



THE ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS
LE COLLÈGE ROYAL CANADIEN DES ORGANISTES

Quarter Notes

The Royal Canadian Collège of Organists *Windsor Essex*
Centre
Le Collège Royal Canadien des Organistes *Centre*
Windsor Essex

Chatham Corner



Winter, 2020

President's Report

Covid-19 has changed our lives. It has limited our face-to-face meetings and our social gatherings; it has restricted our activities and put an end (hopefully temporarily) to traditional forms of worship in our churches.

Membership organizations, like the RCCO, have been faced with a number of challenges, namely to remain relevant to its members and to realize its mandate in a new reality.

I've had an opportunity to meet (virtually) with other RCCO Centre Presidents and without exception, we are all experiencing these same challenges.

To respond in part to these challenges, last Thursday evening, we hosted a Connect and Engage Zoom meeting for the purpose of reconnecting with one another. Eleven members were able to join us online and we shared our experiences as well as exchanged ideas on doing things differently in our churches.

Not being able to sing during worship services seems to have had the most significant impact. While some churches have organized soloists or singers in small groups, others have instructed their organists not to play familiar hymn tunes for

fear that congregations might be tempted to sing along.

We recognize that we are all working under different circumstances and that policies and practices are dictated by our various jurisdictions; that being said, we are in fact united in that we are facing the same challenges and adapting to our unique circumstances in order to contribute to meaningful worship.

I was also struck by the sense of camaraderie that was evident during our meeting. Even though we have not connected physically in the last 8 months, we continue to enjoy each others' company, we are interested in what each other is doing, and we open to helping each other as needed.

It is with this spirit of collaboration that I hope we can move forward. The executive committee is working hard to plan virtual events and activities that are accessible and hopefully enjoyable for all. The success of our efforts, however, will be measured by the level of your participation.

I hope that each one of you will support us, will join in our upcoming activities and will say an enthusiastic 'yes' when we ask you to get involved.

Quarter Notes and Chatham Corner

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Windsor Essex Centre

Publication Dates are

September 14- (September 1 deadline)

November 18—(November 5 deadline)

March 9—(March 2 deadline)

June 16—(June 2 deadline)

Contact Dale Burkholder

gangalf@live.com to have your events
included in our calendar.



Executive Committee

Windsor Essex Centre

President

PAUL WHARRAM, paul.wharram@gmail.com

Membership

KAREN PRICE, karenbeprice@gmail.com

Treasurer

BEN SCHINKEL, organ@start.ca

Communications

DALE BURKHOLDER gangalf@live.com

Secretary

MICHAEL SEWELL fe_analyst@bell.net

Organ Advisor

RON DOSSENBACH dossen54@gmail.com

Scholarships

HENRY BOON hboon@cogeco.ca

Chaplin

REV. ROB LEMON rlemon5@cogeco.ca

Ex-Official

DAVID PALMER, dpalmer@uwindsor.ca

JUDY BOUTIN, ajboutin@cogeco.ca

Executive Committee

Chatham Centre

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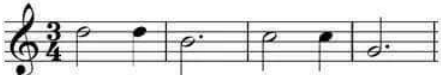
Publicity: SANDRA BARNES

& HARRY ROFFEL


Christmas Mystery Story 1

It was a  near the


 , when


 , when

suddenly I heard a choir singing

 .

I stood quietly and listened for a few

moments, then continued on 

 .

© Kim Maloney 2013



A Prelude to Christmas

RCCO Members, who are organists, are invited to contribute to a pre-Christmas Watch and Listen Party on Friday, December 11 at 7:00 pm. Here's how:

- * Select one of your favourite organ pieces for Advent or Christmas (2 – 4 minutes in length)
- * Record it (audio only) on your cell phone or other recording device
- * Take a couple selfies or have pics taken while you are playing/recording your selection
- * When done recording, save it and email it along with your pictures (feel free to add other pictures you would like in the video) to Dale Burkholder at gangalf@live.com
- * Also email the name and composer of your selection and send it to Dale
- * You can try sending a video of you playing (due to email restrictions on size this may be an issue)

I will need them before December 7

Ahead of December 11

- * If you have not done so already, create a Facebook Account
- * Join the “RCCO Windsor Essex Group” (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/RCCOWindsorEssexGroup>)

At 7:00 pm on December 11

- * Go to the RCCO Windsor Essex Group
- * When the Watch/Listen Party Starts there will be a notification in the lower left hand of your screen.
- * There will be a video playing with the message “Stay tuned for the RCCO Watch Party”.
- * To join in the discussion and be part of the chat between participants, just add your comments in the “write a comment” box below the video.



Thoughts from our Chaplain

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I was just participating in a webinar lecture on time and faith. One of the very small aspects of the presenter's remarks suggested that people of faith are often tempted to live in the past through nostalgia, or in the future in anticipation of the wonderful reality of the ultimate end of the world and coming of the Kingdom. It seems to me that these temptations have been exacerbated in the time of pandemic. Who among us hasn't longed for the good old days like in January when we ran around with naked faces and unchapped hands or who among us hasn't fantasized by looking ahead with longing to the time when the vaccine comes and the tide of disease has been turned so that we can embrace and shake hands and be together with those we love in-person and without worry? The lecturer suggested that indulging either of those temptations leads people of faith out of reality and out of our created bodily existence to the detriment of our experience of God because in that we fail to live the life that God has actually given us to live. We look for God and life only in our perception of a better past or a better future missing the fact that we experience God in the present reality of our existence. Nostalgia and fantasy also cause us to miss the people around us and the ways that we might be able to share the blessings of God's Kingdom, which is at hand not far away in the past or the future.

The temptation to nostalgia or fantasy is absolutely a part of our experience of this time, but it is not without an antidote. The worship life of the church and especially the music of faith played by a real live musician in the context of a real live community of faith is something that is profoundly immediate and present. It helps to draw attention to the reality that God is very much here and now, not just back then when things were good, and not just in the future when everything is made right, but right here and right now. Music's beauty reveals God in the hearing. The words of song share God's word spoken in a particular moment. All in all, the music of faith draws us together in community with God who is gloriously and profoundly present even in a grossly imperfect time. We need that reminder God's presence over and over again to resist the temptation to escape into the past or the future. We need that reminder so that we can find hope for living faithfully right here and right now.

Christmas is coming and at the heart of our celebration is the story of God coming into an imperfect world to bring love and grace and healing and strength and forgiveness and hope to the world. If ever there was a time to remember that God is in the world, this is it. Please help the church remember through your music this year. Help people of faith remember that God is in the world. Play the carols and other music, sing if you safely can, share the good news of God's coming. We need to hear it desperately so that we can live through this time, remain faithful, and share all of God's rich abundance with people who are struggling everywhere. Our celebration is going to be different this year but we still need the reminder that God is in the world and one of the best ways to be reminded is through Christmas and the rich and immediate experience of music shared in our celebration.

On behalf of all the faithful thank you for what you have done and will do to reveal God's immediate presence through your music throughout this time. We wish every Christmas blessing for you and your families.

Yours in Christ,

The Rev'd Canon Robert Lemon

Chaplain, RCCO Windsor Essex Centre

Another Area Organ May Soon Be Lost

From: Ron Dossenbach, Organ Advisor

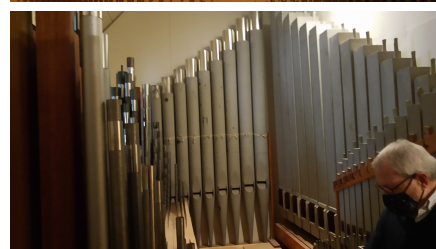
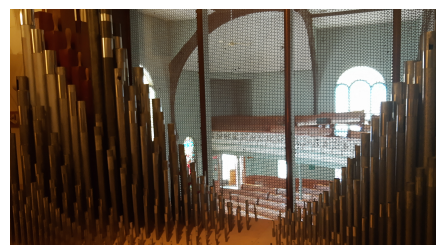
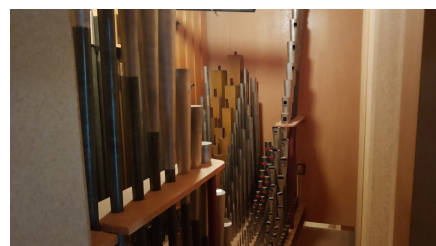
The clock is ticking. The Blenheim United Church congregation has permanently closed some time ago. The building and all contents including the organ has been sold to a private purchaser. They have decided to tear down the church. Any demolition of a building that contains asbestos must have it removed prior to demolition. There is risk of harmful asbestos fibers escaping. The asbestos removal people will begin operations on November 30. The organ or parts of it will have to be removed by then. That is our effective deadline.

Thanks to all who have read the recent 32nd Note notice and its appeal to find a home for this organ. It bears a plate from the Principal Pipe Organ Company features new chests, reservoirs, and swell enclosure. It relies on several ranks of pipes from the previous Holmes organ, which itself relied on several ranks from a Warren organ c.1911. The old pipework, as well as that added in 1951, then again in the 1990s, may not sound like a very good mix, but the revoicing and regulation has been very well done. The organ sounds as if it was designed for the space. Usually, organs need a fair degree of repair work before going to a new location. but this one is working fine with very little work needed.

There is one interested party, but many approvals must be attained before they can make a decision on whether to proceed, and time is not on our side.

Anyone that may know of a possible new home for this instrument, please contact me immediately.

Ron Dossenbach



Online Concert

Matthew Larkin plays Louis Vierne

The RCCO Hamilton Centre is pleased to announce that renowned organist Matthew Larkin is presenting a virtual concert of the music of Louis Vierne, recorded at the the organ of St. George's Cathedral in Kingston. Maestro Larkin will also provide commentaries on his selected pieces.



The virtual concert is available as of this Friday, November 20 at 7:30 PM ET.

On the program:

- ♫ Symphonie no. 1 op. 14 24 pièces en style libre: Arabesque, Pastorale, Berceuse, Elégie, Carillon
- ♫ Pièces de fantaisie suite no 1 op 51: Prelude
- ♫ Pièces de fantaisie suite no 2 op 53: Hymne au soleil
- ♫ Pièces de fantaisie suite no 4 op 55: Cathédrales
- ♫ Pièces de fantaisie suite no 3 op 54: Carillon de Westminster

Join on Friday, November 20 at 7:30 p.m.

Purchase your access to the online concert here (<http://musikay.ca/event/matthew-larkin-plays-louis-vierne/>)

Entry is \$20. Once you have purchased your ticket, you will receive a link to view the video.

Good news, if you cannot attend the premiere on Friday, November 20, starting at 7:30 PM ET, the concert can be viewed at any time afterwards. Just use the link above to purchase your access code.

Help us promote this great concert and pass this information along to your friends. (Just don't give the link to the video for free.)



**Wishing you
and yours a
very Merry
Christmas
and a Happy
New Year!**



*From: Karen, Dale,
Henry, Ron, Ben,
Michael, Judy, David
and Paul*

(Executive Committee)



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Choral Music

Henry Boon has now published two SATB Christmas compositions with Cypress Choral Press in Vancouver.

To see the scores and listen to the recording by the Amadeus choir of Toronto, please go to cypresschoral.com



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Supply Organists

The Windsor Essex Centre RCCO provides a list of supply organists available to cover vacations and emergencies including Sunday services. If you are a member or know of a member who would be willing to provide this service, please let us know and we will include their information on our supply list.

Michael Sewell mikesmail7@bell.net

ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS
WINDSOR-ESSEX CENTRE
APPLICATION FOR CENTRE FRIEND MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Church affiliation and position
(if applicable): _____

Membership fee for 2015-16: \$30

Make cheque or money order payable to: Windsor-Essex Centre, RCCO

Please mail to:

Ben Schinkel, Treasurer
Windsor-Essex Centre, RCCO
103 Kimball Drive
Essex, ON
N8M 0B7

Email: organ@start.ca

MICHAEL RICKETTS Sales Representative

519-996-1049
Office: 519-944-5955 • Fax: 519-944-3387
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