



MEETING NOTICE

Monday October 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:

Robert Scott, RPT

Main Technical:

Paul Monachino, RPT

**Meeting will be hosted by
Paul Manner at
Piano & Keyboard Center
45265 Van Dyke
Utica, MI 48137**

Directions:

From the south: Go north on Van Dyke just past M-59 (about 1 block). The store will be on the left (West side of the street).
From the west: Go east on M-59 just past VanDyke and turn around. Go North on Van Dyke about 1 block. The store will be on the west side of the road.

Phone: (586) 254-3360

CHAPTER PROJECT will be on Saturday October 15 at 10:00 am at The Piano Place, 444 W Maple, Suite E, Troy. North side of Maple between Livernois and Crooks, next to Thunder Bird Lanes. Focus of the meeting will be on tuning. Electronic and aural techniques will be employed. See you there !

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings! Last month I talked about the education of new technicians through mentoring. This month I want to talk about educating our customers. It is our responsibility to share what we know and help to dispel some of the myths about pianos. We all have our favorites. "You should never put a piano on an outside wall." I've seen people put their pianos in front of heat ducts to avoid outside walls. Or "My piano can't be tuned 'cause it has a cracked soundboard." One customer told me, "I heard you only have to tune a piano after you move it." Usually a more educated customer will mean more profits for us. Regulating a few notes to show how much better the action can feel, or explaining the value of climate control are examples of this. On occasion, it might mean turning away work, as in, "No, you don't have to retune your baby grand right after moving it across the room" or "No, this piano isn't worth a major reconditioning investment." Customers generally appreciate the truth. One exception to this, however, is the "beloved junker". Sometimes a client will say, "I love this piano; they just don't make 'em like that anymore." In this case, I find it's best to smile and find something nice to say about it. Reading the client's needs and wants is the key to providing good service.

Your President,

Clem Fortuna, RPT

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Detroit-Windsor Chapter Officers

President

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

Vice-President

Jeff Mossington, RPT
jkmossington@yahoo.com
(248) 307-0054

Secretary

Richard Cromwell
rcromwell1@msn.com
(248) 894-6778

Treasurer

Bruce Carter, RPT
carterpianoservice@comcast.net
(248) 682-2855

Past President (ex-officio)

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

Chapter Chairs

Newsletter Editor

Larry Young, RPT
pianoman@young-piano.com
(734) 930-6128

Social Chair

TBD

Program Chair

Scott Nelson, RPT
pianotuner9932@sbcglobal.net
(248) 473-8458

Tuning Examiner

Zen Reinhardt, RPT
(734) 971-6143

Technical and Written Exams

Richard Bittner, RPT



Detroit-Windsor PTG Chapter 481 Business Meeting Minutes for September 12th 2005

Location: Evola Music Warehouse, 45222 Woodward Ave.,
Pontiac, MI 48154

- Meeting called to order: 7:45pm.
- Taking of attendance: 15 R.P.T.s, 10 Associates, 4 guests.
- Reading of minutes from last meeting.
- Motion to accept minutes as read - Accepted by general consensus.
- Treasury report read by Bruce Carter, accept by general consensus.
- Discussion of Chapter Project: To be held at the Piano Place, on 9/17/05; focus of project piano will be regulation.
- Notice of next Chapter Meeting and Technical: Location: Paul Manner's Shop, Utica (former Hammell Music), n 10/3/05; Mason & Hamlin will be providing the main Technical.
- Notice of November Chapter Meeting and Technical: Location: The Piano Place in Troy on 11/7/05; MusicSorb will be providing the Main Technical.
- New Business: Proposal that checks written from the Chapter account, that are of a limited value be able to be endorsed by one board member's signature, as opposed to the current situation which requires two.
- Motion to have checks for under \$200.00 require 1 signature: 1st by M. Lavender, 2nd by D. Foster, Passed unanimously.
- Motion to send newsletter exclusively by email to those chapter members that have email available: Open discussion, Tabled for future consideration
- Announcements: Ed Dormer's widow has some additional big tools for sale; Technical website regarding aural tuning method: www.blackstonepiano.com; The PTG Home Office has set up a Hurricane Relief fund for members the approximately 50 members effected by the recent tragedy.
- Acknowledgments: Matt Lavender is chapters newest R.P.T.! Clark Sprague was chapter delegate at recent National Convention.
- Discussion of proposals followed.
- Move to Adjourn: 1st R. Bittner, 2nd J. Mossington.

Meeting was followed by Technical Session by Ari Isaac on Hammer Production and Voicing techniques.

respectfully submitted by
Richard Cromwell, Chapter Secretary

Katrina Relief Efforts

The Piano Technicians Guild (“PTG”) and the PTG Foundation are proud to announce a program under the direction of the PTG Foundation to provide relief to our fellow technicians in the hurricane-stricken Gulf Coast. “The PTG has always been a family,” said President Kent Swafford, RPT. “This devastating catastrophe reminds us that our family is spread throughout the world and even if these things don’t directly affect our own homes, they do affect someone we know.”

Fifty or more PTG families lived in the areas impacted by Hurricane Katrina. Beyond the immediate needs of food, shelter, and clothing, they will need help in the long term as they rebuild businesses and homes.

In an effort to provide for PTG members, a fund has been set up through the Foundation. This will allow for tax deductible donations to be made to the relief fund. “We are very glad to be able to help our fellow technicians in this way,” said Foundation President Jack Wyatt, RPT, “and support them however we can after all they have been through.” Although we recognize the needs of our members first and foremost, we also acknowledge the great burden on other organizations to provide aid to all who have become victims of Katrina. The American Red Cross and other agencies rely on public support, and we do not want to distract from that effort, but if you wish to directly make a difference in the lives of other technicians, then this fund provides that opportunity.

All donations should be made payable to the “PTG Foundation” and sent to the Home Office at 4444 Forest Ave., Kansas City, KS 66106. We will also be setting up a link on www.ptg.org for online contributions. “The lives of our members and their families are first and foremost in our thoughts and prayers,” said Executive Director Barbara Cassaday. “We are very concerned about those that we have not heard from yet.” If you, or someone you know, has been affected by hurricane Katrina, please get in touch with the Home Office or go to www.ptg.org and click on “What’s New” on the right hand side of the page. We have set up an area for “Hurricane Katrina” discussion. We encourage everyone to share any information that you may have regarding those in the disaster area. If you have a need that the Foundation can address through this fund, please get in touch with the Home Office. The fund will be administered by the PTG Foundation and all requests for assistance will be given immediate attention.

(taken from the Fall 2005, ‘PTG Leader Letter’)

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



October 2005

May meeting will be at The Piano and Keyboard Center in Utica, 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/>

**MAIN TECHNICAL
- Mason & Hamlin Pianos -
by Paul Monachino, RPT**

The October technical will be given by Paul Monachino from Mason & Hamlin. Paul has been with the company for 57 years and has experience in virtually every facet of piano manufacturing. Presentations will include old pictures, documents, tools, etc., as well as slides detailing the new CC concert grand and the Haverhill factory.

Applied Skills

- will be presented Robert Scott, RPT -