



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

As this year is about to end we ask ourselves, "where do we go from here"? What road do we take to get us to from point A to point B?

Working on pianos can be an easy way to make a living or it can be a hard way to make a living. What road are you willing to take? Do you want to learn an easy way to fix a stubborn problem or learn the hard way? We have the answers right in front of us, it's called networking. Networking is a term meaning to consult with others to find the answers. Without networking we may have to find the answers through trial and error. I don't know about you, but I find the word error to be an offensive word. It means malpractice and it is used a lot in the medical field. Why put yourself through that when you can get the problem solved by asking around?

At the next Chapter meeting there will be many technicians who may or may not have as many years of experience as yourself. But I can guarantee that if you have a situation concerning a piano problem, someone in that room will have the answer. So take it upon yourself to get the answers that will make your day go by more easily and more enjoyably.

See you at the Chapter meeting.

Your President,

MEETING NOTICE

Monday January 3, 2005

6:30 - 7:15 Applied Skills
6:30 - 7:30 Board Meeting
7:15 - 7:45 Food Served
7:45 - 8:00 Business Mtg.
8:00 - 9:30 Main Technical

Applied Skills:
Colleen Schulte
Main Technical:
Craig Fehrenbacher, RPT

Meeting will be hosted
at Evola Music Center
7170 No. Haggerty Road
Canton, MI 48187

Directions:
on Haggerty Road,
North of Ford Road.,
North of Warren Rd.
Phone: (734) 455-4677

CHAPTER PROJECT will be on
Saturday January 8, 10:00 am.
It will be held at Mark &
Charmaine Haas' shop, located
at 3925 Fort St., Lincoln Park.
East side of Fort St. North of
Goddard Street.
Phone: (313) 381-7799. Case
repair and refinishing will be
the focus of the Baldwin
Hamilton project. See you
there!

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**The Detroit-Windsor Chapter
of the Piano Technicians Guild**

Applied Skills

- will be presented by Colleen Schulte -

Colleen Schulte (Steve's wife) has been a licensed health insurance agent since 1991. She has worked in the health care industry in various capacities, including creating and implementing health insurance options for large companies (such as Northwest Airlines, Johnson Controls, and CompUSA) as well as for small businesses and self-employed individuals. She recently opened her own health insurance agency, The Schulte Group, and uses her fourteen years of expertise to find health insurance solutions for her own clients - small businesses, sole proprietors, and individuals.

Colleen will give an overview of how health insurance works, including brief descriptions of the differences between PPOs, HMOs, major medical, and other common health insurance terms. She will also discuss health insurance options available to small businesses and self-employed individuals in the State of Michigan. In addition, she will talk about new tax laws regarding deducting health insurance premiums and contributing to Health Savings Accounts, and how these options can be an advantage to piano technicians.



MAIN TECHNICAL
- Efficient Piano Preparation -
by Craig Fehrenbacher, RPT

Craig will focus on the practical elements of piano service, including specific regulation steps for improved accuracy and efficiency, as well as aspects of voicing. He will also discuss the new Mark IV Series Disklavier piano.

Craig Fehrenbacher

Craig Fehrenbacher is a Yamaha Service Consultant who comes to us from Robinson IL. Craig has worked as a Yamaha Service Consultant for the past eight years. His familiarity and expertise with Yamaha Pianos began in 1978 when he first began his career as a piano technician. After graduating from the Little Red Schoolhouse and Disklavier Service Seminars held in Buena Park, CA, Craig continued with extensive training at the prestigious Piano Technical Academy in Hamamatsu, Japan.

Currently he is actively involved with a number of different Yamaha technical training programs, concert services, piano competitions, and Disklavier service. He also assists with special events and projects at Yamaha Music Manufacturing, Thomaston, GA, including factory tours, dealer-training seminars, and technical assistance.

Larry Young, Editor
4379 Walden Dr.
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January 2005

January meeting will be at Evola Music Center in Canton, MI !

Disclaimer:

"All expressions of opinion and all statements of supposed fact are published on the authority of the author as listed and are not to be regarded as expressing the views of this Chapter or the Piano Technicians' Guild unless such statements or opinions have been adopted by the Chapter or the Guild."

visit our website at:
<http://ptg-ch481.org/>

Please Note!

Next Chapter Project Session is Saturday January 8th!!

Work is in progress on the Baldwin Hamilton piano at Mark and Charmaine's shop in Lincoln Park. Cabinet work is in progress to encompass the following:

- removal of existing finish*
- necessary veneer replacement*
- replacement of damaged wood with new wood*
- staining and dying of the wood to transform a 'blonde' piano into something more desirable*
- replacement of decals*
- and finally a durable polyurethane finish*

Directions to Mark & Char's - take M-39 (Southfield) South past I-75 to Fort Street,, turn right. Go approx. 1-1/2 miles and the shop is on the East side of Fort St., before Goddard. Parking available on Fort or directly behind the shop.