

NOTES FROM MAINE



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Hello Maine Ringers,

I first want to tell you about the two wonderful workshops held here in Maine on Oct. 27th and Nov. 3rd. At the Augusta event, we had 24 ringers in attendance; and at the Falmouth gathering, 12 ringers attended. Amy Rollins and Sue Evans served as the clinicians for Augusta and Sue Chamberlin was the clinician for Falmouth. Many thanks to South Parish Congregational Church and the Foreside Community Church for hosting these two events.

We worked through the 4 pieces of music from the repertoire for the next Festival Conference at the University of Connecticut. As we read through each piece we were instructed on the proper way to implement the techniques required in each piece of music. In some cases those in attendance requested instruction on specific techniques such as the 4-in-Hand and the Shelley. These two workshops were offered at no charge, courtesy of the Handbell Musicians of America Area I. Many positive observations were shared at the close of each event as reflected by this comment from Mary Gilliland.

“We are so glad we came to your workshop and enthusiastically held a "mini workshop" with our own choir when we got back.
We loved working with you and Amy, such an inspiration.”

*Mary Gilliland
Acadia Handbell Choir*

In addition, **Penobscot Bay Ringers** performed two very successful "Autumn Ring" concerts in October; one being our annual visit to Quarry Hill Retirement Community in Camden, and the other was a fundraising concert for the Friends of the Belfast Free Library (photo included). Penobscot Bay Ringers is now rehearsing for the holiday season. Check out our concert schedule on www.penobscotbayringers.me or follow us on Facebook.

And finally: The Parish Ringers of First Parish United Church of Christ in Brunswick, ME under the direction of Dr. Jane Hagness will play an opening concert from 7:00 p.m.-7:25 p.m. at Merrill Auditorium in Portland, ME prior to the “Christmas With Kennerley Concert” that begins at 7:30 on Tuesday, December 18th, another wonderful Maine Handbell Choir worth hearing.

December is upon us and it seems that Maine is rich with musical opportunities to share in, whether as a member of the audience, congregation or as a participant.

My best to you all and have a happy holiday.
Sue Evans