Vol. 29, No. 7 MARCH/MARS 2012 **ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE** 60 OF ORGANISTS **OTTAWA CENTRE**

COLLÈGE ROYAL CANADIEN DES ORGANISTES SECTION D'OTTAWA

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President's Message

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Willan at Duke

ur drive to Florida this year has taken us to several places of interest. Among these were our visit to the three cities of Chapel Hill, Durham, and Raleigh, North Carolina.

We were especially delighted to see the Chapel of Duke University, built between 1930 and 1935 and seating 1500 in the main chapel. It is English Gothic in style, and its immense interior, measuring 291 x 63 feet with a height of 73 feet in the nave is filled with treasures in wood and glass. The exterior of bluestone and limestone features figures of important people in early American history along with historic religious persons.

The university is named after Washington Duke and his sons, Benjamin Newton and James Buchanan, a family of industrialists and philanthropists who were its chief benefactors. While we were in Raleigh, Sally Duke Biddle Trent Semans, a lifelong philanthropist and granddaughter of Benjamin Newton died on January 25th at age 91. Her funeral was held in the Chapel of Duke University

Of interest to organists are its three distinct and distinguished organs. A four manual post-Romantic Aeolian organ of some 6700 pipes housed in the chambers on either side of the chancel. It is used to accompany the choir and worship services. Built in 1932, it was the company's last major instrument before it merged with E.M. Skinner.

In the Memorial Chapel is a two manual Brombaugh organ (1997) which is modelled after Renaissance Italian instruments and has been modified to accommodate other schools of organ music. The Mediterranean-like casing is most attractive.

DEUMEE hes et anches

In the specially designed balcony is a handsome four manual Flentrop tracker action organ of about 5000 pipes. The organ, both tonally and visually, reflects the techniques of 18th century Dutch French organs.

The highlight of our visit to the chapel on Saturday morning was to hear the chancel organ. As we later discovered, the organist was rehearsing for a Sunday recital at 5 pm. I eventually recognised the music: Healey Willan's Introduction, Passacaglia and Fugue. On reading the Duke University newspaper which we picked up in Divinity Hall, we saw an ad for the concert: Organist David Arcus, Chapel Organist, in a programme of CANADIAN works including Willan's Introduction, Passacaglia and Fugue, plus a tribute to the Canadian rock band RUSH!! Too bad we were unable to attend.

If you are ever in that area, do plan to visit the exquisite campus of Duke University and its magnificent chapel - easily one of the great church buildings of North America.



Karen Holmes

ur convention planning committee is working hard, and getting really excited about hosting the RCCO National Convention, that we've named Orgelfest 2013, here in Ottawa from August 11 to 15, 2013. Many volunteers will be needed that week - to sell tickets and give out programmes at concerts; to direct people to buses, or to workshop locations; to look after performers' needs, and so on. We also need volunteers before that time - to help with ticket sales to the general public, to check arrangements at various venues, to help with planning, etc.

Some of the people already hard at work are Convention Co-chairs Karen Holmes and Moira Hayes; Programme Convenor Gilles Leclerc; Secretary and Student Delegate Convenor Frances Macdonnell; Treasurer Donald Marjerrison; Graphics Master Rick St. Germain; and several others.

Please let us know what how you would be willing to help, by sending the form below to Karen or Moira, or just by giving either of them a call, or sending an e-mail.

Yes! I want to help prepare for Orgelfest 2013!

Name:

Telephone # and/or e-mail _____

I would like to

I am not able to help with the planning, but I plan to be in town August 11 - 15, 2013, and I will help then.

Name:

Telephone # and/or e-mail _____

I would like to

Pro Organo

Karen Holmes

Life-long Friends Perform Together at Rideau Park United Church

he next concert in the series will be at Rideau Park United Church, 2203 Alta Vista Drive, on Friday, March 9th, at 7:30 p.m., and will feature James Calkin, organist at First Baptist Church here in Ottawa, and 'cellist Evan Jones, who is Associate Professor of Music Theory and Coordinator of Music Theory and Composition at Florida State University.

James and Evan have known each other since they were boys playing in a recorder ensemble in Halifax. More recently, they have toured Ontario and Nova Scotia with music for organ and 'cello. Here is their programme for March 9th: J.L. Krebs - *Prelude and Fugue in C; A Song without Words for 'cello and organ* by American composer Craig Phillips; J.S. Bach - *Gamba Sonata in G*, BWV 1027;





... at our Annual General Meeting on Monday,

June 4th, 2012 at St. Paul's Presbyterian

Church. (971 Woodroffe Ave.)

Refreshments at 7:00 pm with meeting to follow at 7:30 pm.

This is your Centre. Our executive values your feedback. Come out and voice your opinions and ideas on what you would like to have your Centre do.



Wm. Walton's *Passacaglia for solo 'cello; Sonata in a for 'cello and organ* by Marcel Dupré; and *Cortège et Litanie for organ* by M.Dupré.

This will be an interesting and unusual programme!



Around Town

Sunday, March 11, 2012, 7:00 p.m. The Cranmer Singers, directed by Frances Macdonnell, will sing Choral Evensong at Stephen's Anglican Church, 930 Watson Street (just west of Pinecrest Avenue, near the Queensway).

Sunday, March 18, 2012, 7:30 p.m. Ottawa Celtic Choir, Ellen MacIsaac, conductor). In celebration of St. Patrick's Day, a concert of Celtic music from around the Celtic Nations and the Celtic Diaspora in North America. St. Luke's Church: 760 Somerset Street West (3 blocks west of Bronson Ave). Admission by donation. Info. www.stlukesottawa.ca, pentland@hotmail.com, (613) 235-3416

Saturday, March 24, 2012, 7:30 p.m. Ottawa Cathedral Choir of Men & Boys under the direction of Matthew Larkin presents *Cathedral Choral Classics* at Woodroffe United Church, 207 Woodroffe Ave. Tickets: \$20/15 Info: www. woodroffeunited.org

Sunday, April 1, 2012, 7:30 p.m.

Three Voices and a Cello: A concert from the ensemble *Tourmaline*: Joyce Lundberg

& Sylvia Larrass (soprano), Shirley Hockin (alto) & Peter Rapson (cello). Spanning the musical styles of the late Medieval to the early Baroque, we present a selection of solos, duets, and trios, some a capella, some with cello continuo. St. Luke's Church: 760 Somerset Street West (3 blocks west of Bronson Ave). Admission by donation. Info. www.stlukesottawa.ca, pentland@hotmail.com, (613) 235-3416

Sunday, April 1, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

A Musical Offering for Palm Sunday: The Crucifixion by John Stainer, presented by the choirs of three Ottawa parishes: St. Matthew's, St. Luke's and St. Matthias. A free-will offering will be taken in support of the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund. St. Matthew's, Ottawa, 130 Glebe Avenue, Ottawa.

Good Friday, April 6, 2012, 3:00 p.m.

Soprano Bronwyn Thies-Thompson and countertenor Zachary Windus will perform Giovanni Pergolesi's timeless masterpiece, the *Stabat Mater*. Composed in 1736, it is traditionally performed on Good Friday as a meditation in honour of the Virgin Mary. Bronwyn and Zachary are both voice students of internationally-acclaimed countertenor Daniel Taylor. The performance will take place at the Church of St. Bartholomew, 125 MacKay Street in New Edinburgh. For more information, please contact St. Bart's at 613-745-7834 or by email at stbarts@on.aibn.com.

Sunday, April 15, 2012, 7:30 p.m.

Thomas Brawn & Jonathan Bayley (flute), Robert Jones (organ). The magical sound of the flute and the majesty of the organ team up to present music of Mozart, Bach and Telemann. St. Luke's Church: 760 Somerset Street West (3 blocks west of Bronson Ave). Admission by donation. Info. www.stlukesottawa.ca, pentland@ hotmail.com, Tel (613) 235-3416

Sunday, April 29, 2012, 7:30 p.m.

The Two-Spirit Viola. Aditi Magdalena will offer works by Bach written for solo violin and solo cello, arranged for viola; and her own meditations for solo viola. St. Luke's Church: 760 Somerset Street West. Admission by donation. Info. www. stlukesottawa.ca, pentland@hotmail.com, (613) 235-3416

RCCO Annual Organist–Clergy Dinner



The Rose Bowl Restaurant (newly renovated) 1717 Carling Avenue 613-729-4000

Monday, April 23, 2012 6:00 p.m. gathering, 6:30 dinner

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Mervyn Saunders, RCCO Ottawa Centre Chaplain

Menu:

Soup or salad Dinner: (chosen at the restaurant) Steak, Chicken, or Salmon Dessert Tea/Coffee

Cost: \$40.00

By <u>April 12</u>th, send cheques payable to **RCCO**, Ottawa Centre to:

Suzanne Marjerrison 476 Evered Avenue Ottawa ON K1Z 5K8



Scholarships

he RCCO National Office and the Ottawa Centre have funds available to help members young or old, at any stage of their career, to participate in educational and professional development activities.

Ottawa Centre Scholarships

Scholarships for Piano Students

Each spring our RCCO centre invites applications from teenaged piano students (minimum of Grade 8 piano) and/or beginning organ students (less than one year of study). Successful candidates will receive 10 hours of organ lessons from a RCCO Ottawa Centre teacher as an introduction to the organ. We encourage all piano students who are seriously considering studying the organ to apply.

All eligible candidates will be invited to play the following at an informal audition:

- i) a prepared piano piece no longer than 5 minutes
- ii) a prepared hymn (introduction and 2 verses)
- iii) a simple hymn tune as sight-reading

Candidates who have already begun organ lessons may play their audition repertoire on the organ.

To access the application on line, visit http://www.rcco-ottawa.ca/pdf/pianoapp. pdf The application deadline is March 31st, with auditions held in May.

Anthony King-Douglas Gibson Scholarship and Allen Cureton Scholarship

These scholarships, worth up to \$500 and \$300 respectively, are awarded annually to Ottawa Centre members planning to attend a summer course, conference or other professional development activity. The funds can contribute toward the cost of attending an RCCO convention, but must be applied to an organized course or event; not to be used for private lessons. Deadline for applications is April 30th, 2012, by letter to the Centre President describing your planned activity, its cost, as well as a brief description of your educational background and present church music activities. Mail submissions to: President, RCCO Ottawa Centre, Box 2270 Station D, Ottawa K1P 5W4

Kiwanis Festival Scholarship

The Ottawa Centre offers a \$500 organ scholarship through the annual Kiwanis Festival of Music and Dance.

The Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Scholarship Trust Fund:

The Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Scholarship was established in memory of the late Godfrey Hewitt, C.D., D.Mus. (Cantuar), FRCO, Hon. ARSCM. Its purpose is to provide an annual scholarship of \$5,000 to an advanced Canadian organ student (or landed immigrant in Canada) who wishes to pursue courses of study either at a university or with a particular teacher, either within Canada or abroad. Funds may be used for tuition, travel, living expenses, and such other purposes as may be appropriate to the circumstances of the award.



Required repertoire for the following spring's competition will be announced in the autumn of each year.. All applicants shall satisfy the following requirements:

- Canadian citizenship, or landed immigrant status in Canada;
- aged 35 years or less;
- graduate, or about to graduate from university, conservatory or college;
- RCCO Associate diploma or similar academic level of qualification;
- stated intention of teaching organ (either in an academic institution or privately, not necessarily as the candidate's primary career).

Application forms and submission details are available on the RCCO Ottawa Centre web site (www.rcco-ottawa.ca), or may be requested in writing from:

Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Scholarship Committee

c/o Frances Macdonnell 303 - 3099 Carling Avenue Ottawa, Ontario K2H 5A6

Applications must include: 1) a detailed resumé and proof of citizenship or landed immigrant status, 2) a specific plan of study for the year, 3) three references, 4) a cassette/CD made in the past 12 months of three major works (see web site for details) and 5) a non-refundable fee of \$40 payable to RCCO—Ottawa Centre. Deadline for submissions is April 30th, 2012. The Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Scholarship of \$5,000 has been awarded annually to advanced Canadian organ students each year since 2005.

The Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Prize of \$5,000 will be awarded as the Grand Prize at the National Organ-Playing Competition held by the RCCO biannually in conjunction with the College's National Convention in odd-numbered years; the first of these Grand Prizes will be awarded in 2011.

National Office Scholarships

The John Goss Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is awarded by the College in even numbered years in memory of the late John Goss, FRCCO, former conductor of the National Ballet of Canada and relative of his namesake, the British composer Sir John Goss. The scholarship of up to \$3,500 is awarded to an individual for advanced organ study outside Canada. The winner must intend to return to Canada to pursue his/her career. Please note that this in NOT an examinations scholarship, and requires a separate application. The application deadline is March 31, 2012. See the National Office website for details and to download the application form. Complete applications should be sent to: The John Goss Memorial Scholarship, c/o The Royal Canadian College of Organists, 202-204 St. George Street, Toronto, ON M5R 2N5.

... continued on page 5

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The Lorna and Murray Holmes Scholarship:

The Lorna Holmes Scholarship is available annually, and provides \$1,000 to a student entering organ or church music studies at a Canadian University. Preference will be given to students beginning undergraduate studies. Applicants must hold membership in the College. A letter of application must be accompanied by a proof of acceptance at a Canadian university, and two letters of reference from people able to assess the candidate's suitability for the scholarship. Application deadline is June 15th, 2012. Complete applications should be sent to: The Lorna Holmes Scholarship, c/o The Royal Canadian College of Organists, 202-204 St. George Street, Toronto, ON. M5R 2N5

Rachel Joy Brownell Memorial Bursary:

The purpose of this \$300 travel bursary is to expand the musical horizons of organists from isolated communities by offsetting transportation costs to the annual RCCO National Convention, where no other option would otherwise be available.

Candidates must be current RCCO members in good standing who live more than 500 Kms from the site of this year's convention in Saint John, N.B. Candidates may hold Service Playing Certificate or CRCCO, but not Associate, Fellow or other post-secondary diplomas or degrees. Preference will be given to applicants who have never before attended an RCCO Convention, as well as to females over the age of 45, but male and younger candidates will also be considered. Deadline for applications is March 31st, 2012. Interested candidates should send a letter of application to: The Chair, College Development Fund, Royal Canadian College of Organists, 202-204 St. George Street, Toronto, Ontario M5R 2N5.

For details and to download application form, see the National Office website at www.rcco.ca.

Barrie Cabena Music Scholarship

The Waterloo-Wellington Centre administers the Barrie Cabena Music Scholarship. Its purpose is, firstly, to honour the contribution made to excellence in church music in Canada by Barrie Cabena, composer, teacher, performer, and secondly, to assist a deserving student(s) in the formal study of organ, church music, and/or composition at the post-secondary school level.

The Barrie Cabena Music Scholarship Fund was initiated by the Waterloo Wellington Center of the RCCO in 2004 on the occasion of Dr. Cabena's 71st birthday. Contributions may be made to the "RCCO Cabena Scholarship". Receipts will be issued by the RCCO National Office.

Full details are found on the downloadable application form.

Applications for the 2012 Barrie Cabena Scholarship will be received up to May 1st, 2012.

Members News

Welcome to our newest member:

Alexander, Stephen, Director of Music Knox United (Nepean), 183 Hickory Street, Ottawa ON K1Y 3T7 613.421.1783(H) 613.230.3580 x119 (W) stephen@yahoo.ca

Condolences

Our sincerest condolences to Mary-Ann Foley on the death of her mother in late February.

Armenoui Svazlian Andonian

is no longer organist at Faith Lutheran Church and is now available as a supply organist for weddings, funerals, and Sunday services for Lutheran, Anglican, Presbyterian, United churches.

Improvisation Workshop Review

FRANCES MACDDNNELL

Saturday February 11th at St. Matthew's Anglican Church, the resident Organist, Kirk Adsett, led an enthusiastic group of twelve Ottawa Centre members through two hours of recognizing and developing their improvisatory skills. After briefly running through several written works on the topic, Kirk showed the participants how to use scale patterns to develop simple but interesting improvised patterns, using not only the major and minor scales but also the wholetone scale.

Providing samples of simple chord structures for harmonizing a scale, Kirk illustrated the ease of moving through simple harmonies with added patterns of moving notes, changing the degree of motion from variation to variation of a short



phrase. By adding even more harmonic interest, such as by moving the harmony by thirds in a Messiaen-like style, a simple and short piece can attract and hold the attention of a congregation very easily.

Kirk demonstrated, and had several others demonstrate too, how a Biblical passage (such as a Gospel) or a visual picture can be illustrated in a short organ improvisation. Kirk inspired just about everyone present to go up and try their skills at the console, and a number of people undoubtedly surprised and pleased themselves by their proficiency when encouraged by Kirk.

Refreshments were kindly provided by Don Marjerrison, and there was ample time for participants to chat with each other and catch up on the latest news.

Thank you, Kirk, for such an inspiring morning!



K.T.O.S. Our Sister Organization

pring is almost upon us as we rejoice **S** pring is annost upon as in its promise of renewal. Our own R.C.C.O. program will soon be under way in the capable hands of fellow Canadians, namely James Calkin and Valerie Hall. Last fall, it was my privilege to pen an article about love of the organ. In January, Dr. Hayes was emphatic that we should love ourselves enough to take good care of our physical temple. In February, it was my pleasure to pass on recommendations regarding a particular aspect of this love. It would now seem appropriate to talk briefly of another facet of love of the pipe organ. It is without apologies that I speak of the "theatre" pipe organ, an instrument which almost became extinct save for the love of many talented organists and other individuals in revitalizing instruments of yesteryear.

Indeed Kingston was fortunate in having such individuals who resuscitated an instrument located in Ohio. They all shared in the costs of moving and fully restoring it to its former grandeur so that, to this day, it is the largest of its kind in Canada, even larger than many in the U.S. For approximately thirty years now, Canadian artists, as well as some from several other countries, have graced its console, much to the delight of spectator/ listeners from Ontario, Québec and adjacent states. Being capable of lending and bending itself, it has surprised many with its enthralling classical music sounds, its elevating spiritual tones, and its toe tapping music rhythms from the 20's to this day. Indeed, on March 30th, at 8 p.m., one of our own RCCO members, Michael Capon, the organist of St. George's Cathedral in Kingston, will not only grace the beautiful stark white console, but will entertain his audience with music which will be drawn from his own musical background and his perhaps unknown attraction to the theatre pipe organ.

Did Michael fall in love with the Kimball organ, one cannot say. However one cannot but assume that he will bring to us the benefit of his varied background and experience. Attracted to music at age seven when one of his teachers stated "Michael moves well to music", the piano and violin indirectly led him to the theatre. A McGill student in music with messrs Gerald Wheeler and John Grew, he was soon involved in several aspects of the music scene; music for the theatre indeed is an avocation whilst his vocation brought him to serve as organist in several large churches from Toronto east to the Maritimes, culminating, for the moment, in his post as organist and Music Director of St. George's Cathedral in Kingston.

RENÉ PÉRON

To those of us who are fond members of both the R.C.C.O. and K.T.O.S., Donald Marjerrison's "In Memoriam - Gerre Hancock" brings out, through his remarks and quotation the very essence of theatre organ music, "mastery of improvisations" along with Gerre Hancock's profound statement: "It's all sacred as far as I'm concerned. Some works are better in night clubs than in churches, but anything beautiful is sacred". My generation had the pleasure and benefit of seeing and hearing such theatre organ instruments when their influence, the pleasure they imparted, were very much to the fore. The Casavant theatre organ in the former Regent Theatre here in Ottawa, the Legge mutation Sheas/Maple Leaf Gardens/ Casa Loma in Toronto, the ones in Low's, Capital Theatre and the Cinéma de Paris in Montréal, all spoke to my parents, my, and possibly one more younger generation before almost completely disappearing from the scene. It is therefore with much pleasure that I would invite all of our readers to come, hear and see one of our own R.C.C.O. members as the lights go off and he rises from the floor at the controls of our above mentioned, beautiful, stark white treasure ..

As an old saying goes: "try it, you might like it!"



Saint John Organ Festival 2012

he Saint John Centre of the RCCO has been active since the early 1950's and can boast that we currently have the grandson of one of the founding members of this Center!

Our plans are well underway to host the 2012 Convention. The dates for this convention are July 15, 16, and 17, 2012, and the theme is "Changing Times... and Tides". As surely as service music and styles are changing in the church, so do the tides of our own Bay of Fundy – home of the highest tides in the world!

Scheduled recitals include John Hudson at St. Peter's Church, Dr. Sharon



Pond at St. Peter's Church, a Choral Recital by Polyphon, directed by David Mitchell, at St. Peter's Church, Richard Kidd on the Letourneau Organ at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Rothesay, and Dr. Gayle H. Martin on the Carl Wilhelm Organ at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Rothesay,

Online registration is now open at http://www.rcco.ca/conventions-2012. cfm, or download a registration form at http://rccosaintjohn. files.wordpress.com/2012/02/ rccoregistrationformfillable-web2.pdf

OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE 2011-2012

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Lutheran, Anglican, Presbyterian, United

Please note: Supply list can also be found on the RCCO Ottawa web site at http://www.rcco-ottawa.ca Anyone interested in adding their names to the Supply List, please contact Suzanne St-Germain at 613-841-0246 or via email at newsletter@rcco-ottawa.ca

www.rcco-ottawa.ca



D. Mervyn Games, B.Mus., FRCO, ARCM. Students in piano, organ, and theory at all levels. For info call 613-729-2515.

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:pentland@hotmail.com

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

Newsletter submissions

Send your articles and photos to:

Suzanne St-Germain 628 Tourelle Drive Orleans, ON K4A 3H4 613-841-0246

newsletter@rcco-ottawa.ca or sstgermain@rogers.com



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UPDATE

Newsletter Advertising Rates



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 as 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.