

Notes from NEW HAMPSHIRE



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Greetings from your new New Hampshire state co-chairs, Heidi Prior and Hilary Justice.

First and foremost, we would like to invite everyone in Area 1 to join us in thanking outgoing NH state chair Joan Fossum for her uncountable contributions to promoting the art of handbell ringing in our state and area wide. Joan will be assisting us this coming year to make a successful transition for New Hampshire.

A great way to visualize Joan's positive impact on NH handbell ringing is in some of the pictures from this summer's Festival/Conference in West Hartford, CT. Of the seven NH choirs represented at the tables, members of at least five have worked with Joan in some capacity, whether in Granite State Ringers, which she directs, or as a member of GSR Vibrations (Vibes), her non-auditioned adult instructional choir. One Coppers choir blended ringers from Decibells and from Brookside Congregational Church – a group created for F/C because ringers from both had met in Vibes.

From all of us, thank you, Joan!



Decibells/Brookside combined



Granite State Ringers

As this issue goes to press, NH ringers are attending National Seminar in St. Louis, MO; earlier this year, NH choirs were also represented at Virtuoso and Distinctly Bronze East. It's a great time to ring in NH!

As we look forward to serving NH in the coming year, we'd love to hear from you to learn your wish list. Are you looking to re-start or expand your bell choir? Are you an established choir seeking new members or new challenges? Are you an individual ringer looking for a group to ring with? Interested in skills building workshops? Getting involved with Area 1 events? Drop us a line – we'd love to chat and strengthen the handbell community in New Hampshire and Area 1. For now, stay cool, beat the heat, and ring on!

Hilary Justice and Heidi Prior
NH State Co-Chairs