



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Since this will be my last President's message, I would like to take this opportunity to thank many Chapter Board members who have made my job enjoyable.

Let's begin with our Vice President, Dennis Penney, who also took on the job of rounding up members to present the "Applied Skills" portion of our meetings. Using our members for this mini-technical proved to be a great success in bringing in new people to our Chapter meetings.

Then there is Zen Reinhardt, who worked as our Recording Secretary. Zen did a nice job in keeping track of minutes, recording our guests, and making sure they received notices for the next meeting.

The Treasurer position was managed by two members: Dave Foster, and Clem Fortuna. Both did a fine job in keeping tabs on how our money was being spent and making sure reimbursements were paid on time.

Next, I would like to thank the two members who shared the Social Chair position: Roberta Brown and Jeff Mossington. They planned the Holiday parties, one of the most entertaining events of the year.

Our Newsletter Editor, Larry Young, has done an outstanding job with our newsletter. This position is sometimes seen as one of the more difficult and demanding jobs in a Chapter because of deadlines.

Last, but not least is our Program Chair, Jan Otto-Bittner. Jan has put together some of the best technicals of any chapter in PTG. This chair must find a person to give a technical, then find a place for our meeting to be held.

I would sincerely like to thank these persons for the time and talents they gave to us, making my term a most enjoyable one. Please give the next President the same respect and courtesy you have shown me. Thank you !

**Your President,**

**Richard Bittner, RPT**

## MEETING NOTICE

**Monday May 2, 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:**  
**Dan Harteau, RPT**  
**Main Technical:**  
**Robert Russell, RPT**

**Meeting will be hosted**  
**at Hammell Music**  
**15630 Middlebelt Rd.**  
**Livonia, MI 48154**

**Directions:**  
**on Middlebelt Road,**  
**North of 5 Mile.**  
**Phone: (734) 427-0040**

**CHAPTER PROJECT - next**  
**chapter project will not be**  
**until September 2005.**  
**(Further details to follow**  
**closer to the actual date.)**

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## Detroit-Windsor Chapter Officers

### President

Richard Bittner, RPT  
richardb@atdial.net  
(248) 398-3876

### Vice-President

Dennis Penney, RPT  
dpenney1441@comcast.net  
(248) 545-7812

### Secretary

Zen Reinhardt, RPT  
diskladame@provide.net  
(734) 971-6143

### Treasurer

Clem Fortuna  
cfortuna@earthlink.net  
(313) 527-8863

### Past President (ex-officio)

Rick Bowen, RPT  
rbowen@wideopenwest.com  
(248) 524-4713

## Chapter Chairs

### Newsletter Editor

Larry Young, RPT  
pianoman@young-piano.com  
(734) 930-9227

### Social Chair

Roberta Brown  
rlbrown417@aol.com

### Program Chair

Jan Bittner, RPT  
jano@provide.net  
(248) 398-8720

### Tuning Examiner

Zen Reinhardt, RPT  
(734) 971-6143

### Technical and Written Exams

Richard Bittner, RPT

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## *The Mystery of the Squeaky Pedal*

*Recently, I was doing a routine tuning on a Reiger-Kloss Studio piano and the customer said those often dreaded words "there's a squeak in the sustain pedal". Now, this could be many things: squeaky pedal rod brackets, damper springs collectively squeezing in their slots, squeezing from the pedal itself, even the bottom board coming loose or being split. First things first. Clearly define the nature of the noise. The noise was actually more of a groan than a squeak, so I did suspect the bottom board, but it seemed very secure. The dowel from the trapwork to the pedal rod ran through a wooden felted slot rather than connecting with a pin through a hole in the rod and that seemed suspect. I lubricated the bushing with Teflon Powder, a good all purpose and dry lubricant, but that did not eliminate my mystery noise. I went ahead and applied some ProTek to the hanger brackets as long as the action was out and thought maybe that was it. When I put the action back in and worked the pedal, the noise was gone, however, when I replaced the bottom panel, unbelievably, the noise was back. Hmmm. Sherlock Holmes always said something like, when you've eliminated all the other possibilities, whatever is left, no matter how improbable, must be the answer. Could the innocuous bottom panel be the culprit? If it's a high gloss polyester finish, you bet! So I again whipped out the Teflon Powder and brushed it liberally all around the edges of the panel, around the edges of the aperture where the panel sits and in the holes for the dowels in the panel. Replaced the board and viola, noise begone. So, watch out for those high gloss finishes, the Teflon Powder will no doubt eliminate squeaking benches, too.*

*by Kim Hoessly,  
from the Buckeye Backcheck newsletter, Columbus Chapter.*



**MAIN TECHNICAL**  
**- Marketing Your Business To The Top -**  
**by Bob Russell, RPT**

**This class will describe how to market your business for increased profits and greater job satisfaction. Topics will include developing successful sales techniques, success indicators, pre-scheduling appointments, and developing a piano teacher program. If your NET income is below \$100,000, this class is for you. If you earn over \$100,000, come and share your ideas in a lively discussion.**

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**Bob Russell**

Bob Russell is a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation Registered Piano Technician. He currently serves as Chairman, Economic Affairs Committee. Bob has served as Chairman, Marketing Committee, has authored many articles published in the PTG Journal, and was presented the 1996 Member of Note Award at the national convention in Dearborn, MI. Bob has received the Damp-Chaser Corp. Presidents Award, National Sales Award, and National Marketing Award. He has appeared in many National and International magazine advertisements for Damp-Chaser Corp. in 5 different languages.

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**Applied Skills**

**- will be presented by Dan Harteau -**

**UNDERSTANDING FRICTION**

**Dan Harteau will continue his discussion on the working parameters within which a piano action works reliably. April's class was a prelude to May's Applied Skills session in which Dan will present suggestions for dealing with too much or too little friction.**

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



May 2005

May meeting will be at Hammell Music in Livonia, 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."

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

***Please Note !***

**Next Chapter Project session will be in September 2005.**

*Cabinet and bench refinishing work is complete on the Baldwin Hamilton piano - thanks to Mark and Charmaine Haas for their expertise and shop in Lincoln Park. Remaining items will include:*

- key leveling
- hammer traveling
- action regulation
- chip tuning, fine tuning
- voicing

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**- Ed Doerner -**

***Ed Doerner passed away February 20, 2005 from respiratory problems. Ed was an old time chapter member who had hearing problems and did not attend meetings. Our condolences to Ed's wife and family.***