

Scholarship Program

Our Scholarship program shows clear signs of success and growth. The five students who completed their first year of organ study played for the College Service on June 6, and were complimented by everyone there on their progress .

Cameron Adams (student of Brian Sweetman), Anita Sehra (student of Margita Lange), and Joyce Fung, Tyler Harangozo and Jonathan Kaberuka, (students of David Palmer) each played a piece and a hymn during the service.

As a result of auditions held May 25 and June 17, four students were accepted into the Beginning Organ Study program. They are: Ashley Allen, Erin Armstrong and Joshua Palmer, all of whom will study with David Palmer. All of our current students who applied for the Second Year Study scholarship were accepted. Anita Sehra will continue working with Margita Lange, Cameron Adams will study with Brian Sweetman, and Jonathan Kaberuka will again be under David Palmer's mentorship.

A special thanks must go to Larry Anderson, for his help in adjudicating the auditions.

We are grateful for the support of the Royal School of Church Music Canada for three students, and once again thank William Lupton, President of the London Branch , for attending our Annual Meeting on June 6, to formally present the award.

It's very exciting indeed for all of us to see the continued interest in young people learning to play the organ. The encouragement of everyone means a great deal to these young musicians, and augurs well for our future!

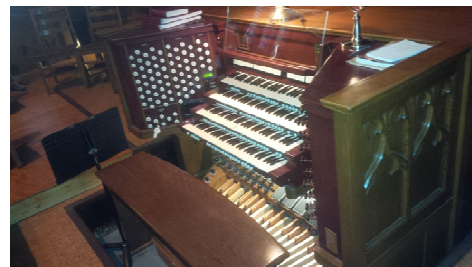


Our youngest scholarship student?

How I spent my Summer Vacation....

It was great to spend a week on vacation in New York City at the end of August and one of the highlights was visiting 5th Avenue Presbyterian Church and getting a "tour" of its pipe organ. Dr. Ryan Jackson, who is originally from Bracebridge, Ontario was a most gracious and kind host. The organ has been updated over the years but many of the original Austin components still remain. The case itself is three stories high. Ryan indicated that the church will be installing a new organ in the chapel shortly and part of the contract will be the installation of a new console on the sanctuary organ. The huge gothic church is beautiful and the rich sounds of Ryan playing the organ added to the excellent experience. He was gracious enough to let a small town organist like me "give it a try" and it was an unforgettable experience. If you You Tube "Holiday Greetings Consulate General of Canada, New York" you can hear Ryan and other Canadian organists and/or organs.

Bob Kissner



President's Message—Continued

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Canada's 150th Birthday. I hope that many of you will make plans to participate in some if not all of these upcoming events.

With September now upon us, our 2014 – 2015 RCCO program begins to roll out. We are putting a fair degree of emphasis on personal and professional development as we go forward. The September anthem reading session presented by Opus II will present you with an array of choral choices and ideas for your church choirs. Choral Thursday II, which this year will take place on October 16 at locations in Windsor and Essex County, is being designed to give your singers an opportunity to learn what other local church choirs are singing, to learn from other choir directors and to have fun. I hope that all of your choirs, no matter how small, will participate.

And, one of the other highlights in this year's program is the Development Workshop being planned for next spring. Four sessions are being offered to help you develop your skills and techniques at the organ and to take the RCCO Service Playing Certificate examination. My goal is for the Windsor Centre to set a national record with the number of candidates who successfully complete the examinations in one year. This workshop will also provide training for those of you who accompany worship services on the piano or keyboard and set you up to take the Worship Accompanist examination. The workshop curriculum will address both examination requirements. On January 17, 2015, we will host travelling clinician Colin Redekop from Calgary at Church of the Ascension in Windsor, 1385 University Avenue West. The two topics he will present are: Your Choir Can Sing This and Where Do We Go From Here? Please mark your calendars now.

I am excited about the upcoming RCCO year and look forward to seeing all of you at all of our activities.

Paul Wharram, President of Windsor and Essex County Centre RCCO



Guess who? Looking at The pipes at Church of the Epiphany, Kingsville

How I spent my summer vacation (2)

The new Van der Stadt Organ at Paulin

In February, Paulin made the decision to expand our 8 rank organ with the 30 rank Principal Organ from Mitchell, Ontario (rather than using a digital sound module). And what a journey it has been!

In April, we moved the organ from Mitchell to a Sunday School Room in Paulin. And it just fit.....

On June 22, I played the Keates organ for the last time and the following day we removed the console from its pit. Since then we have filled in the organ pit as part of our remodel of the chancel of the church.

In anticipation of the new pipes, we removed all of the pipes from the Keates organ. July 5 was a fun, exhausting and busy day for the nearly 2 dozen volunteers who moved all the parts from storage to the sanctuary including the 16' tall Open Wood pipe!

The next big day was the arrival of the new 3 manual 71 stop console. It started as an AOB console that was gutted and replaced with new Classic Organ components.

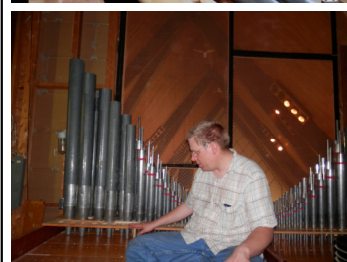
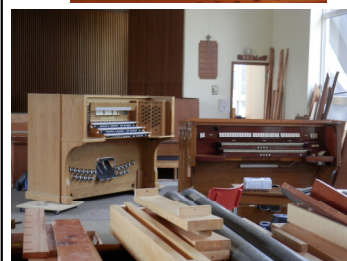
We have all but 4 ranks of pipes in place. The reeds will be installed after the voicing since they are in the way of the organ builders work. The next step will be to connect the organ console to the pipes.

The pipes of our previous organ were painted black so they would not be visible from the sanctuary. The new Swell and Choir shades are coloured like the sanctuary and are visible to the congregation. Our old Great division was one rank of pipes, the new eight ranks are visible behind the screen. As a result we have a "façade" that is very much in keeping with our building.

At the time of this writing, the console is playable using Hauptwerk software which will serve us until the pipes are ready.

We are hoping to have all 28 ranks playing by the end of October. As a result of the delays we have moved our Dedication recital with Dave Palmer and Elspeth Maynard to the new year.

I can't wait to add the "birds tweeting" sound to How Great thou art....



2 Steps for Organists to Have a Well Maintained Pipe Organ

submitted by Ron Dosenbach, Organ Advisor

The pipe organ is a wonderful but complicated instrument. With proper care and maintenance, it can last for one hundred years, or even much longer. These instruments are unique and special. They deserve care. But how is this upkeep undertaken?

Pipe organ tuning and maintenance is a very special skill acquired from years of training. Lucky for us, pipe organ service companies exist with the required skills to perform these tasks. Thank goodness we do not have to maintain them ourselves! But someone has to liaise with the technician. As organists, we are in contact with the organ more than anyone else. It is natural for this liaison to fall on us. So we are in the best position to serve this role.

Here are 2 easy steps that any organist can and should do.

1 Have an ongoing relationship with a pipe organ service company.

A well maintained instrument requires a team effort. The organist is one part of the team. The technician is the other part. The organ is not like a washing machine where it is used with no regular care until something goes wrong. It gets fixed, then is all but forgotten until it breaks again.

Some services are required twice a year (tunings and minor regulation, small repairs), others are needed every ten years or more (general cleaning, reed burnishing, tracker action regulation). Big service items come along at even longer intervals (releathering of chests and reservoirs). A technician charged with the care of your organ will keep records of these areas of need to keep the instrument working reliably and to avoid unnecessary repairs. A blower that has not been oiled can lead to a failure costing from \$10-30,000 dollars. Some problems occasionally arise (tremulant failure, swell shutter engine failure, dead stops, dead pipes). To keep track of all of this, see Step 2.

2 Keep a log.

This one is easy. Many pipe organ service companies provide log books for this very purpose. If not, start a small notebook and keep it near the console. When an issue arises, note the date and a precise description of the problem. Be accurate here. It does little good to say, "E sticks". Which of the 18 Es on the organ sticks? And exactly what does "sticks" mean? Is it a key or a note? Is it one pipe on one stop, or on all stops? Does it happen all the time or intermittently? A short vague note cannot aid the technician in repairing the problem.

Here is an example. A pedal note was sticking on a local organ. The note played fine, but remained on after

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