



SUN! SALS! SOMBREROS! TUCSON FESTIVAL/CONFERENCE **JUNE 18, 19, 20, 2010**

Last Minute Information

The AGEHR-Area XI Board, Fred Gramann, and workshop faculty are ready for you! Here is some last minute information.

HELP! The Area XI Board will wear “GREEN” POLO SHIRTS for the entire weekend. If you need help, ask! We’ll be glad to do whatever we can to be sure that your “SUN! SALS! SOMBREROS!” experience in Tucson is a memorable one.

FESTIVAL REGISTRATION begins at 11:00am in the Hilton El Conquistador Conference Center Lobby. Use the entrance on the west side of the hotel.

INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION: ALL REGISTRANTS will receive an individual Festival Packet.

CHOIR REGISTRATION: A “pass” will be included in the choir contact person’s packet. The “pass” must be presented to an Area XI Board member BEFORE choir set up can begin.

HOTEL CHECK-IN -The front desk of the hotel (room check-in) is located inside the west entrance – under the hotel portico.

VERY IMPORTANT!!! You must show the name badge at meals and at each concert. Don’t forget your name badge! Keep it with you at all times to show at all Festival activities!

It’s June – and this may sound strange. But, **BRING A SWEATER!** Sometimes hotels and concert halls can be very cool.

FESTIVAL CONCERTS - Seating is “open” for the concerts. The public is invited to attend the Friday and Saturday Night concerts as well as the Sunday closing concert. There will be a free-will offering taken at each concert.

A **WATER BOTTLE ALWAYS** comes in handy! There will be plenty of water stations around the hotel so that you can re-fill your individual bottle. Remember, it’s a dry heat in Tucson and you will need to consume lots of water during your stay. **DRINK WATER! LOTS OF WATER!** In fact, physicians and athletic trainers suggest that increasing your personal water intake a couple of days before you arrive is a good idea. And keep drinking water!

Don’t forget to bring **COMFORTABLE WALKING/STANDING SHOES**. Most of the activities at the Hilton El Conquistador are located in close vicinity to each other. However, your feet and your back ALWAYS appreciate comfortable walking/standing shoes. Some ringers have discovered that a piece of carpet or other cushioned item is also good to stand on during the ring-ing rehearsals.

WORKSHOPS – Pre-registration is only required for 2 of the offered workshops. You can register once you arrive and registration is based on a first come, first serve basis.

BE SURE TO BRING - gloves, mallets, a music binder (and bells if it's a BYOB - Bring Your Own Bells - workshop!) to each workshop. The bell sets that will be used in some of the workshops are "loaners." Please pack some polishing cloths and take them with you to the workshops so that you can wipe down the bells that you have used.

SHOP THE VENDORS! Jeffers Handbell Supply, Malmark, and other vendors will be present. **Visit** with each of them. **Learn** about what they have to offer. **Shop** for gifts and supplies. Please **support** these vendors!

AND FOR YOUR DINING PLEASURE – the following meals are included in the festival registration fees – Friday Supper, Saturday lunch and the Sunday "Ring of Fame" luncheon.

BREAKFAST BUFFET OPTION - Coupons for a Saturday/Sunday buffet breakfast will be available for purchase during registration hours. This option is offered for only \$10.00 The option includes BOTH the Saturday and Sunday buffet breakfast. This is an AWESOME price - so be sure to rise early and enjoy breakfast with fellow ringers!

RING-A-HOLICS! – There are two "ring-a-holic" sessions planned. This first is Friday night. Another one is scheduled for Saturday. This is TRUE late-night ringing Drop in – stay as long as you like – enjoy ringing new music and possibly some "old war-horses" too.

CHECK-OUT – The Hilton El Conquistador provides Express Check-out. The morning of check-out, a guest room "folio" will be slipped under each occupied room door. The occupant has two options –

Option #1 – Pay for room charges using the method of payment provided to the front desk staff at the time of check-in and exit the hotel. There is no need to visit the front desk.

Option #2 - Go to the front desk and pay a different way. The Hotel Check-out time is 12:00 noon. Call the front desk if you need to request a late check-out.

A FINAL NOTE ABOUT REHEARSALS –

- *Be prepared.* Bring all of the equipment that you need. If you forget something, visit the VENDORS. Be ready!

- During the massed rehearsals, please *limit conversation on the ringing floor.* Fred will guide you through the music that your choir has prepared. *Listen to him! Watch him!* You will be amazed at the music that you will create!

- It is recommended that *music binders be arranged in alphabetical order.* Fifteen minutes - **yes, 15 minutes only** - is included in the Sunday afternoon schedule to re-arrange the binders in "concert order."

May 25, 2010