

Notes from MASSACHUSETTS



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Happy New Year! Okay, so far 2021 might not feel like it's much better than 2020, but a vaccine is on the horizon, and I have hope that many of us will be able to return to ringing in the fall. In previous FT articles, I've asked how some of you are staying engaged with bells. This time around, I'm more curious to know what your hopes and dreams are for when we finally return to "normal." What programs would you like to see Area 1 sponsor in the 2021-22 academic year? And, in general, how can we best support you as everyone, hopefully, begins to resume ringing after a long hiatus?

Frankly, there isn't much else to write at this time. Some of us are frustrated by the long absence we've had from ringing; others (like me!) are really tired of making "virtual" ensemble recordings; and still others may be worrying about what their bell choir's membership will look like when we all can finally ring together again. It helps me to remember that we're all in this together – and to think hopefully about how joyful we will all be when our regular ringing lives resume! Until then, please stay safe and healthy!

-Abby Schoppe, MA State Chair