Vol. 33, No. 2 October/octobre 2015 ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS OTTAWA CENTRE Collège royal canadien des organistes section d'Ottawa

UPEUMEE uches et anches



President's Message

DAVID LAFRANCHISE

Of Music and Humanity

President's Message

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Our Advertisers

hirty-odd years ago, the neurologist (and pianist) David Wilson argued that music was a "physical culture" that, just like sports, used and trained mind and body through ongoing practice (*Tone Deaf and All Thumbs*). Wilson lamented that even though people were beginning to realize that they could be healthier and happier by being more active, music was still largely a spectator sport, and to most people music itself was both "mysterious and unlearnable".

More recently, Oliver Sacks has summarized research on music and the brain in *Musicophilia*, as background to his stories of patients suffering music-related neurological disorders. We are a musical species. An innate sense of music was critical to human evolution, is important to infant development and underlies our ability to maintain the social life we need for physical and emotional survival. Participating in music, whether as listener, participant or performer, is an essential part of our humanity.

After all these years, the dominant view remains that music (and culture in general) is for the specialist, not for everybody. When music enters public discussion (e.g. the current media coverage of the recent report of the Ottawa Music Industry Coalition or the opening of the new Arts Faculty at Brock University), the focus is usually on developing professional performance. Performance is important, and developing a new generation of performers and active, informed listeners is essential. But as Sacks and Wilson both emphasize there is no physical or social substitute for actually doing music, whether performing for oneself, or as part of a social group.

Teachers can help people realize their innate potential for music.

This speaks to a particular role of our College, for we include not only performers, composers and listeners, but teachers and leaders. Teachers can help people realize their innate potential for music. Worship leaders work in one of the shrinking number of spaces where shared public expression in music, in this case through hymn singing and "joyful noise" choirs, is still expected.

At this season of the year, we can give thanks that we have a part in this important trust. We can also ask what we can do as citizens, teachers, and leaders to encourage the musical life of our fellow citizens.



Sunday, October 4, 2015, 7:30 p.m. Pauline van der Roest (mezzo-soprano) and guest singers: A variety of opera arias, duets and lieder by composers such as Gluck, Mozart, Paisiello, Saint-Saëns, Delibes, Offenbach, Bellini, Elgar etc. St. Luke's Church: 760 Somerset Street West (3 blocks west of Bronson Ave). Admission by donation. Info: www. stlukesottawa.ca/connect/recital-series, music@stlukesottawa.ca, (613) 235-3416.

Sunday, October 18, 2015, 2:00 p.m.

Nadia Behmann and the choir at St. Gabriel Parish presents a fund raising concert in support of a Syrian refugee family that they are sponsoring. The program will include piano, vocal and organ music. Saint- Gabriel Catholic Church, 55 Appleford Road, Beacon Hill South, ON. Tickets: \$15/person or 2 tickets for \$25.

La paroisse Saint-Gabriel entreprend le projet de parrainer une famille syrienne réfugiée au Liban. Une levée de fonds est organisée afin d'atteindre les montants nécessaires pour l'accueillir et la soutenir. Des artistes de la région d'Ottawa offrent bénévolement un concert musical à 14 heures, le 18 octobre 2015, à son église paroissiale, 55 rue Appleford. Des œuvres musicales de voix, de piano, d'orgue etc. sauront certainement vous plaire. Le coût d'entrée est de 15.00\$ pour une personne et de 25,00\$ pour deux.

Sunday, October 18, 2015, 7:30 p.m.

Robert Jones (organ). The organist of St. Luke's Church presents a programme featuring the music of Bach, Grayston Ives, Franck, Widor and Buxtehude. St. Luke's Church: 760 Somerset Street West (3 blocks west of Bronson Ave). Admission by donation. Info: www. stlukesottawa.ca/connect/recital-series, music@stlukesottawa.ca, (613) 235-3416.

*** Note date change *** Sunday, November 1, 2015, 7:30 p.m.

Coro Capriccio chamber choir. An evening of choral gems by Victoria, Lobo, Purcell and Arvo Pärt are performed by Coro Capriccio in the tantalizing acoustics of St. Luke's. St. Luke's Church: 760 Somerset Street West (3 blocks west of Bronson Ave). Admission by donation. Info: www.stlukesottawa.ca/connect/recitalseries, music@stlukesottawa.ca, Tel (613) 235-3416.(613) 235-3416.

Members' News

Contact information change:

- **Dean, Sandra.** New email address: sandra.dean@outloook.com
- Jones, Robert. New email address: pentland1212@eastlink.ca
- Bennett, Margaret. New address: Oakpark Retirement Community, #325-2 Valour Dr, Ottawa ON K1G 3T5 613 907-9324 (H) bennemarg@gmail.com

Deepest condolences:

Carol Parker, organist and choir director at St. Columba's Church was tragically killed in an automobile accident while enroute to her home in Greely. Our deepest condolences go out to her husband Roy and their children.



Choir Training Workshop

he next workshop in the 2015-16 series to prepare members to take the RCCO's Choir Training Certificate Examination will be held on **Saturday October 17, 2015 at St. Stephen's Anglican Church from 10 am until noon**.

St. Stephen's Anglican Church is located at 630 Watson Street, just west of Pinecrest Avenue, just north of the Queensway, and there's lots of parking. Please enter through the parking lot door which is off St. Stephen's Avenue, and go up the stairs to the church.

In this examination, parish church musicians working in real-life situations in small churches can demonstrate their ability to plan a choir programme in a church, direct a short choir practice, briefly discuss rehearsal and performance techniques, answer some straightforward written questions on choir management



FRANCES MACDONNELL

and choral planning, and write some simple harmony. The outcome of this examination is a Certificate of Proficiency in Choir Training.

This is the second of six workshops on this topic to be held this year. In this workshop, we will continue to look in detail at the examination requirements, both practical and written, and also the ear tests. If you missed the first workshop in September, it's not too late: you can still join in. Please just let me know that you plan to attend the upcoming workshop so that I can have hand-outs ready for you.

For further information or to be in touch, please e-mail me at fbmacdonnell@ sympatico.ca, or call me at 613-726-7984.

RCCO Annual Organist–Clergy Dinner



KS on the Keys Restaurant 1029 Dazé St. (NW Bank & Hunt Club)

Monday October 26, 2015 6:00 pm gather, 6:30 pm dinner

Cost: \$40.00 (incudes tip)

Guest speaker: James Bailey RCCO National President MENU: Salad: Garden or Caesar (chosen at the restaurant)

Dinner: (chosen at restaurant) several choices of entrees including chicken, salmon and beef stir-fry

Dessert

Tea/Coffee/Pop

Please register by Oct. 19 by sending a cheque payable to RCCO, Ottawa Centre to:

Suzanne Marjerrison 476 Evered Avenue Ottawa ON K1Z 5K8 613-724-3793

If you are sending a cheque for several people, please name each person in the group.

Pot Luck and Hymn Sing

On Sunday, September 13th the RCCO, Ottawa Centre enjoyed a delicious Pot Luck dinner followed by a Hymn Sing at St. Luke's Anglican Church.

Thank you to Rev. Dr. Mervin Saunders, Karen Holmes, Bob Jones, Heather Rice and Kirk Adsett for their lovely playing of the hymns. Our thanks, also, goes out to Bob Jones for making the kitchen available for the Pot Luck dinner and organizing the Hymn Sing.



SUZANNE MARJERRISON





Claude Lemieux Concert Review

Saturday, September 26th, a lovely autumn evening, about 50 people gathered at St. Anne's Church in Lowertown to hear Quebec City organist Claude Lemieux open up the 27th season of Pro Organo.

The first half of the programme featured German composers from the baroque era. The concert began with Heinrich Scheidemann's *Alleluia laudem dicite Deo nostro* (Praise our God, alleluia). He used the bold trumpet on the Great to solo out the cantus firmus. It was followed by one of Dietrich Buxtehude's larger works, the *Fantaisie-chorale sur 'Nun freut euch, liebe Christen, gemein'*. M. Lemieux caught the improvisatory style of the Fantaisie with effective use of registration.

The first half closed with Bach's massive *Prelude and Fugue in E Minor* (the 'Wedge'). His articulation was most effective and helped in shaping the different musical ideas presented in the prelude. He introduced the fugue subject on the Great trumpet. (I love it when organists include the trill in the subject even when heard in the pedal voice, and M. Lemieux did this with ease!)

A sensitive reading of Mozart's *Fantasy in F Minor* (K. 594) began the second half of the program. M. Lemieux

took into consideration the room's favourable acoustics with regard to the rests in the Allegro section. Like many da capo pieces where you ornament the recap, M. Lemieux used this technique in the final adagio.



César Franck's final organ composition, the *Third Chorale in A minor* showed off the organ to its best. Even some departures from Franck's registration suggestions (using a diapason and not the oboe in the Adagio, and then the use of the voix celeste in the section after the Adagio) were very effective.

ROBERT JONES

Gilles Fortin's *Méditatif* is based on the tune *Watch Over Your Children*. Composed in 2003, M. Lemieux caught the charm and wit that was so evident.

The programme closed with Denis Bédard's *Variations on 'Christus vincit'*. They were composed in 2003 and dedicated to Msgr. Donald Neumann, a priest at Holy Rosary Cathedral in Vancouver (where Denis Bédard is the titular organist). The work begins with a fanfare and is followed by three variations. The silvery cornet was used for the solo stop in the second variation.

The conclusion, using material from the introduction, used all the resources of the organ.

The appreciative audience was rewarded with the encore *Sleepers, Wake*, from Bach's *Schübler* collection. He used the Great Open Diapason to solo out the melody.

The last time Pro Organo had a recital at St. Anne's (given by John Grew) an appeal was made to donate money so the church could buy a new blower for the organ. Thankfully a new blower has since been installed. St. Anne's is a beautiful old building and they are hoping to restore the building (any donations are welcome!).



Pro Organo

next concert in the Pro Organo Ottawa series will take place on Friday, November 6th at 7:30 p.m. in the beautiful chapel of the Bruyère Convent (25, rue Bruyère). The featured performer will be Latvian organist Vita Kalnciems.

Born in Riga, Ms. Kalnciems studied piano and organ at the J. Vitols Latvian Academy of Music, and then continued studies with numerous well-known organists such as Guy Bovet, Lionel Rogg and Ludger Lohmann. She has taken prizes in many international competitions, and has played recitals in Latvia, and

KAREN HOLMES



throughout Europe. She has recorded for the Latvian Historical Organs series, and for radio and television. Currently, she works at the Latvian Academy of Music, the Riga Dom Choir School, and the E. Darzins Music School. She is organist at Jesus Lutheran Church in Riga.

The concert on November 6th is cosponsored by the North American Latvian Guild of Organists, which is presenting Vita Kalnciems in other Canadian events. The programme will include music by Bach, Swedish composer Oskar Lindberg, Sibelius and several Latvian composers who will be new to most of us. Details of the programme are on the Centre website.

Members' Recital

FRANCES MACDONNELL

any of us will have heard the sad news that St. Matthias Anglican Church may shortly be closing and amalgamating with All Saints, Westboro. Before that happens, and in order to celebrate the lovely three-manual Casavant organ while it is still in use in St. Matthias Church, the Ottawa Centre plans to hold a Members' Recital at St. Matthias Anglican Church on **Sunday November** **22nd at 3 pm,** the Feast of St. Cecilia, the patron saint of music.

Some of the organists who will play are to include Rachel Laurin, Matthew Larkin, Heather Rice, Mervyn Games, and Gilles Leclerc. Also playing, of course, will be Deirdre Piper, the longtime Organist and Choir Director of St. Matthias Church, and in addition, the parish choir will sing an anthem as part of the programme. A reception will follow the recital, and a free-will offering will be received at the door. Parking is available in the parking lot between the church and the Queensway, or on neighbouring streets.

For further information, please contact Frances Macdonnell at 613-726-7984 or email Frances Macdonnell.



The Calling to Christian Ministry

AS I described in the previous issue, the work and life of a minister is fairly "on going," to put it mildly. The ministry is always more than 40 hours a week, although it has to be in the paperwork.

For those in Christian ministry, how the world does things is less of a concern when compared to how God is calling disciples of Jesus Christ to new life. Thus, vacation and time off are something of a different sort. So, too, are transitional times.

In a minister's vocation, major moments of suffering and death can never be predicted, so he or she must always work ahead, just in case anything comes up and alters the weekly schedule. One funeral could shift everything during the week. So you can imagine what two or more funerals would do.

With a parishioner who is dying, in palliative care, many visits will take place, including a visit to the hospital or care home in the middle of the night if necessary. Literally, you are on 24-7!

Sometimes, there are somewhat crazy moments when you have to juggle personal and family life, and church work. In fact, there can be many of these times! For example, one Saturday I had to do a graveside service right in the midst of taking my son, Drew, to his two soccer games. Then, there are the times I come back from vacation or continuing education events in order to attend to the bereaved and lead funeral services.

Funerals, and the ministry around suffering and death, are a major priority for the minister, as well as the contemporary faith community. There are many important ministries taking place at that time. Life and death, and life after death are a priority!



The Christian journey is about being God's family, and the rites of passage—the pastoral offices as named in the Reformed tradition—are an essential aspect in our family life together. I am always appreciative of the families that recognize the busyness of my schedule, and help to accommodate that.

After over forty years in music and ordained ministry, I have come to know more fully what the Christian vocation entails and how we can engage in it in a fuller way. I sure don't know everything, far from that, but I have come to some

REV. DR. DAN HANSEN

powerful new places in my journey, especially theologically and pastorally.

Basically, there is a time for this, and there is a time for that. To put it another way, ministry is earthly life with a spiritual orientation. Thus, continuing education is part of each week, as well as an intentionally planned activity throughout the year. A day here, or a couple of days there, can be very helpful. The same is true for days off.

Although there may be a chosen "day off" every week, I have learned that it is necessary to be completely flexible about that. When parishioners need you, you must be ready and willing to respond. These are the pivotal moments in ministry, and one of the main reasons that you are there.

A minister works on God's time, not the world's, as I've mentioned, so the time you need away can easily be found on other days. I am sure many clergy will disagree with me here, but that is true. A part of that is learning to say "no" to some church activities, including denominational ones that you cannot possibly attend because of time constraints, the priorities of congregational ministry, family considerations, and your own spiritual well-being and health.

There are also times when people call on you, and time needs to be taken in working through the concern and any ...continued on page 6

... continued from page 5

planning that is needed. Some areas of ministry and spiritual care require longterm attention. It is helpful to have an overall sense of the community, and what the priorities need to be and can be.

In the counseling role, I see myself as a spiritual director—a fellow spiritual companion and traveler—so working in that way provides some helpful boundaries and goals. That is where most of my training is. Experience also plays a large part in one's ability to companion.

Every minister needs to find a rhythm for his or her week. That's important. There is an ebb and flow to it, a high point and a low point in that movement. And finding "Sabbath" in every day, and especially on Sunday, is central to all of this.

Clearly, and this is a point I want to underscore, you are rejuvenated in surprising ways, especially when you have been working extremely hard and, in normal circumstances, should be exhausted.

Faith always brings healing and new life. Going where your energy is and with what is resonating in you creates more places for God to be present in and through you. It also adds up to a healthy and happy life.

In many ways, what a minister does is what we all should be doing as ones baptized in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. However, in most traditions, because a minister receives a salary and benefits, and is set apart by ordination, commissioning, or designation, he or she is able to focus on Christian ministry and life in a major way. Ministry is a calling or vocation, as well as a daily job, how he or she makes a living.

It is no wonder that people, congregations, and their denominations are challenged in understanding retirement, and clergy cannot stop engaging in God's Word!

Some of the most powerful moments in ministry are the times when people share with me their gifts and talents, their homes, and their lives. Another wonderful moment is seeing people grow in Christ their life and commitment deepening. Further, an even more amazing experience is knowing and seeing how the Holy Spirit is actually at work in my congregations!

As I have also found over the years, the longer I am serving the church, including the time since my ordination, the more I am learning about God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, and my commitment to the Lord is strengthened. There are many creative possibilities in ministry, and some incredible joy that comes with it.

Besides, to put it simply, it is so darned interesting and exciting, and involves such a wide variety of activities and relationships. When people ask me how I am doing, I often say, "There is never a dull moment!" And that is so true—many wonderful, sometimes challenging moments of new life and hope.



One moment, you could be sitting with a dying parishioner and his or her family, and moving through a very difficult time, and the next moment you could be meeting with a couple planning the baptism of their new-born baby. At another time, you could be doing a service at a cemetery, bringing the remains of a beloved parishioner to his or her final resting place, and then eating a fantastic lunch with some congregants at Annie's Sumo Sushi and Grill.

An aside: By the way, there is no kickback involved in mentioning that. But it is a great place to eat with a group, and share a wonderful variety of food. The subsequent conversation and fellowship also provide much "food for thought"!

With the church and Christianity no longer being the status quo, indeed, these are very interesting times. Because it is more challenging to be Christian and the church today, clearer perspectives and commitments are essential, and that all relates to what ministers and their church flocks focus on and set as their priorities. Strong spiritual leadership is needed; so, too, is the ability to work together, focusing time, talent, and energy.

I want to invite those of you who have considered going into the ministry ordained, diaconal, commissioned, lay ministry—or might be thinking about that today, to take a new step in that journey, and let the Holy Spirit lead you. More than ever, churches need you; so, give it some prayerful consideration.

I guarantee that you will be changed and moved in some very powerful ways, and so, too, will the people around you!

My only word to the wise once you are on that road is, "Hold on! The Holy Spirit will definitely take you beyond thought and imagination!" Perhaps you already know what I am talking about.

In the church today, we need more commitment and leadership, not only in the ministry but also with all who are working together for the coming kingdom of heaven on earth—the whole people of God. When one understands baptism as the main calling of a Christian, and actually places it beside clergy ordination (for example) in terms of priority, then there is a strong sense of life-long vocation and dedication for every Christian and church leader.

Christians are baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, marked with the sign of the cross, given the gift of the Holy Spirit, and thus called to rise with Jesus daily to new life and action in God's world. There is one baptism, one faith, one Lord Jesus Christ, and one calling to love and serve one another and the world.

These are definitely interesting times, with challenging moments. But with a focus on the hope provided by God, through Jesus Christ, and in the power of his Holy Spirit, there is a strong calling today for every Christian to know the deepest dimensions of life, how God's world is connected, and the action required in responding.

And that can be profoundly lifechanging, fulfilling, healing, and reenergizing, not only for the Christian minister and his or her vocation, but also for everyone involved.

OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE 2015-2016

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NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25TH, 1:00 pm, St. Peter's Lutheran Church

Supply List

Amy Andonian	613 224-8117	Sundays, weddings, funerals. Lutheran, Anglican, Presbyterian, United.
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
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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



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.

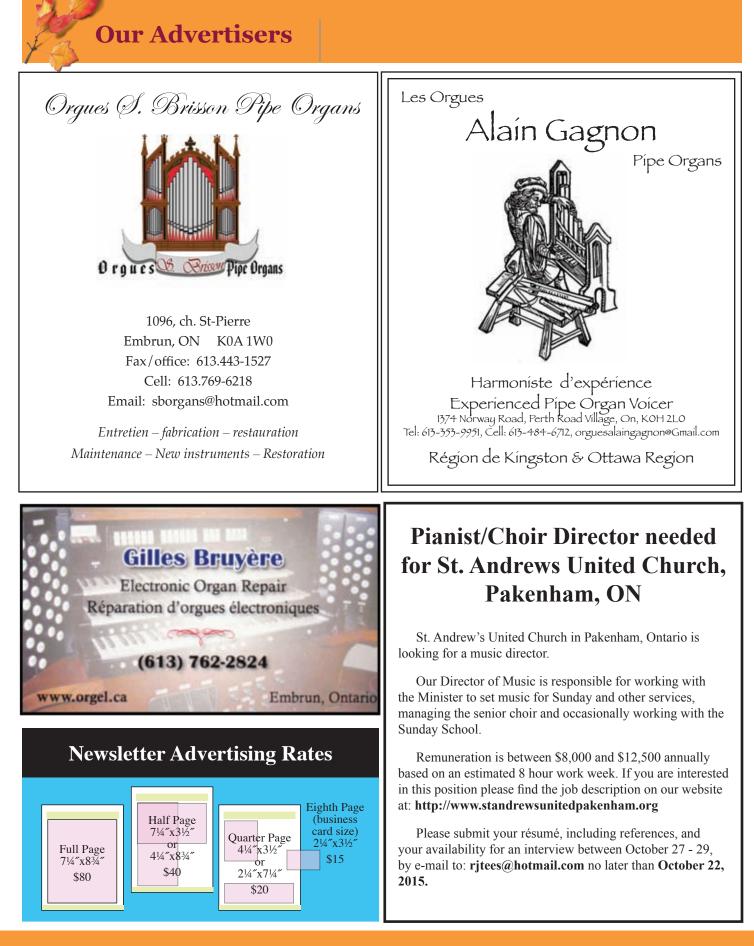
Robert P. Jones, M.Mus., ARCCO (ChM). All levels of students (teenager or adult). Lessons at St. Luke's Church (760 Somerset Street W.) Info:pentland@hotmail.com

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

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Organ Recital - Récital D' Orgue VITA KALNCIEMS (Latvia/Létonie)



Friday November 6, 2015 7:30 pm *le vendredi 6 novembre 2015 à 19h30*

Bruyère Convent Chapel Chapelle du Couvent Bruyère (27 Bruyère)

Bach, Lindberg, Sibelius, Latvian composers /compositeurs létoniens

rcco-ottawa.ca

Adult / Adulte \$25 (\$20 senior /âge d'or - \$15 student /étudiant)

This series is presented by the Royal Canadian College of Organists – Ottawa Centre Une présentation du Collège royal canadien des organistes – section d'Ottawa

We thank the City of Ottawa for its assistance in this series of organ recitals. Nous remercions la Ville d'Ottawa pour l'aide apportée à la tenue de cette série de concerts.

