



AGEHR, Area 4 - "Tables and Trees" An Ensemble and Belltree Ringing Workshop Saturday, May 19, 2012



*Lake Magdalene United Methodist Church
2902 W. Fletcher Avenue – Tampa, FL 33618*

Louise Frier



Soon after **Louise Frier** was introduced to the world of handbell ringing, she created the belltree (bell tree) as a new technique for ringing handbells. That along with her background of music composition led to the first published work featuring belltrees along with handbells and chimes. "Two Belltree Processionals" was published by AGEHR. Many more publications followed. Louise has taught classes on the techniques and uses of ringing belltrees at many AGEHR area and national festivals, director seminars and the 1996 International Symposium in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She has also taught at denominational events. Her most recent venture is the creation of her website: [www. BelltreesAndMore.com](http://www.BelltreesAndMore.com)

Marie Loeffler



Combining her professional dance training with her love of handbells, **Marie Loeffler** has been described as *music in motion*. The foundation of her graceful style is the solid technique learned from many of The Guild's master teachers. Performing as an accomplished soloist, she rings in worship services, memorial services and in full concerts for a variety of organization's events. Also possessing a compelling presentation style, she is often requested to teach her technique and performance workshops at local and regional festivals. Marie is among few in the country to perform bell dances – a fascinating combination of movement and four-in-hand style ringing. www.belldancer.net

*Join us for an educational, fun & hands-on workshop
for both directors and handbell ringers*

Directors

*keep your handbells ringing during the summer months
challenge your advanced ringers with new techniques
expand your repertoire for both worship and concerts*

Ringers

*move beyond ringing two (or four) handbells
strengthen your ensemble and belltree ringing skills
perform music written specifically for ensembles and belltrees*

**For more information, contact Marie Loeffler, Event Coordinator
(407) 384-0663 or Belldancer@aol.com
www.agehr4.org**

Tables and Trees is sponsored by Area 4 of the Handbell Musicians of America, an AGEHR, Inc. event

Agehr, Area 4 - Tables and Trees
An Ensemble and Belltree Workshop
Schedule

(subject to change)

Participants will be grouped with other ringers of similar experience and divided into two groups
Throughout the day, all ringers participate equally in both Ensemble and Belltree classes

8:45	Orientation and Demonstrations
Session 1: 9:15 - 10:45	Ensemble and Belltree Technique Classes
Session 2: 11:00 - 12:30	Ensemble and Belltree Technique Classes
12:30 - 1:15	Lunch
Session 3: 1:30 - 2:15	Learn and practice Ensemble and Belltree parts for <i>Music Alone Shall Live</i> *, a Belltree and Ensemble composition created especially for this workshop
Session 4: 2:30 - 3:15	Learn and practice Ensemble and Belltree parts for <i>Music Alone Shall Live</i> *, a Belltree and Ensemble composition created especially for this workshop
3:15 - 3:45	Move Belltrees and Belltree Stands to Ensemble room
Session 5: 3:45 - 5:00	Enjoy the combination of ringing Belltrees and Ensembles together and put your newly learned skills to practice as <i>Music Alone Shall Live</i> fills the room with the combined sound of handbells, chimes and belltrees! Q & A time Discussion of available ensemble and belltree music and resources
5:00	Departure

Ensembles (Tables) by Marie Loeffler

Have you ever wondered how just a few ringers can play 2, 3, 4, or 5 octaves of handbells gracefully and musically? In an ensemble, you move to where the handbells are on the table, share notes with your neighbors, and ring with multiple bells-in-hand. It is challenging and it is fun!!

During this workshop, you will learn and practice the techniques needed to play Easy/Medium Level Quartet Music.

Belltrees (Trees) by Louise Frier

Can you imagine the thrill of playing an entire melody or counter melody as part of an ensemble? That is what happens when your instrument is a belltree. The belltree can also vary its contribution to the ensemble by trading the melody with one of the other instruments, thus changing the timbre and texture of a composition.

In this class, you will learn the skills needed to be part of this exciting adventure.

* *Music Alone Shall Live* is an experience in musical counterpoint created partly by this round of a lovely folk tune. In addition to this round, ringers and listeners will enjoy the rhythmic, melodic and harmonic effects of an accompaniment that travels to and from the handbells, handchimes, and belltrees.

As a member of this workshop's massed ringing ensemble of belltrees, handbells and handchimes, you will close your day by playing an original composition by Louise Frier written especially for this event.

Enjoy this exciting belltree / ensemble journey!

**AGEHR, Area 4 - “Tables and Trees”
An Ensemble and Belltree Ringing Workshop
Saturday, May 19, 2012**

Workshop Details

Join us for an educational, fun, and hands-on workshop
tailored to the needs of handbell ensemble and belltree ringers.

Basic Information

What is A Handbell Ensemble? (Tables)

A handbell ensemble is a small group of ringers playing music requiring them to cover more than the traditional two handbells (plus accidentals) usually assigned in a handbell choir. These ringers weave through their handbell assignment, share handbells between positions, use multiple-in-hand techniques, and often borrow duplicate handbells to ring difficult passages musically. The term “Ensemble” may refer to duets, trios, quartets, quintets, sextets, and occasionally octets. In this workshop, our ensembles will be quartets.

What is a Belltree? (Trees)

A belltree is a set of handbells that are connected to each other by interlocking their handles, building the belltree from the lowest pitch upward to the top bell. This allows the ringer to carry these handbells by holding only the handle of the top handbell on the belltree. The belltree can also hang from a belltree stand. The handbells are sounded by striking them with a mallet. Generally, only the handbells that are needed in a composition are included on the belltree. This is referred to as the Adaptive Method.

Why Attend?

When you work one-on-one with clinicians and a small number of ringers, you will sharpen your ringing skills and practice the teamwork and coordination needed to be a successful ensemble or belltree ringer. In this fun and relaxed environment, you will feel safe to push your limits, try new techniques, and fully explore small group and belltree ringing. This is one of the few events where you can network with other solo, duet, trio, quartet, small group, and belltree ringers and directors, ask focused questions, and find resources to continue your ensemble and belltree ringing when you return home.

Who Should Attend This Workshop?

AGEHR, Area 4 Tables and Trees Workshop is open to beginning and experienced ringers and directors. Ringers will polish their skills and directors will find tools and resources to successfully work with smaller groups of ringers – especially during the summer months when ringers traditionally take time off.

Skills Needed

Participants must be familiar with basic handbell ringing technique and be able to read music but you do not need to be familiar with specific ensemble or belltree techniques. Participants will be grouped with ringers of similar skill and experience.

Basic Information (continued)

Individuals Ringers

Individual ringers are encouraged to participate provided you are familiar with basic handbell ringing techniques and can read music. You will be grouped with others of similar skills and experience. You will find that group members quickly become friends as you ring together throughout the day.

Ensembles and Choirs

Established ensembles and choirs are welcome to attend however each ringer must submit a separate registration form. The workshop groups will be assigned according to experience level and you may not be paired with others from your group. It is our intention to have all ringers share knowledge and experience with each other. If you ring with others outside of your group, you will make new friends, gain a fresh perspective, and bring new ideas back to your next rehearsal.

Location

All activities will be held at Lake Magdalene United Methodist Church located at 2902 W. Fletcher Avenue in Tampa, FL 33618. Check their website at www.LMUMC.org or MapQuest for exact directions from your location.

Time

The workshop is scheduled for 8:45am – 5:00pm. A tentative schedule (subject to change) is on page two. Updated schedule will be sent to registrants in advance of workshop. The church will open early for registration and set up.

Registration Details

Workshop registration

Your workshop registration includes the full day workshop, breakfast snacks, lunch, music to use during the workshop, two pieces of music to keep, workshop notes, and resource materials. Please indicate dietary restrictions on the registration form.

Registration deadlines

Registrations must be postmarked by April 18, 2012. A late fee is charged for all registrations postmarked after April 18.

Workshop is limited to 40 registered participants. All registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. If the workshop is filled when your registration is received, you will be notified and placed on a waiting list.

This small number ensures participants received focused attention

Non-Ringing Guests

We encourage you to fully participate in this workshop by ringing at the tables with others but if you are not able to do so, a limited number of guest passes are available to include full day observation and lunch. Contact Event Coordinator for full details.

Music and Equipment

Workshop Music

All music will be provided at the event. This workshop is designed as an educational event with the focus on technique. Participants will learn and practice the techniques necessary to perform the music. Participants will take home two compositions.

What you need to bring

All participating ringers should bring music binder, gloves, pencil, and water bottle.

Handbells, Foam and Belltree Stands

If you have access to and are able to bring handbells, foam, table covers, and/or belltree stand(s), please indicate on the registration form. Tables are provided.

Lodging and Food

Two hotels close to Lake Magdalene UMC and in good neighborhoods

La Quinta Inn & Suites
3701 East Fowler Avenue
Tampa, FL 33612
813-910-7500
www.lq.com

Wingate by Wyndham Tampa/USF
3751 East Fowler Avenue
(McKinley & Fowler)
Tampa, FL 33612
813-979-2828
www.wingatehotels.com

Additional Lodging Choices

There are a number of additional hotels close to Lake Magdalene UMC however neighborhoods are not all secure. If you choose not to stay at the suggested hotels, check the surrounding neighborhood before making your reservation.

Food

Light breakfast snacks, full lunch and misc.snacks are provided at the workshop. Please note any dietary restrictions on the registration form.

Register early – Workshop is limited to 40 participants

Registration must be postmarked by April 18, 2012 to avoid late fee

For more information, contact
Marie Loeffler, Event Coordinator at (407) 384-0663 or Belldancer@aol.com
www.agehr4.org

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AGEHR, Area 4 TABLES and TREES
INFORMATION AND PHOTO RELEASE FORM
- Saturday, May 19, 2012 -

*Each ringer should complete and submit a separate release form.
Each ringer should also complete a separate registration form*

Name: _____
(print clearly)

Registration: ___ individual ___ group

INFORMATION RELEASE

A roster of all attendees at the Area4 Tables and Trees Workshop will be printed and distributed at the event. The list is for use by attendees to contact each other following the event and is not to be used for any other purpose.

Do you give your permission to print your name and e-mail address? _____

Signature: _____
(If you do not have an e-mail address, we will print your phone number)

PHOTO RELEASE

A photographer will be present during this event. These photos will be used solely by Area 4 for the purpose of archiving the event, reporting on the event in Area 4 Newsletter, and promoting the event on our website www.agehr4.org.

Do you give your permission to be photographed during this event? _____

Signature: _____

For more information, contact Marie Loeffler, Event Coordinator at (407) 384-0663 or Belldancer@aol.com www.agehr4.org
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AGEHR, AREA 4 TABLES and TREES
SKILLS ASSESSMENT
- Saturday, May 19, 2012 -

Each Ringer should fill out and submit a separate Skills Assessment Form

Name: _____

(print clearly)

Registration: ___ individual ___ group

SELF-EVALUATION

This is an educational event and your honest evaluation will ensure that you have a positive experience and are placed with others of similar skills and experience.

Briefly describe your handbell ringing experience especially as related to ensembles and belltrees. (use back of sheet if needed):

What level music do you most frequently play? _____
(individual ringers check with your director if you are unsure)

Rate your ability in both ensemble and belltree ringing using the following scale of 1-4.

1= I've seen it done

3= I'm comfortable with it

2= I've done it some

4= I am very skilled at it

Ensemble Skills

___ Solo ___ Duet ___ Quartet ___ Ensemble

___ Weaving ___ Shelley ringing ___ 4-in-hand ___ Covering 5 or more handbells

___ Various arrangements of 4iH ___ Passing bells ___ Placing handbells out of order

___ Moving feet and body to reach or replace a handbell

Belltree Skills

___ Malleting suspended handbells in your hand ___ Malleting a belltree with one hand

___ Malleting a belltree with a mallet in each hand

___ Processing while carrying the belltree in one hand and malleting with the other hand

___ Malleting more than one belltree hanging from a belltree stand using a mallet in each hand (melody line)

AGEHR, AREA 4 TABLES and TREES
Saturday, May 19, 2012

CHECKLIST
(Keep this for your records)

Before mailing your registration materials,
Review checklist to avoid delays in processing your registration.

Workshop Registration:

- Registration form filled out and included. (One form for each ringer in a group)
 - Dietary restrictions, if applicable, are noted on registration form
 - Handbells, foam, table covers, and belltree stands you are bringing are noted on registration form
 - Information and Photo Release form signed and included. (One form for each ringer in a group)
 - Skills Assessment Form filled out and included (one form for each ringer in a group)
 - Workshop registration check (made payable to AGEHR, Area 4) included.
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- Made copies of all forms for my records

Have more questions or need more information
Contact
Marie Loeffler, Event Coordinator
(407) 384-0663 or Belldancer@aol.com