

Notes from MASSACHUSETTS



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Greetings from Massachusetts!

Fall always seems to signal so many exciting things – whether in churches, schools, or other community venues, everyone is starting a new program year, and that especially includes ringers and directors! In Area 1, fall is also when we see the return of our annual Skill-Building Workshops. This year, as detailed elsewhere in this newsletter, two different workshops are being offered at a total of five different locations around New England. In this column, I particularly wanted to highlight the fact that we're hosting one of the workshops ("Beyond Two Bells") here in Massachusetts, at Faith Lutheran Church in Andover, on the morning of Nov. 2. For information or to register, see <http://area1.handbellmusicians.org/skill-workshops/>. Registration is FREE, so I'd encourage you to make use of this great benefit that comes with your membership!

Jumping ahead by several seasons, I also want to share preliminary information about the Massachusetts Spring Ring. Due to the availability of our venue, Tewksbury Memorial High School, the date for this event has been updated to April 25, 2019. Last year, we shifted Spring Ring's schedule up in the day by a few hours, starting rehearsals in the morning and moving the closing concert from the evening to the afternoon. This time change was well-received by ringers and audience members alike, and we plan to have the same schedule this year: check-in and set-up will begin at 10 AM, and the closing concert will be held at 3 PM.

Even though Spring Ring is nearly six months away, it's never too soon to start planning ahead. Thus, I'm excited to share our repertoire list already! We plan to ring the following pieces:

- Massed - Glad Hearts, Rejoice! - Michael Mazzatorta - AG35379 - Level 2+
- Massed - The Church's One Foundation - arr. Robert James Lamb - AG35380 - Level 2
- Tins - Morning Glory - Brenda Austin - AG23056 -- Level 2-
- Coppers - When I Survey the Wondrous Cross - arr. Michael Kastner and Kevin McChesney - JHS9179 - Level 3

More info on Spring Ring will be available in subsequent issues of the *Fundamental Tone*, but hopefully having the repertoire list so far in advance will make it especially easy for directors to plan ahead. We hope you'll be able to join us in Tewksbury in April!

Massachusetts has the highest concentration of ringers and directors in Area 1, and I'm always eager to know what exciting handbell endeavors are underway in all corners of our state. If you have any information or news that you'd like to share, feel free to drop me an email at ma.area1@handbellmusicians.org.

Happy ringing!

Sue 