

Office of Chair-elect



LYNNE GUERNSEY MARKS is a music therapist-board certified, handbell specialist, church musician, music educator, licensed practical nurse and interior design consultant. A graduate of Eastern Kentucky University, Lynne received her Bachelor of Music Education and completed her certification in music therapy from Florida State University on the graduate level.

A music therapist since 1981, Lynne specialized in Alzheimer/Dementia clientele and incorporated the use of handbells and chimes in group sessions and mass ringing programming. A 37 year member of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, Inc. (AGEHR), Lynne is a past Florida Chairperson for AGEHR- Area IV, Resource and State Representative for AGEHR Bells in Special Groups, 1994 National Festival Liaison and 2008 International Handbell Symposium/National Seminar/Distinctly Teen multiple event Liaison/Committee Member. She was accredited by AGEHR a Full Director in 1997, Mass Ringing Choir Conductor in 1998 and was awarded a Level I Handbell Director Certification in 2004.

Lynne is a published author of and is currently writing a manual for treble bell techniques to be published in the near future. Lynne is a requested clinician on the local, state, national and international levels. She has taught at the International Handbell Symposiums held in Birmingham, England, 2000 and in Brisbane, Australia, 2006. She is planning to attend the symposium in Osaka, Japan in 2010.

Currently, Lynne is a charter member of Distinctly Bronze, an advanced, auditioned, annual handbell event sponsored by the AGEHR, now in their 11th year. She is a ringer with and guest conducts the Lake Magdalene Ringers of Lake Magdalene United Methodist Church, Tampa, FL. Lynne has been married to Tom for 22 years. Their son, Timothy is 12 (going on 18!), rings at Lake Magdalene UMC and with mom at many AGEHR events, (bell roadie in training!). She LOVES to travel, collect bells, quilt, cross-stitch and design!



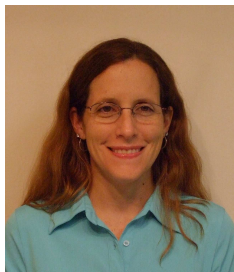
Nancy Tipton earned B.S. and M.Ed. degrees in Music Education from Bob Jones University and completed postgraduate work at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey. She has been directing the graded handbell program at Bob Jones Junior High and Academy since 1989, a program recognized in 1994 and 2006 as a National Exemplary School Handbell Choir by the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers.

She is a published composer, teacher and is an active member of AGEHR and Area IV. She has served as membership chair, and secretary of Area IV. Currently she is serving as the South Carolina State Chair. She has organized local, state and area events and has served as staff and/or faculty/clinician for numerous handbell festivals.

Office of Secretary



Marie Loeffler has been ringing handbells for over 18 years and is currently focused on pursuing her passion of performing as a solo artist. Trained as a dancer and choreographer, Marie combines her two passions by choreographing pieces for both behind and in front of the table. She leads workshops in both dance and bell techniques, plays with two Orlando Handbell Choirs, founded and directed an Orlando-based homeschooled handchime ensemble and has served on the Boards of both Area I and Area IV. Mrs. Loeffler has a degree in Behavioral Sciences and is a certified Life and Career Coach.



Gina Fairchild graduated from Stetson University with a Bachelor of Music degree. She has been the music director and organist at the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection in Cocoa Beach, FL, for eight years. She started the handbell choir five years ago, beginning with two octaves of handbells. Her handbell program has grown to four octaves of handbells with three octaves of chimes, and she just placed the order for their fourth octave of chimes. In the summer 2008, Gina coordinated a week-long chime camp for local children. Gina received Level 1 Director Certification from the AGEHR in 2007. As an accountant for a manufacturing firm by day, she is ready and willing to serve Area IV in the future.

Office of Treasurer



Jane Patterson is a bell ringer and director of over 20 years of experience and loves it. She has been the director of the Handbell Program at Trinity United Methodist Church in Spartanburg, SC, for the past 8 years and has rung with Carolina Bronze, the upstate auditioned handbell ensemble for 8 years. Jane is also one of the founding members of Bronze Quarters, a handbell quartet, and has written and published several pieces for quartet and quintet. Jane also plays flute and oboe and has recently begun studies at Converse College in Spartanburg to finally get a music degree.

Jane has served on the Area 4 board almost continuously for about 12 years in various positions including Historian, SC State Chair and Membership Chair. She has been the Treasurer for Area 4 for the past 2 years. She now claims to have experience with IRS forms and Florida State Corporation forms and has enjoyed working with the other board members to help them make their events more successful! “I have watched Area 4 go through some tough times and I have been honored to work with many good and dedicated people over the years. I am excited about what is happening on the board right now and would like to remain a part of it.”



Raymond Patricio received his Bachelor’s and Master’s degree in Music Education from the University of Georgia. He holds a leadership and supervision certificate from Georgia Southern University.

Raymond spent 20 years as a public school band director and 16 years as an administrator (10 years as an elementary school principal) before retiring two years ago. As an administrator he worked continuously on budgets and financial systems. He has continued to play the bassoon during his years in education and has enjoyed playing more since he retired from teaching.

He continues to conduct the handbell choir at Wesley Monumental UMC, a position he has held for 25 years. During that time his choir has played at frequently in church as well as in the community. He has been active in AGEHR and has attended a couple of Douglas Wagner workshops in Charlotte.