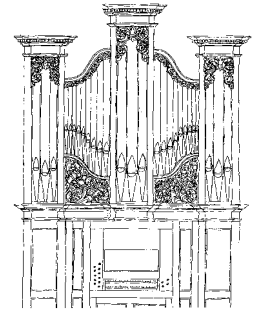




# QUARTER NOTES

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



THE ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS  
LE COLLÈGE ROYAL CANADIEN DES ORGANISTES

# CHATHAM CORNER

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

*Winter, 2017*

## President's Message



Paul Wharram

With Christmas coming fast upon us, we are all heavily involved in preparing music for Advent and Christmas Services, organizing

carolling in your community, singing carols in Seniors' Residences, or singing in a community choir holiday concert. You may have also pulled that challenging 'organ fantasia on a Christmas theme' off the shelf or out of a cupboard, dusted it off, and said: "This is the year I will finally learn this!" Whatever is occupying your time and attention right now is all being done for the right reasons: to help others enjoy the season in music, either by listening or singing; to help share the message of Christmas to both church-goers and non church-goers; and ultimately to praise God for the gift of His Son, as the babe in a manger.

I've experienced, as I am sure you have too, the stresses and strains that the extra planning, additional rehearsals and the actual 'performing' of the music can create; and yes, in the end, when it is all over and done with, we feel wonderful, relieved and satisfied. But it's the journey to get there that can take its toll. Why not try a different approach this year and that is to exercise some self-discipline, pull back from those stressful circumstances, and remember the reasons we do this year after year. Keeping the right perspective and giving ourselves permission to enjoy each step along the way, I am convinced will result in a more meaningful and blessed Christmas in all aspects of your life.

This time of year can be particularly difficult for those of us who are grieving the loss of a loved one, choir member or friend, being challenged with health issues, or being strained by extra time and financial commitments. But regardless of what our lives present to us, I find that music, which all of us share as a core component of our being, can bring us joy and strength. The challenge is to recog-

nize it and embrace it.

So, my wish for you this Christmas is that you make the best of those things which bring you happiness and satisfaction, to reduce the usual and unexpected stressors and conscientiously hold on to the positive and uplifting elements of life – to have the Happiest Possible Christmas and New Year ever!

Merry Christmas!

Paul Wharram



## Quarter Notes and Chatham Corner

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Windsor Essex Centre

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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](mailto:gangalf@live.com) to have your events  
included in our calendar.

### Executive Committee

#### Windsor Essex Centre

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### Executive Committee

#### Chatham Centre

President: NANCY TAPLEY

Vice President: HARRY ROFFEL

Secretary/Treasurer: KEITH GROEN

Membership : DON POLE

Publicity: SANDRA BARNES

& HARRY ROFFEL

## Christmas Joy Organ Concert Series

### *Upcoming Events*

Presented by the Royal Canadian College of Organists Chatham Centre.

There will be a series of free Christmas organ concerts held at Holy Trinity Anglican Church , 81 Selkirk St. Chatham on Advent Fridays from 12:15 pm to 12:45 pm.

These concerts will be a half an hour of Christmas reflections and carols presented by various local organists .

Friday November 24th will feature Nancy Tapley

Friday Dec 1st will feature Brian Sweetman

Friday Dec. 8th will feature Keith Groen

Friday Dec 15th will feature Don Pole

## Introducing 30-Second Notes

At our recent AGM we introduced a new way to sharing information with our members; 30-Second notes can be thought of the “newsletter” between newsletters and is designed to be read in thirty seconds.

It is easy to sign up. Go to our website [www.rcco-windsor.com](http://www.rcco-windsor.com). On your right under “Upcoming Events” is a box called “Subscribe to our Email Newsletters”. Simply put in your name and email address and click on the “subscribe” button. You will receive an email asking you to confirm your subscription (if this email doesn’t show up in you inbox—check your junk mail folder).

## Arts Council Windsor & Region

RCCO has joined the Arts Council Windsor and Region. As a member we will be able to expand our outreach to other art minded people and organizations in our area. They are excited to have us as a member since the organ is an under-represented musical instrument in their council.

## Clergy | Organists' Dinner

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

The most important relationship that we, church organists and choir directors, have is with our clergy. Our partnership is important because we work together, share ideas in worship planning and coordinate musical offerings to reinforce sermons and scriptures. The executive committee would like to invite you and your clergy (and lay clergy) to share in a meal and fellowship on Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at 7:00 pm.



Although the details regarding the location and the cost of the meal will be announced at a later date, we encourage you to extend this invitation now to your respective clergy and plan on attending together. This will provide us all with an opportunity to share in dialogue and casual conversation about our work together.

Although there will be no formal guest speaker, there will be a brief presentation about the RCCO, its mission and how its members collaborate in support of each other. We will also share information about our programs and events. Stayed tuned for more details.

## Harvest Hymn Festival

It was a wonderful afternoon of singing hymns of thanksgiving and listening to choral and handbell music on Sunday, September 15. The service, jointly hosted by the RCCO and the Church of the Epiphany in Kingsville, was well attended.

A choir comprised of about 40 singers from churches affiliated with the RCCO and several others offered two selections, which were directed by Dale Burkholder. *This is My Father's World* and *A Joyful Celebration* we accompanied by piano and the handbell ringers from Epworth United Church and Silver Bells, based in Windsor.

Dale Burkholder, Henry Boon, Paul Wharram, Melissa Miner, Ben Schinkel and David Palmer shared the organ duties and the readers included the Rev. Canon Byran Girling, the Rev. Jane Piercy-Ballard, the Rev. John van Omme, Carmen Danner, Stephanie DeLuca, Sandra Smith and Ben Schinkel. A beautiful solo, *Thanks Be to God*, was sung by Willie Taves.

A free-will offering was received and the entire proceeds (\$294.00) were donated to the Kingsville Food Bank.

Thank you to everyone who helped plan and who participated in the Harvest Hymn Festival and we look forward to similar festivals in the future hosted in various locations across Windsor and Essex County.



## WE NEED YOU!



With the Youth Organ Festival only a few months away, we need to call upon all of our members and friends to step up and volunteer to help make this project a success.

Our clinician and recitalist, Tammy-Jo Mortenson, is enthusiastic and looking forward to spending the week with us in Windsor and Chatham and we need to demonstrate the 100% participation of our membership.

The ultimate goal of the Festival is to create a sense of appreciation of the organ particularly among young people.

Our specific objectives include:

- 5 – 10 students participating in the master class
- Recruiting at least 10 new scholarship students
- 100 % membership attendance and participation in the workshop (with all our students participating)
- Hosting a Pipe Organ Encounter with 50 people in attendance –  $\frac{3}{4}$  of whom are young people and the rest interested adults.
- 150 + people to attend in the concert
- Recruiting 5 – 10 new RCCO members and centre friends

Here is a list of jobs, duties and responsibilities for which we would like YOU to volunteer.

- Planning (this will be lead by the Executive Committee but additional members will be welcomed)
- Logistics – working on location to help with people management, supervision, planning and hosting a luncheon and offering refreshments
- Promotion and Community awareness
- Targeting young people to attend
- Working with and engaging our students – This is

being lead by Henry Boon but additional members are welcomed to work with him, for example, in making presentations to school students and teachers

- Chairing the Workshop on how to involve more young people in the organ
- Securing funding and sponsors/partners
- Planning and hosting the Festival Market
- Refreshments, luncheon and President's Dinner

Project funding is an urgent requirement. The Executive Committee has set aside a specific amount from its budget to offset the overall expenses and we are expecting funds to be made available from the National RCCO Education Fund and the Travelling Clinician program. But there are extra-ordinary expenses, which need to be covered. They include hotel accommodation, car rental and per diem from the clinician as well as her fee for the concert; shipping of materials for the concert and performance of Jack and the Beanstalk; refreshments and food for the luncheon; advertising; materials for school presentations; rental of the venue, printing of the program and support materials, educational supplies and other sundry items. Although a specific fundraising goal has yet to be approved by the Executive Committee, we anticipate the target to be approximately \$2,000. The more volunteers we can recruit to help secure donations and sponsorships, the better. And we need a person to take on the role of Fundraising Chair. Could this be you?

Lastly, we are planning a President's dinner in the evening of March 10th. This will be held in a local restaurant and a fixed menu would be offered. There will be a fee to purchase a ticket, which will include the cost of the meal. Wine or alcoholic drinks would be at each guests expense. The dinner will be open to all members, volunteers, and friends or families that have been involved in the planning and hosting of the Festival. This will be a time to relax, celebrate our achievements and show our appreciation to Tammy-Jo.

*(Continued on page 5)*



# Youth Organ Festival

ANNOUNCING – the first ever, Windsor Essex RCCO

**March 10, 2018**

**A full day of activities: Organ Master Class, Music Festival Market,  
Members' Workshop (Getting Young People Interested in the Organ),  
Pipe Organ Encounter, a Children's Organ Concert and Dinner**



Our guest clinician and recitalist will be Tammy-Jo Mortensen from the University of Alberta. Our goal will be to enroll as many young people as possible (and their parents if they wish) and give them the opportunity to hear the King of Instruments entertain in fun and exciting ways. Tammy-Jo is a gifted musician and has a special way of engaging children. Her concert program will include a dramatic presentation of Jack and the Beanstalk for organ and narrator.

This project represents a major undertaking by the Centre and will require the help of every member and centre friend. We need volunteers: planning committees, community engagement conveners, workshop planners and hosts. So when we give you a call and ask

for your help, please say 'Yes!'

*(Continued from page 4)*

In the coming days, you will be contacted by a member of the Executive Committee to ask you to commit to taking on a role and/or responsibility. So, please, give some thought to what appeals to you most, what skills you can contribute and what contacts or leads you might be able to suggest for sponsorships or partnerships.

## Annual Meadowbrook Hall Holiday Walk

Once again it is time for the annual Meadowbrook Hall Holiday Walk in Rochester, MI.

This was the site of our last RCCO Centre field trip, which was enjoyed by 20 of us. Every year between American Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve, the house is sumptuously decorated in what may be termed Currier and Ives trim. The self-guided tour is made all the more enjoyable by live accompaniment on the Aeolian organ by volunteer organists playing Christmas music. The organ is the largest unaltered Aeolian residence organ in the world. But do not be intimidated. It is easy to figure out and is a lot of fun to play. Last year, three RCCO Windsor Essex organists volunteered. There are 2 1/2 and 3 hour slots to be filled. They do not expect a recital and every minute of the time to be filled. People stop by and the playing may be halted while the organists enjoy a pleasant short conversation with Walkers. Two free Holiday Walk passes are provided to each organist, worth \$20 each.

If interested, contact the organist organizer Pete Townsend at [ptownsend@comcast.net](mailto:ptownsend@comcast.net) to make arrangements.

## Introducing the Market Place!

We are pleased to officially launch a new service to our members, to other organists and the public at large. Over the years, and most recently from Judy Boutin, we have received the generous donations of gently used music. With the kind assistance of Brian and Susan Sweetman, music available to purchase (as well as many other organ and music related artifacts like CDs, books, anthem collections etc) has been organized and catalogued in a user-friendly way on our website and will be updated periodically as items are sold. Not only is this a service to those wishing to purchase music, but can also be a service to our members who may wish to make donations of music to the Centre to ensure its continued usefulness.



We are hoping to attract national attention by announcing the Market Place via Continuo and who knows, we may even attract international interest too! Proceeds will be earmarked for the services, programs and operating costs of the Windsor Essex RCCO Centre including the Youth Organ Festival. Please check out the Market Place at <http://www.rcco-windsor.com/marketplace/used-music-sale>.

We extend to Judy our heartfelt appreciation for her kindnesses and above all to Brian and Susan for all of their organizational work! THANK YOU!



## *The Organ Tuner's Greatest Woe*

*Ron Dossenbach*

If your church is blessed with a pipe organ, it is most likely under the regular care of a respected professional pipe organ service company. If it is not, or is not regularly serviced, contact me ASAP! As the Organ Advisor for our Centre, my duties include helping organists or churches establish regular maintenance relationships with organ servicing firms.

Organs do need regular maintenance, as do houses, cars, even people themselves. When any of these are neglected, troubles and other issues slowly but surely begin to manifest themselves. A good pipe organ has an estimated life service of about 200 years or more with proper service, according to Ferrand LeTourneau, president of one of Canada's finest organ builders. But back to the organ tuner's greatest woe.

Usually, the tuner arrives for a scheduled tuning, which usually includes a certain amount of repair or attention to things that do not work properly. Every organ service firm leaves a service booklet in the area of the console, often in the bench. This is meant for the organist to notate any issues. Here, then, is the woe - more often than not, the notes made in the booklet are quite vague and sometimes not comprehensible. It does little good to note "B is sticking". First, there are 12 distinct B notes on even a small organ. Which one is sticking? Second, what does "sticking" mean? Does the key literally stay depressed, or is it sluggish? Does it mean a certain pipe remains playing after the note is released? If so, which stop causes this?

The message here is that much time can be saved with a simple accurate message. The organ service people lose much valuable time when they are required to forensically decypher unintentionally cryptic messages, reducing the amount of time available to make repair and perform tuning work. So, then, what can the well meaning organist, as he/she dutifully attempts to note an issue, do?

Very simple. Write the note in such a way that it clearly tells the organ people what is wrong. The acid test for the clarity of the note is to reread it, and see if it makes sense to you, if you had not written it. Here are some easy helpful tips.

Start with the date. Always.

Then identify what is wrong. Let's say High C on the Open Diapason is dead. The term "High C" is vague, as is Tenor C, Treble C, C2, C4, or Low C. To eliminate this, consider the number of the key from the bottom. The lowest C on the keyboard is C1, the lowest C# is C#2, Middle C is C25, Middle C# is C#26, and top C is C61. This avoids all confusion, and works equally well for 8', 4', 2' and other stops.

So the note would read, "November 15, 2017. Open Diapason C25 dead"

Simply put, use clear language to consisely and accurately describe the problem. In the rare case when a note cannot describe your problem, make arrangements to meet the tuner at the church, or leave a telephone number. The organ tuner will be happy to call.

The care and preservation of these wonderful instruments we are priveleged to play is a team effort between the organist and the organ service firm. Both are vital, and can steward the organ's care over many years.



## 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.*

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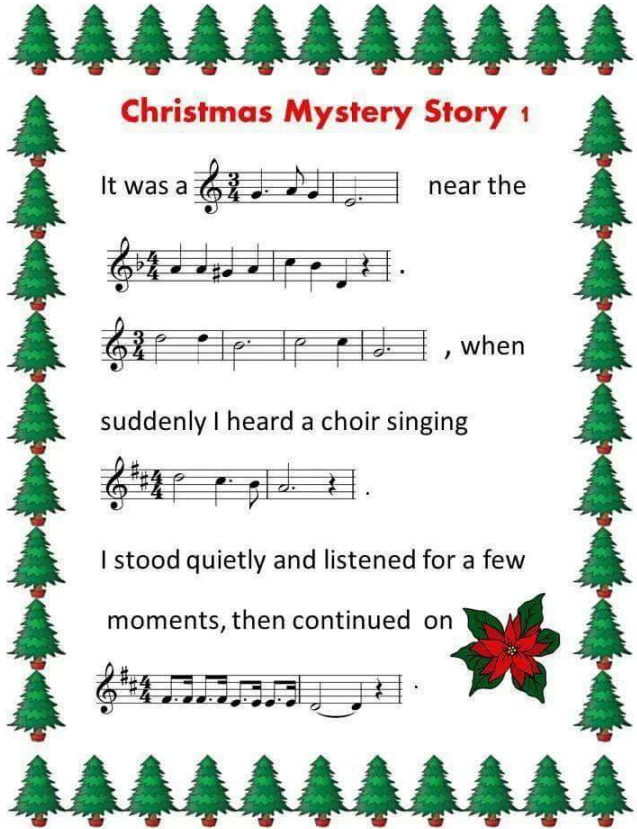
[joel@vanderzeeorgans.com](mailto:joel@vanderzeeorgans.com)





## Choral Music

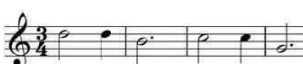
*Henry Boon has now published two SATB Christmas compositions with Cypress Choral Press in Vancouver.*



*To see the scores and listen to the recording by the Amadeus choir of Toronto, please go to [cypresschoral.com](http://cypresschoral.com)*



### Christmas Mystery Story 1

It was a  near the ,

when suddenly I heard a choir singing ,

I stood quietly and listened for a few moments, then continued on  

© Kim Maloney 2013

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*Phone number:* \_\_\_\_\_

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*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  
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