



Have Bells, Will Travel

by Lori Fenton, Area 8 Chair

What's the farthest you've ever traveled to participate in a handbell event? My longest journey was from Des Moines, IA to Italy (by way of Phoenix, AZ). In the summer of 2008, I had the opportunity to ring with Desert Bells, under the direction of Kay Cook, as they toured Northern Italy. We played in Rome, Florence and Venice and

did some sightseeing along the way. Except for tables, we took everything with us that we needed – 5+ octaves of bells, chimes, and pads. We had two choirs, one adult and one teen, and some parents. All of the equipment and luggage made it to Rome (via Heathrow) – except for MY luggage! I remember crying on the bus to the hotel, hoping that my bag would arrive safely the next day, which fortunately it did, and the rest of the trip was an amazing adventure.

If you've never been to a "local" event, I hope you might consider attending one the next time you see it advertised.

While not all of my bell trips over the years have been as far flung as Italy, I've still enjoyed every one of them because I was ringing bells with other people who love ringing bells. In March, I had the opportunity to take three road trips around Area 8 to attend three different types of ringing events.

- My first stop was Independence, MO to attend a reading session hosted by Rezound! and led by Janet Carter. There were about 40 participants and we spent the morning ringing through 21 new pieces, enjoyed some social time, snacked, and shopped with Third Bell on the Right. Afterwards, several participants and members of Rezound! gathered for lunch at a nearby Italian restaurant.
- The following weekend I headed to Lincoln, NE for the Nebraska Spring Ring and Directors Workshop, under the baton of Cathy Moglebust. The 120 ringers came prepared with three pieces and worked on an additional three, plus sight read several others. We were treated to a wonderful spaghetti lunch and a short concert from Bell-issimo, Lincoln's community choir, led by Nancy Youngman. Third Bell on the Right and Heitz Handbells were also in attendance to satisfy everyone's handbell shopping needs.

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- The last weekend of March, I headed to Iowa City for the Iowa City Handbell Festival. I unfortunately had to miss the Friday night sight reading session but enjoyed ringing with 60 ringers on Saturday under the direction of Lee Afdahl. Heitz Handbells made the trek to Iowa City as well. We performed a free concert for the public and it was standing room only!

Many thanks to everyone across Area 8 involved with putting on each of these events!

If you've never been to a "local" event, I hope you might consider attending one the next time you see it advertised. Or maybe you have a thought about organizing one yourself! If you don't know where to start, please reach out to any of our Area 8 leadership and they can help you with any questions. As you

can see from the events described above, your event doesn't have to be a multi-day affair that brings in lots of ringers, with a variety of class offerings and special concerts. But speaking of that....

I'm excited to announce that we have a date and location for our 2026 Area 8 Festival! Activities will kick off on Wednesday, June 17th and conclude on Saturday, June 20th. We will be in the Omaha, NE area, specifically La Vista, and are in the process of contract negotiations with the Conference Center and hotels there. Please see below for a bit more detail.

We will provide more information as we finalize the event, so look for updates in the Summer issue of *Quavers*, on the Area 8 website and Facebook group and via Area 8 communications.



2026 Area 8 Festival

UNITED WE RING

June 17th – 20th, 2026

La Vista Conference Center, La Vista, NE

July 4th, 2026, marks the 250th anniversary (or semiquincentennial) of the signing of the United States' Declaration of Independence. We hope you will join Area 8 in celebrating this milestone through the beauty and richness of song.

Tentative Schedule (subject to change)

Wednesday, June 17th

Afternoon/Evening Bronze Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, June 18th

Morning/Afternoon Bronze Choir Rehearsal

Afternoon Director's Workshop

Evening Opening Dinner and Bronze Choir Concert

Friday, June 19th

Morning/Afternoon Massed Rehearsal and classes

Classes Showcase Concert

Evening Free (possible optional activity)

Saturday, June 20th

Morning Massed Rehearsal and Classes

Early Afternoon Final Rehearsal


Break

Late Afternoon (4:00) Final Concert

Evening Load out, Reception, Depart

The LaVista Conference Center is located in the southwest Omaha, NE metro area. It is connected to two different hotels, an Embassy Suites by Hilton and a Courtyard by Marriott. We are negotiating rooms at both hotels in order to provide different options





Handbell Musicians of America

PINNACLE
Reaching Your Personal Height of Performance

July 9-12, 2025 • Wichita, Kansas

Area 8 friends, it's not too late to register!

Pinnacle (National Seminar) July 9-12

Distinctly Teen July 10-12

Congratulations to two Area 8 choirs performing at Pinnacle!




Columbia Handbell Ensemble
Wednesday, July 9 • 6:00 pm



Rezound! Handbell Ensemble
Saturday, July 12 • 10:15 am

Meet the 2025 Pinnacle Local Liaison Team!
What could possibly be on their minds?



Amy Knudsen, Kathy Leonard, and Janelle Flory Schrock are ready to wrangle equipment!

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BELL BOOT CAMP

The Handbell Association of Greater St. Louis is available to bring a personalized Bell Boot Camp right to you and your choir. The presenter will tailor the Bell Boot Camp to fit your choir's specific needs.

You may choose as many or as few topics as you wish. A minimum 2-hour session is recommended. Can't fit them all in with one Boot Camp? Schedule a second or third session to cover all the topics you want.

Cost will be \$50 per hour for two hour minimum session, plus mileage if clinician travels over 50 miles roundtrip.

Email us at HAGSTL2020@gmail.com and a clinician will work with you to design a session to meet your needs.

Available Boot Camp Topics:

Basic Ringing and Damping
Techniques

Basic Music Reading and
Terminology

Deciphering Handbell Music
Notation:
Should I Ring, Swing, Echo,
Mart, Thumb Damp or just Shake?

History of Handbells

Care of Handbells

Performance Etiquette

Four in Hand/Shelley Ringing

Basics of Directing

Less than a Full Choir (Ensemble)



*Chris Peck
Illinois State Chair*

*Event photos
can be found on
the next page!*

Illinois Workshop Highlights

by Chris Peck, Illinois Chair

Illinois recently hosted its first state workshop in several years. I asked our host bell choir director, Joyce Zartman, to write a few words:

“Several months ago, I agreed to be the contact person for this year’s Illinois state workshop, held at SecondFirst Church in Rockford, Illinois, on Saturday, February 8, 2025.

The day began with a Massed Ringing session with over 60 participants. KC Congdon, the director, was excellent and very inspiring. Ringers and choirs had the option of purchasing music played at the Massed Ringing, and many took advantage of the opportunity. Gloves were available for purchase on site, another feature of the day.

After the Massed Ringing session, Agape Ringers presented 18 different classes during the day, for all levels of ringing ability. Participants could choose as many as five, or four plus lunch. Even though I have attended many workshops, festivals, and seminars, I still learned some new things!

The day ended with a Mini Concert by the Agape Ringers. Since it was early in the season for Agape, the ringers used the concert as an example of how they rehearse. All in the audience were impressed, and many have vowed to attend one of Agape’s regular concerts some time this year.

I heard many positive comments about the day. One ringer, Mary Ann, said, “We had a wonderful time. Marisa was thrilled to have a one-on-one session with Sarah Ward for Ringing Basics. My favorite classes were Darren Reynold’s Beyond Beginning and Sarah’s Change Ringing.” Another ringer, Karl, said, “What a successful day it was for ALL. From my perspective everything went very smoothly. The luncheon was amazing. I enjoyed the five classes that I attended. The teachers were all excellent and well experienced! The Mini-Concert was very interesting.”

Like the other ringers, I enjoyed the whole day. Advanced Doubling Up and Change Ringing were especially interesting for me. This was the first Agape workshop since the pandemic, and I am looking forward to another one next year! I’m sure there are many churches in Area VIII that would be great venues.”

The Illinois state committee, Chris Peck (Central/Southern Illinois Chair), Beth McFarland, (Northern Illinois Chair), and EmJ Jackle-Hugh (Ad Hoc Member) is excited about the possibilities for the future of our state. We are potentially looking at an event in August in the Bloomington area. Watch the Area 8 website, your email and facebook for news!



Treating Handbell Injuries

by Dick Crusinberry, Iowa Chair

As with any form of intense physical activity, injuries are a possibility when handbell ringing. No matter how careful you are, you can still suffer injury—either acute or chronic overuse injury. This raises the crucial question: What do you do then?

These are the most common types of ringing injuries:

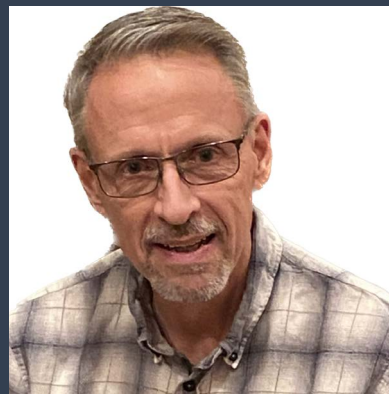
1. **Carpal Tunnel Syndrome** This condition arises from compression of the median nerve in the wrist due to repetitive hand motions. Symptoms include pain, tingling, and numbness in the fingers.
2. **Tendinitis** Tendinitis refers to inflammation of the tendons, which are the tough bands of tissue that connect muscles to bones. While it can occur in the wrist or shoulder, it is most commonly seen in the elbow, where it is known as tennis elbow (lateral epicondylitis). Tennis elbow results from repetitive motions like gripping or lifting with palms facing downward—activities that are especially likely to strain the tendons when lifting heavier bells. This condition causes small tears and inflammation in the elbow tendons, leading to pain on the outer side of the elbow.
3. **Back Pain** Lower back pain often stems from poor posture or improper lifting techniques, particularly when handling heavier bells. This typically results from muscle or ligament strain, which causes inflammation and spasms in the lower back muscles. Symptoms can range from a dull ache to a sudden, sharp pain and may persist for months or even years.

For significant or prolonged symptoms, it is essential to consult a physician. However, many of these injuries can be managed at home using the RICE method—Rest, Ice, Compression, and Elevation—to alleviate pain and promote healing. Rest is particularly crucial; if symptoms occur, you should take a break from the activity causing them.

Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications (NSAIDs), such as Advil and Naprosyn, can help reduce inflammation and pain. However, caution is advised when using these medications, as high doses can lead to kidney or stomach problems. If NSAIDs are required for longer than a week, consulting a doctor is recommended.

Splinting can also be beneficial. Wrist splints help maintain the wrist in a neutral position and reduce pressure on the median nerve, making them useful for individuals with carpal tunnel syndrome. Similarly, elbow splints can relieve strain on affected tendons for those with tennis elbow.

Finally, physical therapy is another valuable option. Physical therapists can recommend exercises and stretches to address overuse symptoms and reduce the likelihood of injury recurrence.



Dick Crusinberry
Iowa State Chair

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Amy Knudsen
Kansas State Chair

... is it possible to substitute a different technique to make the music easier to play?

Thumb Damp, Mart, Ring Touch, or Mallet?

Amy Knudsen, Kansas Chair

A question came up the other week in rehearsal – if a player can't cleanly complete the technique the composer has indicated, is it possible to substitute a different technique to make the music easier to play? The short answer is yes, but every effort needs to be made to play what the composer wrote. They had a vision, put it in the score, and it is up to us as the performers to make that vision come to life.

In a fast-tempo piece, where the player needs to bounce back and forth from written thumb damps to ringing, anyone above C5 should be able to manage that. They might need to put more than a thumb on the casting in order to get a 'drier' sound, but it is much easier to accomplish with the smaller bells.

A written thumb damp below C5 is definitely an issue. I believe composers are starting to phase out thumb damps in the bass clef, but some of the older music still has that technique printed. Those of us with smaller hands need to use more than just their thumb – or easier, mallet the passage. But what if the music indicates a quick change between malleting and ringing? It might be necessary for the player to learn how to ring with the mallets in their hands. It will probably be uncomfortable in the beginning, but it just takes practice.

So, then, what happens if the player has several bell changes marked with ring touches in quick succession? Depending on the tempo, it might be impossible for your player to play the passage cleanly. In this instance, it might be necessary to play the passage with very light marts – as in, barely lifting the casting off the table – starting even closer to the foam than our beloved 'two tacos high.' This way the player's hands are already near the table, and can get to their next bell easier. Is it what the composer wrote? No, but it might have to be done with a different technique.

When it was suggested that I change a technique, even though I could do what was written, I chose to do what was on the page. The ringers around me didn't have anything other than ringing, so it wasn't to help me match what was going on around me. The director was possibly trying to help me make the piece easier to play, but I felt uncomfortable changing what the composer wanted.

They write their story in the score, and it is up to us as performers to make that story come to life, as they envisioned.

Reflections on the Nebraska Spring Ring

by Byron W. Jensen, Nebraska Chair

Had it been a week earlier, the Nebraska Spring Ring (NSR) would have been canceled due to a blizzard that closed communities and left several hundred homes and businesses without electricity—some for several days. But March 20-21 were windswept spring-like days with most traces of snow having disappeared. Most fortunate, too, is that Cathy Moklebust was able to drive to Lincoln from Brookings, SD. The NSR was held at the St. Mark's Methodist Church which provides wonderful facilities to host such an event.

The director's workshop on Friday evening was attended by enough participants to fill out a five octave set of bells and chimes, plus a few (mostly NE Committee members) who sat on the sidelines watching the master at work. Cathy reminded directors that they must practice their conducting so that it conveys the music's (and composer's) intent. She brought out several salient insights that even seasoned conductors need to remember:

1. The ictus, that imaginary line running parallel above the floor where the conductor's beat "drops" into place, must be on the same plane for every beat regardless of conducting in three, four, six, etc. Expressive gestures, such a *molto rit.* might move the ictus slightly off base, but a return to ictus should be quick.
2. Faster tempi require smaller and tighter conducting motions whereas slower tempi patterns tend to be a larger (to help take up the time).
3. Conveying staccato to the ensemble is much different than conveying legato; these types of articulations need to be practiced.
4. Conductors must practice *ritardando*, *accelerando*, *crescendo*, and *decrecendo*.
5. Cathy also encouraged handbell directors to use a baton so that the ictus and expressive gestures can be clearly seen (or at least felt) by the ringers.



Byron Jensen
Nebraska State Chair

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Nebraska Spring Ring, continued

During the director's workshop, Cathy brought her experience as a percussionist to the table in demonstrating proper mallet technique (which won't be described here), and admonished all of us to never touch the "yarn" part of the mallet with our hands.

Saturday's event was attended by 105 ringers from three states with mileage ranging from a few blocks to 400 miles. Between Cathy and the NE Committee, six selections were chosen for her to work on, with no concluding concert at the close of the event. Although we included a sight-reading session guided by committee members, this was the first time in many years that individual classes were not offered to work on handbell techniques, programming, and other such subject matter.

In the long run, we didn't need the classes. One of the committee members pointed out how Cathy blended a lot of performance technique into the selections she was conducting. Case in point, she returned to malleting like a percussionist; finding the appropriate height for those martellatos; using arms and body to affect dynamic contrasts; and "freezing" when the final cutoff is given.

Cathy also sought several expressive gestures in the music. One such instance was the ending of Sherman's "Grazioso" when she had the ringers cut off the shake on beat four in the

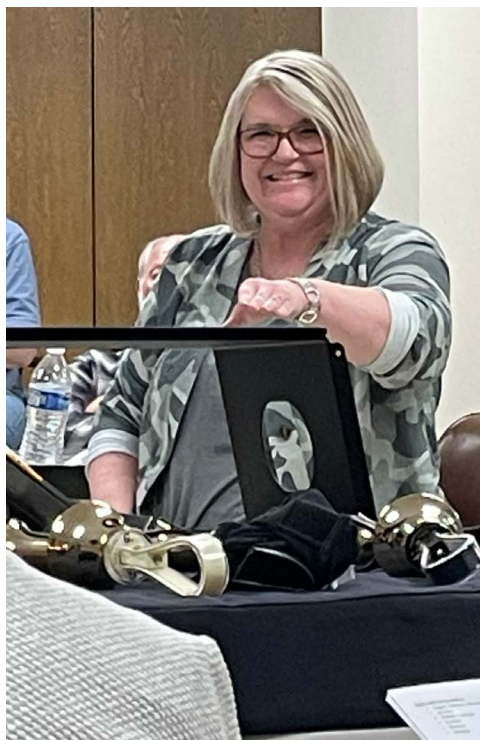
penultimate measure, letting it ring through beat four before playing the final measure. That process took a few times to practice, but the effect was stunning.

In one of her own selections, "I Will Arise and Go To Jesus," Cathy explained how the clarity of technique in the opening rhythmic ostinato—that is, ring/thumb damp versus ring/slight table martellato—subtly modifies the expressiveness of the music.

Saturday's primary takeaway was that conductors and ringers must remain "faithful" to the printed music, but that we can also seek ways to make the music unique and memorable. Releasing a shake before the end of a measure is just one example of gently manipulating

articulation to achieve a more musical and personal result. Ultimately, as we all know, this means delving into the music more than simply conducting towards the ictus.

It is said that everyone contributes to the whole. The Nebraska Committee has been blessed with consistent membership for the past two decades, and the success of the NSR was the result of our collective planning that started nearly two years ago. My thanks to the Committee, the ringers who made their way to Lincoln, and to Cathy Moklebus for making this a memorable event in Area 8 history.



Bell-issimo Community Choir from Lincoln, Nebraska, presented a lunchtime concert.



*Nancy Youngman
Chimes Chair*

Chime Loans Outside of Schools

by Nancy Youngman

I am so pleased to share this picture of totally happy people. And, why are they so happy? They are having their first rehearsal with a set of chimes loaned to them through the Area 8 Chime Loan program! Area 8 actually has two loan programs, the School Loan Program which is a nationwide effort to get chimes into schools, and our own non-school loan program. In the School Loan Program, each state has a set of chimes to loan to educators to use in their classrooms, while Area 8 also has two sets of chimes to loan for other purposes. Do you have a community group that is looking for a set of chimes to use? How about a great activity for Bible School or a music camp? Do you know of a nursing home that could really use a wonderful activity that is totally therapeutic for its residents? Or, like those in this picture, are

you a member of a church who does not have chimes or bells, but would like to try them out? These are all perfect reasons to apply to the non-school loan program in Area 8!

Shawn McVey is a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fort Madison, Iowa and attended the recent handbell festival in Iowa City. Shawn had been a long time ringer of a choir in Lincoln, Nebraska before he moved to Iowa, but his new church didn't have a set of bells

or chimes. After checking with members of the church, he found that there was a large interest in having a handbell choir, along with several people who wanted to ring. At the festival, he was informed of the Chime Loan Program, contacted Chair Nancy Youngman, and within a week, the church had their first rehearsal!

The particular set that Shawn is using had just been returned from a church in Aurora, Nebraska. The congregation of that church loved the music of the chimes so much that they held a drive and enough funds were contributed that they were able to buy their own set of chimes! We are hoping for the same positive result from Shawn's church in Iowa.

Please visit the Area 8 website to access the application forms for both the School Loan Program and the non-school program. And, really, now is the time for the educators of each state to apply to incorporate chimes into their curriculum next year. If you have any questions or are having problems accessing the forms, please contact Chair Nancy Youngman at chimes.area8@handbellmusicians.org Happy ringing!



Area 8 Remembers Handbell Luminary Joan Shull

The Past is Prologue

By Laurie Austin, Area 8 Historian

We are taking time to recall the life and legacy of Joan Shull, who served both the Area and National Handbell Musicians of America (then called American Guild of English Handbell Ringers) for so many years. Joan Margaret Hubbell Shull, a beloved wife, mother, musician, and dedicated community member, passed away peacefully on March 12, 2025, in Garden City, Kansas, at the age of 95. Joan was born on December 3, 1929, in North Dakota. By the age of 5, her family moved to Boulder, CO where she spent her childhood surrounded by the beauty of the Rocky Mountains. It was there that she developed a lifelong love for music, education, and service.

Joan attended the University of Colorado where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Business in 1951 and met her future husband. On June 9, 1950, Joan married the love of her life, Paul Edwin Shull. Together, they built a life filled with love, adventure, and shared passions first in Great Falls, Montana; later in Rochester, New York; and settling in Manhattan, Kansas. Their marriage was blessed with three children, Michael Shull of Garden City, Kansas, Terry (Shull) Busch of Overland Park, Kansas, and Kevin Shull of Cambridge, Minnesota.

The Shulls were deeply active in the Kansas State University community, where Paul served as Band Director. Joan supported local arts organizations including the Manhattan Civic Theatre. A gifted musician and educator, Joan served as the organist at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, before cultivating a thriving handbell program at First United Methodist Church. She began directing handbells in 1966. Her teachers were Dick Litterst, Mary Kettlehut, Ellen Jane Lorenz, and Don Allured. She continued in that role for 28 years at First United Methodist Church, where her choirs played regularly in community concert series and at Kansas State University functions.



Joan Shull (blue dress) stands with other recipients of the Area 8 Outstanding Service Award, 1994. Left to right: Florence Marlow, Richard Litterst, Betty Jo Wilcox, Joan Shull, Mary Kettelhut, and Barbara Kinroth.

*The American
Guild of
English
Handbell
Ringers
(now HMA)
presented
her with an
Honorary Life
Membership
award in 2017.*

Joan Shull Tribute, continued

Her passion for handbell music led her to attend annual organized handbell events and mentor new ringers and directors. At Area 8 Festivals, she taught classes such as “Bells and Instruments,” “Program Management for Directors,” and “So You Want to be a Better Ringer.”

She went on to serve as Area 8 Chair. For the AGEHR Joan contributed significantly in multiple roles: Educational Resources Chairman, served on the nominating committee, as a consummate editor and typist writing and editing columns and articles for *Overtones* magazine, and acted as the Guild’s historian. She was instrumental in developing the Area 8 resource library and was renowned for her column “Bach, Beethoven and ?.” Additionally, Joan created the *Tempo Setters* videos and co-authored the Oxford definition of handbells. The American Guild of English Handbell Ringers (now HMA) presented her with an Honorary Life Membership award in 2017.

Joan herself said her two most notable contributions to the handbell world were her two handbell ringing children, Terry and Kevin. And while that legacy is indeed great, it is not limited to them—she launched the handbell careers of so many musicians in our region. When the news of her death was shared by Handbell Musicians of America, a number of her former ringers came forward to say how special she was.

Sara Washington, a Kansas City ringer with Rezound! community handbell ensemble, started ringing with Joan when she was a teenager in the 1970s. Joan had

started the handbell program with youth choirs at First United Methodist Church in Manhattan, KS. Even though Sara didn’t attend the church, Joan encouraged her to join her high school bell choir. She remembers how fun Joan made it, doing silly things at the yearly Manhattan High School variety shows produced with the help of her husband, Paul. Paul would write new pieces for them every time, and the bell choir provided the antics. When enough of Joan’s high school students graduated, there was a demand for a post-high school group. Joan agreed to direct it if the musicians promised to show up regularly—this group became the *Rhapsody Ringers*. Joan brought her choirs to festivals and invited clinicians to work with her musicians. Sara remembers running into her at various festivals for many years, and when she moved to the Kansas City area, Joan introduced her to Otis and Lucille Mumaw, who were associated with Platte Woods Church—where Sara now directs the bell choir.

Joan was also the first handbell director that Dr. Brett Wolgast ever had, while he was a college student at Kansas State University. Joan was solely responsible for his life-long love of the instrument. He fondly remembers the handbell choir performing annually at K-State’s Madrigal Buffets at Christmas. During his time in the ensemble, they traveled and performed at the National AGEHR Seminar in Logan, Utah, giving concerts at points along the way. Joan was a wonderful mentor and friend who always took a keen interest in Brett’s life and career, which includes being a handbell

director and ringer for the past 40 years. Brett is now the Cantor and Organist at First Lutheran Church in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Kathy and Evan Leonard also remember Joan fondly. They said it took seven years to get the courage to approach Joan about learning to ring handbells. Joan had been thinking about

Everett Hilty, Joan Shull, Mary Kettelhut, and Harry Kettelhut meet in Kansas City to work on the second *Overtones* compilation, June 18, 2003.



Joan Shull Tribute, continued

starting a beginner's choir, and asked the Leonards to help her recruit. The Tintinnabulators began in the fall of 1990, and Kathy and Evan were charter members. Kathy says Joan taught her almost everything she knows about ringing and connected her to some of the biggest names in the handbell world.

Joan's legend lives on in the First United Methodist Church's congregation—including Kathy herself, who serves as a handbell director there. After Joan's retirement, the Tintinnabulators and Ye Olde Clappers combined and became the Allegro Ringers. Meanwhile, Sara Washington's former group, the Rhapsody Ringers, are still going strong. Besides the children/youth choir, FUMC also has a daytime group and a non-performing group. Among current ringers at FUMC there are two 3-generation families that started in Joan's choirs. They still have seven ringers that began under Joan's tutelage - including both current directors. Considering that Joan stopped directing in 1993, this is a remarkable number. Kathy said it best— "A life, a legacy, an inspiration - that was Joan Shull!"

Joan's Celebration of Life will be held May 24, 10:00 am at the First United Methodist Church of Manhattan. Memorial contributions may be made to: the bell choir program at

First United Methodist Church, or the Sunset Zoological Park Education Department, c/o First United Methodist, honoring Joan's lifelong commitment to music, education, and conservation.

Thanks to Garnand Funeral Homes for the obituary, and input from Sara Washington, Brett Wolgast, Evan Leonard, and Kathy Leonard.



Joan Shull appeared dressed as an expectant handbell in a variety show skit depicting the birth of Area 8, put on by the Area 8 Festival staff, July 7, 1992. David Davidson played the doctor.



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Amy Knudsen

Chimes

Amy Knudsen

Does Your School Qualify?

Area 8 offers a handchime loan program to schools in Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska. *Qualifying schools will receive:*

- 3-octave set of handchimes for one semester (approx. 4 months) with teaching materials
- support network and/or mentor
- one-year membership to Handbell Musicians of America.

To check availability of handchimes for loan or to submit an application, please contact Nancy Youngman, Area 8 Chimes Chair.

To learn more about the Chime Loan Program, visit the [Area 8 website](#).

A video featuring Nancy Youngman describes in detail the Area 8 chime loan program and can be found [here](#).

Upcoming Area 8 Events

May 2025

May 2

7:00 pm River City Ringers of Omaha Concert: Tuning in to Handbell Hits
Presbyterian Church of the Master, Omaha, Nebraska

May 3

10:00 am Berlls of Holy Trinity Concert
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Linbcoln, Nebraska

4:00 pm Chicago Bronze Concert: Celebrating the Music of Arnold Sherman
Trinity United Methodist Church, Wilmette, Illinois

7:00 pm Bells in Motion Handbell Concert: Paper Moon
Wesley United Methodist Church, Macomb, Illinois

7:00 pm River City Ringers of Omaha Concert: Tuning in to Handbell Hits
All Saints Episcopal Church, Omaha, Nebraska

May 4

3:00 Concordia University, Nebraska Handbell Concert
Concordia University, Nebraska Borland Music Center, Seward, Nebraska

4:00 pm The Gateway Ringers Spring Concert: "Stories"
Sisters of the Precious Blood St Joseph Chapel, O'Fallon, Missouri

4:00 pm Bells in Motion Handbell Concert: Paper Moon
First Federated Church, Peoria, Illinois

4:00 pm Chicago Bronze Concert: Celebrating the Music of Arnold Sherman
St. Paul and the Redeemer Episcopal Church, Chicago, Illinois

4:00 pm River City Ringers of Omaha Concert: Tuning in to Handbell Hits
St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, Omaha, Nebraska

May 16

7:00 pm Lawrence Community Handbell Choir Concert
Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Lawrence, Kansas

May 17

7:00 pm Lawrence Community Handbell Choir Concert
Ottawa Municipal Auditorium, Ottawa, Kansas

May 18

4:00 pm The Agape Ringers Concert
Jubilee Bible Church, Medinah, Illinois

3:00 pm Lawrence Community Handbell Choir Concert
First United Methodist Church, Lawrence, Kansas

7:00 pm The Bells of Holy Trinity with Bell-issimo Concert: Celebrating 40 Years
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Lincoln, Nebraska

June 2025

June 6

7:00 pm Des Moines Concert Handbells Concert: Music of Love, Joy, and Passion
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Urbandale, Iowa

Publishing in Quavers

4 publications per year,
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Articles are due on the
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Questions?

Please send all questions
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handbellmusicians.org](mailto:newslettereditor.area8@handbellmusicians.org)

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More Area 8 Events

7:00 pm Rezound! Handbell Ensemble Spring Concert
Pine Ridge Presbyterian Church, Kansas City, Missouri

June 7

3:00 pm Des Moines Concert Handbells Concert: Music of Love, Joy, and Passion
Plymouth Congregational Church, Des Moines, Iowa

7:00 pm Rezound! Handbell Ensemble Spring Concert
Christ United Methodist Church, Independence, Missouri

June 8

3:00 pm Rezound! Handbell Ensemble Spring Concert
St. Mark's United Methodist Church, Overland Park, Kansas

June 8

4:00 pm Raleigh Ringers in Concert
Bicknell Family Center for the Arts, Pittsburg, Kansas

June 16

7:00 pm Raleigh Ringers in Concert
C. L. Hoover Opera House, Junction City, Kansas

September 2025

September 21

4:00 pm The Agape Ringers Concert
St. Paul United Church of Christ, Belleville, Illinois

October 2025

October 5

4:00 pm The Agape Ringers Concert
First United Methodist Church, Lexington, Illinois

October 18

8 am to 4 pm 2025 Mid-Iowa Handbell Festival with Nick Hanson, clinician
Windsor Heights Lutheran Church

National Events

Visit <https://handbellmusicians.org/events/> for more information

July 9-12

Pinnacle & Distinctly Teen, Wichita, Kansas

August 18-21

Masterclass Series (composing, solo & ensemble ringing) Livonia, Michigan

August 21-23

Into the Forest Bell Tree Event, Livonia, Michigan

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details about
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