



The Buckeye Backcheck

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

Volume 47 - Issue 6 - November 2022

President's Message

Many thanks to Lee Crouse and the people at the Kawai Piano Gallery for their hospitality at our October meeting.

This metaphor is one that many people have used before, so just roll your eyes and skip ahead if you want, but I was thinking about how piano technology is like music. At our meeting Lee talked about how a new piano should be prepared correctly. All the parts should be working as designed, the regulation should be to the spec of the manufacturer, and the voicing should be consistent and pleasing. You could say this is like classical music, where it should be played according to the score. Of course there are always interpretations of music, just like voicing can be subjective. But interpreted within reason. It can be obnoxious if a player strays too far from the score, or if the voicing of a piano is clearly way too bright for a living room. On the other hand, working with a piano that's a little bit old and tired may require some improvisation, like jazz.

Different technicians may have different solutions for regulating or fixing a piano. There may be no way in the world to tune it perfectly across the break, or to voice it to sound consistent all the way across. But we do the very best we can even though each of us may have different ways of thinking about the problem. But our commonality here is that we are honest with the customer about what is going on with the piano and possible ways to make it better. (Note, don't stretch this analogy to think I'm saying jazz is "worse" than classical music. I have friends who say "good" music is synonymous with classical. I don't buy that!)

Have a good and prosperous November and December, but don't work too hard!

David Stang

Next Meeting

Tuesday, November 15 @ 7:00 PM

Solich Piano of Easton - 4194 Easton Gateway Dr, Columbus, OH
43219

Technical Presentation: Chris Purdy on Keyframe Bedding

Future Technicals

Bryan Hartzler on Voicing

Walter Bagnall on the Tuning RPT Exam

Kim Hoessly on "Stupid Spinnet Tricks"



A numbering mistake, or a reinstallation mistake? This was on a Yamaha P2 which had its hammer return spring threads replaced years ago: with grooves thoroughly formed, I let this one slide. - Andrew Kovaleski

Chapter Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2022 7:00 PM - Kawai Piano Gallery

Attendance:

David Stang, Ron Kenreich, Kim Hoessly, Chris Altenburg, Justin Swain, Andrew Kovaleski, David Chadwick, Victor Wolfe, Lee Crouse

Treasurer's Report:

\$1411.53

Old Business:

Dues invoices have been sent out, and our chapter dues will be collected with national dues.

New Business:

“Find an RPT” on the PTG website should now be live and functional. The education portion of the PTG website is being expanded to include information for prospective RPT examinees.

Chris Purdy helped Kim Hoessly administer a technical exam in Michigan, and learned that Richard Bittner is no longer administering technical exams in his area. Doug Atkins may be the only tuning examiner in the state. Kim is considering hosting technical exams on Fridays next summer for prospective examinees. For RPT's, it is very worthwhile to train to be an examiner. If any RPT's are interested in becoming an examiner, please reach out to Kim Hoessly at khoessly@columbus.rr.com.

David Stang has heard that Columbus Piano Leasing has closed.

David Chadwick is scaling back and would like to sell, give away, or rent out his piano tools. If you are interested in any of these tools, please reach out to David at pianoservice54@gmail.com.



Pictured are a variety of options for brass rail tab replacement in a Bush and Lane upright. The brass replacement clip in the center was installed by a previous technician, and the two plastic clips were installed by me this October. These are available from Schaff, part number 513C or 513K for the kit. To install, the broken tab is filed low enough to fit the clip over, matching a small indent in the replacement clip over the small bump on the rail. When you are confident with the placement of your dry fitting, the clip is epoxied in place. The kit comes with ten clips and two small packs of two-part epoxy. My advice - make sure that the pinning on the hammer is good before gluing in place, because you won't get another shot at it! - Andrew Kovaleski

- Officers -

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