

sound at exactly the right time. The ringers trust Brother Waldron to let them know what they need to do.

Maintaining Good Relationships

The bell choir has a strong feeling of camaraderie. Sister Probert describes the group as a family. In some cases the sentiment is literal. The bell choir boasts two married couples, an engaged couple (they met in the bell choir), a set of fraternal twins, and a pair of sisters.

The good relationships are necessary because the ringers, all volunteers, have a difficult job to perform. They have to watch their conductor, the music, and their bells at the same time, while switching between bells. The music requires a variety of playing techniques, such as plucking or malleting.

Occasionally the ringers even have to ring a neighbor's bell on a difficult part. Trust has to exist between the ringers in order for them to perform well.

Focusing on the Savior

In spite of the challenges, the ringers are able to blend their individual parts into a whole that is not only cohesive, but beautiful.

Creating this harmony is only one part of the bell choir's purpose, but it is important to achieving their main purpose—bearing testimony of Jesus Christ and serving Him through their music.

Just as members of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir are set apart as musical missionaries, so are members of the bell choir.

Brother Hixson calls performances opportunities to “bear our testimonies through the use of our talents,” explaining that performances are “all about the Savior.” ■

WORLD BRIEFS

Elder Perry Creates First Stake in Guam

Elder L. Tom Perry of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles visited Guam in December 2010 to create the Barrigada Guam Stake, the first stake in the Territory of Guam.

While there, Elder Perry, who served in the United States Marine Corps in the area during World War II, also visited the Pacific War Museum and the neighboring island of Saipan.

There are 1,971 members of the Church living in Guam. The Territory of Guam is part of the Asia North Area of the Church.

Triple Combinations Now Available

Editions of the triple combination in Indonesian and Thai are now available for the first time in print and online. New editions of the Book of Mormon are also available. The scriptures site includes footnotes, maps, and photographs, and allows readers to mark the scriptures and perform key word searches. The Japanese triple combination is also now online at scriptures.lds.org. The scriptures site now includes 21 languages.

First YSA Conference Held in Cyprus

A first-ever young single adult conference for the Nicosia Cyprus District was held in the Troodos Mountains on October 16, 2010. Attending the conference were 20 young adults and 15 leaders, representing seven different countries. Workshops taught tactics for conquering opposition, successful job interview techniques, and how to conquer fear through faith. Other activities included games, service projects, and a devotional and testimony meeting.

Young Men in Bangalore Commit to Duty to God

More than 30 young men from the Bangalore India District gathered in the hills of Kanakapura to learn about the new Duty to God program and to learn spiritual lessons from challenging physical activities. The young men used a rope and pulley system to cross a pond. They went for a morning run, climbed a mountain, and learned to rappel. The activity was concluded with a testimony meeting. ■