



# CLAPPER CHATTER



# CLAPPER CHATTER

## From the Chair

## Lori's RINGtones



### Friend Request

"Lori Potter requests you as a friend", "Like", "Comment", "Share". Facebook, the Social Network is alive and well even in the world of handbells.

About a year or so ago, I joined the ranks of a Facebook person. I gained friends regularly and followed their postings. I'm not a regular writer, but do enjoy keeping tabs on my friends and relatives.

Recently my sisters and I (we are all on Facebook) have connected with our second cousins that we have not seen in several years. Imagine my surprise at Karen's posting of her photo of the "Holy Spirit Handbell Girls" on a cross country skiing outing. Through this social network I have discovered that she has been a handbell ringer for over 27 years. Who knew! What a great connection.

In addition to connecting with people, you can also connect with groups and organizations. Did you know that the National AGEHR and Area VII each have a Facebook page? There are regular postings and photos of current and upcoming events. Recently I have been following the National ringing event, Distinctly Bronze West and Area VII's events, Anthornis and High School Handbell Happenings. Add these pages to your friends list and you can easily keep up with all of the national and local happenings. Sean Johnson is Area VII's Facebook page administrator.

If you are not yet on Facebook, but have been thinking about it, give it a try. It's great fun. You, too, might learn things about your friends or relatives that you never knew before. And if you are really lucky, even your kids will be your friend on Facebook.

### Change in Area VII Secretary

It is with sadness that I inform you of a change in board members. Linda Schmidt, Area VII secretary, has resigned her position due to a serious illness. Please pray for her healing.

Judi Morton has been appointed by the Area Chair and approved by the Executive Committee (according to the Area VII Bylaws) to fill the vacated position.

Currently Judi has dual roles as Publications Manager and Secretary. She can be contacted using the e-mail address — [editor@areaviagehr.org](mailto:editor@areaviagehr.org). For now, she will continue in both roles.

### New Initiative Voting

On April 1-2, 2011, the Area VII National Board Members and Area Leaders from across the country will convene in Minneapolis for the Spring Area Leadership Meeting. At this meeting we will vote (one vote per area) on the 3 initiatives. I will be voting according to our Area VII vote.

- s Area Naming Practice – Roman Numerals (Area VII) vs. Arabic Numbers (Area 7). Area VII Board member's vote = Arabic Numbers - Area 7
- s Sub-Domain of the National site vs. New Domain of each area - With the transition to our new name, the AGEHR website will also change. Area VII Board member's vote = Sub-Domain of the National site
- s Area Logos – Convert all Areas to a standard logo vs. Each Area creates their own logo. Area VII Board member's vote = Convert all Areas to a standard logo

Area VII Board member's votes were unanimous on all three decisions. Look for the results on the AGEHR and Area VII websites, Overtones, and the Clapper Chatter.

### AGEHR lost a handbell pioneer

Past President and Honorary Life member Donald E. Allured died peacefully in the afternoon of February 28, 2011, near his home in Pensacola, Florida, at the age of 88.



**Donald Allured**  
1922—2011

More information available on the [AGEHR website](http://www.agehr.org).

### Editor's Corner

Clapper Chatter is published quarterly, (November, January, April, and August) and AGEHR members are encouraged to submit articles for publication.

Advertising rates are \$25 for 2"x3.5", \$40 for quarter page, and \$55 for half page per issue.

**Please submit all address corrections to the national office: AGEHR, 1055 E. Centerville Station Rd., Dayton, OH 45493-5503. E-mail address changes to: [membership@agehr.org](mailto:membership@agehr.org)**

All articles, event information, questions or comments should be sent to Judi Morton, Clapper Chatter Editor.

# Upcoming Area events

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## Area VII Director's Seminar

**A**rea VII Director's Seminars are on the move throughout the Area. This year, the event will be held at the Olivet Lutheran Church in Fargo, North Dakota, on September 23-24, 2011. You may attend either the Friday or Saturday session, but you will learn much more by attending both sessions.

**Morna-June Morrow**, a familiar name to many in Area VII and a member/leader in the Manitoba (Canada) Guild, will lead the seminar.

The Friday night session on September 23 (7 to 9 p.m.) will be a Reading Session of fine handbell music, some of which are new releases. Registrants will sight-read up to fifteen handbell selections, learning a variety of things from each piece. Both ringers and directors are encouraged to enroll in this session.

Saturday's session on September 24 (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) is a hands-on session for directors where you will learn how to maximize bell techniques, receive rehearsal and performance tips, and touch on visual choreography. Three pieces of music are included in your registration fee. These pieces will be the focus of the Saturday session and will also be used at the end of the session to perform a mini-concert, which serves as a Seminar wrap-up.

The registration form is available on page 10 and also online on our website. To download the registration form, [CLICK HERE](#).

The registration deadline is **September 1**.

## Scholarships available

The Clista Wood Scholarship Fund was established to provide encouragement and assistance to eligible individuals to attend an Area VII ringing event. Qualifying events include Area VII Festival Conference, Young Ringers Camp and Area VII Director Seminar.

One scholarship will be awarded to a student to attend the 2011 Young Ringers Camp in Stewartville, Minnesota, on June 24-26, 2011. One scholarship will be awarded for someone to attend the Director's Seminar in Fargo, North Dakota, on September 23-24, 2011.

Scholarship forms are available on our website under Grants and Scholarships. [CLICK HERE](#) to download the form. After printing the form, fill it out, and return to Jessica Westgard. Her contact information is on the form.

## Meet the clinician

**Morna-June Morrow** (A.R.C.T., A.M.M., B. Mus., B. Ed., M. Ed., Orff Cert.)



Morna-June (M-J) has been involved with handbell ringing since she had a forty-minute "crash" course from Fred Merrett in March 1969. She has given handbell workshops in seven provinces and in Minnesota. While National Chair of the Handbell Guilds of Canada, she was the Canadian massed ringing conductor at the 9<sup>th</sup> International Handbell Symposium in Birmingham, England. She conducts the Westworth United Church Chapel Bells, plays in All Chim'in Festival Quartet, and plays solo bells. A festival adjudicator of handbells, recorders and Orff classes across western Canada, she is currently Past President of the Winnipeg Music Festival. She serves as Past Chair, Editor and Archivist of the Manitoba Guild of English Handbell Ringers.

M-J was Founding President of the Manitoba Orff Chapter and served as National President of Carl Orff Canada, becoming the first music educator in western Canada to receive an Honorary Life Membership. Upon her retirement as music specialist/supervisor in 1998, the Manitoba Orff Chapter established the "Morna-June Morrow Award for Excellence in Music Education in Manitoba".

## High School Handbell Happening

This Area VII event for grades 8-12 will be held on April 9, 2011, at Salem Lutheran Church, 90 Riverside Drive SE, St. Cloud, MN 56304, with clinician, Christy Gotzman. **The concert at 5:30 p.m. is open to the public. Bring your friends.**

# Upcoming Area events

## Young Ringers Camp

**I**t's not too late to register for Young Ringers Camp (YRC) that will again be held at Ironwood Springs Christian Camp outside of Rochester, Minnesota, on June 24-26, 2011. Camp officially begins at 1 p.m. on Friday and ends with a final concert open to the public on Sunday at 11 a.m. This will be the fourth biennial Area VII Young Ringers Camp.

All 4th-8th graders are invited to come and play bells, experience the challenge course, ride horseback, swim, and climb the climbing wall. There will also be campfires, s'mores, lots of singing and even a few jokes.

Remember all those handbell Bible stories? Tammy Waldrop is the composer of the Ring A Story series and will also be our clinician. She is VERY excited about joining us in Minnesota!

**Tammy Waldrop** is from New Caney, Texas, and she has written some of our favorite handbell music (over 350 pieces)! She is a graduate of Baylor University and is currently the Handbell Editor/Associate Church Choral Editor for Alfred Publishing.

As in the past, there will be two ringing divisions—level 1 and level 2—as well as massed ringing. The final piece, which will be learned at the camp, is *Kingsport Procession* by Kath Wissinger, AGEHR AG35293, L2, 3-5 octaves. Participating choirs are invited to ring a solo piece at the final concert. **The final concert is open to the public.**

Registration received after April 1 will be \$170 for ringers/directors and \$150 for non-ringers and chaperones. A male and female chaperone will be required if you bring both boys and girls.

The registration form is available on the Area VII website. Click on this [LINK](#) for more information and access to the registration forms. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Deedee Odell at [ddbells@aol.com](mailto:ddbells@aol.com).

Deedee Odell, Young Ringers Camp Chair

## Spring Ring

**T**he Spring Ring event will be held at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Alexandria, Minnesota, on April 29-30, 2011. This event will be patterned after the Anthornis event, but the music will be a little easier.

**Lee Afdahl**, AGEHR President-Elect, will be our clinician. There will be two sessions. The session on Friday evening (6:30 - 9 p.m.) will give you hands-on experience ringing music that is Level 4(+), offering seasoned ringers an opportunity to ring new music while honing their techniques and improving their ringing skills. This unique ringing experience is meant to *challenge and stretch* your ringing and musicality skills. The Saturday session will begin at 8:30 a.m. and will involve rehearsing and polishing four massed ringing pieces of music and performing them in concert at 3:15 p.m. on Saturday afternoon. **The concert will be open to the public.** Participating choirs are invited to ring a solo piece (or two) to round out the concert. Music for the massed ringing should be rehearsed in advanced so the clinician can work on musicality.

The cost for the event is:  
 \$10 for just the Friday night technique session  
 \$20 for just Saturday.  
 \$20 for BOTH sessions.

The registration form is available on the Area VII website, click on this [LINK](#).

If your whole choir can't attend and you'd like to come as an orphan ringer or if you want more information about the event, please contact Judi Morton at [uringabell@gmail.com](mailto:uringabell@gmail.com) or Alanna Teragawa at [events@areaviagehr.org](mailto:events@areaviagehr.org).

## Repertoire for Spring Ring

*Awake My Heart*, Lee Afdahl, L3+, 3-5 oct/  
 3oct chimes, From the Top, 20182,  
 20182-1 (flute)

*Joy and Elation*, Cynthia Dobrinski, L2+, 3-5  
 oct., Hope, MHP2457 (HB), MHP2457F  
 (flute)

*Andante in F Minor*, Michael Helman, L2+, 3-  
 5 oct., GIA, MGIG7634

*This Joyful Eastertide*, Lee Afdahl, L3, 3-5  
 oct., Concordia, MCO976981

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# Upcoming events

## KidsRing

**K**idsRing will be held on April 30, 2011, at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, 5005 Northwest Blvd, Plymouth, MN 55442. The event starts at 9 a.m. and ends with a 2:30 p.m. final concert, which is open to the public.

This event is for handbell groups in grades 4-8. The clinician will be **Rob Reid**.

The cost of the event is \$15 per person, \$10 per chaperone which includes one snack and lunch.

9:00 – 9:30	Massed rehearsal
9:30 – 10:00	Level One rehearsal Level Two Workshop A (a rhythm game)
10:00 – 10:30	Level Two rehearsal, Level One Workshop A
10:30 - 11:00	Snack
11:00 – 12:00	Massed rehearsal
12:00 – 12:45	Lunch and solo run-throughs
12:45 – 1:15	Level One rehearsal Level Two Workshop B (TBD)
1:15 – 1:45	Level Two rehearsal Level One Workshop B
1:45 - 2:10	Massed final run-through
2:30	<b>Concert, open to the public.</b> <b>Invite your family and friends.</b>

This event gives students in grades 4 – 8 the opportunity to ring in a massed setting, in addition to learning new things and meeting new friends. The clinician will lead them through the music in a fun and productive way. As the different levels are being rehearsed, there will be fun break-out groups to keep the kids focused on bell topics or rhythm. Ringers who wish to conduct part of the rehearsal will be given that opportunity.

**If your entire choir can attend, please consider performing one or two solo numbers during the event's final concert.** Partial choirs are most welcome. Perhaps your chaperones can ring with you. First determine the ringing Division Level for your group and then register. All music should be purchased and rehearsed before the event. Bring your bells, tables, and other equipment to the event.

Complete the registration form and send it in by the deadline with the appropriate fees. Questions can be addressed to either the registrar or Sean Johnson, the Area VII Youth Events Planner. Contact information is printed on the sidebars on pages 2 and 3.

Registrar: Carol Scheel • nscarolida@yahoo.com • 7209 Morgan Ave S, Richfield, MN 55423 • 612-861-0029.

Registration deadline: April 1, 2011

### REPERTOIRE FOR KIDSRING

#### Level 1

*Bound for Glory*, Tammy Waldrop, Alfred, 17551, 2-3 oct. L1+  
*Go Tell It*, Tammy Waldrop, Alfred, 25349, 2-3 oct. L1

#### Level 2

*Arky, Arky*, Tammy Waldrop, Ring Out Press, 3206, 2-3 oct. L2+  
*I've Got the Joy*, Valerie Stephenson, Choristers Guild, CGB579, 3-5 oct. L2

#### Massed

*A Bit of Beethoven ("Joyful, Joyful" only)*, Sharon Elery Rogers, Alfred, 23151, 2-3 oct., L1+  
*Friendly Beasts*, Sandra Eithun, Alfred, 31751, 2-3 oct. L1

## National Seminar in Minneapolis

**A**s you may already know, the first Handbell Musicians of America national event is being held in Area VII this year, at the Minneapolis Hilton, July 14-17th.

Many handbell greats from Area VII will be participating in the Seminar: Bells of the Lakes Ensemble, Twin Cities Bronze Ensemble, Olivet Bell Choir from Olivet Lutheran Church in Fargo, North Dakota under Marlys Herring's direction, Lee Afdahl, Bill Alexander, John Behnke, Jennifer Cadwell, Sandra Eithun, Dean Jensen, Bill Mathis, Carolynne Mathis, Monica McGowan, Paul McKenzie, Sandy Mullaney, Alanna Teragawa, Bonnie Tranby, and Paul Weller.

You obviously can't host a handbell seminar without handbells and handchimes, LOTS of them. **YOUR EQUIPMENT IS NEEDED!** If you would be willing to lend your equipment for this National event, please contact Bill Mathis immediately for additional details at Whmathis1@gmail.com or by telephone at 612-435-1319.



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# Around the Area

## Historian Report

**I**s it Spring yet? It truly has been an interesting (and long) winter; however, it has been a busy and productive winter for your historian. I have compiled a master list of all of the music that has been rung at our 20 Area festivals. The number of pieces is amazing! Any guesses? If you guessed 200 you would be close! If you guessed 225 you would be getting warmer! The correct number is approx 254 pieces of music. This number does not include approx 8- 12 compositions from our earliest festivals not included in the list because information was no longer available. The number of composers is surprising as well. We have rung music from approximately 80 composers. If you include the music from the youth events, the numbers get even bigger.

All right, all right, enough with the numbers. Another project of mine is to create a couple collections of memorabilia. One of these would be to put together the festival books and pins from as many of the festivals as possible. I have attended nine of the twenty festivals, so I particularly would love to get items from festivals before the 1994 festival in Bemidji. Please contact me via e-mail if you have items to donate to the area archives. I hope to have these items ready for display at the 2012 festival in Duluth. If you have any other items to add to the archives and our Area's amazing history, please contact me.

I look forward to seeing everyone in Duluth!  
 Dan Ahlman  
 Historian  
 Area VII AGHER  
 historian@areaviagehr.org.

## Play as Written

A bell choir devotional from Brenda Barta

**Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)** *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

When composers and arrangers create a piece of music, they include dynamic markings. The markings convey their vision of how the piece should be performed. We can take some liberties with the markings but in general, the music should be played as written.

And so it is with God. His song is the Bible. There wasn't much sweet music during the Old Testament times. It was disharmonious clanging as at the Tower of Babel. Everyone was playing their own tune in their own key.

In response to the chaos, God sent his son to direct the world's music. Christ holds the director's baton and sets the tempo of our lives. If we pay attention and follow his lead, we will be blessed. Bell ringers know the feeling. It is the goose bump moment following the flawless execution of a piece of music. Even smaller things like a chord that is together or a run that flows can give a tingle.

There are many dynamic markings in the Bible – the 10 commandments, the Beatitudes and the parables. Learning to live in this way requires dedication and practice. The same is required of bell ringers: dedication to the art and other ringers, and regular practice of the notes.

As with bell ringers and choirs there is a wide range of experience. Some members are new and hit more "bad notes" than those with expertise. There are Christians too who are young in their faith while others are masters of the lifestyle.

There are dynamic markings for living and Jesus is ready to lead us. All we have to do is read them and practice them, and follow the Director.

\*\*\*\*\*

Prayer: Creator of the universe, help us to live the music you have composed for us. May we be true to the vision you have for our lives. Amen.

\*\*\*\*\*

Author's note 02/25/11: I wrote this devotion several months before the death of my best friend, Lisa Hagstrom-Thompson, on February 24, 2011. Lisa died from cancer nine months after she was diagnosed. During that brief but painful time, Lisa continued to play her music as it was written. She was courageous, optimistic and faithful to her God. Everyone whose life she touched will miss her greatly.

## New members

Please welcome the newest members to Area VII.

- ⌘ Beautiful Savior Lutheran, Green Bay, Wisconsin
- ⌘ Irl Hicks, Britton, South Dakota
- ⌘ Trinity Lutheran Church, Farmington, Minnesota
- ⌘ Zachary Busch, St. Paul, Minnesota
- ⌘ First Lutheran Church, Baudette, Minnesota
- ⌘ Trevor Lee, Moorhead, Minnesota
- ⌘ Ona Pinsonneault, St. Paul, Minnesota
- ⌘ Ann K. Nelson, Madison, Wisconsin
- ⌘ Jennifer Jewell, Stillwater, Minnesota
- ⌘ Denean Smith, De Pere, Wisconsin
- ⌘ Midvale Community Lutheran Church, Madison, Wisconsin
- ⌘ First Congregational Church, Oshkosh, Wisconsin
- ⌘ Sugar Creek Lutheran Church, Elkhorn, Wisconsin

## Master Composition Class attendee

Gloria Axelson from Vining, Minnesota, recently attended a Master Composition Class for handbell composing and arranging, January 29-31 in Tucson, Arizona. Classes were held at the Hilton El Conquistador Resort. Class size was kept to just six participants, to allow each student one-on-one time to work with instructor Arnold Sherman.

# Around the Area

## North Dakota report

From Mary Ann Devig

**G**reetings from North Dakota where we are preparing for major flooding this spring! Yes, I know it is already March but in North Dakota spring can be reluctant to show up some years. Just a reminder to everyone that handbells do not like water!

Last June, North Dakota had 19 ringers and directors make the trip to the Festival in Rochester. Several gals from Bismarck and Minot drove 12-14 hours to attend and had glowing reports about the festival. Thanks to all of you who made the trip and I am hoping many of you will make the trek to Duluth in 2012! As the Sub-Area Chair it is a lot of fun to meet and visit with members that I normally only get to talk to by phone or e-mail. As a director it is a lot of fun to learn from the handbell world's best clinicians!

North Dakota received another C.H.I.M.E. grant this year! Area 7 placed a 3-octave set of Handbells in the classroom of Kris Kietzman at Edgeley Public School for the students to use, free, for the school year. Kris and the students enjoyed using the handchimes so much that they requested, and received, another grant. Kris uses the bells to teach basic music theory and note reading to elementary students, performs in concerts, and even has the high school students accompanying themselves while singing! She says the kids think that playing the bells is a "real treat."

Last September the Twin Cities Bronze brought their Insights into Artistry workshop to Grand Forks! The ringers attending not only learned a lot about ringing bells but were also featured in a Grand Forks Herald newspaper article the next day.

Vincent Methodist Church in Minot and First Presbyterian Church in Fargo have both started intergenerational handbell choirs and report that not only do the kids and adult ringers enjoy the interaction, learning, and mentoring, but the congregations love it! What a great way to fill out the numbers needed for a handbell choir!

Many North Dakota choirs performed concerts during the year including St. John's from Dickinson (whose director, Cheryl Hewson, also performed a bell solo), the Bethany Bellievers from Bethany Lutheran Church in Minot, and Tammie Vernon's bell choir from Hazen who incorporate a Death by Chocolate fundraiser and concert together.

Three Grand Forks area handbell choirs are performing a concert on Palm Sunday, April 17 at 4 p.m. at Calvary Lutheran Church. The choirs will all ring solo numbers as well as participate in massed ringing.

Wishing you a slow and controlled snow melt, a nice warm summer, and happy ringing!

## Twin Cities Metro

From JoBeth Ranfranz, Director, Holy Name Ringers

On Saturday February 12, the Holy Name Ringers under the direction of JoBeth Ranfranz were guests at the Basilica of St. Mary in their Missa Choralis Series. They were joined by The David Jorlette Chorale and The Trinity Chamber Singers. The event began with prelude music prior to Mass and continued with the regular Saturday, Vigil Liturgy. The ringers played an arrangement of *Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring*, an original composition by Michael Helman called *Nocturne No. 2*, and closed with a bells and organ arrangement of *Lobe Den Herren (Praise to the Lord the Almighty)* with principal organist, Chris Stroh.

The philosophy of the Missa Choralis Series is to bring groups in to the Basilica so they can experience the space, and the congregation can experience a variety of choirs. The Holy Name Ringers were the first bell choir to perform in the series. The series organizer, Chris Stroh, wanted to expand the congregations interpretation of "choir". The result was met with acclaim!



Father Michael O'Connell was the President. He expressed his appreciation on how wonderful it was to have the Holy Name Ringers as guests. He commented that there is nothing like the sound of handbells in the Basilica space [paraphrase]



One of the audience members commented, "The handbells make the whole Basilica sparkle."

Chris Stroh, Principal Organist and Missa Choralis Coordinator wrote when inviting us, "Your choir is among the most talented, not to mention agile and flexible!"

Overall it was a highly energizing appearance for the choir. The choir has been invited to return in the fall and do even more.

# Around the Area

## Hymnfest

Lori Potter's handbell choir performed with the St. John's Boys Choir at Hymnfest in St. Cloud, Minnesota. It was a concert in celebration of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. This year's event had a special focus on gospel music and featured renowned Minnesota gospel artist, Jearlyn Steele.




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Louise Frier      Composer/Arranger  
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For more info, e-mail Mark Bloedow, HB Week Executive Director, at [mbloedow@maestromeb.com](mailto:mbloedow@maestromeb.com)



# Tips and tidbits

## MUSIC THEORY.aargh©

(For ringers: Session 3a: pitch)

### The Major and Minor Scales

By Dr. Ona Pinsonneault



Now that we can find the *tonic* of a composition (see Session 1, November 2010 issue of Clapper Chatter) and can read a *key signature* (see session 2a in the January 2011 issue) it is time to read *scale*. This session will begin to examine Major and Minor scales.

When we spell the Major or Minor scale every letter of the musical alphabet is used, "A" through "G". This helps to determine if a note is called a *flat* or a *sharp*. A flat lowers a pitch by a half step (A to Ab) and a sharp raises the pitch by a half step (A to A#). Scales consist of an ascending series of *half steps* and *whole steps*. A *half step* is the shortest distance between two pitches. On the piano keyboard there are half steps between the white keys E---F and B---C. There are also half steps between white and black keys, for example, C---Db. A *whole step* is two half steps. On the piano keyboard there are whole steps between white keys C---D, D---E, F---G, G---A, and A---B. There are also whole steps between white and black keys, for example, B---C#, E---F#, Bb---C. And there are whole steps between black keys, for example, F#---G#. We spell the scale "A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G#, A" rather than "A, B, Db, D, E, F#, G#, A" in order that there are seven different letters in the scale.

A Major scale has whole steps between all the notes except pitches 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Those notes are separated by half steps. The "C Major scale" uses all the white keys on the keyboard. "C" is *tonic* and the pitches used are "C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C." (There are no sharps or flats in the key signature.) In order to have a major scale beginning on "D" the pitches used would need to be "D, E, F#, G, A, B, C#, D." (This spelling allows for whole steps between all notes except the 3---4 and the 7-- 8.) Since "F" and "C" will be consistently sharp in this scale those pitches are indicated in the *key signature*.

In the Minor scale the half steps occur between pitches 2---3 and 5---6, all of the other pitches are whole steps apart. If "A" is tonic and the pitches of the scale are "A, B, C, D, E, F, G, A" the scale is called "A Minor". (There are no sharps or flats in the key signature.) If the scale is minor and tonic is "D", the spelling of the scale will be "D, E, F, G, A, Bb, C, D." There are half steps between E---F, and A---Bb. "Bb" is part of this scale and will be in the key signature.

Until next time,

Dr. P

January 2011

(Further discussions and questions may be directed to the editor of Clapper Chatter, Judi Morton at [editor@areaviagehr.org](mailto:editor@areaviagehr.org).)

(For ringers: Session 3b: rhythm)

### Why do composers sometimes pick the meters they do?

By Dr. Ona Pinsonneault

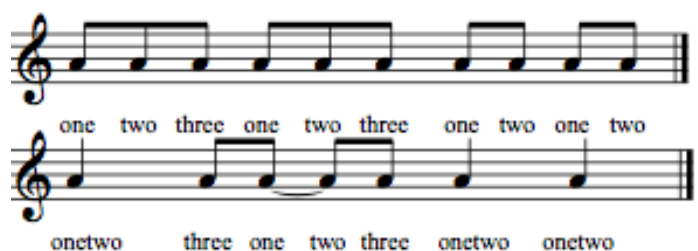
**Celtic Praise (The Rap):** Composer: Rolf Løvland; Arranged by Kevin McChesney; Publisher 1995 Universal Music Publishing - Norway, this arrangement 2009 by Universal Music Publishing. ("The Rap" was recorded by the Løvland's duo called "Secret Garden".)

When listening to Løvland's recording of "The Rap", one hears the beats organized in groups of eighth notes in this order: 3, 3, 2, and 2. Kevin McChesney has written these beats in a meter of 5 quarter notes per measure (5/4) because Løvland used this meter. Five quarter notes per measure equals 10 eighth notes. These are in groups of 3+3+2+2 eighths. Later in the composition, we see the meter of six, three, and seven quarters. The arranger said that the composer chose the "lowest common denominator" (the 4=quarter) and that he decided to do that also.

Modern rhythms are not always "square". They have been called complex, irregular, asymmetrical, unbalanced, combination, and additive meters. But, these meters do show the intent of the composer as far as accent. The first beat of the measure is more accented than the rest of the beats. As we discussed in the last column (Session 2b Jan. 2011) the purpose of a barline is to provide accent to the rhythmic organization of the composition. The barline in "Celtic Praise" clearly shows the intended rhythmic accent on the first beat of every measure. This makes measures of unequal lengths.

In *Celtic Praise* the barlines, and with them the accent of the rhythm, aid the reader in finding the organization of the phrases. After a small introduction, the first section consists of two phrases ending in measure 13. (Each section begins with a pick-up beat of two quarter notes.) These phrases are repeated in measures 14-22 (but written out because of added notes). Next there is a contrasting phrase to measure 28, then measures 29-34 repeats the phrase from measures 9-13. The rest of the composition repeats most of this music, but in the key of F Major; a small interlude takes the key from C Major to F Major, and a short codetta ends the piece firmly in F Major.

Performing the work is another issue. How are you to interpret the rhythmic patterns within each measure? All measures begin with groups of 3 eighth notes and most end with a group of 2 eighth notes. This is the sound of the composition, and is probably the best method for the interpretation of the beats. See if counting and conducting the eighth notes "one-two-three, one-two-three, one-two, one-two", etc. aids the readers of this asymmetrical, modern, and very interesting work.





## Around the Area

### E-mail BLAST!

**I**n addition to the quarterly newsletter, each month you will also receive a short E-mail Blast (Plucked from Clapper Chatter) containing upcoming events, deadline notifications, and interesting articles, similar to AGEHR's E-Notes. This is Area VII's way of staying in touch more often with our membership using current technologies and keeping our members better informed with all things concerning handbells.

The quarterly newsletter will continue to be printed and mailed to our members without Internet access. However, we encourage those of you who have Internet, but do not currently have an e-mail address listed in your contact information with AGEHR's national office, consider updating your information with them.

The Board plans to evaluate this process for one year to determine if providing information more often electronically is more beneficial for our membership than simply mailing four printed newsletters a year.

***Get connected and stay connected.  
Don't miss out!***

### Next Clapper Chatter

The August edition of Clapper Chatter will feature news from Twin Cities Metro. If you have any interesting stories of your events, please submit them to your Sub-Area Chair or the Clapper Chatter Editor. Their contact information is on the sidebars of Pages 2-3.

Pictures are welcome, preferably in jpg format.

### Non-Member Drive

If you know of a church or organization that has handbells and are not members of AGEHR, please contact your Sub-Area Chair or any Area VII Officer with their name. We want to encourage all organizations to join us and have all of the benefits that come with an AGEHR membership.

The AGEHR mission is 'Uniting People Through a Musical Art'.

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# Event registration

**Area VII Director's Seminar**  
**September 23 –24, 2011**  
**Olivet Lutheran Church**  
**1330 University Drive South**  
**Fargo, North Dakota 58103**

*Keep a copy of  
this form for your  
records.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Organization Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Is this Name or Organization an AGEHR member?  Yes  No If yes, Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_

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September 23-24 with Morna-June Morrow in Fargo, North Dakota				
Days Attending	# of Registrants	Members	Non-Members	TOTAL
Friday Evening 7-9 pm		\$10	Add the cost (\$65) of 1 yr. membership	\$
Saturday 9 am-4 pm		\$75		\$
Friday and Saturday		\$75	\$150	\$
Contact your sub-Area Chair with questions about AGEHR membership				\$
				<b>TOTAL ENCLOSED</b>

Lunch is included in the price on Saturday.

**Please make check payable to Area VII AGEHR**

**Describe your conducting experience. Check all that apply:**

I am currently a handbell director for \_\_\_\_\_ years. How many octaves do you conduct?  2-3  3-5

I am considering becoming a handbell director.

I have rung handbells for \_\_\_\_\_ years.  I have conducted other types of choirs for \_\_\_\_\_ years.

I am particularly interested in learning about the following:  basic conducting patterns and basic ringing techniques

how to achieve greater musicality  how to teach different rhythms and time signatures  how to challenge my ringers

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Send form and check (payable to Area VII AGEHR) to:**

Marlys Herring, Olivet Lutheran Church, 1330 University Drive South, Fargo, ND 58103

For more information, contact Marlys at 701-347-5605, [marlysherr@aol.com](mailto:marlysherr@aol.com), or the Area Events Coordinator at [events@areaviilagehr.org](mailto:events@areaviilagehr.org). You will receive confirmation and additional information upon receipt of your registration form.

**Registration deadline is September 1, 2011.**

One Clista Wood Scholarship will be awarded for this event. Download applications and submit by September 1, 2011

*Refunds available only if the event is cancelled.*

# Upcoming events

Stay updated on all events at [www.areaviagehr.org](http://www.areaviagehr.org)

DATE/TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION Endorsed Event (E) – Sponsored Event (S)	LOCATION	CLINICIAN	CONTACT
April 9, 2011	<b>High School Handbell Happening</b>	S Salem Lutheran Church 90 Riverside Dr. SE St. Cloud, Minnesota	Christy Gotzman	Lori Potter ljpotterr@yahoo.com
April 9, 2011	<b>Eau Claire Area Ring</b>	E Eau Claire, Wisconsin	Norma Lionberger, Ryan Poquette, Roxanne Litchfield Holey	Norma Lionberger (715) 830-0806 lionsden34@sbcglobal.net
April 30, 2011	<b>KidsRing 2010</b>	S Beautiful Savior Lutheran 5005 Northwest Blvd Plymouth, Minnesota	Rob Reid	Carol Scheel 612-861-0029 nscarolida@yahoo.com
April 29-30, 2011	<b>Spring Ring</b>	S St. Mary's Catholic Church Alexandria, Minnesota	Lee Afdahl	Judi Morton uringabell@gmail.com
June 19-25, 2011	<b>International Music Camp</b> Grades 5-12	International Peace Garden North Dakota	Monica McGowan	www.internationalmusiccamp.com
June 24-26, 2011	<b>Young Ringers Camp</b>	S Irongwood Springs Christian Ranch Stewartville, Minnesota	Tammy Waldrop	DeeDee Odell (507) 281-2755 ddbells@aol.com
July 30-August 2, 2011	<b>International Music Camp</b> Adult Camp	International Peace Garden North Dakota	Monica McGowan	www.internationalmusiccamp.com
September 23-24, 2011	<b>Area Director's Seminar</b>	S Olivet Lutheran Church Fargo, North Dakota	Morna-June Morrow	Marlys Herring marlysherr@aol.com
July 14-17, 2011	<b>AGEHR National Seminar</b>	Minneapolis, Minnesota	Many	www.agehr.org
June 27-July 1, 2012	<b>2012 Area VII Festival Conference</b>	S DECC Duluth, Minnesota	David Weck Dr. John Behnke	Anita Fraundorf anitabellchime@yahoo.com

Submit all your Local Events for inclusion on the website to Judi Morton: [editor@areaviagehr.org](mailto:editor@areaviagehr.org).

## Help Wanted

Messiah United Methodist Church of Plymouth, Minnesota, is seeking a person to lead the Chancel and Handbell choirs. Applicants should have a passion for music and direction, a proven track record of excellent leadership, team building and recruiting skills. Interested applicants should send resume, references and philosophy of music to: [jobs2@messiahchurchmn.org](mailto:jobs2@messiahchurchmn.org).

## Concerts

**Alleluia Ringers** (Concordia University Wisconsin)  
Dr. John Behnke, Conductor

**Friday, April 29, 730 p.m.**

St. Mary's Catholic church  
9520 W. Forest Home Ave. • Hales Corners, Wisconsin  
Freewill offering

**Saturday, April 30 2 p.m.**

On-campus Concert — 25th Anniversary  
Concordia University Chapel  
12800 N. Lake Shore Dr. • Mequon, WI 53097  
\$7 adults; under 19 free

**Sunday, May 1, 7 p.m.**

Spring Ring Fest (Community Mass Handbell Concert)  
Portage High School Auditorium  
Portage, Wisconsin

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Please share Clapper Chatter with your ringers. Give them a link to our website: [www.areaviagehr.org](http://www.areaviagehr.org).

# CLAPPER CHATTER

AREA VII AGEHR  
17294 - 205TH STREET  
GLENWOOD, MN 56334

Deadline for next Clapper Chatter is

**July 7, 2011**

Send items to  
Clapper Chatter Editor at address above

AREA VII 2011 Events:  
High School Handbell Happening - April 9  
KidsRing - April 30  
Spring Ring - April 30  
Youth Camp - June 24-26  
National Seminar - July 15-17

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