

Handbell Musicians of America Area 8 —ILLINOIS
Handbell Workshop with The Agape Ringers
 Barrington United Methodist Church, Barrington, IL
 Saturday, March 3, 2012

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m.	Unload bells, setup, register, coffee	
9:00 a.m.	Opening remarks—Sharon Schmidt, Chair of Illinois State Committee, Area 8 MASSED RINGING David L. Weck, Director of The Agape Ringers	
10:15 a.m.	B R E A K / snack	
10:30 a.m.–11:20 a.m. Class session 1—all groups	✓ Chimes ✓ Bells and Other Instruments ✓ Ensemble ABCs	✓ Ringing Basics ✓ Be a Better Ringer ✓ Bell Trees
11:25 a.m.–12:15 p.m. Lunch —group A (red)* Class session 2-Group B (blue)	✓ From C-C ✓ Beyond Beginning ✓ Bass Bells	✓ Kitchekapoom! ✓ Shelley
12:20 p.m.–1:10 p.m. Lunch—group B (blue)* Class session 3-Group A (red)	✓ Intermediate Bells ✓ Four-in-Hand ✓ Kitchekapoom!	✓ Ringing Basics ✓ Bass Bells
1:15 p.m.–2:05 p.m. Class session 4—all groups	✓ Beyond Beginning ✓ Shelley ✓ Special Techniques ✓ Stem Direction	✓ Bells in Worship ✓ Weaving 101 ✓ Bell Trees
2:10 p.m.–3:00p.m. Class session 5—all groups	✓ Intermediate Bells ✓ Four-in-Hand ✓ Weaving 101 ✓ Special Techniques	✓ Advanced Bass Bells ✓ 4 P's ✓ From C-C
3:00 p.m.	B R E A K	
3:15 p.m.–3:45 p.m.	Mini-concert by The Agape Ringers	
3:45 p.m.	Pack up, head for home—have a safe trip!	

*Groups w/ > 3 ringers will be given roughly equal #s of blank name tags for groups A (red) & B (blue).

Groups of 3 or less will be randomly assigned to a group; **you must trade w/ someone to switch lunch periods.**

LUNCH and BREAK are in the Dining Room on the 1st floor.

CLINICIANS

The 4 "P's" of Handbell Ringing	KC Congdon	Four-in-hand	Kristin Kalitowski-Kowal
Advanced Bass Bells	Karl Kay	From C-C: "Toolkit" for C4-C7	Sharon Schmidt
Bass Bell Techniques	Karl Kay	Intermediate Bells	Kim Ahlgrim
Be a Better Ringer	Karen Johnson	Kitchekapoom!	Debbie Perisho
Bells and Other Instruments	David Weck	Ringing Basics	Sarah Ward/David Weck
Bells in Worship	David Weck	Shelley Ringing	Kurt Mockenhaupt
Bell Trees	KC Congdon	Special Techniques	Linda Lunt
Beyond Beginning	Darren Reynolds	Stem Direction Counts	Sharon Schmidt
Chimes	Carolyn Sizemore	Weaving 101	Kristin Paul
Ensemble ABCs	Kim Ahlgrim/Kristin Paul		

The Store "Bell" accessories from Handbell Services (managed by Debi Robey)

AGEHR Area VIII—Illinois—Workshop with The Agape Ringers

Massed Ringing Session - The day begins with a massed ringing session. If your organization is bringing bells that are used in this session, you will be hosting ringers from other groups at your table. Please welcome them and make room! If you did not bring bells, you will be assigned to a table for that session.

****SAMPLE** General Class Descriptions**

- **The 4 "P's" of Handbell Ringing** - Every company has a list of "P's", why not handbells? We will uncover these 4P's: Processionals, Promenades, Powerpoint and Praise Bands. Through a creative passage we will peek at possibilities outside of the normal pattern for handbells.
- **Advanced Bass Bell Techniques** - Prerequisite: *Bass Bell Techniques*. In a seminar-style format, we will continue to discuss topics and questions raised in the preliminary class in round-table fashion. Everyone bring a story.
- **Bass Bell Techniques** - Successful bass bell ringing comes from teamwork, creativity, and devotion to musicianship. We'll explore these themes by translating them into strategies and techniques for bells below C4.
- **Be a Better Ringer** - Learn to look beyond the notes on the page and play beautiful music! This class will cover some of the ways to learn and teach new music, find the melodic and harmonic lines on the page, and connect with the director and the rest of the ensemble to maximize musicality and enjoyment for both the ringers and the audience/congregation.
- ◆ **Bell Trees** - Bell Trees are becoming more and more popular in the solo, small ensemble and choir part of the handbell world. Come find out how to apply this to your church service, concert and yes, even you can begin as a solo ringer. We will discuss the equipment required, the tricks of the trade and even have a short hands-on time to show you how easy it really is!
- **Bells and Other Instruments** - We will take a look at handbell music, which has been enhanced with the addition of another instrument or multiple instruments. In addition, we will look at the new Piano/Organ/Handbell/Choir publications.
- **Bells in Worship** - With the help of Hal Hopson's "Creative Use of Handbells in Worship", we will study and try different ways to incorporate handbells in worship.
- ◆ **Beyond Beginning** - Developing skills beyond the basics, such as dynamics, table damping, simple bell changes, and bell notation.
- ◆ **Chimes** - This class, for ringers and directors, covers basic chime playing techniques, special effects, repertoire, teaching aids, maintenance, and performance ideas. It also discusses ways to combine chimes and bells together.
- **Ensemble ABCs** - A **discussion session** focusing on the ups and downs of creating and working with a small ensemble. Topics include finding music, making assignments and creating an organizational structure.
- **Four-in-Hand** - Learn the difference between Shelley ringing and 4-in-hand ringing, how to ring different set-ups of 4-in-hand, and then practice these methods using real music.
- **From C-C: Toolkit for C4-C7** - Ring strong with aural and visual factors beneficial to the ringer and listener. Explore ringing tools such as displacements, malleting tips, preparation methods and damping options that will augment your skill set, increase ingenuity and leave your director in awe!
- **Intermediate** - Multiple bell changes, challenging rhythmic exercises, and rapid technique changes.
- ◆ **Kitchkapoom!** - Come ready to ring and to absorb ideas like a sponge! We will teach techniques to help you play together as a choir, make chords sound together, and make your director happy.
- **Maintenance Shop** - If you would like to know more about maintaining your Schulmerich or Malmark bells or have a "sick" bell, come to the Maintenance Shop *in the lunch area during the last half of class period 3*. Look for Sharon and the big tool box!
- **Shelley Techniques** - An introductory hands-on class to playing treble bells in Shelley style (two bells in one hand that sound together with a forward ringing stroke), which will include alternate Shelley.
- ◆ **Ringings Basics** - Here's your chance to learn basic handbell techniques! We will explore basic damping of whole, half, and quarter notes. A must attend for beginners and those wanting to brush up on their basic ringing skills.
- ◆ **Special Techniques** - This class explores stopped sounds, mallets, and non-stopped sound techniques along with other special effects that can be used with handbells and chimes.
- **Stem Direction Does Count!** - We'll walk through several pieces of handbell music and talk about how to use all the information presented in the music, including the bells used chart, brackets & parentheses, plus tricks for finding the melody. The critical skill of using stem direction to determine what technique applies to which notes will be covered in-depth.
- **Weaving 101** - Want to know the basics for weaving handbells? The answers to all of your questions "loom" ahead. This hands-on class will teach you all of the basic skills needed to do three and four bell changing patterns, a necessity for solo/ensemble work.

Key to Classes:

- for any ringers or groups
- ◆ recommended or suitable for beginners
- for more experienced ringers or groups