

Annual Reports 2022-2023

American Bell Association International, Inc.

Executive Board:

President: Sue Goebel
First Vice President: Jane Boldenow
Friends of ABA
Second Vice President: vacant
Secretary: Kathleen Collins
Treasurer: Arlene Foreman
Immediate Past President: Bonnie Tippery
Member at Large: Brenda Spratt
Past President Representative: Laura Murgia
Legal Advisor: Bill Kenworthy
Parliamentarian: Bill Kenworthy

Committee Chairs and Appointees

Auction: Bruce Clayton
Audit: (no report)
BEHOLD: (no report)
Bell Tower Committee: Marie Varian (report not at this time)
Collins Memorial Bell Tower Fund: Ruth Ann Frank
Bell Tower Editor: Marilyn Grismere
Budget Committee: Arlene Foreman (report not at this time)
Bylaws Committee: Laura Murgia
Chaplain: Betty Goodson (no report)
Chapters and Regional Groups Coordinator: Sue Moore
Convention Committee: Carol Jurin (report not at this time)
Corporation Representative: Marcia Andrus (no report)
Historian: Kathleen Collins
Hotel Coordinator: Alan Burgdorf
Job Description Coordinator: Laura Murgia
Membership Coordinator: Nancy Kirk
Nominating Committee: Sue Wakat
Outreach Committee: Sue Wakat
Past Presidents' Group: Betty Goodson (no report)
Social Media Coordinator: Shawn Wagner
Special Services Coordinator: Sue Wakat
Tax Consultant: Bruce Clayton
Town Crier: Terry Laduke
Website Coordinator: Laura Murgia
Welcome Letter Writers: Mary Levins

Executive Board:

President Annual Report 2022 – 2023 Sue Goebel

As my term draws to a close it is time to reflect back on the past year and all that has happened. I hadn't even made it home from convention before I became aware that a number of our members had come down with Covid 19 (including my husband). Given the age profile of our organization I am so thankful that everyone seemed to recover without any long-term issues.

As your president I had the opportunity to visit the Heart of America Chimers for one of their meetings (and several on Zoom) as well as the Laurel Lodge gathering of the Pittsburgh chapter in October. I also had the fun of celebrating the 50th Anniversary of my own Minnesota Chapter during our November meeting.

I have been privileged to act as moderator for most of the North American and International Zoom calls. This has been a wonderful way for me to meet members, many of whom no longer come to conventions. I hope to continue being able to reach out to our members as that is what will help keep ABA strong.

In my official position I chaired the Executive board meeting held at convention, one held at Laurel Lodge and plan to have a Zoom meeting before the 2023 convention. I created an ad hoc committee to look into what it would require for ABA to become (or establish) a 501.c3 organization to allow for tax deductible donations. I appointed Past President Bonnie Kerber to act as the facilitator of this committee.

I have done my best to stay on top of all communications with the board, and have presided over a number of motions throughout the year. I have written the 'Presidents Message' for our Bi-monthly publication of the Bell Tower.

It has been my privilege to serve as your president this past year. I look forward to continuing to actively support ABA going forward in whatever position that may be needed.

First Vice President Annual Report 2022-2023 Jane Boldenow

I have enjoyed fulfilling the duties of First Vice President of ABA since taking the oath of office in June of 2022 in Charleston, West Virginia. During these past months I have administered the Friends of ABA Fund and have attended numerous Zoom meetings, including those of the Executive Board, the Convention Committee, the Outreach Committee, and our rather new North America Chapter and International Chapter. In January and February of 2023, I contacted certain members of ABA and was able to fill the slate of Presidential Appointments for the 2023-2024 term. I am thankful for those many members who give much of their time, expertise, skills, and energy to our organization. In Omaha, at my first Executive Board meeting, I will present this list of appointments for the Board's approval as part of my agenda for that meeting. I serve as a member of the Budget Committee and communicate regularly with ABA's Treasurer, Membership Coordinator, and others.

Other duties that are included in the Job Description shall be fulfilled in the coming months, such as:

- Honoring the Past Presidents at the Omaha convention
- Presenting an overview of the Friends of ABA at the Omaha convention

- Sharing a list of Major Donors (from 2010 onward) to convention attendees, as a word document in the Registration Packet. This list will also be printed in the July-August issue of *The Bell Tower*.
- I will assist the President, as able and requested, with events at the Omaha convention.

Friends of ABA Annual Report 2022-2023
Jane Boldenow, 1st Vice President
(Fiscal year April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023)

Since being sworn in as First President at the Charleston, West Virginia bell convention in June of 2022, I have administered the Friends of ABA Fund. Members of ABA are very generous in giving to this special fund which helps our organization financially so that we may continue to be, and I quote from our website, *americanbell.org*: ‘A network of bell collectors, enthusiasts, researchers, bell ringers, carillonners, artisans, manufacturers, technicians, and dealers.’ We are also an organization of friendship, as everyone knows!

I received news of donations either from Nancy Kirk, Membership Coordinator, or Arlene Foreman, Treasurer. They also let me know if the donation was designated ‘In honor of,’ ‘In memory of,’ or something else. I then sent a letter of appreciation to the donor, and when appropriate, a letter to the person or family who was honored. Since June of 2022, forty-three (43) such letters of acknowledgements were sent. There were four (4) new Major Donors.

On behalf of our wonderful organization, I would like to thank all of our generous Friends of ABA donors.

Amount donated as of March 31, 2023: \$5,082.46

Secretary Annual Report 2022-2023
Kathleen Collins

- Motion books were updated within sixty days after convention. Motions from the year, a chronological index and an alpha index were sent to all persons on the Executive Board, including the Past Presidents Representative, Legal Advisor, and Parliamentarian. Copies were sent to the Bylaws Committee Chair, the Historian, for the President’s Box, and for the Secretary’s Box. Instructed people to update their copy of the Motion Book.
- Participated in and recorded minutes for all meetings of the 2022-2023 Executive Board, both in person and on-line.
- Maintained the list and indices of all motions of the Executive Board.
- Submitted a list of all Executive Board actions for each issue of *The Bell Tower*.
- Requested an annual report from each officer, appointee, and committee chair; these will be shared with all concerned. A hard copy of the reports will be available in the BEHOLD room at the convention.

**Treasurer Annual Report 2022-2023
as of March 31, 2023
Arlene Foreman**

The unaudited financial statements for the (1) Assets, Liabilities & Fund Balances and (2) Donations Received; Income & Expenses for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2023 indicate total support and revenue was \$65,497.10 and total expenses were \$73,763.94, yielding a deficit of \$8,266.84. Equity has decreased by that amount and stands at \$94,326.88. To capitalize on current high interest rates, \$65,000 of that was moved to LPL Financial and invested in FDIC insured Certificates of Deposit. Five accounts were closed and the money consolidated in the accounts shown below.

Items of particular interest:

**Bell Tower net cost UP \$844
Collins "Fund" income UP \$1,081 (Collins account DOWN \$304)
Committee expenses UP \$358 (new equipment acquired)
Dues DOWN \$160
Friends of ABA income UP \$3,091 (\$441 of which were in-kind donations)
Interest UP \$572**

Reporting has been changed to reflect income and expenses related to each particular activity, not by "who pays." For example, the Bell Tower Editor's and President's convention registration fees are paid by the ABA and previously were not included in the Bell Tower's or Convention's finances, as they are now. Likewise, the Collins Bell Tower Memorial "Fund" payments for Bell Tower publication were not reflected as BT income and now are.

1. Statement of Assets, Liabilities & Fund Balances As of 3/31/2023	2. Donations Received; Income & Expense For the Period 4/1/2022 - 3/31/2023
ASSETS	INCOME
ABAll Checking 16,575.92	Auction 15,895.00
Collins Memorial Bell Tower "Fund" 4,687.74	Bell Tower 6,111.40
Convention 5,000.00	Collins Memorial Bell Tower "Fund" 3,573.00
LPL Brokerage Certificates of Deposit <u>65,582.13</u>	Convention 21,515.76
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts 91,845.79	Special Services 149.75
Other Assets	Friends of ABA--In-Kind Donations 441.42
Pre-Paid Expenses <u>2,481.09</u>	Friends of ABA--Monetary 4,641.04
TOTAL Other Assets <u>2,481.09</u>	Interest 609.65
TOTAL ASSETS <u><u>94,326.88</u></u>	Membership Dues 12,560.00
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	Miscellaneous <u>0.08</u>
Liabilities	TOTAL INCOME 65,497.10
Accounts Payable -	EXPENSES
Equity <u><u>94,326.88</u></u>	Auction 13,301.68
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY <u><u>94,326.88</u></u>	Bell Tower 32,961.61
	Collins Memorial Bell Tower Fund 3877.19
	Convention 19454.84
	Special Services 7.90
	Committee-Appointee 1,398.06
	Insurance & Bond 1,475.66
	Legal Fees 100.00
	Miscellaneous 35.11
	Officers 787.50
	Online Payment Fees 243.26
	Zoom <u>121.13</u>
	TOTAL EXPENSES <u><u>73,763.94</u></u>
	OPERATING DEFICIT <u><u>-8,266.84</u></u>

AMERICAN BELL ASSOCIATION 2022-2023

INCOME & EXPENSES BY ACTIVITY

Auction

2022

Income

Auction Receipts	15,895.00	
Total Auction Income		15,895.00

Expenses

Auction Seller Proceeds	12,992.33	
Auctioneer's Expenses	309.35	
Total Auction Expenses		<u>13,301.68</u>

Net Auction **2,593.32**

Bell Tower

Income

Ad Receipts	747.50	
CMBTF Payment	3,840.00	
Copies Purchased	83.90	
Postage-Foreign	252.00	
Postage-US	1,188.00	
Total BT Income		<u>6,111.40</u>

Expenses

Advert. Chair	-	
Editor's Conv. Registration (ABA Exp.)	200.00	
Editor's Expense-Supplies	417.64	
Editor's Fee	11,700.00	
Mailing Extra Copies & Replacements	70.90	
Miscellaneous	61.82	
Publication & Mailing	20,158.45	
Scans	352.80	
Total BT Expenses		<u>32,961.61</u>

Net Bell Tower **(26,850.21)**

Collins Memorial Bell Tower Fund (CMBTF)

Income

Donations Received	3,573.00	
Total CMBTF Income		3,573.00

Expenses

Committee	37.19	
Bell Tower Contribution	3,840.00	
Total CMBTF Expenses		<u>3,877.19</u>

Net CMBTF **(304.19)**

Convention 2022

Income

Box Lunch	445.00	
Raffle	571.00	
Receipts (Not Auction)	21,199.76	
Refunds	(1,265.00)	
Silent Auction	565.00	
Total Convention Income		21,515.76

Expenses

Badge Holders	65.75	
BEHOLD	-	
Bell	3,213.26	
Bell Postage	205.35	
Checks	64.72	
Hotel Coordinator	-	
Flowers	128.88	
Gratuities	250.00	
Hotel	14,419.10	
Miscellaneous	258.24	
Postage-Records to ABA Treasurer	16.21	
Postage-Programs to Past Presidents	10.70	
President's Registration	200.00	
Printing	531.13	
Prizes	91.50	
Total Convention Expenses		<u>19,454.84</u>

Net Convention 2022

**2,060.9
2**

Special Services

Income

Sales of Bells & Past Bell Towers	149.75	
Total Special Services Income		149.75

Expenses

Flash Drives, supplies & postage	7.90	
Total Special Services Expenses		<u>7.90</u>

Net Special Services

141.85

General & Administration

Income

Friends of ABA-In-Kind	441.42	
Friends of ABA-Monetary	4,641.04	
Interest Income-CDs	602.13	
Interest Income-Bank of America	7.52	
Membership Dues	12,560.00	
Miscellaneous	0.08	
Total G&A Income		18,252.19

Expenses

Committees

Bylaws		
Chaplain		
Historian	223.40	
Job Description	1.98	
Letter Writers	0.60	
Membership	777.14	
Outreach		
Website	394.94	

Insurance & Bond

Bond	126.84	
Liability	959.91	
2021-22 premiums	388.91	

Legal (Corporate Annual Report)	100.00	
Miscellaneous	35.11	

Officers

President	166.00	
1st Vice President	29.00	
2nd Vice President		
Secretary	184.21	
Treasurer	408.29	
Member-At-Large		
Immediate Past President		

Online Payments

PayPal	76.80	
Stripe	166.46	
Zoom	121.13	

Total G&A Expenses	4,160.72	
Net G&A		14,091.47

Net ABA Operations

-8266.84

Immediate Past President Annual Report 2022-2023
Bonnie Tippet

As Immediate Past President I participated and voted in all ABA Board meetings throughout the year including the first meeting of the 2022-2023 Executive Board in Charleston, West Virginia.

At the request of the President, Sue Goebel, I served on an ad hoc committee to investigate the possibilities of creating a 501(c) (3), as well as any potential for grant money. The committee felt that it might be worth pursuing so I was tasked with developing and conducting a survey to be sent out to all members to discern whether more members would be likely to donate to ABA if we had that status. The findings will be presented at the next Executive Board meeting.

I have worked with the new Social Media Coordinator to enhance our social media presence.

As an ex-officio member of the Nominating Committee, I participated in meetings to fill the 2023-2024 slate of officers.

My last duty will be the honor of installing ABA's new officers at the Convention banquet in Omaha.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve on the ABA Executive Board and to work with the many dedicated members of our organization.

Member at Large Annual Report 2022-2023
Brenda Spratt

I attended the Executive Board meeting at the 2022 Convention in Charleston, WV. I also answered all ABA Board emails, and have voted on all motions. I will continue to participate in all ABA Board business until the end of my term.

I have also participated in all Zoom meetings (except one) this year. These included the Executive Board Committee, Convention Committee and Outreach Committee.

I sent web blasts for 2022 Convention along with blasts for the International and North American Zoom meetings.

I received all the emails of members who wanted to participate in the Zoom meetings and compiled a list of their names and emails. From that list, I sent out Zoom invitation and directions to enter the meeting (s).

I have also communicated with members throughout the year on various subjects and passed hem on to other members who can help with their questions.

Thank you for the honor of serving you as your Member at Large for the last year.

Past President on the Board Report Annual Report 2022-2023
Laura Murgia

I have answered emails sent to the board and offered perspectives and advice when requested.

I have consulted with other Past Presidents as needed. I am also involved with the Outreach Committee.

Legal Advisor Annual Report 2022-2023
William Kenworthy

During the past year I approved contracts for the hotel for the 2023 and 2024 conventions and for the 2023 convention bell.

I also advised the Board concerning the feasibility of establishing an affiliated non-profit Section 501c3 corporation for the purpose of receiving tax deductible contributions. Proposed articles of incorporation and by-laws were drafted. The board deliberated about this matter and took no action at this time.

Fortunately, no other problems arose for the Association requiring legal attention.

Parliamentarian Annual Report 2022-2023
William Kenworthy

During the past year I was present at the convention and also monitored the activities of the board that were conducted by e-mail and zoom. Thanks to the efficiency of the Board and the officers, no issues arose that required any parliamentary ruling.

Committee Chairs & Appointees

Auction Coordinator Annual Report 2022-2023
Bruce Clayton

We had a very successful auction at the Charleston, West Virginia Convention. There were some outstanding bells up for auction. Our gross revenue was up a little from the previous year. Everyone had a good time, and the auction was a success. There were a lot of good people that helped the day of the auction.

The auction sold 215 bells plus (8) items that were donated for a gross revenue of \$ 15,895.00. ABA received \$ 610.00 from the donated items. In addition, the 15% proceeds to ABA totaled \$ 2,292.75. We incurred \$ 309.35 in expenses, mainly printing the auction catalog. After expenses the net proceeds to ABA was \$ 2,593.40. The remaining \$ 12,992.25 was distributed to the sellers.

BEHOLD Room Annual Report 2022-2023
Marge Edwards

Larry Glassco started the BEHOLD (Bell Educational Hands Off Learning Display) in 1991. As of January 2023, 204 displays have been presented by our resourceful ABA members and have been enjoyed by thousands of appreciative Conventioneers over the BEHOLD Room history.

I started contacting ABA members in March to see if they were interested in providing a display for the 2023 convention BEHOLD room. This year there are 6 interesting and wonderful displays. Be sure to come in and check them out. Thank you to Alan Burdorf, Jane Clayton, Ardis Copple and Shari Geimer for agreeing to mount a display for the Bell Education Hands Off Learning Display project at convention.

THE BELL TOWER COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

Marie Varian, Chair

This Committee participated in a FIRST! For us, that is. Our annual meeting at Convention was conducted via Zoom which allowed all members to attend, whether on site or at home. It was terrifically successful and all agenda items were properly addressed.

Bell Tower printing and postage costs increased as expected. It is understood that such costs will continue to increase and next year's budget will predict these amounts to the best of our knowledge at printing time.

Committee and ex-officio members who have specific duties have submitted their individual Annual Reports. Thank you - Ruth Ann Frank (Collins Fund), Ron Weaver (back-up membership database custodian and distributor of extra *BTs*), Jim Cayey (Advertising), Marilyn Grismere (*BT* Editor), and Nancy Kirk (Membership Coordinator). Even though members Glenn Edwards and Becky Ryan do not have specific job titles, they are always ready to step in and help where needed.

On a very serious note, this Committee fully realizes the financial plight we are facing. Payment of membership dues entitles a person/household to receive each issue of *The Bell Tower*. It might be expected that such membership income easily pays the cost of producing *The Bell Tower*, but that is not the case. Doubling the dues would still not be enough - be assured that THERE IS NO PLAN TO EVEN MAKE SUCH A SUGGESTION, but we feel very strongly that every member must understand, absorb, and be alert to the severity of these facts.

On a happy note, the *Bell Tower* year has yet again produced a magazine of wonderful articles and many, many photos of members having fun and snooping around for bells all the while talking it over with dear friends.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Varian, Chair

Bell Tower Committee: Collins Memorial *Bell Tower* Fund Annual Report 2022-2023 Ruth Ann Frank

Contributions to the Collins Memorial *Bell Tower* Fund are used to offset the cost of the full color issues of *The Bell Tower*.

During the past fiscal year, we received 47 contributions to the Collins Memorial *Bell Tower* Fund totaling \$3,573.00. About 52 acknowledgements were printed and sent to the donors and to family members of those memorialized or honored.

My postage expenses incurred in handling this fund were \$37.19, for which I asked to be reimbursed. I am still donating the cost of paper, envelopes and printer ink.

Bell Tower Editor Annual Report 2022-2023 Marilyn Grismere

Thanks to the many article contributors that have supplied articles this year for the *The Bell Tower* magazine. I try to continually upgrade the magazine in finding new articles that the members will enjoy. I look forward to each issue coming together and making the self-imposed deadline.

The following individuals provide contributions to each issue. They are in alphabetical order: **Kathleen Collins**, “Chiming in with the Collins Family”; **Sue Goebel**, “President’s page;” **Betty Goodson**, “In Memoriam;” **Ruth Ann Frank**, “*Collins Bell Tower* Fund;” **Sue Moore**, “Chapter Chimes and Notes;” **Nancy Kirk**, Membership, “For Whom The Bell Peal;” **Jane Boldenow/Arlene Foreman**, “Friends of ABA;” and a new column this year is “Kids Corner” by **Monica Wagner**... And last but not least, the continual support of the chairperson of *The Bell Tower* Committee Chairman Marie Varian and my proofreader. It takes a team to get *The Bell Tower* issues into your hands, and I thank every one of the contributors and authors.

The issue article for this year were:

- 🔔 **July-August 2022**—“Patriotic Bell Toys of the 1876 Era” by Robert Watrous; “Glass Bells and Mayo Clinic—What?!” by Nancy Kirk; “Antique Mechanical Bells, Part II” presented at the ABA 2022 Convention
- 🔔 **September-August 2022**—Convention issue; group pictures of the activities at convention including pictures of the auction bells.
- 🔔 **November-December 2022**—“Omaha—Westward Ho, ABA!!!” by Ailene Pearce; “The Russian Troika Exhibition” by Larissa Franczek; “Figurine Bells” by Shari Geimer; “Sleigh Bells” by Laura Johnson; “Presenting a Program to a Group” by Annette Hunt; “Collins Memorial *Bell Tower* Fund: What is it? Why should I give to it?” by Kathleen Collins;
- 🔔 **January-February 2023**—“Ensuring ABA’s Future—Your Input Needed” by Bonnie Tippery; “The Norwich Freedom Bell Project” by Jane Clayton; “Church Bells—A Personal Reflection” by William J. Proud, Former Priest; “An Autobiography of John McCombie” by the late John McCombie; “Omaha—Westward Ho, ABA!!!” by Ailene Pearce.
- 🔔 **March-April 2023**—“Bylaw Proposed Changes” 2023 by Laura Murgia; “The Henningson Memorial Campanile” by Bonnie Tippery; “Can You Hear the Bells” by Sue Wakat; “Kids Corner Bellville Bells” by Monica Wagner; “Cameo Bells” by Lucille Kenworthy; “Omaha—Westward Ho, ABA!!!” by Ailene Pearce; “Antique Bronze Nodder Bells—Part I” presented at 2018 Convention; “Glass Bells and Mayo Clinic—The Rest of the Story” by Nancy Kirk and Ardis Copple; “Paul Revere” by Neil Goepfinger

🔔 **May-June 2023**—“Omaha—Westward Ho, ABA 2023 Convention” by Ailene Pearce; “Looking for the Oldest Bell in Cincinnati” by Tim Verdin, President The Verdin Company; “My “Pinwheel” Bells” by Ailene Pearce; “Childhood Memory Bells” by Ilo Mae Spers; “Antique Bronze Nodder Bells, Part II” presented at the 2018 Convention; Fenton Artists & Signatures” captured from the Internet.

🔔 **Goals for Next Year**

- 🔔 Continue to search for new articles and arm-twist those that have been sitting in the sidelines.
- 🔔 Send articles to some journals for re-print to encourage new membership in the organization.

Bylaws Committee Annual Report 2022-2023 **Laura Murgia, Chair**

I answered questions from the Executive Board and members during the year about the bylaws and standing rules. Also being Past President on the Executive Board I was able to monitor board communications and motions. When needed, I advised the President on specific motions and how to carry them out.

At the 2022 Convention changes were made per membership vote.

#1 Name Change – Chapters and Regional Groups Coordinator to Chapters Coordinator

#2 Standing Rule #28 – Committee Change – Membership Expansion to Outreach

28. OUTREACH COMMITTEE – The goal of this committee is to reach out and encourage members to be more active in ABA and to develop ways to expand membership throughout the world.

The President, with Executive Board approval, shall appoint a minimum of three members. The members shall select a Chair. The Second Vice-President, Member at Large, Chapters and Regional Groups Coordinator and Membership Coordinator shall serve on the committee with voice and vote. The committee shall meet a minimum of four times a year (electronic or in-person). The following shall be invited to attend the meetings: President, Bell Tower Editor, Social Media Coordinator, Special Services Coordinator and Website Coordinator and any other interested persons. All persons attending the meeting have a voice.

The committee approved proposed bylaw changes to Officer Qualifications and Finance Procedures. These were printed in the 2023 March/April issue of The Bell Tower
These changes will be voted on at the 2023 Omaha Convention.

Qualifications for Elective Office

ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS

SECTION 3. QUALIFICATIONS

- A. Candidates for elective office shall have been ABA members for at least two years immediately prior to their nomination and shall have attended at least two conventions.
- B. ~~Candidates for elective office shall have previously served either as an Officer, Member at Large, Chair/Co-Chair/Coordinator of an ABA Committee/Position for 2 years, District Representative, Elected Officer of a chapter, or as members for at least three years on The Bell Tower Committee or the Convention Committee.~~

Candidates for elective office shall have previously had a minimum of 2 years of service to ABA in any appointed position or committee or in a significant or leadership role in the running of the annual convention or an ABA recognized chapter.

Reason for Change (Change B):

To make the qualifications simpler and to reflect our current membership.

The change would allow active appointed committee members to be eligible even if they are not a chair person. It would also allow someone who shows leadership in a role at convention or in chapters. The Nominating Committee will continue, as currently, to assess a person's 'fit' for a position i.e.: are they a good leader, do they have the skills needed, are they personable, etc.

We used the word significant because there are people who do an excellent job with some things but are not formally in an office or committee.

We use the term 'appointed committee member' as some committees at times have non-appointed members that help. The outreach committee invites anyone (and many) to participate but only a few are actually appointed.

ARTICLE VII - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1. PRESIDENT

The President shall:

- C. appoint, with approval of the Executive Board, members to positions or special committees as deemed necessary for the functioning of ABA; appointments may include, but are not limited to: **Assistant Treasurer**, Auction Coordinator,... (etc - rest unchanged)

SECTION 5. TREASURER

The Treasurer shall:

~~A. deposit all ABA funds in the same bank, in separate savings and checking accounts and Certificates of Deposit in the name of "The American Bell Association International, Inc.;" bank required signature cards shall be signed by the President, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer (if extant); First Vice President;~~

A. open accounts in financial institutions that will offer competitive interest rates on insured products while maintaining flexible liquidity. Signatories on the accounts shall be the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer (if extant) and President. Signatories for the Annual Convention account will be the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer (if extant), and the Annual Convention Treasurer. For all accounts, any one authorized signatory is sufficient to conduct transactions.

B. The Executive Board will be notified of the opening of the accounts and the Treasurer will provide accounting of them on the quarterly financial reports to the Board.

Reason for Change:

To allow the Treasurer to use different financial institutions for our accounts and obtain the best interest rates.

1. ARTICLE XI - APPOINTMENTS

Note: The positions listed are appointed annually by the President, with approval of the Executive Board; additional position details may be found in the Bylaws and Job Descriptions.

Reason for Change (addition):

To clarify that appointed positions are annual and where a person may find more details about a position.

SECTION 3. APPOINTED POSITIONS

Add the following as D.

ASSISTANT TREASURER – The President may appoint an Assistant Treasurer to assist the Treasurer in his/her duties. The Assistant Treasurer is not a member of the Executive Board. The Assistant Treasurer will be a signatory on all ABA financial accounts including the Annual Convention Account.

Reason for Change (Addition):

To make the position responsibilities clear.

Standing Rules

OTHER FUNDS

~~12. The Convention Emergency Reserve Fund is to protect ABA when circumstances may result in a convention financial loss. The fund can be used to cover possible contractual penalties or other unexpected expense. The fund shall be administered by the Executive Board~~

Reason for Change (Delete):

There are no longer separate accounts from ABA general funds. The Collins Memorial Fund is earmarked in the general accounts. Friends of ABA donations are tracked and published. Subsequent Rules will be renumbered.

If approved at convention, these changes will be uploaded onto the website and copies sent to officers and those impacted by the change.

Chapters Coordinator Annual Report 2022-2023

Susan Moore

Activities accomplished during my tenth term:

- ❖ Corresponded with chapter reporters prior to upcoming issue of *The Bell Tower*
 - Responded to emails, questions, submitted reports
 - Requested chapters send in meeting announcements, chapter news, photos, bios or favorite bells of chapter members, and other items of interest, especially if the chapter did not have a meeting report
 - Helped chapters develop and improve procedures for Zoom meetings

- ❖ Communicated with editor Marilyn Grismere and prepared “Chapter Chimes” column for all issues of *The Bell Tower*
- ❖ Attended all International and North America Zoom meetings
 - Sent minutes to attending members and ABA Board
 - Reported on meetings in “Chapter Chimes”
- ❖ Participated in ABA Outreach committee meetings and helped promote participation in the International and the North America meetings
- ❖ Included ABA Board members in meeting invitations, minutes, and pertinent correspondence
- ❖ Kept current a chart of the chapters’ officers and contact information
- ❖ Conducted chapter representatives meeting at Charleston, West Virginia, convention
- ❖ Updated the job description to better reflect what is happening with diminishing chapter membership and the use of electronic communication.

Position title has been changed to “Chapters Coordinator.”

These chapters remain active to varying degrees. In most cases they contribute meeting minutes and photos to “Chapter Chimes.”

Arizona Desert Bells	Gateway Arch
Heart of America Chimers	Hoosier Bells of Indiana
Minnesota	New England
Pacific Northwest	Pittsburgh
San Diego Mission Bells	Southern California Campanology Club

Two new chapters meet exclusively on Zoom. The International Chapter held its first meeting on March 27, 2021, initiated by David Elliott, and has met seven times. Time zone differences complicate setting meeting times, but a core of attendees and ABA Board members has developed.

The North America Zoom Chapter met for the first time on April 2, 2022, and has met three additional times with attendance ranging from 13 to 24. This chapter is designed for Canadian and American ABA members without chapters or who are unable to travel to chapters.

The following chapters are inactive, do not currently hold meetings, or have canceled meetings due to ill health and/or low number of attendees. In most cases, they still have a member willing to serve as a contact person. The contact person may respond to the pre-issue emails and attend the chapter representative meeting at convention.

Bell Collectors of the British Isles	Bell Study Group of Northern Ohio
Colorado	Greater Chicago West
Iowa	Metropolitan New York
Southern Chimes	Texas

I have not received correspondence this year from these chapters:

Bell Study of Northern Ohio	Bell Friends of Wisconsin
Chattanooga Chimes	Great Lakes (Michigan)
Heart of Ohio	Iowa
Metropolitan New York	Texas

The following chapters have disbanded or have no current members:

- Florida officially disbanded January 31, 2023, and donated its remaining treasury to the ABA.

- Correspondence from the Kangaroo Bell Club Australia indicates that they still meet informally but no longer maintain affiliation with the ABA.

Aloha	Bell Collectors of Ontario
Bell Study Club of Cincinnati (merged with Heart of Ohio)	
Colonial	DiMarVa
Florida	Japan Eki Rei
Kangaroo Bell Club Australia	New Zealand Bell Collectors
North Lake Shore	Northern California Bell Friends
Oregon	Southern Michigan
York Penn	

Incoming President Jane Boldenow has asked me to continue in this position for another year. My goals remain:

- 1) Find ways to keep chapter members involved through electronic and other means
- 2) Rework format of column in *The Bell Tower* to allow more space for chapter news
- 3) Continue to provide chapter-like activities for ABA members without local chapters

I have enjoyed the coordinator job as it allows me regular correspondence with ABA members throughout the world. While it is sad to see chapters disband or fall into inactivity, it is important to support the active chapters. They help convey the joy of bell collecting and bell friendship, serve as an important communication conduit, and bring new members into the ABA.

Historian Annual Report 2022-2023

Kathleen Collins

During this year I have received 11 separate requests for a total of 24 articles from *The Bell Tower*. All but one member had email, so most articles were sent as email attachments.

The Bell Tower editor forwarded copies of current issues to the Historian and Website Coordinator for safekeeping.

All of the original flash drives, which contain issues of *The Bell Tower* from 1940-2017, have been sold. The Website Coordinator is updating them and including issues after 2017 to make them available to ABA members.

Hotel Coordinator Annual Report FY 2022-23 Alan Burgdorf – ABA Hotel Coordinator

For 2023, I was interested in a venue in the western part of the Central District, and selected Omaha NE, from which we had received favorable responses when previously searching for a 2022 location. The VisitOmaha CVB sent the RFP to local hotels. After visiting several hotels with Bonnie Tippery, Sue Goebel, and Jane Boldenow, we chose the Marriott Regency.

For 2024 we will return eastward to Pittsburgh PA. The VisitPittsburgh CVB sent the RFP to 28 local hotels. We only received three responses, and none from hotels actually in the city. The Airport Hyatt was immediately eliminated because at such a location attendees are essentially stuck there. The other two hotels were the DoubleTree Green Tree and DoubleTree Cranberry.

Local resident Nancy Santory and I visited both of these hotels and met with their sales reps. Green Tree is closer to downtown Pittsburgh, but is otherwise in somewhat of an isolated area. Cranberry is a farther North suburb, but is a more vibrant area. After further negotiation with the sales rep, Nancy and I recommended the DoubleTree Cranberry. In Omaha we had been hit with greatly increased food prices due to recent inflation, but DT Cranberry guaranteed to honor the current menu prices, and the hotel contract was approved by the ABA Executive Board.

2024 ABA Convention Pittsburgh PA

2024 JUNE DoubleTree – 300 Room Nights – Activity						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 15
23 35	24 50	25 50	26 50	27 50	28 48	29 2
Arrive	Tour	Conv1	Conv2	Conv3	Conv4	Depart

DoubleTree Cranberry
910 Sheraton Dr
Mars PA 16046
(724) 776-6900

<http://DoubleTreeCranberry.com/>



Job Description Coordinator Annual Report 2022-2023

Laura Murgia

All Job Descriptions remain on the website in the Member's Area.

All Job Descriptions will be updated this year and uploaded. There are a couple that will need further updating after this year's convention.

Cindy Knoblauch will be taking over this position. We have been emailing this year since her agreement to fill the position for the 2023-2024 year. I have no doubt that she will do well in filling this role.

Membership Coordinator Annual Report

April 1, 2022, Through March 31, 2023

Nancy Kirk

The primary responsibility of the Membership Coordinator is to maintain an accurate listing of members of ABA. New members are added as they apply and pay. Members are removed when we are notified of a death, non-renewal is specified, or for non-payment of dues. Renewal notices are sent by postal mail early in the month before the expiration month. A follow-up email is sent or phone call made (if no email) early in the month after the expiration month. A third email notice is sent early the following month, and the month after that a final email notice is sent that removal of their name is imminent. I keep track of all dues as they are paid; once or twice a month I deposit checks and send a list to the ABA Treasurer.

At the end of the fiscal year 2022-2023, ABA had 316 memberships: 289 US and 27 International. During the year, 34 memberships were removed—31 US and 3 International. We welcomed 20 new memberships—19 US and 1 International.

Net loss for the fiscal year was 14 memberships.

Of our US members, about 38% used online payment, either credit card or PayPal. The rest paid by check. Of our international members, about 23% paid by check, the others online.

Other responsibilities of the position that I fulfilled this year include:

To keep track of donations to Friends of ABA and the Collins Memorial Bell Tower Fund, notifying the First Vice President of the former and the CMBTF contact of the latter, as well as the ABA Treasurer for both.

To maintain current contact information for all members, updating the database as necessary and listing all changes as well as new member information in each issue of *The Bell Tower*. To notify the Welcome Letter Writers Committee of new members, and to notify the Chaplain of any deaths discovered.

Before the printing of each *Bell Tower*, to provide a list of US members receiving the magazine by bulk mail, US members receiving it by first class mail, and international members.

To notify the Website Coordinator of all changes in the database so the online directory in the Members Forum can be kept up to date. From time to time to provide database information for printing a directory or as requested for a project.

To make expenditures, notify the ABA Treasurer, and keep accurate financial records as necessary for the duties of the position.

To participate in email and (most years) in person meetings/business of the Outreach Committee and The Bell Tower Committee.

To answer or refer random questions as they come to the Membership Coordinator as the contact listed on the website.

Each time I modify the database, I back it up to iCloud and to a flash drive. I also send a backup twice a year to Ron Weaver as Database Custodian.

Nominating Committee Annual Report 2022-2023 **Sue Wakat, Chair**

After exhaustive research to determine who qualifies for positions and many hours of telephone calls and emails, the Nominating Committee presented a complete slate to the Board.

President: Jane Boldenow

First Vice President: Bonny Tippery

Second Vice President: Ailene Pearce

Secretary: Kathleen Collins

Member-at-Large: Shirley Russell

Outreach Committee Annual Report 2022-2023 **Sue Wakat, Chair**

The Outreach committee has met a number of times and proposed various ideas. ‘Some things have been added to the webpage because of the committees’ suggestions and because Laura Murgia is doing such a wonderful job. Please check it out and become part of the members only section. Some things have little or no response. We attempted to have people send in places where bells could be seen around them or someplace they know and only one person did that. We were hoping to have a section of the webpage for finding bells wherever you travel.

There was a raffle of a membership on the website for non-members and those who had never been a member but some people objected as it is not allowed in some states, although it could be stated that those states were exempt. We also would like to get people to make short YouTube videos to pique people’s interest but no one has been found to do any.

The roadshow is continuing at convention. There was a small response last year and we hope it will grow this year. Shawn Wagner is going to “interview” people after their experience with the roadshow as on Antique roadshow.

There will be recording of the programs (with presenters’ permission) this year and will be utilized later. Shawn Wagner became part of the committee and has taken over the social media and has a report available. Neil Goepfinger will be joining the committee.

There are two suggestions awaiting Board approval.

Social Media Coordinator Annual Report 2022-2023 Shawn Wagner

As you all know I am new to this position. This has been an interesting year. The ABA seems to be growing. I would first like to thank all the members that have helped this past year. With U tube busting at the seams and Face book helping us stay connected. This has been a truly busy year.

<u>People we have reached:</u>	580	+230%
Engagements	388	+497%
Net Followers	12	+71%
Review of Videos (3 min).	53	-25%
Review of Videos (1 min).	10	-38%

<u>Who is looking at the ABA by Gender:</u>	69.5% Women
	30.5% Men

The countries that are looking at the ABA:

United States	442	80%
Canada	17	3%
United Kingdom	16	3%
Australia	12	2%
Russia	11	2%
Ukraine	8	1%

Top Cities:

Moscow, Russia	9	2%
Brisbane, QLD, Australia	4	1%
Columbus, OH	4	1%
San Francisco, CA	4	1%
Leavenworth, KS	3	1%
Montgomery, LA	3	1%
New York, NY	3	1%

I would like to close this report on a positive note.

There has been almost no activity with special services.
People say they will do “voice over” on programs then don’t.
If we could get programs like this then we could put them on the member’s only section of the website.
This would only be older programs.
We retain some old convention bells that were not sold. These would be two from Kansas and two from Chicago. We have others that people have donated as they go to the first timers at convention. Carol Jurin has the more recent convention bells that are left.

Tax Consultant Annual Report 2022-2023 Bruce Clayton

I received the fiscal year, April 1, 2021-March 31, 2022, financial statement prepared by the ABA II treasurer, Shirley Russell.

There were adjustments during this fiscal year, April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022, that pertained to the prior year. I amended the non-profit tax return form 990 for fiscal year end March 31, 2021. This return was filed electronically.

I then prepared the fiscal year end, March 31, 2022 non-profit tax return form 990, and it was electronically filed on a timely basis.

The American Bell Association, International, Inc., is in good standing with the Federal Government, and there are no communications going on at this time.

I have answered and assisted on any questions that have come up in the last year concerning taxes.

Town Crier Annual Report 2022-2023 Terry Laduke

2022 was a very interesting year for our ABA convention in West Virginia.

Arrival coming into the airport we landed in a forest of green trees on top of a ridge. The bus ride down into river area was a sight, we from Arizona do not normally see! The hotel was first class and provided the convention the best.

There were a number of youth activities going on at the same time as our convention. One of the groups was a choir convention from a number of states. I being in costume, was requested for many pictures; and not missing a chance to explain what the ABA was; “found” a number of excess table decorations (bells) gave them to the kids, along with an ABA business card. “Priming the pump” to get interested in collecting bells. Their gratitude was to perform during our banquet, thus being allowed as honorary members in ABA.

Website Coordinator Annual Report 2022-2023

Laura Murgia

I independently created our Convention 2023 pages and have updated other pages on the website. I started showing member bells at the bottom of the home page, have updated the Bell Tower site and have included a few complete archived articles on the site for anyone to see.

The Members Only section continues to not have much traffic. The Membership Directory, Bylaws, Job Descriptions and Reports are updated as needed. The Chapter News and Information forum where chapter meeting minutes and other information can be placed is updated as information is sent.

The forum is going to need to be changed this coming year since the new one is no longer supported by WordPress. I have obtained the program and am working with it.

I updated our U-tube site with videos of BEHOLD displays from the 2022 convention. Other videos submitted by members are welcome but so far have received none.

At the 2022 convention I was able to record a few of the program presentations. I will be working soon to upload one or two to our U-tube site.

Members have been asked to contribute items for the Bell Forums and U-tube.

Welcome Letter Writers Annual Report 2022-2023

Mary Levins, Chairman

For the fiscal year 2022-2023 the Welcome Letter Writers have written letters to eighteen new members. This was the same as last year. The new members were from twelve different states. Several were gift memberships to relatives of ABA members. With the acknowledgement they receive from the membership chairman and the letters from us, we hope to make them feel truly welcome.

Carol Mannchen, Betty Goodson, Annette Hunt and Kathy Quiney served on the committee with me. Most letters are now sent by email. This has continued to increase communication between new members and the letter writers.