

Thank You!

A “THANK YOU” TO THE RCCO

From Kayla Falkenholt (age 14 and 5/6) - Beginning Organ Scholarship Student

My first organ lesson was July 16, 2013. After learning about the scholarship program from Sarah Bestvater, a former scholarship student, I applied

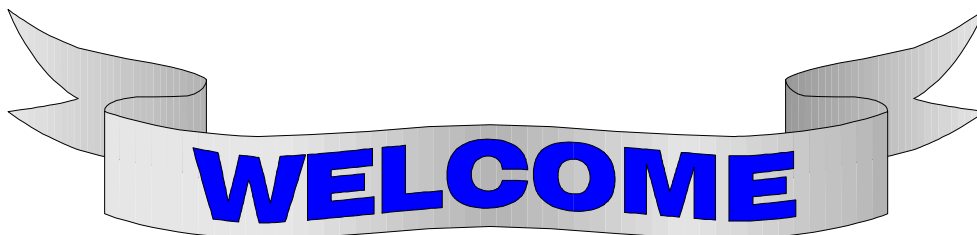
for a scholarship and was awarded one. As a child, my family did a lot of travelling, and we would often stop at different churches, and after service my mom would always ask if I could try the organ. Additionally, I have several family members who are organists. I have also played the piano at our church numerous times (as well as other instruments). These are the things that exposed me to and got me interested in the organ.

Since starting the organ, I have had a few highlights. Attending various organ events sponsored by the RCCO, I would ask to try the organs, and my awesome teacher, Brian Sweetman, would often be on hand to explain that particular organ to me. That was always really fun. Another highlight would have to be the RCCO's Spaghetti dinner. It was inspiring to talk to long-time organists, and to meet other scholarship students. These would have to be my main highlights since starting the organ.

My favourite thing about the organ is how loud it can get. Big, bold, and powerful, the organ makes me feel like I am in control. As a detail-oriented person, I also enjoy pulling many combinations of stops. Most organs have a lot of variety; you could play all day and not run out of stop combinations!

In the future, I hope to keep taking organ lessons and building up my skills. One day, maybe I will have a position as a church organist. And maybe one day I will have organ students of my own! God will reveal what the future is to hold in His own time, and I will trust Him to do what is best for me.

The Windsor -Essex RCCO has helped me in several ways. First, they have given me a feasible way to learn a beautiful, historic instrument, by having a beginning organist scholarship program. Second, they have provided a skilled and encouraging teacher. Third, The RCCO, Paul Wharram, and Epiphany church have accommodated me on being able to practice (at Epiphany church), which I could walk to and practice in the mornings, as I am home-schooled. Fourth, numerous members have encouraged me to keep up on my music. Finally, they have supported me and “pulled out all the stops” to help me as I continue my musical career. Thank you RCCO for all you have done for me!



Welcome to our Newest Members: Trudy O' Brien, Yvonne Quinn-Chittle and John Tofflemire. '

HISTORY YOU CAN HEAR

Our Windsor Centre hosted an unusual evening on October 18. The organ in the chapel of Morris Sutton is an Aeolian player pipe organ which started life in the mansion of James Cooper in Walkerville. It has recently been restored to full functionality including the player mechanism.



Everyone present was impressed by the soft "residential" voicing, as well as the warm orchestral flavour of the 22 rank organ. They were really impressed to hear the 90 year old music come to life as the rolls played. In addition to the music, the stops changed and the swell shutters operated from the holes on the paper. No one present had ever heard a player organ.

The grandson of Mr. Cooper was in attendance, which added much to bringing the history alive. CTV TV aired a feature news story the same evening. About 30 music and history lovers were there to experience History You Can Hear, which is the motto of the small museum on site. Monthly tours are presented on the first Sunday of each month at 1 pm. 86 Giles Blvd. E. Free. Come on out. It is surprisingly entertaining.

Ron Dossenbach



CHORAL THURSDAY:

A wonderful evening of singing

On Thursday, November 14, the choirs of Leamington United Church, the Church of the Epiphany and Epworth United Church (both in Kingsville), met at Epworth Church for a combined choir practice under the direction of RCCO members Adriana Reynolds, Bob Kissner and Paul Wharram. It was an informal gathering of singers and the goal was to learn and share the music that each of the three choirs are currently preparing for Advent and Christmas. In total, 42 singers participated and rehearsed nine very diverse and beautiful anthems, among them: When Will the Little King Come? (Ruth Elaine Schram), A Peaceful, Silent Night (Mark Clark/Brad Nix), Christmas Sanctus (Susan and Lee Dengler) and Show Me the Way to the Manger (Margaret and Robert Fleming). A good time was had by all, making new friends and of course, singing together. It is wonderful to see that church choral music programs are alive and well in many churches in our area. A great thank you is extended to all the committed and talented singers and musicians who contribute regularly to lead in worship through music in Windsor and across Essex County.

(Continued from page 1)

- ♪ Improvisation and transitional music
- ♪ Choral and vocal techniques
- ♪ Courses/workshops to prepare for RCCO exams

Several members emphasized their preference for workshops that were instructional in nature, hands-on (i.e. participative) and that were held over time to allow for working on particular skills between sessions.

Your ideas are important to the executive committee as we plan for the future. One activity being planned for the New Year may be particularly relevant considering your feedback. We are calling it “Thinking Outside of the Hymnal”. It is a workshop and it will take place on February 8 from 9:30 am to 12 noon at Paulin Presbyterian Church. Topics will include: changing up hymns with varying registrations, pedal-less harmonization, the use of interludes between verses, choral and congregational hymn singing, incorporating instruments, last verse reharmonization and an overview of organ resources from Opus II.

Above all, however, your participation in the survey and responses to the questions have helped us on the executive committee better understand and appreciate you, our members and friends. You are clearly committed to the mission of the RCCO and are actively working to enrich peoples’ lives through organ and choral music. For that we are truly grateful.

On behalf of the executive committee, I want to thank you for your support and involvement in our Centre. May the Christmas Season and New Year be filled with good health, happiness and much music!

Paul Wharram

ACCOMPANIST NEEDED

The County Classic Chorale is recruiting a piano accompanist for their 50+ voice choir. Based in Leamington for the last 30 years, the Chorale typically presents concerts in Leamington and Kingsville in April and December, and rehearses weekly in the four months prior to each concert. The repertoire covers a wide range of musical stylings and the program often incorporates guest soloists and instrumentalists. The accompanist would be expected to work closely with the conductor of the Chorale throughout the season, Mr. Paul Wharram.

Among other things, the position requires the successful completion of at least Grade 10 of the Royal Conservatory of Music or equivalent. Compensation is negotiable based upon qualifications and experience; consideration is given to market rates within the region.

More details are available, and anyone interested should contact Mr. John Tofflemire, the County Classic Chorale Vice-president, at 519-326-6067 email: proftoff1@hotmail.com.

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.

YOUR 2013 - 2014 EXECUTIVE

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