



The Buckeye Backcheck

Newsletter of the Columbus Chapter of the Piano Technician's Guild

Volume 47 - Issue 4 - June 2022

President's Message

Thank you Alle Schwartz and Columbus Piano Leasing for letting us use their space for the May meeting, and for giving us an update about the business. And thank you to everybody who was there and for your contributions. I'm glad that Zoom seems to work pretty well as a way for people to attend virtually. Thank you also to Kim and Wayne for sharing a little bit of their wisdom about aural tuning.

I have learned that my job isn't difficult because meetings almost seem to run themselves. Everyone is enthusiastic about sharing their questions and thoughts and there is such a supportive and positive atmosphere. If I hesitate or falter, someone always chimes in to help me out. In the next year, I'm sure we'll continue to have well-attended and informative meetings. As always, let me know if you would like to do a technical!

David Stang

**Next Meeting - Tuesday, June 21 @ 7:00
PM**

Hosted by Wayne Strautman at his workshop, Original Harmony Piano, located at 3781 Rushmore Drive, Columbus, OH 43220, one block south of Henderson off

Sawmill. The entrance is around the right side of the house. Wayne will be providing BBQ for all attending and requests that attendees bring a side item.

Technical Presentation

Wayne Strautman - Restringing Vintage Pianos and Refinishing Wood



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and
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Madame A. Pupin



Author of

"How to Practise"

"The Scales and How to Practise them"

*"Pithy Paragraphs
pertaining to Piano Practice"*

*"How to Play in Public
Without Being Nervous"*

Here's something interesting I came across recently - an AB Chase old upright with a pocket inside that holds a booklet. The booklet contains notes about the care of the piano, and an odd little short

story. I can share pictures of the whole booklet if anybody is interested. There was also a catalog with pictures and descriptions of all the models that were available at the time.

- David Stang

Chapter Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2022 7:00 PM - Columbus Piano Leasing

Attendance:

In Person: David Stang, Walter Bagnall, Alle Schwartz, John Parmeter, Chris Altenburg, Wayne Strautman, Justin Swain, guest Eric Serrano, Andrew Kovaleski

Zoom: Chris Purdy

Treasurer's Report:

\$2032.72

Old Business:

Chapter Elections: Kim moves to maintain the current slate of officers, vote passes. The officers for 2022-23 are as follows:

- David Stang, president
- Chris Purdy, RPT, vice president
- Ron Kenreich, treasurer
- Andrew Kovaleski, secretary
- David Chadwick, RPT, immediate past president

Walter Bagnall is planning to attend the PTG convention in Anaheim, as well as Wayne Strautman, and one of them will serve as the delegate. Andrew Kovaleski is considering attending the convention.

New Business:

Wayne is hoping to take the technical portion of his RPT exam soon. Kim, Wayne, and Walter are going to work on scheduling that together.

Kim moves to empower Andrew to purchase a premium Zoom account for the year at the price of \$150/year, seconded and approved





One piano owner learned a hard lesson after using Brasso or a similar polish on their high-gloss polyurethane finished nameboard! - Andrew Kovaleski

Butts and Flanges

Alle Schwartz gave an overview of her space here at Columbus Piano Leasing, where they buy, sell, rent, and restore pianos and harps. They will be offering piano lessons soon. They are here Monday through Friday.

There was a short discussion over applying Profelt to key bushings - the general practice involves inserting appropriately sized cauls, applying profelt, and letting it dry overnight. Chris says that some felt doesn't want to accept it and it just beads up on top of the felt. Scratching up the felt tends to help. Kim suggests that this is because the felt is somewhat waterproof, possibly due to the lanolin. Some technicians heat up the cauls before inserting them.

Andrew Kovaleski gave an update on a problem with bass wires. He encountered a Steinway O with an A#2 wire which broke in the course of regular tuning, which then broke again after splicing a new length of wire. He sent off the bass wire to Schaff to duplicate, but then the new wire also broke upon installation in the same place. The chapter recommended checking for burrs in the tuning pin and agraffe, but these suggestions did not resolve the issue. He ordered another new wire, this time ordering from Mapes with the instrument's model, serial number, and note number, to see if there was an issue with scaling with a previous restringing and will report back when the issue is resolved.

Kim ran into a piano where someone had recapped the bass bridge and did a poor job of spacing the bridge pins. They ran out of room for the last note of the bass section, and it had no pins. Then, Kim recalled tuning a freshly restored Baldwin grand at the governor's mansion that had a non-functioning shift pedal, prompting a very interesting discussion around baffling issues from new or freshly restored pianos.

- Officers -

President - David Stang

Vice President - Chris Purdy, RPT

Treasurer - Ron Kenreich

Secretary - Andrew Kovaleski

Immediate Past President - David Chadwick, RPT



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