



THE ROYAL CANADIAN
COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS
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DES ORGANISTES

QUARTER NOTES

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



CHATHAM CORNER

The Royal Canadian Collège of Organists *Chatham Centre*
Le Collège royal canadien des organistes *Centre Chatham*

Winter, 2022

President's Message

By: Paul Wharram, President Windsor-Essex Centre

Gradually, our world as we once knew it, is becoming normalized since the threat of illness due to Covid 19 is lessening. Most people have been fully vaccinated and mandatory masking and other safety provisions have come to an end.

To me, though, the world as we now experience it is not as I remember, particularly as it relates to how people interact with one another. There are understandably people who choose to continue masking as a preventative measure and others who are not comfortable in gatherings of people.

This presents a challenge to organizations like ours, which plan activities where people get together to learn, to sing and to socialize. I suspect that this hesitancy to meet with others in person was one of the reasons we had to postpone the Registering for Success Workshop that was scheduled for October 22nd.

I also feel that society in general has changed because of the pandemic. There is a lingering sense of indifference in certain settings, for example, in our churches where the size of congregations has not bounced back to where it was before. In-person meetings may become a thing of the past, because meetings online are so convenient. Even

organ and piano lessons, in some cases, are being conducted virtually with the student and teacher almost never getting together. Participating in online pod casts, video screenings and presentations have become common place, again without the human interface that is the foundation of organizations like ours.

When we consider that the Vision of the RCCO is “to inspire connections with organ music”; and the Mission is: “to promote a vibrant community that engages all people in the transformative power of the organ and its music”, it would seem that we can not deliver our mandate unless we make an effort to connect and engage.

So, my message today is one of encouragement – for everyone who reads this newsletter to make a concerted effort, supporting the programs and activities of our centre to the fullest of one’s capacity. We aim to organize and offer programming that is relative, informative, and engaging and above all, connects us with one another as we celebrate the music and the organ that binds us together.

As this is the final newsletter of 2022, I wish to send you all Season’s Greetings. May your holidays be filled with music and laughter. May the New Year bring you happiness, good health and renewed energy brought about by engaging with other members and friends of the RCCO.

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

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Chatham Centre

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Land acknowledgement

We of the Windsor Essex RCCO Centre acknowledge that we are on land and surrounded by water, originally inhabited by Indigenous Peoples who have travelled this area since time immemorial. This territory is within the lands honoured by the Wampum Treaties; agreements between the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lenni, Lenape and allied Nations to peacefully share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. Specifically, we would like to acknowledge the presence of the Three Fires Confederacy (Ojibwe, Odawa, Potawatomi and Huron/Wendat) Peoples. We are dedicated to honouring Indigenous history and culture while remaining committed to moving forward respectfully with all First Nations, Inuit and Métis.

The following Overriding Principle approved by the RCCO Board of Directors in its Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024:

We are firmly committed to inclusion, diversity, and equity at all levels of the organization. We believe our work is enhanced by engaging a diverse community of individuals with different backgrounds, skills, opinions, and perspectives, thereby cultivating a welcoming environment of open communication, inclusion, and respect and we will strive to seek representation from Black, Indigenous, People of Colour and other underrepresented and equity-seeking communities in leadership roles and throughout our organization.

Organist Position Available

The Anglican Parish of Southern Trinity for an organist as Kristen Wood is resigning as of Feb. There would be 2 services each Sunday, 9:30 @ St Andrew's & 11 @ Christ Church. Both the congregations are small. They no longer have a choir at Christ Church, and I don't think St. Andrew's does either.

If you are interested, call the Church office 519-738-4198, or email southerntrinity@gmail.com

Doors Open
WINDSOR



Doors Open Windsor

Our first event of the year was a wonderful success. We had about 100 members of the public come in and listen to the hidden gem of an organ at Westminster United Church.

We started the day with Paul Wharrem, followed by Ron Dossenbach, Bryan MacDonald, David Carle, James Fast, Richard Helmer, Karen Price and ending with Dale Burkholder. The music ranged from classic Bach to contemporary Canadian and ending with “Hollywood goes to church” (a celebration of the organ as a Theatre organ).

Many members of the public got to look into the pipe chamber and see that over one thousand pipes that make up this instrument

We look forward to more events at Westminster United Church.



Welcome our new member

James Fast

James Fast is a new member of the RCCO. Born in Wheatley, Ontario, into a family which has a long history in music, James began studying piano shortly after his eighth birthday. His great grandfather was a conductor of an orchestra in Prussia in the mid 19th century. James' parents ensured all four of their boys were given music lessons, three studied the piano, and one studied guitar. Both parents were busy in music also, with James' father singing barbershop in Detroit, and in the choir in the United Church in Wheatley, where James' mother was the organist and choir director. The entire family sang in the choir. James' eldest brother Allan (deceased) was a gifted countertenor, as well as an accomplished pianist. He performed with orchestras around the world, performing at many of the great concert halls in Europe and South America. Later he became a professor of music, teaching at McGill University in Montreal, and performed and recorded many times with Tafelmusik, The CBC Vancouver Orchestra amongst others.



James completed Grade eight in Piano (Honours,) Western Ontario Conservatory of Music, in academic cooperation with the University of Western Ontario. Grade nine piano was the final year for James' instruction, but the examination wasn't completed, due to financial difficulties. His focus changed to music composition, production and recording, after he began a working life at Chrysler. This new direction afforded the opportunity to buy all of the instruments he had dreams of having, and his music studio began in 1984, with the purchase of a new Yamaha DX7 synthesizer and several guitars. Many other instruments including violins and a cello were added, and his compositions grew in complexity and production. The discography of James' compositions includes more than ten CD recordings and close to two hundred songs.

Twenty-five years ago, James was approached to lead the music ministry for the migrant community in Leamington, at St. Michael's Parish, and other churches of the London Diocese. This involved learning more than one hundred songs on guitar and singing in the Spanish language. Seven years ago, he added another role, when he accepted the position as organist/soloist at St. Peter's Maronite church in Windsor, and the commitment to all of the churches keeps him extremely busy.

An upcoming performance on December 12, 2022, at Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Windsor, celebrating the special mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe will begin at 6:15pm, and will include the Procession of the Nations with their flags, followed by Holy mass. James will be the soloist/organist/guitarist. The historic and magnificent three manual Casavant pipe organ, has been a real treat for James to experience every year at this special event.

James created a Youtube Channel to share his compositions with the world, and his recordings can be heard by searching 'Ave Maria The Fusion Booth Incident' once inside the Youtube channel domain. One of his most popular compositions on Youtube is titled 'Amelia' a song telling the story of the disappearance of Amelia Earhart.

A Great Holiday Gift!

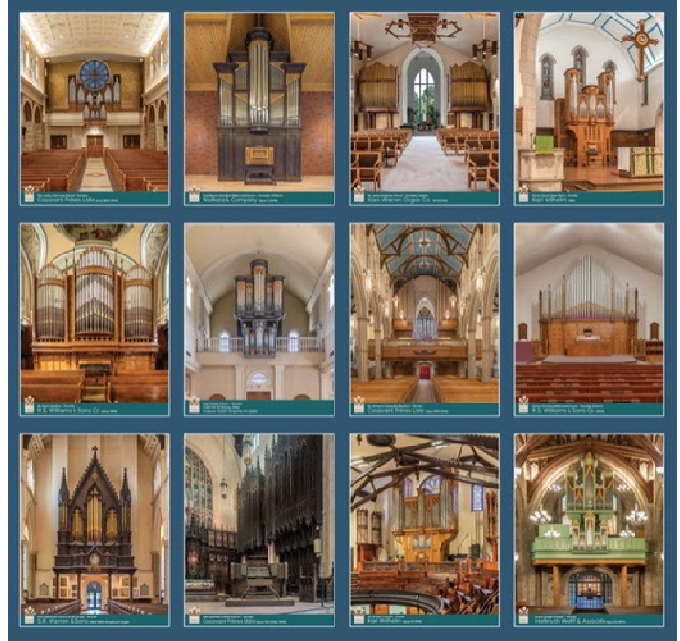


Organ Historical Society is pleased to bring its annual Pipe Organ Calendar to Members and friends. 2023 features organs in and around Toronto, Canada - site of the 2023 Festival of Pipes in conjunction with the RCCO, and includes Canadian calendar dates as well as those used in the US. Makes a great gift! Beautiful photography by Len Levasseur. Order early - stock is limited. Free shipping to the USA, Canada and Mexico. Contact OHS directly for information on bulk pricing (5 or more) or shipping outside of the USA, Canada and Mexico [mail@OrganHistoricalSociety.org, or 484/488.PIPE (7473)].

OHS Members: \$25.00 - Non-Members: \$30.00

2023 Pipe Organ Calendar - Instruments by

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Order Here <https://ohscatalog.org/2023-pipe-organ-calendar/>

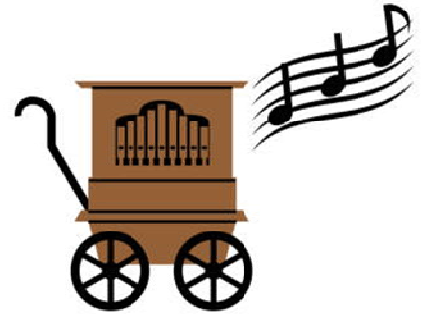


It's an Organ Crawl!

*Saturday, November 19
10:00 am to 12:00 noon*

Featured Organs

Académie Ste-Cécile



In the Concert Hall - a 1962 Casavant Opus 2695a II/20 originally in Ursuline College Chatham, balcony location

In the Chapel – a Breckels and Matthews organ originally in St George's Anglican Church, Owen Sound. Modified with many Casavant pipes and components.

Corpus Christi Church – a 1964 Casavant Opus 2812 II/12. Originally at Christ the King Church on Dominion Blvd. Moved St. Gabriel's (later renamed Corpus Christi)

St Johns Anglican Church, Sandwich - a 1957 Casavant Opus 2424 II/19. Unaltered

The Organ Crawl is open to RCCO members, non-members, and friends. Please gather at the front entrance to the Ste. Cécile Académie, 925 Cousineau Rd. at 10:00 am. The Crawl will proceed from there. Join us!

Sponsored by the Windsor Essex Centre

Meet Frederick Mooney,

Organist at St. John's Anglican Church in Historic Sandwich

We are looking forward to meeting Frederick Mooney, the organist at St. John's Anglican Church in Windsor (Sandwich) during our Organ Crawl on Saturday, November 19th.

Join us on the Organ Crawl!

Follow to link to learn more about [Frederick Mooney](http://www.frederick-mooney.com/) (<http://www.frederick-mooney.com/>)



THE COUNTY CLASSIC CHORALE

— PRESENTS —



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Registering thoughts Part 1

By: Ron Dossenbach

A rose is a rose is a rose. But can you say a Diapason is a Diapason is a Diapason? Well...

In this series of mini-articles on registration, the intent is to promote the Registering for Success workshop which will be re-scheduled. Registration is a wonderful area of organ playing that is not given enough attention by most of us, including me. The small amount of study needed to become better at the subject is well worth the effort.

There is really only one rule for registering an organ. Trust your ears. Everything else is not rules, but general guidelines, suggestions, and practices proven in many cases. But back to the Diapasons. To start with, Diapasons have a wide ranges of tone and volume. Even Diapasons made by the same same company have changed greatly in tonality of the years with different tonal directors in different organbuilding styles. And there are many different organbuilders, all with their own concept of what a Diapason should sound like. Some organs have two or even three different Diapasons on the Great and differently voiced Diapasons on other manuals. The gigantic Midmer Losh organ in Atlantic City has ten different Diapason stops on the Great at the eight foot pitch. (Several more also exist at the 16', 4', and 2' pitches.) Each is built and voiced differently. What to do!

The point here is to not assume that any stop labeled "Diapason" (or Principal, Montre - they are all Diapasons, the one true non-imitative sound of the organ) will sound in a predictable manner. Every organ is different. Every room is different. Remember the rule: trust your ears. Experimentation is the key. Draw the Diapason stop. Try playing it with melodies, chords, hymns. Is it too loud, too soft, dull sounding, rich sounding? Always listen for clarity of the inner voices.

That Diapason stop may sound very good with one piece of music and sound unpleasant with another piece. The organ has the capability to sound beautiful. It is easy to open up a bunch of stops and use the same combinations most of the time. I have often heard comments at churches where congregants say the organ always sounds the same. This is a sure sign that a bit of experimentation with individual stops and combinations would be in order.

I am of the belief that, in almost all cases, the organ should sound beautiful. It should be pleasing to the ear. Not every stop or combination sounds good but it may sound good if used for the appropriate music. Our ears will immediately report whether something sounds good or not. With a bit of experimenting and trial and error, the organ will sound beautiful. It is our duty as organists to do the best we can to make this happen.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Ron Dossenbach



*It's Christmas time
in Windsor*

Silver
Bells

Community
Handbell Choir

In concert
Sunday, November 27 7:00 PM
Emmanuel United Church
1728 Lincoln Road, Windsor
Donations appreciated

From the desk of our Chaplain

*By: The Rev'd Canon Robert Lemon
Chaplain, RCCO Windsor Essex Centre*

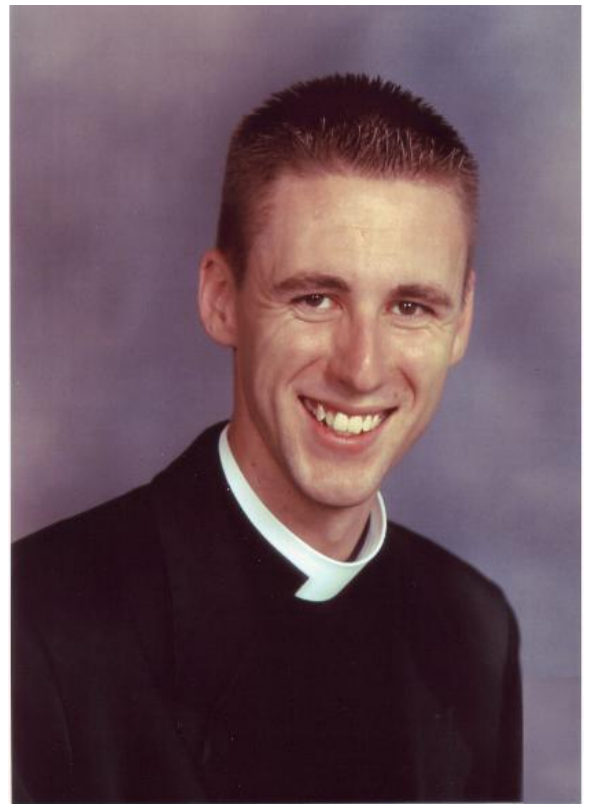
Dear Friends in Christ,


You may or may not be aware of this, but I have been called to a parish in Stratford, so this will be my final contribution to the newsletter. When I first started in ministry a wise colleague told me to begin as you intend to continue, which meant on my first Sunday I preached an ordinary sermon like I would preach on any other Sunday. I think that applies to concluding ministry too. So, what I have prepared below is what I would have shared with you if I were continuing on. That's not because the last years of ministry with you have not been wonderful and fulfilling and I am not sorry to be going, it is because the ministry of gospel is too important to be hijacked by personal reminiscences and vanity.

One of the great temptations of the upcoming season is to focus entirely on Christmas in a nostalgic sort of way. It is to look back with fondness on the events of the past, our family traditions, the church activities, the way it used to be and to long for that to be reality again. There is a great temptation to entirely skip the season of Advent. I think part of that stems from the fact that Advent is a forward-looking kind of season. This season in the life of the church calls us to look forward to the time when Christ will come again. The problem is the looking forward. That is something that is really hard to do, because the future is so uncertain especially with the present being so dark. We are living with some pretty dark realities at the moment. There is a pandemic that, while not as prevalent a burden on our lives at the moment, is still a reality that we are living with and concerned about. There is international conflict that, while not boiling over at the moment, is a serious concern with the aggressive actions and rhetoric that we see in so many places in the world. There is internal division that, while not at a breaking point, is stretching and abrading the social and political fabric of our lives. There are environmental challenges that, while somewhat sporadic, are more regularly touching our lives and the lives of people like us. The future from the present reality looks like it too could be very dark, and the simpler realities of past years and past holidays look very inviting.

The trouble with skipping Advent and focusing on Christmas as a bit of an escape is that it does not actually get us where we want to be. Christmas is not just a backward look at that time a couple of thousand years ago when Jesus came down and was born in the stable in Bethlehem to the songs of angels and the delight of shepherds. Christmas is also very much a forward-looking celebration. It marks the moment when the light of the world came into the world. The thing is, even though Jesus died and rose and ascended into heaven, the light remained in the world, and it will remain in the world unto eternity. With Christmas we do not just celebrate a past event, we celebrate an eternal reality. What that means for us is that we can look forward even with all the darkness that is part of the life of this world with confidence,

(Continued on page 11)





(Continued from page 10)

faith, and hope and that is what our world needs us to do. We need to share a vision of a future that is different from this present in order to shape the future. If we just look back, we will be abandoning the future to the reality of the present and that is something that we cannot see as acceptable.

One of my favourite pieces to sing at Christmas is the hymn “Of Eternal Love Begotten”. It is a beautiful chant, but not a nostalgic crowd pleaser. It carries an important message for us. The first verse is incredibly powerful and it reads:

Of eternal love begotten
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see
evermore and evermore.

That verse recognises that Christ is the beginning and the end and everything in between, he is evermore and evermore. To look ahead in a healthy and helpful way, not just to the ultimate end, but even to next week and next year, we need that assurance and hopefully our Christmas celebrations will remind us of that this year and enable to look forward with confidence, faith, and hope. Christ the light of the world is shining now and will continue to shine with love and grace evermore and evermore. Our world needs us to bring that perspective so that the future can be different from this dark present. There is hope and it is Christ, the light of the world, God incarnate, the one born, crucified, raised, and ascended, the one who came, who is with us, and who will come again.

I wish you a very Merry Christmas and every blessing in the New Year.

Yours in Christ,

The Rev'd Canon Robert Lemon
Chaplain, RCCO Windsor Essex Centre

Organ Festival Canada

Organ Festival Canada brings people together from across the country to learn about and celebrate Canada's organ music community.



Or-
gan

Festival Canada is the national festival and conference of the RCCO and the main meeting place for Canada's organ community. The Festival brings together organists, music educators, composers, organ builders, and other members of the organ community from across Canada for professional development, the sharing and proliferation of ideas and research in organ music, performance, networking, and to celebrate Canada's organ community.

Organ Festival Canada 2023



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TORONTO July 2–6, 2023

Save the date! More information about Organ Festival 2023 coming soon.

Gala Organ Concert

November 25, 2022, 7:30 PM

St. Basil's Catholic Church, 50 St Joseph St, Toronto

Canada's top emerging artists and RCCO award-winners at the organ, followed by a special Gala Reception!

Aaron Tan (First Place 2021 CIOC, Raymond Daveluy Prize)

- ♪ • Jeanne Demessieux : 7 Méditations sur le Saint Esprit, Op. 6; vii. Lumière.
- ♪ • Henri Duparc, transc. Aaron Tan : Aux étoiles
- ♪ • Louis Vierne : Symphonie No. 5, Op. 47; v. Final



Martin Jones (First Place 2021 Sir Ernest MacMillan Memorial Foundation Prize, First Place 2021 Godfrey Hewitt Scholarship)

- ♪ • Max Reger : Phantasie über den Choral Wie schön leucht't uns der Morgenstern, Op. 40: No. 1
- ♪ • Charles-Valentin Alkan : Prière in F, Op. 64: No. 5

Manuel Piazza (First Place 2021 RCCO National Organ Competition, 2020 Godfrey Hewitt Scholarship)

- ♪ • Maurice Duruflé : Suite pour orgue, Op. 5

Tickets on sale NOW online or by calling 416-929-6400 or at the door:

- ♪ • General Admission (\$25): Admission to the concert only.
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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