

William “Ritchie” Clendenin

I am a Charter Member of the International Trumpet Guild. The 1977-79 Conferences at the University of Illinois, University of Wisconsin and Arizona State University were outstanding! The opportunity to hear great artists including Timofei Dokshizer, Adolph Herseth and Armando Ghitalla was a significant experience. I also played in the Festival of the Trumpets Concerts in 1977 and 1978.

In 1979, Professor Harold Homes asked me to organize the Festival of the Trumpets Concert which was held in the evening at Arizona State University. It was a great opportunity for me to meet and work with many ITG Professors. The tradition of Festival of the Trumpets has continued for many years at ITG Conferences. In 1981, Dr. Frank Baird asked me to be in charge of the ITG Solo Competition at the University of Colorado Boulder. The student trumpet soloists were superb that year with David Bilger of the University of Illinois and Tim Anderson of the University of Nebraska being awarded First Place Honors.

The International Brassfest in 1996 at California State University, Long Beach was a spectacular event for all brass players. The CSU, Fresno British Brass Band was invited by David Hickman of the Summit Brass to present a reading session which was open to participants of all brass instruments. Robert Nagel and I were in charge of the morning session. My brass band also played a Prelude in the afternoon for the Lecture Recital of Edward Tarr. The Evening Concert of the Summit Brass was a memorable performance at the International Brassfest.

The ITG Journal has been an important publication for many years. The October 2021 Journal had excellent coverage of the ITG Virtual Conference. I am proud that several of my former trumpet students have contributed to the ITG Journal.

Former CSU, Fresno Music Department Chairman Michael Caldwell was the ITG Journal Editor for several years and ITG Award of Merit recipient Frank Gabriel Campos of Ithaca College has been the Clinic Editor for many years. The broad range of topics adds to the excellence of the ITG Journal.

I studied trumpet with Doctor Frank Baird for my Bachelor of Music Degree in 1965 and Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in 1973. Robert Nagel was my Trumpet Professor at Yale University for my Master of Music Degree in 1967. I was in the cornet/trumpet section of the United States Marine Band during the Vietnam War. From 1973 to 2001, I was a Music Professor at California State University, Fresno. Frank Gabriel Campos, Christopher Cox and Nathan Sobieralski were outstanding trumpet students during my years of teaching. I was given the distinction of Professor Emeritus in 2003 and have been retired in Colorado for twenty years.