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ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE n bi OF ORGANISTS **OTTAWA CENTRE**

COLLÈGE ROYAL CANADIEN DES ORGANISTES SECTION D'OTTAWA



President's Message

HEATHER RICE

A Sign That Change is Good

President's Message

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Our Advertisers

I went by a street sign that reads Autumn is a sign that change is good. We are certainly living with change! This Sunday, October 4th, is the feast day of St Francis. As we sing, or say his prayer Make Me A Channel of Your Peace, perhaps we can reflect our role during this difficult time. Next week we will celebrate Thanksgiving. As churches have been allowed to open more, we will hear our wonderful hymns on the organ, and perhaps be able to hum and sing: For the Beauty of the Earth, For the Fruits of All Creation, Now Thank We All Our God.

We give thanks for the life and career of Ottawa organist Harvey Cottrell who died recently at the age of 88. Harvey was a chorister, adult choir member and organ student of Leonard Foss at St Luke's Church. He played at several churches - St Thomas, St Matthias, and when he retired and didn't have the energy to do this every week, was happy to be a supply organist. His love of church music was infectious. Well done Harvey, RIP.

The Centre is still busy. We had a wonderful Zoom webinar with Gordon Johnston in September on How To Run A Virtual Choir. It was recorded and is now available to view on the RCCO Ottawa Centre website's **Events page**. We are hoping to hold the Kiwanis Music Festival organ classes in October. The students are

keen but have not been able to get practice time as churches are closed. If you can help with this, please contact Frances Macdonnell - her contact info is also on the Events page.

UPEUMEE uches et anches

We will have another webinar in October: Recording A Choir And Organ, and finish October with a Virtual Studio Class. Check the Events page for dates & times. You can participate in these Zoom events by phone if you do not have access to a computer or would rather not be on a screen. It's very important to join in and be part of the events during this subdued time. Our technology will keep us connected - if we use it. Zoom has proven to be indispensable. One enthusiast said: It lets us be Bach to the future!

I found myself humming Here's To Song by Canadian singer & songwriter Allister MacGillivray. He's from Glace Bay in Cape Breton, N.S. You can find the text on the web and there are several choral recordings on Youtube. The refrain reads:

Here's to song, here's to time; Here's to both with friends of mine; *Here's to friends* who raise their voices high. Kings have riches widely lain Lords have land, but then again, We have friends and song no wealth can buy ..

Centre Events

IAN GUENETTE, DONALD RUSSELL AND SONDRA GOLDSMITH PROCTOR

As we continue in our musical preparations for Advent and Christmas, we'll be offering a series of online sessions that you may find useful for adapting your approach to this season in these challenging times. Our *Café RCCO* will be host to a several discussion forums that will offer alternatives to what we have been used to in the past. We'd love to have you join us.

Let's keep learning and making joyous music for all in this coming season!

Here's what's on tap at the *Café* this fall:



Sunday, October 18 at 2:00 p.m. Café RCCO: 'It's beginning to look like an On-Line Christmas' – Plans and Strategies

In this next Café RCCO ZOOM forum, we'll get together to discuss the continuing challenges we face during the pandemic. We'll have as a focus (but not a limitation) for the discussion some ideas and approaches to handling Advent and Christmas online. Are you doing an online Carol Service? Should we collectively do an online Carol Service with contributions from across the centre? How are you handling Christmas Eve? These services are often very crowded and in their historical form will contravene social distancing requirements. Share your ideas for different ways to work through this season of the church year.

Sunday, November 8 at 2:00 p.m. Round Table Discussion: Recording for Choir and Organ: How to stream a live recording. Several members will present their approaches to recording or live-streaming their services. Discussion of best practices and equipment choices will be included. More details will be forthcoming.

For each event, please register via email at **events@rcco-ottawa.ca**. You will receive a registration notice. Close to the event, you will receive a Zoom invitation and link.

- Ian Guenette, Donald Russell and Sondra Goldsmith Proctor

Student Membership Grant

The RCCO Ottawa Centre is pleased to offer a complimentary student membership for any organ student meeting the RCCO requirements:

- The organ student is under 35 years of age
- The organ student meets the National RCCO criteria for Student Membership
- The organ student is a member of the RCCO Ottawa Centre
- The student's organ teacher is a member of RCCO
- The organ student may apply for the grant each year that he/she meets the above criteria
- Renewals are subject to the availability of Centre funds.

The application procedure is as follows:

Step 1: Fill out the Application form for the Centre Treasurer to indicate if you qualify for the Membership Grant.Student Membership Grant Application form.

Step 2: The student should go to the National Office website to process their membership as a student and pay their membership directly with National Office selecting the Ottawa Centre as their choice of Centres. [For information: email: RCCO National Office] or Tel: 416-929-6400 Office Manager: Hayley, Hours: Mon. to Fri. 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

The student will then be reimbursed for only their membership fee once the Ottawa Centre receives confirmation of their membership from the RCCO National Office.

Treasurer: Alexander Reicker Email: treasurer@rcco-ottawa.ca



DON MARJERRISON

Members' News

Our Deepest Condolences:

Steve Sparks

The Centre expresses its sincerest condolences to Past President Sue Sparks on the sudden and unexpected death of her husband Steve on October 1st. Sue was visiting in Toronto for the birth of her granddaughter, Florence Francesca Muriel Sparks Piggott on September 28th, then visiting her mother in Sarnia, when she got the awful news. We extend our heartfelt condolences to you and your family, Sue, will hold you in our thoughts and prayers and support you during this difficult time.

Harvey Cotrell

Harvey was a chorister and adult choir member at St Luke's Church and organ student of Leonard Foss. He had many good memories/stories. The choristers sometimes met at St Luke's and walked to the Chateau Laurier for swimming. And the baseball games with the choristers from Christ Church Cathedral. The soft drink machine installed for the adults for rehearsals that went longer than usual. And of course the love of church music instilled in the choir members. St Luke's was open early in the morning, organ students could go in before and after school or on their lunch

break. As an adult Harvey went into St Matthias to practice early in the morning, on the way to work. He filled in at St Mark's Church in the 1990's, enjoying the opportunity to play, work with adult choir & choristers, and of course, the church music. The junior choir liked him, especially when I told them that he had been a chorister at St Luke's, sung in the adult choir, and took organ lessons from his choir director. Wow, cool, neat, just like us, and on. RIP Harvey, well done!

Address Change:

Dianne and Murray Ferguson 208 – 110 Berrigan Drive, Nepean, ON K2J 5A6, (613) 823-0802 (H)



God is Always With Us Whatever The Circumstances

Rev. Christine Piper

As, with all the accompanying risks of the current pandemic, my eight grandchildren are back in school or daycare, I have realised that gathering as a family of eighteen to celebrate Thanksgiving, cannot happen this year. And, I confess, the thought arose unbidden in my mind, *So what is there to be thankful about?*

It's so human to get into this negative way of thinking, especially at this time when we have lost touch with a way of life that offered us the freedom to be readily in touch with others. And, while we had a wonderful lull in the late summer, because there is now an upsurge in people having COVD-19, here in Ontario and over the river in Quebec, distancing is still the order of the day! And all that goes with it.

It's easy with such an attitude to 'not see' the blessings that have come out of this situation. As I write for the RCCO, I think especially of music leaders and how so many in this online 'savvy' society have deepened and expanded their skills in the virtual presentation of music, offering regularly at least the music for on line church services. Indeed, with such offerings being available, this has brought together folks beyond the immediate congregation, even from across the world! It's harder to see what we can be thankful for as our senior members may have experienced lifestyle and health challenges. And yet surely we can be thankful that medical resources are there for them and that many, overcome by challenges, have care homes that can offer them shelter. And as the needs posed by the pandemic have exposed grim realities for residents in some care homes, authorities are now in a position, which they were not previously, to demand improvements.

As I have reflected on my very human moment of negativity, I have been reminded of Paul's admonition in his letter to the Thessalonians: *Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of Christ Jesus for you* (1 Thessalonians 5: 17). This surely epitomizes the faithful response to living out our daily lives, whether we are back in the world as we knew it before March, or indeed today.

The phrase Give thanks in all circumstances has indeed reminded me of The Hiding Place,* an autobiographical novel by Corrie Ten Boom about her and her sister's days in concentration camps, during the second world war. They were there as an outcome of assisting Jewish families to escape from the Nazi authorities in their hometown of Haarlem. The joy of following God's will on behalf of their Jewish brothers and sisters in the alien world of Nazi invaded Holland was so deep for these two women of active faith. If anything, their imprisonment in the camps increased their determination to follow Christ's will. They approached their days with a deep spirit of rejoicing, celebrating every small blessing as it arose.

And there came the day when Corrie returned from a work detail. Here was Betsy full of joy and excitement, telling her how she had discovered that being thankful for the fleas in their prison hut was indeed hugely pertinent. As she had looked back on the days since the presence of fleas had increased, this had surely been keeping the guards, who could be so deeply cruel, at bay! They found themselves being thankful for a reality which, in normal circumstances, would have been seen as abhorrent.

I wonder indeed what circumstances are evident through this pandemic which could give rise to a state of thankfulness within ourselves, even as in normal circumstances we might not see this. As we turn around from a temptation maybe to go negative, and in faith respond to Christ's call to rejoice always, pray constantly giving thanks in, yes, all circumstances, what blessings may we indeed now see in the realities in which we find ourselves?

As we anticipate Thanksgiving Sunday, let us rejoice that God is always with us, whatever the circumstances.



* The Hiding Place by Corrie Ten Boom, Elizabeth Sherrill, John Sherrill, Guidepost Associates, 1971. ISBN: 0 - 912376-01-5



OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE 2020-2021

Ottawa Centre Executive			Convenors of Committees		
President Vice-President Past President Secretary Treasurer Chaplain	Heather Rice Robert Jones Sue Sparks - vacant - Alexander Reicker Rev. Canon Christine Piper	613-563-1409 613-448-1647 613-823-3739 613-884-8539 613 725 2164	Archives Education Historic Organs Membership Newsletter Editors	Larry Kempffer Donald Russell John Wanless Donald Marjerrison Rick and Suzanne St.	613-230-5564 613-738-9223 613-283-2590 613-724-3793 Germain 613-841-0246
NATIONAL COUNCILLORS			PRO ORGANO	KAREN HOLMES	613-728-8041
Members at L	Heather Rice Sue Sparks Sue Sparks Robert Jones JARGE Catherine Helferty, David I Frances Macdonnell		PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAM CONVENOR S PUBLICITY SOCIAL CONVENOR STUDENT CONCERNS WEBMASTER	Rev. Dr. Dan Hansen ondra Goldsmith Procto Ian Guenette Suzanne Marjerrison Sue Sparks Robert Jones Ross Jewell	
Royal Canadian College of Organists Col Ottawa Centre P.O. Roy 2270 Station D		LLÈGE ROYAL CANADIEN DES ORGANISTES Section d'Ottawa C P 2270 Succursale D S		Next Executive Meeting: Saturday, 24 October / 10:30 a.m.	

C.P. 2270, SUCCURSALE D

OTTAWA, ON K1P 5W4

Supply List

P.O. Box 2270, STATION D

OTTAWA, ON K1P 5W4

1		
Amy Andonian	613 224-8117	Sundays, weddings, funerals. Organ and piano. All denominations.
Nadia Behmann	613-723-8601	nadia@behmann.ca Weddings and Funerals.
James Brough	613-733-2972	Piano & organ, all styles of music. Any denomination. Sundays, weddings, funerals.
Elizabeth Brown	613-608-1210	lizbrown2007@hotmail.com Sundays, weddings, funerals, any denomination
Catherine Helferty		catherinehelferty@hotmail.com Sundays, weddings.
Matthew Larkin	613-862-4106	matthewlarkin@live.com Weddings, funerals, Sunday services, all denominations
Gilles Leclerc	613-798-0264	gilles.leclerc7@sympatico.ca
Frances Macdonnell	613-726-7984	fbmacdonnell@sympatico.ca
James McGowan	jjmc321@gmail	l.com Sundays, weddings, funerals; choral, organ, piano; traditional, classical, jazz
Daniel Morel	613-228-8331	moreldan15@gmail.com Sundays, weddings, funerals.
Leora Anne Nauta	613-816-8629	Choral conducting and organ. Any denomination, any service, Sat./Sun., weddings, funerals.
Simon Pinsonneault	613-299-1886	simon.pinsonneault@tc.gc.ca
Gavan Quinn	613-695-0533	gavanquinn@gmail.com
Donald Russell	613-738-9223	russell.kimberwick@me.com
Wesley R. Warren	613 726-6341	Weddings and Funerals
		Novt Doodlino

Organ Teachers List

D. Mervyn Games, B.Mus., FRCO, ARCM. Students in piano, organ, and theory at all levels. Info: mervyn.games@gmail.com or 613-729-2515.

www.rcco-ottawa.ca

Robert P. Jones, M.Mus., ARCCO (ChM). All levels of students (teenager or adult). Lessons at St. Luke's Church (760 Somerset Street W.) Info:pentland1212@eastlink.ca

Heather Rice, ARCT, BMus, ARCCO (ChM). Welcomes students in piano, organ, voice and theory, Beginner - Intermediate, Children - Adult. Call 613-563-1409

Wesley R. Warren, M.Mus., FRCO, (ChM), ARCT. Beginning to advanced organ students, piano and theory. St. Barnabas Anglican Church, (Kent St. at James), Ottawa. Info: 613-726-6341

Next Deadline

WEB MEETING



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Advertising Policy

1. Any Ottawa Centre member may announce his/her event on the Around Town section of the newsletter free of charge if **he/she is** the coordinator, conductor, **soloist**, or organist/ accompanist of the event.

2. If a member wishes to place a free announcement in Around Town for an event of another organization he/she is a member of (not covered by Policy 1), the member must make a written request to the RCCO Centre Executive for approval of that one specific event. Approval may be granted on the basis that this **extraordinary** event would be of specific interest to our members: e.g., church/choral, and/or organ/bells, **and/or the** encouragement of young organists and pianists.

3. If a non-member wishes to announce an event of his/her organization in Around Town **free of charge**, he/she must make a written request to the RCCO Centre Executive for approval of that one specific event. Approval may be granted per Policy 2; in most circumstances, however, we would expect the Organization to pay as per the rates set out by the Centre for advertising.

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