a>	<a href="#">KANSAS</a>	<a href="#">MISSOURI</a>	<a href="#">NEBRASKA</a>
Chair	<b>OPEN</b>	<a href="#">Lori Fenton</a> 3213 45th St Des Moines, IA 50310 515.229.6712	<b>OPEN</b>	<a href="#">Jeff White</a> 2576 Pioneer Dr St Louis, MO 63129 314.803.6324	<a href="#">Linda Ashley</a> 9107 Meadow Dr Omaha, NE 68114 402.320.5312 402.397.9551 (h)
Treasurer	<b>Open</b>	<a href="#">Mary Lee Parks</a>	<a href="#">Karla Denton</a>	<a href="#">Suanne Comfort</a>	<b>Open</b>
Secretary	<a href="#">Beth McFarland</a>	<a href="#">Donna Sprague</a>	<b>Open</b>	<b>Open</b>	<a href="#">Byron Jensen</a>
Website	<a href="#">Wendi Calkins-Levitt</a>	<a href="#">Wendi Calkins-Levitt</a>	<a href="#">Wendi Calkins-Levitt</a>	<a href="#">Wendi Calkins-Levitt</a>	<a href="#">Janet Chiocchi</a>
Other	<i>Events</i> <a href="#">Sharon Schmidt</a>  <i>Registrar</i> <a href="#">Kristin Kalitowski-Kowal</a>  <i>Chime Mentor</i> <a href="#">Diane Oster</a>  <i>Chime Loan Coordinator</i> <a href="#">Patti Mangis</a>  <i>Food Coordinator</i> <a href="#">Anna Piro</a>  <i>Central Illinois Rep</i> <b>Open</b>  <i>Western Illinois Rep</i> <a href="#">Don Wood</a>  <i>Handbell Services Rep</i> <a href="#">Debi Robey</a>	<i>Historian</i> <a href="#">Tina Gehrke</a>  <i>Chimes</i> <a href="#">Aaron Hansen</a>  <i>Eastern Rep</i> <a href="#">Cat Walker</a>  <i>Western Rep</i> <a href="#">Yvonne Johnson</a>	<i>Chimes</i> <a href="#">Shirley Myers</a>  <i>Past Chair</i> <a href="#">Cherryl Cox</a>	<i>Chime Chair</i> <a href="#">Anne Miller</a>  <i>Membership, St Louis</i> <a href="#">Sherry Boland</a>  <a href="#">Christie White</a>	<i>Registrar</i> <a href="#">Deann Nicolaus</a>  <i>Chimes Coordinator</i> <a href="#">Nancy Youngman</a>  <a href="#">Jessica Kite</a> <a href="#">Mike Allen</a>  <a href="#">Joyce Miller</a> <a href="#">Angela Wright</a>  <a href="#">Charles Cohen</a>

*The Raleigh Ringers*

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We are excited to offer classes from the Handbell Musicians of America Certification Program in advance of **Bring It! Ring It!** in June. If you aren't familiar with the program, check out all the details here: <http://certification.handbellmusicians.org/>. Michèle Sharik and Barbara Meinke will be your faculty for the Handbell Techniques sessions. Tessique Houston will cover Conducting. You can register to take just one of the 3 session classes being offered or both! \$130 for one class, \$200 for both classes. Questions? Contact Sharon at [certification.area8@handbellmusicians.org](mailto:certification.area8@handbellmusicians.org).

Wednesday, June 27	1:30-2:45pm	Handbell Techniques 1 (session 1)	-or-	Handbell Techniques 2 (session 1)
	3:00-4:15pm		-or-	Conducting 1 (session 1)
	4:30-5:45pm	Handbell Techniques 1 (session 2)	-or-	Handbell Techniques 2 (session 2)
	7:00-7:20pm	Handbell Techniques 1 (written test)*	-or-	Handbell Techniques 2 (written test)*
	7:30-8:45pm	Handbell Techniques 2 (session 1)	-or-	Conducting 1 (session 2)
Thursday, June 28	8:15-9:30am	Handbell Techniques 2 (session 2)**	-or-	Conducting 1 (session 3)**
* Additional hands on testing will be scheduled for Wednesday evening/Thursday morning.				
** Testing will be scheduled for Thursday morning/early afternoon (or possibly Friday for those attending Festival).				

## Pre-Conference Director's Track

Questions?  
Contact:  
[Pat Latshaw](#)

This 4-hour track will be taught by experienced instructors and will be of interest to new and established directors. The sessions on June 27 (evening) and 28 (morning) will cover topics critical to your success as a director and to the musical accomplishments of your ringers. Classes will include conducting tips as well as methods to increase your ringers' skills and invigorate your program. You can only register after you've submitted your Festival registration.

This track is your opportunity to grow as a director! Enhance your experience at **Bring It! Ring It!** in Omaha next June by attending these extra sessions.

**Full registration + \$80/person**

**Kristin Kalitowski-Kowal****~Area 8 Chair**

Happy New Year! I hope your 2018 is off to a good start, with many handbell adventures ahead. In this issue of *Quavers*, read about how some groups get a little more “adventurous” with their repertoire. Perhaps it will inspire you to think outside the box the next time you begin to select pieces for your group.

Our **Bring It! Ring It! Festival**, coming up in June, is a great way to experience music you might not normally get to perform, in case you’re not quite ready to program such selections yourself. Whether it’s performing with the Massed or Division groups ([repertoire](#)), enjoying a concert from some of our performing groups, or checking out the spring concert of the church down the street from you, I encourage you to explore all that handbells can do!

**Lauran Delancy****Education Chair**

Planning for the Area 8 Festival in June is well underway, and I am getting excited about all of the opportunities that will be available!

We have fantastic conductors coming to work with us for massed ringing; but that also means we have a fabulous (and FUN!) opportunity to learn from these musicians in classes! There is something for everyone in every stage of ringing and directing and for all different types of ensembles. We will offer classes from Tim Waugh, Barbara Meinke, Larry & Carla Sue, Michelé Sharik and the musicians of Timbre, and other handbell musicians with varied musical back-

grounds that each bring their unique insight to successful handbell musicianship. Here are some of the classes that will be offered:

- Basics Revisited: Your 100,000 Measure Tune Up
- Beyond the Basics
- What Every Musician Needs to Know About Copyright
- Assignment Strategies
- Orchestration for Bells: Using Chimes and Other Instrumentation in Your Music
- Weaving
- Four-in-Hand
- Six-in-Hand
- If Bells Grew on Trees (Bell Tree)
- Metal and Muscle
- We Damp Through the Air with the Greatest of Ease (Finger Damping)
- 50 Shades of Damping
- The Camera Doesn’t Lie
- Bass Bell Ringing
- With Mallets Aforethought
- Conducting
- In-Depth Score Study
- Music Literacy
- Ringing in One Accord
- Maintenance
- Stopped Sounds
- Sight-Reading

The excitement is building and I can’t wait to see you at **Bring It! Ring It!** in Omaha this June!



**Linda Ashley****~ Nebraska State Chair**

There are opportunities to add handbells to your service beyond the traditional and the increasing number of contemporary pieces available. My own church is blessed to have an amazing music staff that embraces the idea of occasionally offering different music styles in our services.

Most every October, on or near Reformation Sunday, we have a group of musicians that put together a polka band. We have a library of polka tunes to which various hymns are reset. One of our ringers has arranged a polka-style *A Mighty Fortress* for the handbells that we usually play for the prelude. The congregation really enjoys this and we generally follow it with a German-style meal.

Another style we have done with less frequency is a Dixieland service. The last time happened to be the Sunday prior to the beginning of Lent. There are several jazz/Dixieland handbell pieces that could be added to this style of music service. We have performed one piece for the prelude again and the band takes over the rest of the service.

Other service ideas could include a Beatles liturgy, which our youth have led, but the handbells have not joined in with them yet. (More Beatles tunes are becoming available).

**Lori Fenton****~ Iowa State Chair**

Happy New Year! Hopefully you have fully recovered from the holiday season busy-ness that befalls most musicians and are getting a good start on your 2018 repertoire. We are very fortunate to have such a wealth of music available to us and so many styles of music from which to pick.

As both a vocalist and handbell musician I certainly have my own preferences. One that I particularly enjoy is that of the folk song. One popular group that has caught my attention over the past several years is Mumford & Sons. Wikipedia even classifies them as “folk rock”. They hail from the UK and their music is definitely influenced by the cultures there. I read an article once complaining that the group had stolen their sound from the American folk song culture. Apparently this writer forgot that what we might consider “American” folk songs are just an extension of the immigrants who came here, many from the UK.

Folk songs are universal and are as much the part of any culture as the language, food or dress. They embody the soul and the values of the people from which they come. They tell a story in both melody and lyrics, whether the story is joyful or sad. For a given culture, folk songs help preserve history and can be easily passed down to each generation.

While many folk songs are simple in their basic melody, it is that simpleness that provides the foundation for a variety of interpretations and arrangements. A quick search at [handbellworld.com](http://handbellworld.com) of

(Continued on page 6)

"folk songs" resulted in 375 pieces representing a wide cross section of cultures. There are certainly a number of American folk songs available but the rest of the globe is well represented also. It would be very easy to program a service that would take your audience around the world in 60 minutes.

Having attending last year's International Symposium, it was a great opportunity to ring music from other countries. Each director gets to pick a piece that they feel best represents their country, many of them inspired by folk songs. Maybe someday the symposium will include Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Africa and South America. Can you imagine the added depth and breadth of music that would bring to the symposium? In the meantime, you can program music representing these cultures and bring the world to your audience.



**Do you have unanswered questions regarding YouthFest?**

**Contact**  
**Beth Ann Edwards**

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## spRingfest 2018

with

**Jason Krug**

Friday and Saturday, February 23 and 24  
 Gateway Convention Center  
 Collinsville, (Saint Louis) Illinois

Friday: 7:00 pm - Director's Event: *How to be an Engaging Director (without really trying)*

Saturday: 9:30 - 4:00 pm - A day of learning for your entire choir with Mr. Krug

Sponsored by

The Handbell Association of Greater St. Louis

For more information and to register visit  
[www.stlbells.org](http://www.stlbells.org)



# Upcoming Events

2018	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
Feb 17	Ring in the Spring 2018 Brian Childers / Pat Latshaw	Church of the Resurrection Leawood, KS	<a href="#">Spring Ring</a>
Feb 23	How to be an Engaging Director (without really trying)	Gateway Convention Center Collingsville, IL	<a href="#">HAGSTL</a>
Feb 24	Agape Ringers Workshop	Hosanna! Lutheran Church St Charles, IL	<a href="#">Illinois</a>
Feb 24	spRingFest 2018	Gateway Convention Center Collinsville, IL	<a href="#">HAGSTL</a>
Mar 8-11	Distinctly Bronze West Fred Gramman	Resort at the Mountain Welches, OR	<a href="#">National</a>
Jun 27-30	Bring It! Ring It! Area 8 Festival	<a href="#">Hotel RL Omaha</a> 3321 S 72nd St Omaha, NE	<a href="#">Area 8</a>
Jun 28-30	Bring It! Ring It! Area 8 YouthFest	<a href="#">Hotel RL Omaha</a> 3321 S 72nd St Omaha, NE	<a href="#">Area 8</a>
Jul 14-17	Master Class in Conducting & Composition	Grand Rapids, MI	Avail 1/15
Jul 17-21	National Seminar Various	Grand Rapids, MI	Avail 1/15
Jul 19-21	Distinctly Teen	Grand Rapids, MI	Avail 1/15

ANSWERS:  
Rock  
Blues  
Hip Hop  
Dixieland  
Jazz  
Country  
Classical  
Contemporary  
Traditional