



Dundas Valley Orchestra

"Hi" Notes

ISSUE 20

Nov/Dec 2015

President's Message

No Presidential message for this issue because



our President is out of the country so we had to move forward without her. Perhaps she can tell us all about her holidays upon her return!

One moment! Here is a special message just in from Margaret:

"Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to all the DVO, players, volunteers and supporters all"

Music Director's Message

Hello DVO,

It's hard to believe this season is moving along so quickly! We've got one excellent St. Paul's performance and two good retirement home concerts in the books. Now all our attention will turn to the January repertoire - and there's still quite a bit of it ahead of us. We have not been able to get the arrangement of "Evita" that is on your list so we shall be making substitutions and that music will be ready on Tuesday, along with yet another revised rehearsal schedule (Yes Stan, another revision - yikes!). One of the most difficult aspects of this concert is rhythm and one of the best ways to address that is to listen to the repertoire. I know some of you are listening because you've commented on it or asked me questions. The more listening we do the better our rehearsal process will be! I'd be happy to provide more CDs or audio files if you don't have them already. Let me know about CDs or bring me a memory stick and I'll provide you with an alternate to the tsunami of Christmas music that is rushing toward us. Thank you for all your hard work and attention. The positive comments from the audience reinforce what a great job you're doing.

Well done!

I hope that you all have a wonderful break to celebrate the traditions of your families and faiths. Best of the season to all.

Holiday Cheers,

Laura

Visit our website: www.dundasvalleyorchestra.ca for more information about the orchestra.

Remembering Vimy



Once again we had a great concert! There were some 250 people in the audience and they loved it!

One of the things they liked was the sing-alongs of well-known songs handed down from parents and grandparents. There were also positive comments about the **Dundas Pipes and Drums** who added a very special sense to the occasion as did the expository pamphlet about the Battle of Vimy Ridge which was available to them. If you didn't get one of these pamphlets, find it on our website.

As is very often the case, our soloist, this time tenor **Michael Ciufu**, was one of the biggest hits. We'll have to have him back again, they say.

Here are some photos.



Remember back issues of **Hi Notes** are to be found on our website.

First rehearsal at Beth Jacob Synagogue

The first couple of months of rehearsals for this season have been different to say the least! Having to find temporary rehearsal space, organizing sectional rehearsals and adjusting to our new space. Who will forget the mental challenge of fitting ourselves into the new space? Here are some photos of the decision making. They show “mass chaos” initially which transforms into order and an apparent measure of contentment. Home at last!

EARLY ARRIVAL



More on next page ...

Rotary Club gets an earfull!!



Laura Thomas accepts a Certificate of Appreciation at the Rotary Breakfast

On October 28, 2015 a delegation of DVO members led by Music Director Laura Thomas attended the Rotary Club of Hamilton (A.M.) breakfast meeting to play a little Mozart and schmooze a little over bacon and eggs!

As we all know, this Rotary Club financially supports our Young Composer Award and we attend annually to extend our thanks and to inform them of the results of their support.

Dorothy Haartman, Viola Duff and Jim Jones serenaded the Rotary members before the meal and Laura spoke about the DVO activities. It is reported that a good time was had by all! Well done everyone!!





Next page:

ITS COMING TOGETHER!



Next page:

FINAL POSITIONS
PLEASE!



DVO - Rehearsal and Special Dates

2015-2016 Season

NOTE: All dates are subject to change as arrangements are modified. Be sure to check the most recent calendar.

2015

December

- 1 Nursing Home Concert -Meadowlands Retirement Community
- 8 Board Mtg and Rehearsal
- 15 Rehearsal

2016

January

- 5 Rehearsal
- 12 Board Mtg and Rehearsal
- 19 Rehearsal
- 24 **CONCERT**
- 26 Rehearsal

February

- 2 Rehearsal
- 9 Board Mtg and Rehearsal
- 16 Rehearsal
- 23 Rehearsal

March

- 1 Rehearsal
- 8 Board Mtg and Rehearsal
- 15 Rehearsal
- 22 Rehearsal
- 29 Rehearsal

April

- 5 Rehearsal
- 12 Rehearsal
- 19 Nursing Home Concert - Aberdeen Gardens
- 26 Nursing Home Concert - Villa Italia

May

- 3 Rehearsal
- 10 Board Mtg and Rehearsal
- 17 Rehearsal
- 24 Rehearsal
- 29 **CONCERT**

June

- 4 or 5 - Fundraiser - Date and Location TBA

NOTE TO PLAYERS:

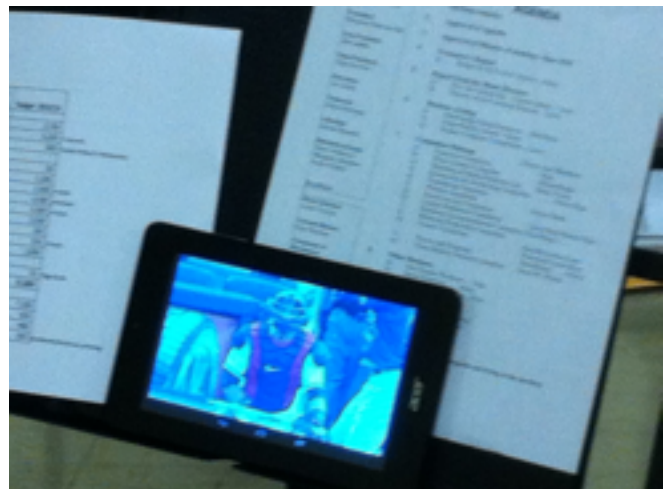
These dates are subject to change due to a variety of reasons so stay tuned for up-dates.

If you are planning holidays or substantial periods of being absent, please contact the Concertmaster (Olga) as soon as your plans are made. This helps greatly in our making arrangements for rehearsal repertoires.

Rule 1:

Never hold a rehearsal during the World Series!

There are some points in time which conflict. Even musicians follow baseball and rehearsals should **not** be held during the World Series! Here's the proof:



Scene (seen) at our St. Pauls rehearsal!

Congratulations to Jim Jones!

Here's an article which appeared in the Hamilton Mountain News recently.

Nov 19, 2015

Provincial award for Jim Jones *Distinguished Contribution Award from Teachers of English as a Second Language Association of Ontario*

By Gord Bowes

Jim Jones, a former head of the ESL department at Mohawk College, is being honoured for his work. The Teachers of English as a Second Language Association of Ontario recently named Jones its Distinguished Contribution Award winner for 2015.

Jones began his career in 1972 and was a Mohawk College administrator for close to 40 years. He began his career delivering English language programs and was soon pioneering new programs such as the bridging to employment and workplace programming, the association said.

"It is seeing the positive impact of the learners you've influenced over the years that is most satisfying," said **Jones**. "Here in the community of Hamilton, I still run into former students who have become successful as a result of the initial help they received as new immigrants in getting established through our ESL programs."

Let's chat on Facebook!

Many thanks must go to **Stan Alama** for looking after our Facebook page. If you haven't visited it yet, do so! There are several very interesting links about different music and interesting performances. We can also send messages to each other and by doing so make it an active part of being a DVO member. Find it on Facebook and "Like" us and join the group.

Anecdotes of Great Musicians

#150 **Beethoven's First Triumph**

The story of Beethoven's first triumph as a composer is told in a very interesting way by Meyerbeer. When Beethoven was scarcely sixteen years of age he was invited one evening by his good friends, the Von Breunings, of Bonn, to spend the evening with them in the company of a number of well-known musicians. Among them were Capelmeister Reis, the brothers Romberg, Count Waldstein, several members of the orchestra and others.

After there had been some music performed by various persons, Count Waldstein announced that he had received a trio in manuscript, and that he wished very much to hear it; but he desired not to mention the name of the composer until the work had first been performed. He then called on the two Rombergs and young Beethoven to try the composition *prima vista*. They complied. The work was found to be original in form and full of vigour and life.

Many expressions of admiration were given as to the trio, and much comment was excited as to who its composer might be. One declared that it was too passionate to be from Haydn's pen, and another added that it was too gloomy to be by Mozart. Ries declared that at any rate it was by a man who thoroughly understood his work.

Finally Count Waldstein announced that the trio was composed by young Beethoven. The musicians looked as if something has fallen from the clouds. Then succeeded the most hearty congratulations, and the young composer went to his humble home that night with a fresh inspiration for his life work, brought by this first triumph as a composer.

Excerpted from: *Anecdotes of Great Musicians*
by W. Francis Gates, Theodore Presser,
Philadelphia, 1897 309 pp.

Nursing/Retirement Home Concerts



Location: Aberdeen Gardens
Date: April 19, 2016
Address: 330 Dundurn Street South,
Hamilton
Tel: 905.529.3163



Location: Villa Italia
Date: April 26, 2016
Address: 530 Upper Paradise Road,
Hamilton
Tel: (905) 388-4552

Event Calendar 2015-2016

Sunday, January 24, 2016

Public Concert: "Hot! Hot! Hot!"

Tuesday, April 19, 2016

Nursing Home Concert

Location: Aberdeen Gardens

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Nursing Home Concert

Location: Villa Italia

Sunday, May 29, 2016

Public Concert: Antonín Dvořák PLUS!

Saturday or Sunday, June 4/5

Details to be confirmed

DVO Board of Directors 2015-2016

President: Margaret Sherman-Bell

Past-President: Olga Hencher

Vice-President: Jim Locke

Secretary: Jim Jones

Treasurer: Alicia Hutchings

Librarian: Homer Seywerd

Members-at-large: Lynne Calneck, Dorothy
Haartman, Margaret Jamieson, Rudin
Knights, Glenn Welbourn

Ex Officio members

Music Director: Laura Thomas

Composer in Residence: Mark Thomas

Archivist & Hi Notes Editor: Peter Hill

Dundas Valley Orchestra

Mailing address: PO Box 65587
Dundas, ON, L9H 6Y6

Website: www.dundasvalleyorchestra.ca

NOTE: Back issues of *Hi Notes* are available on
the website.

Nov/Dec 2015

Issue #20