



PIANO
TECHNICIANS
GUILD

MEETING NOTICE

Monday March 1, 2010

Location: The Piano Place
1307 East Maple Road
Troy, MI 48083
(248) 619-9027

Take I-75 to 14 Mile. Go west a short ways to Stephenson Hwy. North one mile to Maple (15 Mile Rd). The Piano Place is on the north side, just west of Stephenson.

6:30 Applied Skills: Ernie Fena, the piano rebuilder at The Piano Place, will demonstrate how to replace old ivories on the piano.

7:15 Dinner

7:45 Business meeting

We need to nominate our chapter's delegate for the national convention. We also need a nominating committee to nominate next year's officers

8:00 Main Technical: Richard Bittner, RPT will be presiding over the March technical. The subject will be tuning made simple. This class will feature stacking 3rds and tuning the midrange. He will also talk about tuning checks and balances. Tuning lever techniques and setting tuning pins will also be discussed.

MINUTES

January 4, 2010 Minutes Detroit Chapter of PTG

Meeting was held at the Orchestra Hall, 3663 Woodward Ave, Detroit, Michigan 48201. The Applied Skills topic was “shift pedal voicing”, and the Main Technical was “Reliable Repetition” both conducted by our own Hugh Gullledge RPT.

The Business meeting was called to order by President Clem Fortuna at 7:59 p.m.

There were 10 RPT'S and 4 Associate members present.

The minutes from November were accepted by general consent.

The treasurer's report was accepted by general consent.

The February Dinner Banquet will be February 1, 2010, 6:30 p.m. at Memories Lounge & Restaurant in Brighton, Michigan.

Announcement was made of members returning to the Detroit Chapter of the PTG are Kerry Lundquist and Arno Patin.

No other business was brought up.

Motion to adjourn by Bruce Carter, seconded by Dale Heikkinen.

Submitted,
Ronald Harris, Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

Report for the months of December 2009, & January 2010

Balance Brought Forward		\$8,693.29
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Income:		
Application Fees	\$75.00	

Total:		\$75.00
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Expenses:		
Click2Mail	\$23.84	
Yahoo	\$12.95	
Click2Mail	\$23.84	
Yahoo	\$12.95	

Total:		\$73.58
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Balancer Forward to February		\$8,693.29
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On The Web at
www.ptg-ch481.org

THE BRIDGE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE DETROIT WINDSOR PTG
CHAPTER 481 PIANO TECHNICIANS GUILD

President's Message

How's Your Hearing?

A comment we hear a lot in our business is "You must have a good ear". I like to respond with "What?" Sometimes people don't catch the joke the first time.

We can sometimes take our good hearing for granted. I recently got a free program for my iphone that plays a high frequency that only younger people can hear. My 52 year old ears couldn't hear a thing. All kids seem able to hear it just fine, as well as some people in their 20's and even early 30's. When insisting I should be able to hear something, my wife said, "Yeah, and maybe your hair will grow back, too."

Fortunately, the frequency is somewhere around 15Khz, or well beyond the range of a piano. Still, I wanted to remember what hearing those ultra high frequencies was like. I finally got a flashback to those lost frequencies. Someone said that the same sound can be heard when you first turn on a television. Does anyone else remember a high whining sound coming from a TV?

We've probably all had the older client who complains that the top few notes off the piano make no sound (besides a dull thud). It's always difficult to tell people they have lost part of their hearing. I've had other clients with more bizarre forms of hearing damage. One older client insisted that several notes in octave 6 were a half step sharp. He even played major sevenths and insisted that they sounded like good octaves.

I found case histories of this type of hearing problem in the book "Musicophilia" by Oliver Sachs, where a musician hears a note as a different note. I guess even if we still hear, there's no guarantee that we are hearing correctly. Two lessons I will draw from this are, 1) protect your hearing, and 2) you don't know what you've got 'till it's gone.

CLEM FORTUNA, RPT

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