

# The Treasure Coast Chapter of The American Guild of Organists



Monthly Newsletter

April 2022

## A Message from the Dean

While I was looking around for something else entirely (I forget what it was) I saw a non-copyrighted version of the Ukrainian national anthem for organ online, and downloaded it. I sent an email out to our members with the anthem attached, and mentioned that I would be using it in my preludes.

Since then, I know of at least three other organists who have also used that music as part of either preludes or postludes.

In the frenzied effort to get choirs and service music ready we sometimes lose sight of the meaning of the season. Allow me to relate two stories that brought home to me the power of music to touch the heart in ways that give voice to our lamenting the human condition, and the power of God's redeeming love.

The first occurred on a Sunday morning on which I had played the Ukrainian national anthem as part of the prelude. After the service a man came by the organ console and waited for me to finish the postlude.

He looked at me with a very earnest face and in a thick Slavic accent said, "Sir, I am a Russian." My heart sank. But he continued, "I want to thank you for playing the anthem of our brothers in Ukraine. I am ashamed of what we are doing to them." A redemptive moment.



Ray Adams played the anthem as part of a postlude when a group from Tennessee had joined the church for worship. One of the members of that group was a shy woman from Ukraine. As her anthem was playing, she stood and sang her nation's song. A moment of lament, and of redemption.

Probably the two biggest events in the life of a church organist are

(Message from the Dean)

Advent through Epiphany and Lent through Holy Week and Easter. The mystery of the incarnation, the soul's journey of lament for our sins through Lent, and the celebration of the world's hope in our Lord's resurrection... we live all of that through Word and Sacrament, but also uniquely through music.

Mystery, lament, redemption. What a joy that we have the privilege of leading God's people in music that so deeply touches the soul.

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## **GET TO KNOW YOUR FELLOW TCCAGOers**

### **Orlin Sedarov**

Orlin ("Ory") Sedarov is TCCAGO's second newest member. (Tom Hall, organist and choirmaster at St Augustine Episcopal Church, recently joined our chapter as the newest member.) Ory was born in Bulgaria. His earliest musical training was on the bassoon. But his middle school, which was dedicated to the arts, required all students to begin studies on the piano beginning at fifth grade. So Ory began his training, doing all the Czerny and Hanon keyboard exercises.

Ory immigrated to the United States and completed the studies in science he had begun in Bulgaria. He is quite the world traveler having been born in Bulgaria, and traveled to Cyprus, Boston, New Jersey, Virginia, Hawaii,

and now Florida. He has an associate's degree in science, and is presently studying towards his bachelor's degree. He is putting that scientific training to good use as a lab technician at Tradition Hospital in Port St. Lucie.

Ory is serious about honing his skills as an organist, and recently added a 3 manual Viscount organ to his home. Having been raised on the straight European pedal boards, he wanted a non-radiating concave pedal board which required a special order, combining the best of the European and American AGO approaches. At the moment his new pedals are somewhere between Italy and the USA due to shipping woes brought on by covid and other supply chain issues.



Ory's passion is the baroque: Bach, Buxtehude, Vivaldi... But he wants to develop a well-rounded organ capability, and is aiming at eventually being able to take the AGO's exam for the "Service Playing Certificate." Ory is also very much looking forward to meeting other musicians in the area, and actively participating in our

TCCAGO events.

Welcome, Ory! We hope our Treasure Coast Chapter of the AGO will soon feel like "home" to you.

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## We invite you to join our TCCAGO Chapter

We are united in our passion for the organ. Whether you're an organist, or organ buff, a concert organist, or a beginner; have an advanced degree, or are self-taught; play a traditional pipe organ, or electronic organ; are a choral director, or simply love the organ... you will find a warm welcome with the AGO.



As a member, you will have opportunities to:

- n Become part of a vibrant community of organists who share knowledge, insights and inspiration.
- n Enhance your skills through in-person and virtual programs.
- n Stay connected online.
- n Access all AGO national membership benefits including: free webinars and workshops, certifications,
- n A subscription to the monthly magazine *The American Organist*, and our job board.

For more information please contact: Jack VanderPlate, Dean of the Treasure Coast Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. [jvdplate@gmail.com](mailto:jvdplate@gmail.com)



### Interesting Factoid

There is more music written for organ than for any other instrument or ensemble.

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### Interesting Word Play

Isn't English a marvelous language? In how many other languages do you recite in play, and play in a recital?

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### My take on Cantors

(From Steve Giddens who adds, "I've played for many!"):)

1. Diva Cantor-  
This is the cantor that knows everything and demands that you should too. Usually she, but not always, thinks that they are the better cantor hands down.
2. Child Cantor-  
These are children that speak through a parent and can be difficult. Patience is called upon. (See Diva cantor)
3. The Itch Cantor-  
This is the cantor that calls, texts, and emails 24 hrs a day to give opinions, change music, make key changes and worry the upcoming Mass.
4. The Shy Cantor-  
This is the cantor that needs prodding

and a good microphone. There will be instances of rests taken when there should be singing and singing when there should be rests.

5. Off Key Cantor-

This cantor should keep his/her day job.

Often everyone is too mortified to ask they sit it out but they should sit it out and perhaps not even join the congregation in singing.

6. The Weird Organist

Yes, all the above goes for organists too.

However, they are usually so strange and unbalanced that it's not unusual for one to go off and get upset over something trivial and quit suddenly, only to show up at another church to begin the procedure again. (See Short Fuse)



Serving TCCAGO 2021-22

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



*American Guild of*  
**ORGANISTS**

## TCCAGO AND AREA EVENTS OF INTEREST

Date:	Time:	Event:	Venue:	Contact:
Sunday March 3	3:30 pm	Neal Campbell Organ Recital	Bethesda By The Sea 141 S County Rd, Palm Beach	(561) 6554554
Thursday April 7	12:15 pm	TCCAGO "First Thursday" Lunch	Ocean Grill 1050 Beachland Blvd	RSVP the Dean by Tuesday 4-5
April—To Be Announced		TCCAGO Get Together	The Adams Home	
Sunday April 24	4:00 pm	Vero Beach Choral Society Concert	1 <sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church of Vero Beach	(772) 562-9088
Sunday May 22	4:00 pm	TCCAGO Members Recital	First Baptist Church 2206 16 <sup>th</sup> Ave	Michael Carter (772) 321-4341