



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

PTG National Convention

The 48th Annual Piano Technicians Guild Convention and Technical Institute is coming soon. Experience the sights and sounds for June 15-19! This year the annual convention will host the 14th biannual meeting of the International Association of Piano Builders and Technicians. Technicians from around the world, in conjunction with our convention, will be meeting in Kansas City. The IAPBT was formed in 1979 to maintain a fellowship with piano technicians from around the world.

This year's institute will host more than 100 classes! Classes include business and computer, home service, piano design, Rebuilding, and tuning. The Exhibit Hall will have countless displays of supply companies and manufacturers. Tools and supplies can be purchased directly from the companies you generally place orders with over the phone. In addition to the classes there will be Home Office tours to show our new PTG building. As well as the Home Office you will view the Foundation Museum. (A couple of displays at the Museum have been donated by the Detroit-Windsor Chapter.)

Don't miss the opportunity to learn more about the pianos we work on. This is a great opportunity to hone your skills and become a better piano technician.

**Your President,
Richard Bittner, RPT**

MEETING NOTICE

Monday April 4, 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:
Dale Harris, RPT
Main Technical:
Steve Grattan, RPT**

**Meeting will be hosted
at The Lost Chord Clinic
1602 Griswold St.
Port Huron, MI**

**Directions:
I-94 East to Port Huron
exit 271 (I-69) Business.
Stay to the right. At the
third traffic light, which is
16th Street, turn left. Go
one block; The Lost Chord
Clinic is at the corner of
16th and Griswold.
Phone 1-800-742-6644**

**CHAPTER PROJECT will be on
Saturday April 16, 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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Technical and Written Exams

Richard Bittner, RPT



The Detroit-Windsor Chapter of the Piano Technicians Guild

The Detroit Chapter of the Piano Technicians Guild met the evening of March 7, 2005 at The Piano Place in Troy, MI and was hosted by Chapter President Richard Bittner, RPT, and Jan Otto-Bittner, RPT. Attending the meeting were 16 RPTs, 15 Associate Members, and 6 Guests for a total of 37. A quorum had been established. The guests were Scott Jones, Jim Grotton, Rick Watson, Nathan Jordan, Gary Latessa, and Charmaine Haas. The minutes from the January meeting were read aloud by Chapter Secretary Zen Reinhardt, RPT, and were approved by general consent. The Treasurer's Report was read aloud by Chapter Treasurer Clem Fortuna, RPT, and was approved by general consent.

Chapter Project: Next workshop for the Chapter Project will be held Saturday March 19 at Mark Haas' shop. The next item will be to build a bench to match the piano.

Delegates for Convention: Clark Sprague has expressed an interest in being Delegate to the Convention in Kansas City in June. Motion for Clark Sprague to serve as Delegate by Bruce Carter. Seconded by Cal Champine. Motion carried. Still wanted: Alternate Delegate.

Nominating Committee: A Nominating Committee is needed to nominate candidates for Chapter officers to run in the Chapter Elections in June. Motion to name Dan Harteau and Greg Boyd to Nominating Committee by Cal Champine. Seconded by Clark Sprague. Motion Carried.

There was some discussion about future Convention dates and locations. Future plans included the Adams Mark in Philadelphia next year, but the building has since been torn down. Another possible location would be Rochester, New York.

Announcements: PTG items are available for sale at the meeting. Next meeting will be in Port Huron, MI and will be presented by Steve Grattan. The subject will be pinblock installation.

The technical presentation was given by Scott Jones, formerly with Steinway, now independent and based in Pennsylvania. He spoke of his PitchLock system and gave graphic demonstrations of how it works using super-sized models, such as bungee cords and pendulums.

Submitted by

Zen Reinhardt, RPT

MAIN TECHNICAL
- Pinblock Repair -
by Steve Grattan, RPT

Steve Grattan, the owner of Lost Chord Clinic, will demonstrate how to fit the pin block to the plate flange. He will also show how the tuning pin holes and plate screws are positioned in the pin block. If you have never seen how a pin block is installed in a piano, this will truly be an eye opening experience. So call your friends and car pool to Port Huron!

APPLIED SKILLS
- Tuning Stability -
by Dale Harris, RPT

Applied Skills Dale Harris will talk about setting the tuning pins so your tuning will last. Dale, who has been tuning pianos for over 30 years, will share his knowledge on tuning stability.

Larry Young, Editor
4379 Walden Dr.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105



April 2005

April meeting will be at 'The Lost Chord Clinic' in Port Huron, 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 April 16th!!

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

- \ - staining and dying of the wood to transform a 'blonde' piano into something more desirable*
- 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.