

Notes from VERMONT



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On April 26, 2019 the Vermont Handbell Association held another successful Spring Ring in Hinesburg with over 188 ringers attending workshops, rehearsing the massed pieces with clinician Stephanie Rhodes and then giving a wonderful concert for a capacity crowd of almost 250.

July brought our annual meeting of directors to put the finishing touches on the past year and start planning for the new. One of the decisions is instead of just offering to host workshops, we have a roster of mentors who can go out to individual choirs upon request and help them with their specific problems. In the interim, we have scheduled a Winter Handbell Tune-Up to be held January 25, 2020 in West Lebanon, NH. We have also revitalized our Facebook page and are working on a website....more info to come.

But the biggest focus is the planning, which has all been completed, for Spring Ring 2020. It will be held on April 25, 2020 at North Country Union High School and the clinician will be Brian Childers. We are excited to be ringing in the Northeast Kingdom and are especially thrilled to have our friends from Ontario and Quebec working on our committees. We have chosen 3 beautiful pieces for the massed ringing:

Sleep in Heavenly Peace (Childers),
Acclamation in G Minor (Thompson),
Inception (Krug).

In other news, the Vermont Symphony Orchestra is welcoming to their Holiday Pops concerts the United Christian Academy Bronze Ambassadors directed by Dr Kimberlee Strepka. The Ambassadors initial performance with the symphony at the sold out 2017 Holiday concerts wowed the audience so much they were invited back this year. It should be a treat for all.

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