

## **QUARTER NOTES**

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

#### CHATHAM CORNER

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



Summer, 2024

#### A Harmonious Note from the President

By: Paul Wharram, President Windsor-Essex Centre

Dear Members and Friends,

On a beautiful June evening, the Windsor Essex Centre of the RCCO gathered at Oxley Estate Winery for our Centre's Annual Meeting following our Service of Worship. This year, we embraced a streamlined approach to our meeting, focusing on the essentials: the presentation of the Annual Report and Financial Statements and the election of our Executive Committee for the forthcoming term.

In a departure from tradition, the Service of Worship, typically a platform for our organ students, was graced by the talents of David Carle from All Saints Church in Windsor. With no students currently in our program, David's masterful performance at Harrow United Church, officiated by Rev. Darrow Woods, was a testament to the enduring legacy and allure of the pipe organ.

As I reflect on over a decade of service as your President, my appreciation for the organ's multifaceted nature only deepens. It is an instrument that fills any space with a spectrum of sound, from the reverent to the celebratory.

In our mission, we are advocates for the pipe organ's cultural resonance. Engaging the next generation and broadening the perception of the organ as an instrument for all occasions

Looking ahead, our focus is clear:

- 1. Diversity in Programming: We will continue to showcase the organ's repertoire, affirming our dedication to both sacred and secular compositions.
- 2. Educational Outreach: Our commitment to education will foster a deeper understanding of the organ's historical and cultural significance.
- 3. Inclusive Communication: We will employ language that celebrates the artistry of organ music, ensuring that our message resonates with all who share our passion.
- 4. Collaborative Events: By partnering with arts, educational and religious institutions, we will demonstrate the organ's versatility and ability to inspire connections and unify communities.
- 5. The Organ's Role: We will promote the organ as an instrument with a broad appeal that goes beyond its conventional image.

The RCCO is a vibrant mosaic, a community bound by our love for the organ's rich musical heritage. We honor the contributions of all our members for the depth they bring to our shared pursuit.

In our discourse and activities, we shall honour our traditions while welcoming innovation. Our aim is to ensure the pipe organ remains a wellspring of joy and

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#### **Executive Committee**

Windsor Essex Centre

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Ex-officio
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JUDY BOUTIN, <a href="mailto:ajboutin@cogeco.ca">ajboutin@cogeco.ca</a>

#### Chatham Centre

President: NANCY TAPLEY
Secretary/Treasurer: KEITH GROEN
Membership: DON POLE
Member-at-large: IAN MASON

### 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.



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inspiration for all.

As we embark on this journey together, let's support each other in our pursuit of musical discovery and excellence. United in our efforts, the voice of the organ will continue to resonate throughout our region of Windsor and Essex County.

#### Changes are coming

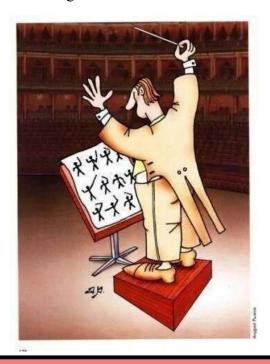
Submitted by Dale Burkholder, Communications

Over the next 6 months we are making changes to how we communicate on the internet.

It has been years since we designed our website and it in need of a redesign. We are excited to upgrade it. If you have any suggestions for the website place let me know.

We have a new email for newsletters. If you have events or articles for the newsletter use the new email. You should receive our September newsletter using the address newsletter@rcco-windsor.com.

We changing the way see handle your email addresses and email 32nd Notes and our Quarter Notes. If we are successful you should see NO change.



#### From the Organ Advisor

Submitted by: Ron Dossenbach, Organ Advisor

There are two significant stories on which to report.

The 1919 Casavant at Assumption is once again operational after being disassembled for nearly a year. It has been cleaned and its numerous problems have been addressed. One small addition is a restored pipe on display from the original 1847 Henry Erben organ.

The other big story is the Aeolian player organ at the former Morris Sutton Funeral Home. The venue has been closed for two years and it was recently sold to an undisclosed institutional buyer with stated intentions of leveling the building.

Despite concerted efforts by many people, no location in the area or the country could be found. Finally interest was shown from overseas. The organ is going to Amsterdam.

The Pianola Museum will receive the organ and install it later this year. Pianola was the largest player piano firm and was owned by Aeolian which itself was the largest music company in the world. The museum is dedicated to mechanical musical instruments.

The II/22 1924 Aeolian organ was first installed in the large manor of famed rumrunner James Cooper. His Cooper Court dwarfed nearby Willistead Manor. It was capable of playing special organ rolls and was the only such instrument this side of Hamilton.

It is now being disassembled and packed to be loaded into a 40' shipping container later this summer. It will celebrate its centennial on November 1 in Amsterdam.





#### A Fundraising Concert featuring RCCO Organists

Sunday, September 29 @ 4:00PM

Our Lady of Assumption Parish, Windsor



Cleaning and restoration of the 1919 Casavant Organ with its 1,985 pipes is ongoing. The RCCO is delighted to be part of any project that improves upon, ensures preservation and gives new life to any pipe organ, thereby ensuring its music will continue to be

heard now and into the future.

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW......stay tuned!

and afterwards a spaghetti dinner for RCCO members and friends......

#### Pedals and pipes

Submitted by: Paul Wharram

Summer Music Campers learn about the pipe organ

On Tuesday, July 23, 15 young campers from Linda Jung's Summer Music Camp participated in our Pedals and Pipes workshop at Paulin Memorial Presbyterian Church. Enthusiastic and curious minds learned about the origins of the organ and how sound is produced. They worked together to construct Opus 1 and then they all had a chance to hear and play Paulin's wonderful organ. Thanks to Linda for hosting us!



#### A note from David Palmer

Dear RCCO Members and Friends. I received today an email from David Palmer addressed to all of us. I am saddened to have to share this with you and I know you will all want to keep Daivd and Lonnie both in our prayers. Paul Wharram

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Dear Paul and members of Windsor-Essex Centre RCCO,

I'm writing to give you news of my health. A couple of weeks ago, I received a diagnosis of esophageal cancer which has spread. Promised treatment will palliative in nature.

Needless to say, this brings into sharp focus the old adage: "life can change quickly."

St Michael's Church is giving me a leave of absence, and I have resigned as President of Victoria Centre RCCO.

I treasure the many years of wonderful times in Windsor Essex RCCO, and read with delight at all you're doing and how it's been noticed at the national level.

With love and warmest wishes,

David

Professor Emeritus School of Creative Arts (Music), University of Windsor

#### Grace notes!

Submitted by Rev. Dr. Cathy Collins-Barker, Chaplain

It is a joy to begin sharing with you as your Chaplain to the local chapter of the RCCO. I enjoy many genres of music and to be able to sit with you as you share your stories of your experiences as music directors/ organists is a joy!

As chaplain, my role is to help you as you require assistance in your work environment and to support you as we all face changes and challenges in working in churches.



My hope is that I may offer you prayer support, a listening ear when challenged in your tasks and even an opportunity to share music together.

Any discussions or emails are held in the strictest of confidence, and if a problem or situation develops I am also available to assist in advocating for support as requested and needed.

It is my hope that in the months ahead we will come to know each other's strengths and growing areas as people who serve God in the ministry of His church. We will also strive to build relationships with the clergy where we minister together and to share our experiences cooperatively and with care.

I look forward to getting to know you and learning from all of you as we experience the wonder of God's grace.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at cjcb19@gmail.com or 519-915-4179.



#### In case you missed it!

Some roles on the Executive Committee were changed and duly reflected in the election of the 2024-25 Slate of Officers. Since education is awareness in the broadest sense, it requires an all-encompassing strategy incorporating not only organ skills training but increasing knowledge about the organ inspiring connections through organ music.

A new position has been created - the Education Officer, and responsibilities include:

- crafting and overseeing the development and implementation of educational initiatives (such as Pipe Organ Encounters, Pedals, Pipes and Pizza workshops, etc.) to increase knowledge of the pipe organ and its music, and to develop interest in organ skills training with particular focus on young people and musicians.
- collaborating with the Communications Officer in the development and implementation of a social media outreach strategy(ies) to increase awareness of the Centre's activities and to invite participation.
- working with the Training Co-ordinator to review and implement appropriate organ-playing standards are defined and implemented through its faculty of organ instructors.
- liaising with the Training Co-ordinator offering certification programs for organists, including the Colleague, Associate, and Fellow levels.
- ensuring the examination process and standards are maintained and where appropriate and when warranted, scholarships and bursaries are awarded.
- promoting learning encouraging members to engage in lifelong learning, whether through formal education, mentorship, or self-directed study. This includes fostering a culture of continuous improvement and professional development.

Ms. Linda Jung was elected to assume the Officer's role. Linda has a Bachelor of Management and Organizational Studies (UWO) and an Associate Diploma Royal Conservatory of Music ARCT. She is a registered music teacher with ORMTA (Ontario Registered Music Teachers Association) with over 22 years of private teaching experience and at 5 elementary schools in the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board, in the Avon Maitland School Board and is currently head of music education at L'Académie Ste-Cécile International School. She teaches all ages/levels and is experienced in teaching students with special needs.

The position of Chair of the Scholarship program has been revised to reflect and complement the role of the Education Officer. The Training Co-Ordinator for organ studies is a pivotal role that encompasses a broad range of responsibilities to ensure the highest standards in musical education and performance. Responsibilities include:

- defining basic skill standards for scholarships candidates and sets the bar for academic and performance excellence.
- formalizing the organ teaching faculty, establishing a structured and professional environment for both teachers and students.
- overseeing the recruitment of organ students, ensuring a robust and talented pipeline of new musicians.
- liaising with organ teachers to maintain and enhance standards of training and performance, ensuring that the curriculum and teaching methods are up to date and effective.
- working with students and teachers to resolve any issues, concerns, or conflicts that might arise ensuring they are promptly and amicably dealt with.

#### New executive members

I have been an organist most of my life. I was the organist and choir director at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Amhurstburg for 15 years.

Studied choir directing under Richard Householder at the U of W and with assistance from Margita Lange.

When I retired from teaching before the turn of the century I retired completely so I could travel.

I currently do Guest appearances throughout Essex county.

I have been past chair of the RCCO many years ago.

My ability to play some organ music now has been reduced because of my age however I still enjoy playing the organ, especially the pipe organ.

Respectively submitted, Richard Helmer.

#### New opportunity to create music

Submitted by Dale Burkholder, Silver Bells Director

Have you heard or seen handbell choirs.

Silver Bells has opening for new ringers.

It is a fun way of making music and getting some exercise at the same time. We rehearse on Tuesday afternoons 1:30 to 3:30 in the basement of Emmanuel United Church. There will never be a conflict with Sunday mornings. If you are interested please contact me.







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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 <a href="mailto:cypresschoral.com">cypresschoral.com</a>



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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.

# 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