

# Notes from CONNECTICUT



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## Connecting with Connecticut

We are in that second busy season of handbell ringing - the holy days of Lent, culminating in the glory of Easter. I wish you the blessings of the season.

The excitement of Connecticut Spring Ring continues. The event was held on Saturday, March 30, 2019, in the Haddam-Killingworth Middle School. David Harris was our clinician, and everyone had a chance to work with him all day, rehearsing three selections, which were presented at an afternoon concert. Two of the selections were pieces for Conference Festival, which allowed the ringers present to be especially prepared for June. During lunch Dave met with directors for sharing and a question/answer time.

The afternoon concert also featured Sue Wilber with a bell solo and two selections by the St. Luke Lutheran (Gales Ferry) youth handbell choir. Three members of this choir were selected for the National Honors Handbell Choir. (See accompanying article below)

This is my last season as Connecticut Chair for Area 1. After six years I have gotten to know so many ringers in our state, as well as others in Area 1. I have been impressed with your dedication and love of handbells, and enjoyed working with you. Now I will continue to enjoy seeing you at area activities.

Mobby Larson  
CT Chair, Area 1  
Handbell Musicians of America



Three of St. Luke Concert Handbell Choir ringers have auditioned and been accepted into The National Honors Handbell Ensemble. They are:

**Madeline Horkey**  
**Jessica Dame**  
**Matthew Graul**

The National Honors Handbell Ensemble is a unique performance event for advanced handbell musicians age 13 - 19. Only thirty young musicians are chosen through an audition process to gather for a weekend of intensive rehearsals with a world-renowned conductor. For 2019, Kevin McChesney will direct the group and conduct the final concert. The Ensemble will gather in Fredericksburg, VA from around the nation on Friday evening in April 26. The ringers will have prepared the challenging repertoire according to Mr. McChesney's performance notes for this event. Once together, the ensemble will rehearse until Sunday afternoon when they will perform a final concert for the public in The Washington Pavillion in Fredericksburg, Virginia.



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*“Silence is a major part of music,  
and musicians must know when to play it”*