

The Treasure Coast Chapter of The American Guild of Organists



Monthly Newsletter

March 2022

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

I had the pleasure of being able to spend a week with friends who winter in Orange Beach, Alabama. "OB" is a delightful resort area with lots of condos on the beach that rent for a week, a month, or several months.

There are large areas set aside as wildlife preserves complete with bicycle trails, nature walks, many lovely parks, sports facilities (we played a lot of pickelball), and an incredible variety of restaurants.

My friends enjoy that area, and were delighted to show it off to me. And I enjoyed it too.



Being relatively close to New Orleans, OB shares a connection to Mardi Gras by hosting musical events and several parades. I acquired a bunch of beads I'll never wear by attending one of those parades for awhile.

I got into several interesting conversations about Mardi Gras with locals and visitors. Not one of the folk I talked with knew that "Mardi Gras" is French for Fat Tuesday. Nor did they know what "Fat Tuesday" is.

I'm guessing most, if not all of us, know that Fat Tuesday is the big day of indulgence before Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent. On Ash Wednesday, we receive the imposition of ashes as a visible reminder and witness that we "are dust, and to dust we will return."

It seems incongruent to receive those symbolic ashes in the wake of "Fat Tuesday" partying. And it seems incongruent to party big and then give up some indulgence the next day for Lent.

But that's how we human beings are. So we need the season of Lent to be deeply reminded that our human natures need more than words of encouragement and a pat on the back. Lent recalls how deep is our need, and how desperate our situation. Lent impresses us once

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(Dean's message)

again with the tremendous price that won our salvation.

I pray that as church musicians we will lead our congregations well in this journey of self-knowing and humble faith. And even as we ready this music, we are also no doubt practicing the exuberant music of the upcoming Easter celebration. "But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord, Jesus Christ." A blessed season of faith and renewal to all!

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WELCOME TO TCCAGO'S NEWEST MEMBER:

Orlin Serdarov

Orlin is living in Port St. Lucie, and is working to hone his skills as an organist. He looks forward to meeting fellow musicians in the area and participating with us in organ-related happenings.

Orlin's contact information is in the updated directory which is available on the "members page" of the TCCAGO webpage.

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MEMBERS' DIRECTORY ONLINE

The Members Directory is available on our TCCAGO website, on a newly-created "Members Only" page. This saves paper, postage, and handling by our volunteers, and keeps the Directory at your fingertips. Visit <https://tccago.org/> and scroll down to

the middle of the Home Page. Click on the Button labeled "Sign Up For Members' Page" and you'll receive simple instructions to gain access.

If you are experiencing difficulty using a password to get the Directory, Dan Kroger or Claire Klein can email you a PDF copy of the Directory.

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MEET YOUR FELLOW TCCAGOers

Dr. Ray Adams

Ray Adams was raised in a family that had its roots in Appalachia, and was exposed to the instruments of that culture: the banjo, guitar and mandolin. Unlike others who have appeared in this department of the newsletter, the accordion did not figure into his musical background. Nor did any keyboard instrument.

But Adams' parents heard their boy singing at an early age and knew that he had talent, so they bought a Baldwin spinet with a split keyboard and one octave of pedals. Interestingly, his first organ teacher was a theatre organist. But he fell in love with the sound of the pipe organ in second grade when he saw the movie, "The Sound of Music." Later in life, he would travel to the Salzburg Cathedral and actually play a concert there!

A trombone player in his high school's marching band and jazz ensemble, Adams also studied organ at the local Presbyterian Church. In order to study organ at Wittenberg University, during the second half of high school,
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he first had to learn to play the piano well. His favorite piano music was jazz and boogie; and he studied serious literature for the organ.

Adams spent a year of study in Berlin at the famed Berliner Kirchenmusikschule, founded by Hugo Distler and Ernst Pepping, with the organist Carl Hockreichter, where he also picked up an interest in choral conducting. He concluded his studies in graduate school at the University of Iowa, and took a position at The Community Church of Vero Beach in 1983.

In 1985, Adams founded the Vero Beach Choral Society. He took the choir to Estonia; two performances at Carnegie Hall; and to Coventry Cathedral at the invitation of Sir David Wilcox.

Adams retired from the Indian River Charter High School's Schumann School for Visual and Performing Arts. He is a second degree martial arts practitioner of Tang Soo Do. One of his dreams, as the only one in his family who is not a pilot, is to earn a pilot's license.

One of the transformative experiences of Adams' life was the death of his son, Nolan, in 2005. One of the effects of this tragedy was to make him more humble. He tries not to judge anyone because "we don't know their life stories." He put these lessons into practice in his position at the charter high school, where some of the kids with trouble in their lives would confide in him.

Sometime near the end of March or

sometime in April, Adams will hopefully host a TCCAGO event at his home. In addition to a piano and a harpsichord, he also owns a reed organ—which his student, Joey Rumberger (featured in the last issue of the newsletter), is nearly finished restoring.

We look forward to that meeting with Ray Adams and his family as we experience the hospitality and music of his home.

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The Space Coast Chapter has been gracious with inviting us Treasure Coasters to several of their events.



Email: infoagospacecoast@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.agospacecoast.org>



"WINTER MUSICAL INTERVAL WITH PIPES"
Space Coast Chapter Members' Recital

Space Coast Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and Ascension Lutheran Church

PRESENTS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2022
3:00 p.m.

Ascension Lutheran Church
1053 Pinetree Dr.
Satellite Beach, FL 32937

All residents and visitors have an afternoon delight to listen to a variety of pipe organ music, with sounds of mixture of music of Classical Composers to enrich your afternoon of entertainment by professional organists and musicians of Space Coast Florida. The program will include classical and popular works for an audience of all ages to enjoy

Public is Welcome Bring your Family and Friends
Free Concert Donations Welcomed

For information: 321-610-8613 or 321-914-4419

One wonderful event was the potluck and master class with Michael Hey. On the following Sunday, Mr. Hey

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(Michael Hey)

performed a concert at Advent Lutheran Church. If you would like to view and hear that performance, go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rpG7V0sX-GM>

Another event at the Space Coast was also recorded – their annual Members Recital. If you would like to hear the musicians of the Treasure Coast Chapter performing, narrated by Claire Klein, go to:

https://youtu.be/I_S4A6H4W0s

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CAN YOU VOLUNTEER?

In communication with Space Coast Chapter, I found out that they have been printing up booklets for their Members Recitals and similar events. These little booklets have full and half page ads, along with business cards, and they raise some considerable funding for the chapter.

Barbara sent me a form they use, with permission for us to do the same. If you could volunteer to do this advertising for our Treasure Coast Chapter events and /or directory, here’s what it would involve:

1. Send out the advertising form with a cover letter I will write to businesses that deal in organs and keyboard instruments;
2. Send out the advertising form with a cover letter I will write to businesses known by our members who might want to advertise with us.

Replies will be sent to our Treasurer, Paul Ives, who will handle the money end of things. Paul will also assemble the ads and submit them to the dean in time for programs to be prepared.

Could you assist the chapter by volunteering to take on this project?

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TCCAGO Officers For 2022-23

- Dean: Jack VanderPlate
- Subdean: Steven Giddens
- Secretary/Treasurer: Paul Ives
- Scholarship Chair: Brady Johnson
- Chaplain: Rev. Dr. Michael Carter
- Webmaster: Claire Klein

Board Members

- Class of 2022
- Class of 2023: Jill Truax
- Class of 2024: Dr. Tom Goetz

Lenten
 ORGAN AND POETRY SERIES
 THURSDAYS AT 11:00 A.M.

Join nationally-recognized poets to hear the spoken word, highlighted by organ repertoire and improvisation by Andrew R. Galuska

- March 3 Steve Bradbury of Melrose, FL**
Artist, Scholar & Translator of Chinese Poetry
- March 10 Janisse Ray of Reidsville, GA**
Educator & Writer of Literary Nonfiction & Eco-Poetry
- March 17 Rick Campbell of Alligator Point, FL**
Poet, Educator, & Publisher
- March 24 Keith Flynn of Asheville, NC**
Poet, Publisher & Musician
- March 31 C.M. Clark of Sebastian, FL**
Poet, Educator & Literary Scholar
- April 7 Sean Sexton, of Vero Beach, FL**
Artist, Cattleman & Poet Laureate of Indian River County

The Community Church of Vero Beach
 1901 23rd St. Vero Beach, FL 32960
 www.facebook.com/ccovb.org
 772-562-3633 www.ccovb.org

If you would like to include your church's events in this calendar which is also available on the TCCAGO website, email the dean at jvdplate@gmail.com

TCCAGO and AREA EVENTS OF INTEREST				
Thursdays during Lent	11:00	Lenten Organ and Poetry Series (Cf "Lenten" flyer above in this newsletter)	Community Church of Vero Beach	(772) 562-3633
No RSVPs... So no lunch reservations	12:15 – 1:30	TCCAGO First Thursday Luncheon	At Ocean Grill Restaurant 1050 Beachland Blvd, Vero Beach	RSVP by 3/1 to Jack VanderPlate jvdplate@gmail.com
April TBA	TBA	TCCAGO Get Together	Ray Adams' Home	RSVP Ray Adams reavbmus2@gmail.com
Sunday April 24	4:00 PM	Vero Beach Choral Society Concert (Mozart Solemn Verspers and more)	1 st Presbyterian Church 520 Royal Palm Blvd Vero Beach	Church Office 772.562.9088
Sunday May 22, 2022	TBA	TCCAGO Members Recital and Annual Meeting	First Baptist Church 2206 16th Ave Vero Beach	Church Office 772-567-4341