

Con Gusta

KWCO Newsletter

November 2018

www.kwco.org

From the President's Desk ...

What a fantastic dinner concert on Nov 10 and we all owe the whole team a vote of thanks: Emily Cullen, Michelle Bergauer, joint chairs, Amber Karpuzov, table decorations, Erin McGoey, front of house, Heather Sundin and Vicky Abrams-Ogg, silent auction and programs, Heather Rawlings, treasurer, Joyce Allen, secretary for all the many, many hours of hard work they have put into making this such a successful concert. The challenge of a new venue meant that they were unable to sit back and rely on the last dinner concert plans but had to reinvent this concert wheel! And, having attended one of their committee meetings it is quite clear that they were incredibly well organised and I was totally reassured that the whole evening would be a resounding success. For those who were not at our rehearsal on Tuesday the provisional figures are in and it looks as if we made about \$11,400 profit, which is a \$2,000 increase from last time. As Dan says – we are getting good at this!

Of course we need to thank Dan Warren for all his hard work too – without his dedication and encouragement we would not be the group of players we are today. If you think that opera is difficult to play, you need to know it is much more difficult to conduct! Fortunately we had 2 experienced and talented singers whom he could follow and this resulted in a relatively seamless performance in spite of Ernesto's surprise of getting the audience to sing!

Rick Bond our concert master has a huge task too. Not only does he practise and prepare every piece so the violins can follow his lead, but he bows all the string music before we start rehearsing. Rick is also a talented wood worker and has made several sets of risers for us which we use at most of our concerts. Thank you Rick!

There are many other people who helped at this and every concert – setting up and tearing down, rehearsal refreshments – it truly is a joint effort and I thank you all! If I try to thank everyone individually I would leave someone out but in truth we all need to be thanked for pulling our weight to make this a huge success.

We now have Christmas to look forward to and our party, which will be held at Jackie and Paul Wall's Piano Gallery in St. Jacob's on Tuesday Dec 11th. Look on page 4 for information.

Looking even further forward into 2020 – we have 2 important events coming up and we are looking for committee members:

- 40th anniversary celebrations – please speak to me (Rachel) if you are interested in helping here*
- Performance trip – probably to northern Italy if your suggestions after the last trip are to be followed.*
- Please speak to me about this.*

We are hoping to get both these committees started up in the new year so please let us know asap if you would like to help us.

In the meantime we are starting our rehearsals for our March concert and welcoming Heidi Wall – our favourite soloist – returning for another performance.



Rachel Prichard

Save the Dates!!!

Tues. Dec. 11 - 6.30 pm - Christmas Party at Wall's Piano Gallery!! Guests welcome. BYOB. Please bring appetizers or desserts, ready to serve on trays or in a container, as there are no kitchen facilities available. Bring any utensils required to serve your food with, as well. Punch, coffee, tea and small plates will be provided. RSVP to Jackie Wall by Sat. Dec 8

Happy New Year!!

Tues. Jan. 8/19 - 7.30 pm - first rehearsal of 2018, at the ARC

Sat. March 16/19 - Heidi Wall, Pianist - 9.30 am dress rehearsal and 8 pm concert at Knox Church

Tues. May 28.19 - 7.30 pm - **KNOX CHURCH REHEARSAL** - Please note **CHANGE OF LOCATION!!**

SUNDAY June 2, 3 pm - NOTE DAY AND TIME!!! Concert at Knox Church

Tues. June 4/19 - 6.30 pm - AGM and Potluck, location TBD

Tues. June 11/19 - 8 pm - Chamber Music Night at The Music Room

The Music Room -

Jan and Jean Narveson featured in Grand Magazine

The Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Music Society was founded in 1974 by our good friends, Jan and Jean Narveson. Before the concerts were held in The Music Room, they were held in area churches or UW halls.

In the 44 years it's been running, about 2000 shows featuring some of the most famous classical musicians in the world have been organized by them.

Violinist Joshua Bell, cellist Matt Haimovitz and pianist Anton Kuerti are among the talent that have graced that special place. The first concert at Jan's home was by cellist Ofra Harnoy! (I love knowing that when I get to play Jan's Steinway, that I'm playing the same keys as Anton Kuerti did!!)

Jan says "We are much better known to artists around the world than we are to our local population...There are very few practising chamber music artists anywhere who haven't played here" That's an amazing feat, especially in what really is a bit of a small town, and a small, but wonderful venue. Jan also says that he is deluged with proposals to play concerts at The Music Room, and that often the seasons just fall into place by themselves.

Unfortunately, the former UW Philosophy professor wonders how much longer he'll be able to continue attending his home concerts - he has developed Meniere's disease, a disorder of the inner ear that makes beautiful music sound worse than fingernails on a chalkboard. He's considering the future of his involvement in the KWCMS; for now, he's just trying to continue serving the musical community he loves, but knows that his time doing what he loves may have to come to an end.

Jan was awarded Canada's highest civilian award, The Order of Canada, in 2003, for his work with the Chamber Music Society, and the books he's published on philosophy (he's actually Dr. Jan Narveson, with a Ph.D in Philosophy - did YOU know that?? I didn't!) His Order of Canada actually sits on the floor of their living room, in front of a bookcase!

The article from Grand Magazine is quite a good length, and you can read the whole thing at www.grandmagazine.ca/wp-content/uploads/SOGRAND18-MUSIC-ROOM-1.pdf . Take a few minutes to read it - you'll be glad you did!

From the Librarian!!

Charlene Herbert (bassoon) our librarian, thanks everyone for the prompt return of their music from the November concert. If you haven't already done so, please get your music to her as soon as possible. Music for the March Concert was handed out Tuesday Nov. 13. See Charlene if you haven't received your new music.

Please note that our music exchange protocol has changed a little bit - we are to hand in THE ENTIRE BLACK FOLDER to Charlene with our music in it. The new music will be handed out in a 2nd black folder with your name and section on the front. There is no need to keep the black folder, as you will receive a new one with the new music!

IMPORTANT REMINDER!!!! Charlene reminds us all that any music handed out is NOT to be hole-punched for any reason. If you need to put music in a binder, you MUST PHOTOCOPY IT FIRST, and then hole-punch the copies for your own use. If original music is hole-punched, it is considered DAMAGED, and we are charged a fee when it is returned to its owners. Remember that we often rent music, and it must be returned in undamaged condition - any markings are only to be done in pencil, and holes or other damage are not permitted. Please help us to avoid unnecessary extra charges and damage to our music!

Opernball 2018

Well..... THAT was a blast!!! Our 2018 Opernball Dinner and Concert is done, and in the books! What a great night!

Enormous thanks to the Opernball Committee - Michelle Bergauer, Emily Cullen, Heather Sundin, Erin McGoey, Joyce Allen, Heather Rawlings, Amber Karpuzov. Special thanks to Vicki Abrams-Ogg for her invaluable help with the Silent Auction, and Chris Pratt for being our MC for the evening - he brings elegance and personality to our Dinner show, every time!

More thanks goes out to all the members and family members who helped set up during the day, who volunteered the night of the dinner, who manned tables, took tickets, ushered, young friends who ran the "Keep our Orchestra Afloat" game, those who saved our leaky lake, and those who helped with striking the stage, and with ALL the clean up afterwards!

We had a group of special guests at the Opernball - Mr. Ben Yang led 20 Chinese university leaders and senior education officials who are visiting Waterloo to exchange ideas and innovative practices with administrators at Laurier, UW and Waterloo Mayor Dave Jaworski. The delegation was interested in experiencing local culture and learn more about the region. We thank Elizabeth Brown for arranging for the delegation to attend the concert!

Our Opernball was a spectacular night with our fabulous soloists, Natalya Gennadi and Ernesto Ramirez, who took the orchestra to soaring new heights!!

Heather Rawlings submitted an initial financial report that exceeded our budget expectations!!

Tickets sold - 281

Profit - \$11 916.72 (2017 profit was \$10 000)

Silent Auction Total - \$5 713.08

Keep our Orchestra Afloat - \$440.25

(Note, too, that the 2nd violins WON!!!! Yessssss!!)



**KWCO's
Annual
Christmas Party!!**

Wall's Piano Gallery

Tuesday, Dec. 11, 6.30 pm

4 Hachborn St, West,

St. Jacobs

Live Jazz Pianist!!

BYOB

Please bring "finger-friendly" appetizers and desserts, ready to serve. Bring your own serving utensils .

Cold drinks, coffee, tea and plates will be provided.

RSVP to Jackie Wall by Dec. 8

**Vincenzo's
Gift Certificates**

Liz Graham has order forms for Vincenzo's Gift Card purchases. \$25, \$20 and \$100 cards are available. You can use them for Christmas and holiday giving, or you and your friends and neighbours can spend them on groceries or a bite to eat before rehearsal.

Vincenzo's donate 10% of our sales total to the KWCO, so please take advantage of a great opportunity for nice gifts, and money for the KWCO!

Please return your orders and money to Liz by Nov.27 rehearsal and the cards will be available for pickup at the Dec.4 rehearsal.

Thank you from Dan

After the wonderful 20th anniversary of my tenure with the KWCO, Rosanne and I had the most amazing time in Stratford thanks to your generosity. Music Man was spectacular (with wine and parking!) followed by a beautiful Indian dinner and luxurious overnight at the Oxford BNB. Every detail was taken care of. You are so generous and caring. Thanks again for such a beautiful and memorable gift.

Dan and Rosanne.

Vice President Needed!!

It takes a village, literally, to make this orchestra run. There are numerous committees and subcommittees at work every day. **Currently, the KWCO Board is in need of a Vice-President.** Please see Rachel Prichard for more details.

There's always room for more volunteers, and we're looking for help with our 40th anniversary event, as well as looking to form a Trip Committee. Please speak to Rachel Prichard.

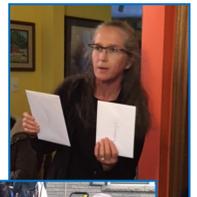
Thanks to Elizabeth Brown for volunteering to head up our Social Events.

Your KWCO board appreciates the vast amount of work that our members do behind the scenes.

June 2018 AGM and BBQ - Thanks go out to Heather and Dave Rawlings, who welcomed us all to their home in June for our annual AGM and BBQ. The day turned out chilly, but despite the lack of BBQ-ish weather, many members came and enjoyed a meal together. We bade 3 year President Heather Sundin adieu, thanked her for the enormous amount of work she's put into the KWCO, and welcomed new President Rachel Prichard to the post. The board had their first official meeting, and put the wheels into motion for the 2018-2019 season. Thanks go to everyone who shared their favourite salads and dishes - we had SO MUCH FOOD!!! A blessing we realize not all can claim.



Here's hoping our next bbq has a sunny day - the last 2 have been cool and rainy!



Waterloo Memorial Rec Complex Update

The City of Waterloo reports that in August 2018, city council approved the consulting services of Parkin Architects Ltd to planning and building the new Older Adult Recreation Centre at the WMRC. Parkin Architects were directly involved with the design of the original WMRC in the 1990's, and bring a wealth of experience to the project. Detailed planning associated with this exciting initiative will advance in the near future and there will be opportunities for the community to engage in this process.

Visit the city's website at www.waterloo.ca/en/government/Recreation-Facility-Development-Study.asp for more information about the expansion that the orchestra hopes to be able to be part of - our potential new home!

Dan's 20th Anniversary with the KWCO

June 2018

"On June 2, 2018, at their concert featuring the winners of the Kiwanis Concerto Competition, they held a reception to celebrate Daniel Warren's twenty years of music leadership with the KWCO. Former players and people associated with the Kitchener Waterloo Community Orchestra enjoyed treats, speeches and a slide show celebrating the years of Dan Warren's leadership.

In the last twenty years the Orchestra has gone from strength to strength, led by Maestro Warren. Twenty years ago the Orchestra was only 46 players, and now it is composed of about 60 musicians who play every week, presenting three or four concerts a year. Musicians have joined in on a regular basis after being guest players or taking part in one of the four European excursion with the Orchestra. Conductor Warren selects music that will be challenging to all sections of the orchestra.

Over the years, repertoire has focused on well-known classical compositions by such stalwarts of music as Dvorak, Mendelssohn, Grieg, Haydn, Beethoven, Gershwin and Tchaikovsky. New composers have not been forgotten, either; the orchestra premiered a piece, for example, by Roberta Cummings, who has since been featured on the new Canadian Women Composers tour. The orchestra has even performed Healey Willan's Symphony #1 and John Estacio's Farmers Symphony. Benefit dinner concerts at the Concordia Club (and now St. George Hall) have presented in contrast, a variety of opera arias and waltzes by Strauss, Rossini and Lehar.

A good conductor is expected to have a solid knowledge of all sorts of music. Some conductors can be prima donnas, hard task masters who use the orchestra to show off their own grandiose gestures. But Dan Warren is a leader who has an understanding of music as well as the capabilities of the players. He has a pleasing personality, combined with a flair for anecdote and an awareness of when humour can lighten a tense moment. Laughter contributes to a pleasant atmosphere that has continued for twenty years at weekly rehearsals.

On four occasions, the KWCO has ventured overseas at their own expense, to travel together and present concerts under Dan Warren's baton. Trips to Prague in 2007, Vienna and Salzburg in 2011, The Netherlands and Belgium in 2014 and Britain in 2017 highlighted the skills of both the conductor and the orchestra. The next trip is in the early planning stages."

Vinnie Buchanan, Music Times article, Sept. 2018

The orchestra and board of executives wishes to thank the 20th Anniversary committee for all their work - Heather Sundin, Michelle Bergauer, Emily Cullen, Erin McGoey, Fran Henderson, Amber Karpuzov, Heather Rawlings, Joyce Allen and Liz Fraser spent countless hours putting together the evening's activities and reception. Special thanks to the staff at Knox Church for their tireless work with us, helping the catering crew that included lots of orchestra family member volunteers who helped with set up and clean up - including Heidi Wall and Brent Fewster, who set up and managed the reception; Ali and Inge Kraushaar, who helped with front of house; James Donovan, Tricia Sundin, Eric Sundin, Will (Janice B's nephew) and many others who stepped in and helped with the clean up afterwards. THANK YOU ALL!!!

Congratulations to Dan, and to the KWCO, because we wouldn't be where we are without his leadership and care!

Here's to another 20 years with Dan at the helm!!



Kitchener Waterloo Community
Orchestra

The KWCO is committed to making orchestral music available to our local youth!

LISTENING

KWCO offers youth under 18 entry to our concerts at no cost: FREE!

PERFORMING

The KWCO partners with the Kiwanis festival to offer some winners the opportunity to play as soloists at our annual Youth Concerto Concert.

VOLUNTEERING

The KWCO is a Community Sponsor for student Community Involvement Activities. The KWCO offers volunteer placements to students to encourage youth involvement in making and performing orchestral music in the community. Activities completed, such as fundraising, assisting at performances and pamphlet delivery can count towards the 40 hours of Community Involvement Activities required for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

Email at kwcommunityorchestra@gmail.com for more information

FundScrip

FundScrip is an established, Canada-wide fundraising program in which you pay for shopping (groceries, gas, home & garden, entertainment, restaurants, and much more) with gift cards. **Each purchase automatically includes a donation to the KWCO.** Really, we're just asking you to change your method of payment!

How Fundscrip Works:

Buy \$100, Get \$100 Buy cards at face value, get face value at the retailers - you lose nothing

Shop As Usual With cards from over 230 leading retailers, there's no need to change your shopping habits

Pay With Gift Cards Pay with gift cards instead of credit/debit/cash for your everyday items & gifts

Raise Funds for the KWCO Each purchase automatically includes a donation for your group that can quickly add up over time

Visit <http://www.fundscrip.com/how-it-works> for more information to answer all your questions, or speak to Heather Sundin.

I wonder where she got to???

We haven't seen cellist Seana-Lee Wood much this season - wonder why? She's performing in a work her husband wrote - "Little Women" in Chemainus, BC, until Christmas. Then she starts rehearsals for a play by Steve Martin and Edie Brickell called "Bright Star" in Rosebud, AL, that will be produced in the spring of 2019! Break a leg, Seana-Lee!

Seana-Lee said she was delighted to see Joanne Clements at her show "Once" in St. John's earlier this year - they managed to meet after the show!



Meet your Board Members! A new feature for this season will be a series of articles to introduce you to the people on the KWCO Board, and the myriad jobs they do for the orchestra every year. This month you'll meet Janice Boich, Ellie Rimmer and Suzanne Brokaw

Ellie Rimmer - KWCO Board Secretary

Since September 2018, I have acted as the Secretary for the KWCO Board. This translates into, "the Secretary works collaboratively with the President to support the Board in fulfilling its administrative duties."

I served as KWCO President from 2008 to 2011; I was the Treasurer/ Chair of the Trip Committees (2007, 2011, 2014 and 2017) for our overseas trips serving as goodwill ambassadors for KW and Canada.

I have been part of the Committee putting together the plans for the Viennafest and Opernball concerts. I am a backbencher in the Cello section and have been in the Orchestra since 2000.

On the trivia side, Dan Warren's Grandmother Marie was my Sunday School Teacher for a couple of years in the '50's! The KWCO is an integral part of my life in this area and I cherish the memories past and look forward to making new ones.

Janice Boich - Long Term Strategy Committee Chair and Archive Committee Chair

New to the orchestra, and new to the board! I started playing viola with the KWCO in the fall of 2016, and joined the Archive Committee in 2017. The Archives are unique, as many community orchestras in Ontario just have various dusty boxes in church basements. Our orchestra is fortunate to have had Hildegard Lindschinger as a lifetime member of KWCO. Professionally, she was a librarian with Wilfrid Laurier University, and played oboe with KWCO for years. She created the framework for housing the documentation of the orchestra for posterity and historical interest. As well, she pioneered the electronic storage of the archives as the technology developed. The work was then taken on by the Archive Committee in 2016.

I was nominated to chair the Long Term Strategy Committee in June, 2017, which comes with a position on the Board. Last year the Committee focused on the role the orchestra can play in the community and made a commitment to bringing living orchestral music to students. As well as retaining our relationship with the Kiwanis Festival and promoting their winners as soloists, we've made entrance to our concerts free of charge to students and children under the age of 18. The KWCO offers volunteer placements to students which can count toward the 40 hours of Community Involvement Activities required for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma. This year, the Long Term Strategy Committee is charged with developing and maintaining the Three Year Strategic Plan for the Orchestra.

Suzanne Brokaw - Special Events Chair

Since September 2015 I have been the KWCO Special Events Chair. I'm the contact person for all of the orchestra committees that put on special concerts or events such as our just completed Opernball, Chamber Night, our Europe trips, and smaller events like Live at the Met and our yearly get-togethers at Christmas and end of season. I really appreciate the vast amounts of work that get done by all our committees; things that make the orchestra an interesting and vital place to be! Having been part of the Dinner Show Committees for three shows in the past, I REALLY know what goes into making these events a reality! I've been on the KWCO Board in several capacities over the past 10 years. In addition to Special Events, I was Communications Chair for 2 seasons, and a 'Member at Large' (read, does whatever jobs needed to be done at the time!) for more than a few!

I also have been the Con Gusto newsletter editor since 2012. We now produce 4 newsletters a year, keeping the members and the community abreast of news and events that affect the KWCO. We not only send the newsletter to our current membership, but also to our Lifetime Members, and the Cities of Waterloo and Kitchener, and it's available on the website for anyone to read.

I joined the KWCO in 2005, when, as a new Mom, I was desperate for a night out with adults! I'm a piano teacher, but I hadn't played my violin since high school. Hearing the orchestra practicing one night when I was at the ARC for another function, I realized this was something I would really like to be a part of. What I thought would just be an enjoyable night out playing music has become an integral part of my life - a night with good people, good friends and great music.