

The Treasure Coast Chapter of The American Guild of Organists



Monthly Newsletter

April 2024



MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

St Andrews Episcopal Church in Ft Pierce is supporting the TCCAGO Scholarship Fund during the month of April as they anticipate hosting the Members Recital on April 28th at 4:00 pm. They are making this their Outreach Mission and church members will have the opportunity to designate all or part of their offering to go to this fund. As an added bonus, an anonymous donor will match the church's giving toward the fund.

Let me be the first to thank The Rev. Canon Ellis Brust, Rector of St Andrews and a strong supporter of church music and the organ, not only at St Andrews and Academy, but beyond. Canon Brust saw through the completion of their new A.E. Schlueter pipe organ and the renovated altar and chancel. The church now has a Choral Scholar program for students who sing in the Parish Choir and now they are extending that education to organ students.

If you know of someone who is looking to donate to our Scholarship Fund, please pass the word. Any amount is appreciated and I'll make the first contribution by sending \$100 to our treasurer, Tom Goetz, at TCCAGO, PO Box 643814, Vero Beach, FL 32964. Please write "scholarship" on the memo line. Will you join me?

Another decision the current board made is by offering a special membership entitled, "Friends of the Chapter". This membership goes entirely to our chapter and makes it affordable to join at just \$25/yearly, or more if you are so inclined. This will allow you to get all of our email blasts and newsletters, as well as info on the many events on the Treasure Coast and surrounding areas. It would not include the AGO magazine or voting rights, however. That would require a regular membership available through the AGO website. Presently, my email blasts include many non-members. To continue to receive these emails, please send \$25 to our post office box listed above and write "Chapter Friend" on the memo line.

This is also a time when I hand over the reins to our subdean, Anthony Baron. The chapter board line up is announced in this issue and I will be emailing out the ballot shortly. Just a simple reply yes or no will suffice. Sub-Dean TBA.

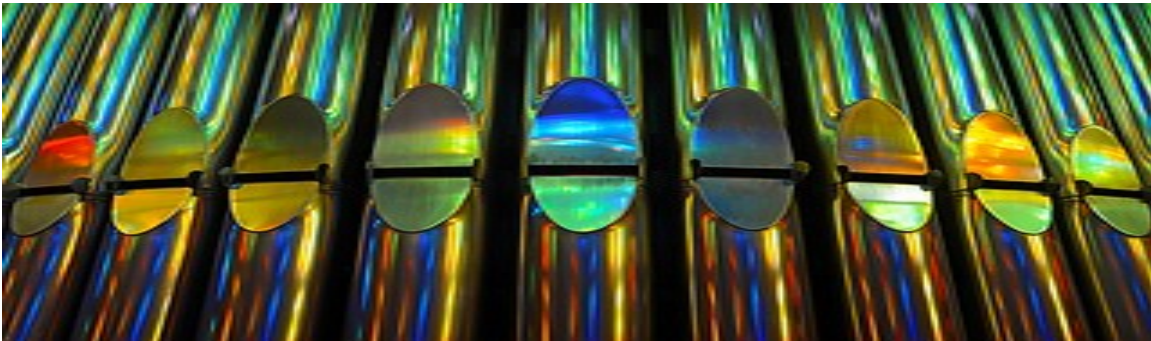
It has been a great honor to serve as your dean for the past two years. It's a wonderful organization with some really talented members. I will continue the newsletter in September.

Keep Practicing,
Steve Giddens
Dean, TCCAGO

TREASURE COAST CHAPTER OFFICERS FOR 2024-25

Dean:	Anthony Baron
Sub-Dean:	TBA
Secretary:	Dan Kroger
Treasurer:	Tom Goetz
Board Member :	Jerry Myers
Scholarship Chair:	Brady Johnson
Chaplain:	Rev. Dr. Michael Carter

**a ballot will be emailed to members soon*



THANK YOU FOR BEING AN AGO MEMBER

**Is your AGO membership current?
To manage your membership, renew, change your
address, find an AGO member, and more just go to
the national website:
www.agohq.org**

**Or
To become "Friends of the Chapter"*
send \$25 to TCCAGO, PO Box 643814, Vero Beach,
FL 32964**

**this special membership does not include the AGO magazine or voting rights*



TCCAGO Chapter Lunch
Ocean Grill Vero Beach
The next luncheon will be
September 5, 2024



APRIL PROGRAM:

Tri Chapter Emerging Artist Recital

Colin MacKnight,

Winner of the Audience Prize at Longwood Gardens

Sunday, April 14 at 4:00 pm

The Episcopal Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea

141 South County Road, Palm Beach

This concert is free and open to the public, as it is jointly sponsored by the Miami, Fort Lauderdale and Palm Beach Chapters of the American Guild of Organists.

TCCAGO'ER OF THE MONTH

DON INGRAM

DONALD INGRAM was born in Hinsdale, in southwestern New York on Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 1932. He took his first piano lessons at age 4½, and he began playing for Sunday School at age 9, and church (piano) at age 10. His first paying organ job was at age 12 in the Presbyterian Church, Cuba, NY.

In 1949, at age 17, he helped bring about the installation of a pipe organ at his home church, the Hinsdale Methodist Church, on the 100th anniversary of the church building. He gave a recital at that time and fifty years later performed on the newly refurbished instrument at the 150th anniversary.



While in high school, Don commuted to Buffalo, NY for organ lessons, and to Alfred University for carillon instruction. After graduating valedictorian, he was accepted at both Syracuse University and the University of Michigan. He chose Syracuse as a scholarship student and from there received Bachelor ('54) and Master of Music ('60) degrees in organ. His teacher and good friend was Dr. Arthur Poister, one of the outstanding organ professors of the twentieth century. During student days, Don also worked as Organist/Choirmaster (O/C) at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Cazenovia, NY, and while there designed the specification for a new Schlicker pipe organ which was installed in 1954.

Upon graduation, Don served as O/C at the Church of the Transfiguration in Cranston, RI, and in 1956 he was hired as Sales Manager and Staff Organist of the Schlicker Organ Co. in Buffalo where he was employed through 1963. During these years he designed specifications for a multitude of pipe organs. Over the years he has continued to serve as consultant for many new and rebuilt instruments.

As O/C at Kenmore Methodist Church from 1957-62, he prepared specifications for a new pipe organ installation in 1961 (and returned for the fiftieth anniversary recital in 2011). While at Kenmore he welcomed several guest conductors including Dr. Helen Hosmer, founder of the Crane Chorus at the Crane School at Potsdam State, Dr. Richard T. Gore from the College of Wooster, Ohio, and Robert Shaw, founder and conductor of the Robert Shaw Chorale.

Donald moved on to St. Paul's Cathedral (Episcopal), Buffalo in 1962. During his tenure there he founded the noonday organ recital series and the Buffalo Choral Society. His cathedral choir of men and boys sang at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine and Trinity Wall Street, NYC, the National Cathedral in Washington, with Robert Shaw, and with the Buffalo Philharmonic under Josef Krips, and Lukas Foss. Amongst other accomplishments there, he commissioned the Harold Darke *Communion Service in A minor* (sometimes referred to as "Drake in A" at K Street).

After personnel changes in Buffalo, Don was invited in the summer of 1968 to St. Croix, US VI, but by the end of the year, he was called to Albany, NY. During his brief time in St. Croix, he became a child welfare caseworker. This experience was to later help qualify him as a social worker in Massachusetts.

While O/C at St. Peter's Church, Albany from 1969-78, Don supervised the installation of two new pipe organs (Schlicker) in the choir and gallery. From 1978 to 1982 he was O/C at St. Paul's, Troy, NY (the Tiffany Church). Rather than replace or revamp the 1921 Austin at St. Paul's, however, repairs undertaken were restorative of this classic "symphonic" organ. The 1980's saw appointments at Christ Church, Baltimore, Pilgrim Lutheran Church Warwick, RI, and St. Elizabeth's, Sudbury MA. In 1989 he took the O/C position at historic Trinity Church, Newport, RI, and then in 1994 he assumed that post at Trinity Church, Vero Beach 1994-99. It was here in Vero Beach that he designed the new Harrison and Harrison pipe organ which was installed in 1997 (and thence moved to the new church in 2005).

However you wish to count, this was the fifth or sixth new organ installed in churches where he served (depending on how you count the St. Peter's installation). After fifty-five years, Don "retired" at the end of 1999 to his home on the Mohawk River in New York. **BUT**, retirement positions have included: interim at The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Trinity United Methodist Church, and First Presbyterian Church, Albany, and Trinity Church, Newport, First United Presbyterian Church, and once again at St. Paul's, Troy.

The American Guild of Organists has been a major interest and influence in Don's career. Besides being founding Dean of the Treasure Coast Chapter, he served as Dean of the Buffalo and Eastern NY Chapters. He was Region II Chairman for three terms and member of the Executive Committee of the National AGO. He was largely responsible for bringing the national AGO convention to Buffalo in 1970 and he was chair and co-chair of two Regional AGO conventions (1979, 2003) in Albany.

He gave his first recital at the Washington National Cathedral in 1957. This was followed by over four decades of recitals there. After the 1957 recital, the late Day Thorpe, then Music Critic of The Washington Evening Star, observed there had been desultory talk about the organ and replacing it: "Ingram showed an odd type of salesmanship when he made the old girl sound like a million dollars."

Don has presented recitals in 30 states, Canada, US Virgin Islands, England, Scotland, and Sweden, and has been honored by Trinity Church, Vero Beach, and St. Paul's Church, Troy, with the title Organist Emeritus.



The next Space Coast Chapter event will be a potluck at Advent Lutheran Church at 6:00 PM on Friday, April 12th.

There will be a demonstration and presentation by Dr. Neal Campbell, organist at Trinity Episcopal Church, Vero Beach.

Tango, Rags, & Classical Extravaganza

Chamber Music Concert

Concert Series 2023-2024

**W APR 7TH
D 2024
S 3 PM**

Henry Hutchinson, Violin
Matt Stott, Violin
Viera Borisova, Viola
Ana Ruth Bermúdez, Cello
Marcos Flores, Piano

Performing works by Piazzolla,
Scott Joplin & César Franck.

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:
CBTSUMC.ORG/CONCERT-SERIES,
CHURCH OFFICE M-F 9 AM - 4 PM,
AND AT THE DOOR.



3755 Highway A1A
Vero Beach, FL 32963
cbtsumc.org | 772.231.1661

TICKETS :
ADULTS \$30
YOUTH \$10

If you feel bad about procrastinating, just remember that Mozart wrote the overture to 'Don Giovanni' the morning it premiered



Our membership recital is at St Andrews Episcopal Church in Ft Pierce, April 28th at 4 pm. Tom Goetz has graciously offered to host the event and there will be refreshments afterwards. If you're interested in performing, please send Steve Giddens the title of your piece, composer, and, please, limit your selection to 7 minutes. Please sign up by 4/10. To set up prior practice times, contact Tom at goetzmusic1@gmail.com.



A blustery day in February on Ft Pierce beach while hosting Jason Roberts





AGO 2024
SAN FRANCISCO
June 30–July 4



TCCAGO Officers for 2023–2024

Dean:	Steve Giddens
Subdean:	Anthony Baron
Secretary:	Dan Kroger
Treasurer:	Tom Goetz
Board Member :	Jerry Myers
Scholarship Chair:	Brady Johnson
Chaplain:	Rev. Dr. Michael Carter
Webmaster:	Claire Klein