

The Royal Canadian College of Organists Windsor Essex Centre Le Collège royal canadien des organistes Centre Windsor Essex

Website: www.rcco-windsor.com



#### March, 2014

## President's Message

Dear RCCO Members and Friends,

Over the last few months. I have been reflecting about the Membership Engagement Campaign that was introduced at National Council last November and how I believe this initiative. when fully embraced by our Centres, will dramatically change the face of the RCCO, not only externally within Canada's music community, but internally in our relationships with one another.

There are several themes that resonate with me. First of all, there is the concept of 'community' as in our identity statement. 'We are a community with



a passion for the organ and its music' speaks volumes to me. The word 'community' to me means a group of people who share things in common, who care for and are interested in one another, who have similar likes and characteristics and who contribute to the well-being and spirit of that community.

It is my hope that in our interactions with each other, whether we are members or friends of the Windsor Essex Centre, through our communications, through our events and programs, we demonstrate an interest in one another, we encourage and support one another, we share willingly and we lend a hand to help and encourage each other. I know I speak on behalf of the entire executive committee when I say that we want you to feel like you belong to the RCCO, that you are valued by your fellow members and that you represent the RCCO



PAUL WHARRAM

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Supply Organists

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What is this?

## **Upcoming Event:**

## Great Pipe Organ Encounter / ElderCollege Windsor

Learn more about the "King" of instruments—The pipe organ. Including the chance to play one and see inside one.

The "Great Pipe Organ Encounter" - is offered in partnership with ElderCollege Windsor Campus

WHEN: April 22, 29 and May 6

WHERE: All Saints' Anglican Church, City Hall

Square. Windsor

Facilitators: RCCO organists

Registration: <a href="http://www1.uwindsor.ca/canterbury/">http://www1.uwindsor.ca/canterbury/</a>

eldercollege

## Upcoming Event:

### Festival at the Forks

The 2014 RCCO Convention, 'The Festival at the Forks', will take place in London, Ontario from July 6-8. The London Centre is looking forward to welcoming us to their beautiful city. The Centre has put together what will be an incredibly exciting and enriching convention! Have a look at the official convention website: <a href="london2014.net">london2014.net</a> where you will find a complete convention schedule and list of performers. Feel free to 'like' the Festival's official convention Facebook page, which can be accessed by clicking on the 'F' in the upper right hand corner of the website homepage.

With having an RCCO Convention so close to Windsor, we are hoping to have a large delegation!

## Upcoming Event:

## College Service & Membership Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Windsor Essex RCCO will take place on Friday, June 6, 2014 at All Saints Anglican Church, City Hall Square, Windsor. We are aiming for 100% participation of all of our members and centre friends.

Service of Worship - 6:30 p.m.

Dinner - 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Business Meeting - 8:00 p.m.

Top 10 Reasons to Attend

- Support our Scholarship Students as they play the organ during the service of worship
- Exercise your membership rights to speak, be heard and vote on matters important to the work of the RCCO in Windsor and Essex County

- Hear an uplifting and light-hearted presentation on "Secrets to the Perfect Partnership: Clergy and Organist" David Palmer and Rev. Canon Kim Van Allen
- Enjoy a delicious Meal
- Purchase slightly used organ music with a free-will donation to support our programs and activities
- Reconnect with your RCCO Colleagues
- Meet our newest Members and Centre Friends
- Network with Organists and other Church Musicians
- Help reach our goal of 100% participation

Please join us and invite your choir members to participate in

# Hymn Tasting



# Sing Song Psalms

Sunday, May 4, 2014

United Church - 53 Talbot Street S., Essex, ON

1:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 3:30 p.m. Program (Open



to the Public)

Singers' registration: \$8 for music Conductor: Brian R. Sweetman

With David Palmer, Margita Lange and Tyler Harangozo at the organ, Larry Anderson at the piano and Ann Dresser as the Narrator. Featuring a melodious choir of singers from across Essex County and Windsor

**Singers: Confirm your** participation by April 18 to Jane Ann Callow at graja2@sympatico.ca or by phone at 519-733-3975

## Tributes

**Bonnie Currie** passed away on December 18, 2013. Bonnie's passion was music and the organ. She was formerly the organist at the Essex Christian Reformed Church and Paulin Memorial Church. She was also a hard working and committed member of our Executive Committee overseeing our membership program as its convener for many years. She actively contributed to our meetings bringing her wealth of knowledge and experience to enrich our discussions and programs. We were all moved by her determination to be present at our meetings, even when she was not feeling well and struggling with her health. Judy, Ben and I represented the RCCO at her memorial.

From Paul Wharram

Longtime former member **Victor Batten** passed at the age of 92. His musical life began at age 7 as choir boy in his native England, and continued at age 17 when he gained his first organist and choirmaster position. Interrupted during WW II, Vic served in the Royal Air Force in 3 Bomber Command. Resuming his career, he held several positions in England and Canada where worked with boys, girls and adult choirs bringing home many certificates of excellence from competitions in the area. He was Organist and Choir Director at St. Aidan's Anglican Church here in Windsor for many years. To keep his boys active and interested he coached them in baseball during the summer months, ensuring their return to choir in the fall. He inspired several of his young singers to take up a career in church music, most notably Windsor native Richard Hansen, who is now Organist and Choir Director of St. James's Anglican Church in Dundas. Richard was later a student of mine at the University of Windsor School Of Music, and at one time directed the music program at St. Mary's Anglican Church. I remember Victor as a member of the executive, contributing generously of his experience and insights into the world of church music. We extend our deepest sympathies to Vic's wife, Joanne, and his family.

From David Palmer

**Noel Tapley** passed away on January 9, 2014. I met him on several occasions at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Amherstburg and became fully engaged in a number of conversations with him. He was an interesting and kind man, always supportive of Nancy's passion for the organ and choral music and her involvement in the RCCO. I attended his memorial service and was touched by the memories shared by his family and friends. He will be missed by Nancy, Amy and Jennifer.

We extend our sympathies and support to them.

From Paul Wharram



## Meet our Scholarship Student (Part 3)

## Scholarship Student: Jonathan Kaberuka

14-year old Jonathan Kaberuka is one of Windsor Centre's Scholarship Students in Beginning Organ, and studies with David Palmer. He also pursues Grade 8 piano with Scott Bastien. He has sung in choirs since age six, but also finds time for basketball, soccer, volleyball and Pathfinders. His enthusiastic involvement with church sees him playing for sabbath school, singing in the choir and acting now as Assistant Organist in the worship services. He enjoys the organ, enabling him to multi-task through the many different instruments under its control.

## Scholarships for Beginning Organ Students

The RCCO Windsor Essex Centre is now accepting applications for beginning organ students. The purpose of this program is to provide an introduction to organ skills for pianists who have not had organ lessons previously. Information on how to apply and download the application and permission forms can be found on our website at <a href="http://www.rcco-windsor.com/rcco-windsor-scholarship-application-form">http://www.rcco-windsor.com/rcco-windsor-scholarship-application-form</a> Please promote awareness of our program to any music or piano teachers you might know and encourage any potential candidates to apply. Applications are due on May 2, 2014.



We also have a second year scholarships available for students who have successfully complete the beginning scholarship program

## Call for Nominations

Although the Annual General Meeting (Friday, June 6) is still a few months away, it's not too early to think about Executive positions for the 2014-15 year. If you'd like to nominate someone for the executive, please let me know. Thanks very much.

David Palmer

Past-President and Chair, Nominations

#### These shoes are meant for dancing!



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jo4Y-W1ur1c

## Hymn Playing

## Thinking OUTSIDE the hymnal

On February 22, about 22 of our members gathered at Paulin Memorial Church to learn some of the "secrets" to making hymn playing more exciting.

Let by our Webmaster, Dale Burkholder, we sang our hearts out to a number of different arrangements of different hymns.

After a delicious continental breakfast by members of Paulin, we gathered to raise our voices to Joel Raney's Amazing Grace. Dale introduced us to a modern hymn "Bring Many Names" with ideas of registration. Sharon Johnston, George Boden, and Steven Carver introduced us to using other instruments in addition to the organ. Thank you to Mark Beaten (Sound) and Sydney Tuner (Powerpoint).

And a BIG thank you to Ron Dossenbach who was the "hidden" organist for the day.

Paulin's choir shared 2 of their anthems, "Here I am Lord" and "Raise your joys and Triumphs High" as examples of using choral arrangements as congregational hymns.

Our friends from Opus II provided materials for us to purchase.

Go to our website: <a href="www.rcco-windsor.com">www.rcco-windsor.com</a> to download the handout and powerpoint presentation.

## Pedals, Pipes, & Pizza

Some 25 young people, age 6 and up, explored the varied sounds of the Karl Wilhelm organ at All Saints' Church on Monday, March 10. Included among the piano students was a group from the music education school, "Tumble Reeds", who were enjoying a music camp for spring break. Presenter David Palmer talked about the history and workings of the pipe organ, complete with sample pipes loaned by organ builder Don Pole.

The young musicians then saw the "real thing", complete with mechanical linkages and stop action as they looked inside the doors of the case on the organ. Stimulated by flutey, honky, mellow and brassy sounds, they played piano pieces, everything from baroque to boogie, and with some interesting original compositions to boot. Pizza and drinks followed.

The music camp leader gave his account of how the children reacted: "One of them asked how long we had been in there, and after I said '55 minutes,' they said 'wow, I thought we had only been in there 10 minutes!' I could see on their faces that they were really interested in the instrument, and on the way back we were all having various hilarious conversations about how if we built an organ the height of the casino, the lowest notes would cause the city of Windsor to have a huge earthquake and fall apart, and the highest notes would cause tsunamis and tornadoes. Their imagination was certainly stimulated!"

## Upcoming Events

## from our members

#### County Classic Chorale

The County Classic Chorale presents "It Takes a Village" - music about, for and with children

Saturday, April 12 – 8:00 pm at Leamington United Church

Sunday, April 13 – 3:00 pm at Leamington United Church

Sunday, April 27 – 3:00 pm at Epworth United Church, Kingsville

Featuring the Music Moves Kids Choir .....with Erin Armstrong

Tickets: \$12 adults and \$6 children

## Singer & the Song: Songs of the New Testament

Sunday, April 27 – 7:00 PM Paulin Memorial Presbyterian Church 3200 Woodlawn Avenue, Windsor Free will offering to benefit the Music Program at Paulin

# Appreciation Concert: Premier of new organ @ Paulin

October 5, 2014

David Palmer will play an exciting programme of music celebrating the new console at Paulin Memorial Presbyterian Church



Paulin Memorial's New Organ console to be installed, June, 2014

### Margita & Friends

Fall, 2014

Celebrating 50 years of the Casavant Organ at Riverside United church

### County Classic Chorale

The County Classic Chorale Christmas concerts are scheduled for November 29 and 30, 2014.

## Jonathan Wilcock's Festival of Lessons and Carols

December 7, 2014, 7:00 Paulin Memorial Presbyterian Church



## **Bob Kissner**

# Recipient of the Joanne Quimby Bursary

Editor's Note: We invited Bob Kissner, to write a few words for our newsletter as the latest recipient of the Joanne Quimby Bursary.

First of all...THANKS....

- To Joanne and Peter for this legacy. Joanne was such a wonderful person and it was a joy to work with her on a couple of concerts. Her memory lives on in this bursary and I am so grateful to have been selected.
- To the Paul, Henry and Bill who braved to horrible winter weather to adjudicate my audition for the bursary.
- To David for being willing to take on another student. He is such a kind and compassionate teacher and it is such a great honor to learn from him.

As most of you likely already know, it is my privilege to have served as the organist and choir director at Epworth United Church in Kingsville for 24 years. My training has been very limited indeed so this opportunity to expand my horizons is most welcome. I am truly blessed at Epworth to have the privilege to play a three manual Casavant installed in 1935 and which remains virtually unaltered. The congregation is committed to keeping the organ in excellent shape and it is tuned and serviced faithfully every six months. The church choir consists of 25 dedicated members who truly enjoy their ministry of music and like a variety of music styles and levels of difficulty (and they have lots of fun doing it too). It is also wonderful to work with Rev. John Van Omme who is a great leader and uses such an effective team approach to ministry.

Following graduation from the University of Windsor in 1979 with Honors Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education degrees, I supply taught in both elementary and secondary schools until 1983 when I assumed a full time position teaching Grades 7 and 8 at Emmanuel Christian School. As well, I very much enjoyed serving my community as a volunteer firefighter beginning in 1975 and during my time as a teacher. A lifelong dream was realized in 1995 when I became a firefighter full time as the Fire Chief in Leamington. When the municipal amalgamations took place in 1998, I came back home to Kingsville as its first full time Fire Chief, a job which I still very much enjoy today. (The full time staff at the station have had quite a great time making fun of my new "organ shoes" which, in hindsight, I should never have had shipped to the station...ha, ha). It is a great privilege and very rewarding to have been a firefighter for 39 years...I don't know where the time has gone and I still look forward to coming to work each day.

I am normally accompanied by my faithful dog Taz who comes to work with me every day and very much enjoys choir practice every Thursday evening. He doesn't sing too well but likes to watch my feet as I play the pedals...until the music puts him to sleep.

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It is wonderful to be a part of such a supportive group as the R.C.C.O. Although my formal training is very limited I have always felt your acceptance, encouragement and support. It is very much appreciated....THANKS SO MUCH.

**Bob Kissner** 

## Our QR code

You may have seen these black and white blotchy squares here and there. They are called QR codes. Short for Quick Response Codes, they are a type of matrix bar code that can encode items like web addresses.



With your smartphone or tablet, you scan the QR code. Your device needs an app (widely and freely available on Google's Play Store or Apple's App Store). When scanned, the device "quickly responds" by going directly to the website's address that is encoded in the QR code. It is a great new way to quickly access a website without entering the full address one character at a time.

The code on page one directs to our RCCO Windsor Centre website. Try it and see.

We will include this code on future hard copy material like flyers.

## Your 2013 - 2014 Executive

PRESIDENT PAUL WHARRAM paul.wharram@gmail.com
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MEMBERS AT LARGE RON DOSSENBACH dossen54@gmail.com

## President's Message—Continued

(Continued from page 1)

This requires just a little effort on everyone's part to:

- attend, participate and/or volunteer at RCCO events
- contribute to our newsletters
- stay in touch with one another
- share experiences and concerns
- seek encouragement and be assured of support from one another

Since coming to the Windsor Essex Centre, I have certainly felt welcomed and appreciated for the small part that I play in our community. It also makes me happy and proud when others acknowledge our centre such as our Regional Director, Gregg Redner, when he wrote in his report to the National Council: "The Windsor Centre is a glowing example of what a healthy and vibrant RCCO Centre can be."

The second theme that resonates with me is our mission statement: 'to enrich lives through organ and choral music.' This is our purpose, the reason we exist as a community.

As some of you know, outside of my music and organ related involvement, I do coaching and training in a professional capacity. My experience has convinced me beyond any doubt, that purposeful living leads to happiness and defines our legacy. Most of my clients, when I ask them what their purpose is, cannot respond to the question. However, after some soul-searching and reflection and when they are finally able to enunciate a purpose, all other things fall into place – everything from career and education decisions to dealing with major life transitions and challenges. It seems that, when we know 'what' our purpose is and 'why' we exist, the 'how' becomes clear. This leads to definitive action and steps toward change.

Given this analogy, the future of the RCCO is exciting because as a community of people, we already know the 'what' – to enrich lives through organ and choral music; the 'how' – by cultivating a sense of community; and the 'why' – to leave a legacy ensuring the vitality of organ and choral music for future generations.

As we approach the time to renew our memberships, I hope you share my enthusiasm and excitement about the potential for the Windsor Essex Centre. With your input, help and participation, we will continue to offer relevant, informative and fun programs to our members and friends and together we will grow our community of organ and choral music enthusiasts.

Paul Wharram, President of Windsor and Essex County Centre RCCO

## Rivals or a Team?

## Clergy-Musician Relationships in the Twenty-First Century

by Eileen Guenther and Paul Westermeyer

Published by Bookbaby, June 01, 2012 eBook ISBN 9780944529584

Available on Amazon.com and Kindle

Overview: Collaboration between clergy and musicians is vital to the ministry of the Christian church. This book explores the importance of teamwork, identifying ways in which musicians and clergy can exercise their separate roles effectively, and suggesting strategies for building supportive relationships. Including heart-felt testimonies from musicians and clergy, Guenther takes a clear-eyed look at conflict, reasons musicians leave a church, and approaches for transition when the situation just does not work any longer. This distinguished church musician and seminary professor encourages musicians and clergy to work together with mutuality and collegiality in order to fulfill the promise of their ministry.

Forward by Paul Westermeyer.

Are Ministers And Musicians Allies Or Rivals?

Religion News Service by Adelle M. Banks

Eileen Guenther, the national president of the American Guild of Organists, reveals behind-the-scenes church struggles in her new book, "Rivals or a Team?: Clergy-Musician Relationships in the Twenty-First Century."

Guenther, an associate professor of church music at Washington's Wesley Theological Seminary and the former organist at Foundry United Methodist Church, talked with Religion News Service about her findings and advice. Some answers have been edited for length and clarity.

Q: You titled your book "Rivals or a Team?" From your research, which is a better description of most clergy-musician relationships?

A: I would say that rivals may well be the most prevalent, but team is our aspiration.

Q: Why is it so difficult for musicians and ministers to sometimes get along and not have an intense rivalry?

A: Part of it is lack of understanding of roles. Part of it is control. Each of us is used to kind of being in control in our area, but sometimes if the roles haven't been clarified, then the control issues become simply that, rather than sorting out, 'OK, who's going to choose the hymn?' That's one of the really big issues.

Q: Who should choose the hymns?

A: It should be done collaboratively. I'm just so into collaborating among staff members, with clergy. We have two services at Wesley and both of them are team planned, with teams from like five to 10 each. If liturgy is

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the work of people, then the planning of the liturgy needs not to be done in somebody's office alone with their cup of coffee.

Q: You say that the future of the church may well be at stake if clergy and musicians don't learn to understand each other better. Is it really that dire?

A: I think it is. In general, the mainline church is having a very difficult time these days. And the role of music in worship is so critical -- 40 to 60 percent of a service is going to be musical -- but people can tell when things aren't going well among members of the staff.

I think everything has to be done intentionally, with collegiality and spirituality and a view of what we are all about for people to continue to attend church. People may well attend for a fine sermon and not very good music or vice versa. But what really builds in success is when people are working together and the sung word and the spoken word are in partnership.

Q: You also had many who said they had great relationships -- sometimes decades long -- at one or many churches. What's the secret?

A: I think it probably is mutual respect with allied things like when you respect each other, you work together, you talk together, you care about each other, you appreciate each other's discipline. If there's some kind of a problem you address it. You don't let it just escalate. You spend time together. Respect kind of is a snapshot that has lots of other little pixels in it.

Q: Should ministers of music be members of the churches that pay them?

A: I think it's better not. I don't think it's impossible, but it does blur a little bit of a boundary in terms of employment. I have not ever joined the church. I've been an associate member but not a full member of where I work. I just didn't feel like totally joining was something that felt quite right.

Q: What happens when a clergyperson moves on and the musician stays?

A: In some denominations, they change fairly often. A musician may have been in place for multiple clergy. That's kind of part of the problem because they know the people. But then that can be a threat to an insecure clergyperson 'cause you were there first. And gosh, how will they ever love me as much as they love you?



## Organ for sale

#### RODGERS THREE MANUAL CHURCH ORGAN MODEL #925

Parkwood Gospel Temple purchased this organ in 1989 when they moved to their present location. Purchase price at that time was about \$80,000. It has a full pedal board, about 70 stops, but does not have Midi or a card reader. It has a roll top and can be locked. There are also 12 speakers for use with the organ.

This instrument would be perfect for a church which wants a large organ but cannot afford a pipe organ.

Asking price: \$5,000, negotiable

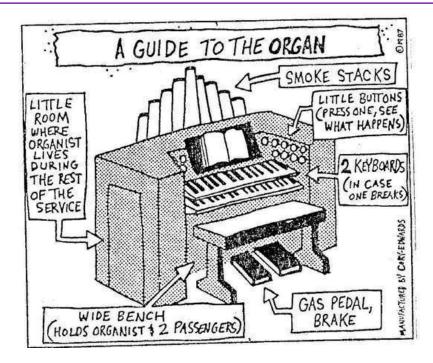
519-948-7055

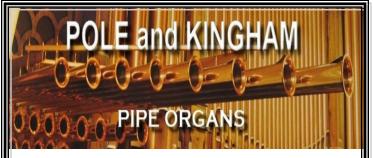
Contact person Brian Harrison Ext. 246

## Do You need a Supply Organist?

- 1. Dale Burkholder (available for weddings, funerals and weekdays) gangalf@live.com
- 2, Judy Boutin (available for weddings and funerals and weekdays) ajboutin@cogeco.ca

The Windsor Centre RCCO provides a list of supply organists available to cover vacations and emergencies but there is currently none available to cover 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.





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