

The Buckeye Backcheck

Newsletter of the Columbus Chapter of the Piano Technicians Guild

Volume 33 Issue 6 July 2008

**CONGRATULATIONS
to DWIGHT HANSEN
Our Chapter's newest RPT !**



FROM KIM HOESSLY

I thought about all kinds of amusing ways to phrase this, you know, *back in the saddle again*, ... *just when you thought it was safe to come to a meeting*, well, you know the drill. But suffice it to say, I'm back for a third go at chapter president, so let's have some fun with it and learn stuff with some interesting technicals.

We're starting off with a presentation courtesy of Graves Piano and Organ as they sponsor a rep from Petrof Pianos on September 16. Mitch Staples has agreed to do a technical on the mute-less pitch raise sometime this fall. I see that Richard Bitner is continuing as our Regional VP, so perhaps we can bring him down for a visit and Henderson has voiced an interest in having someone from Yamaha, so we're off to a great start. I'll be phoning on various chapter members as well, so be prepared to answer the call.

Congratulations to Dwight Hansen, chapter member from Bellefontaine. Dwight recently passed his tuning exam and is our newest RPT. As most of you know, I'm never shy about encouraging our associates to take the exams, so it's always great to see someone advance. Many thanks in advance to the Hartzler's for agreeing to host our summer picnic in August. Please remember to RSVP so he knows how much food to buy.

Chapter social events are just as important as technical ones for making contacts and getting to know your colleagues. I've always liked using the word colleagues rather than competition and I feel the Columbus Chapter has been a good example of getting along and sharing information. When I moved back to Columbus in 1985, my former college advisor, Gary Tirey, asked his piano tuner at time, Adrian Merriman, if there was room for another tuner in Columbus. Adrian said, "There's always room for someone who knows what they're doing". That's a good thing to bear in mind. Greater Columbus is a big, big market and there really is a lot of work out there and even more in some of the surrounding communities where established technicians don't care to travel (like Marysville, Circleville, Washington Court House, West Jefferson, etc.).

So, let's see some good turnout at the meetings in the coming year so we can all be amongst the technicians who "know what they're doing" and help those who may not know as much so we can take care of all those pianos out there!

Kim

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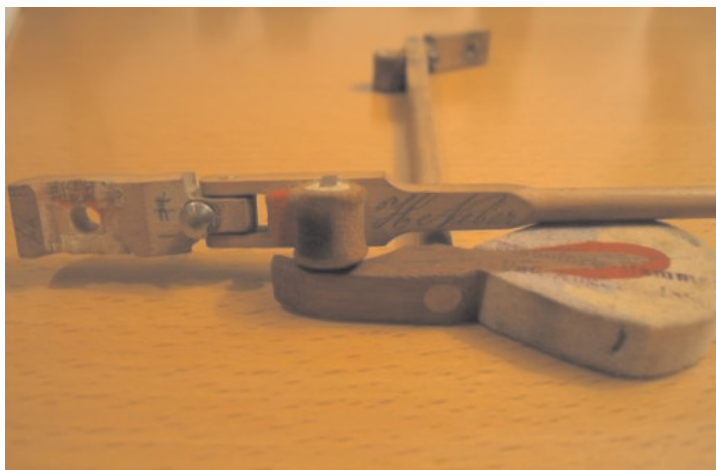
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FROM THE PIANOTECH DISCUSSION LIST

Hidden Signatures

-- Allen Wright wrote: --

These hammers were removed from an 1886 Hamburg model A (#58167) being restored. I like finding hidden signatures on parts in old pianos, and reading old parts for what they have to say. This guy's beautiful calligraphic flourish of "H Nebar" puts my chickenscratch #1 to shame. The Old German text on the paper used as flange shim may be hard to see. These hammers weren't played on that much - the original profile is pretty much still there, with only slight wear.



-- Paul T Williams wrote: --

I had a client with an old upright, painted latex house off-white. The best part of the piano was on the plate a signature of a tuner stating "Nome, 1909." What a history that piano could tell! I figure in those days it was either in a saloon or a missionary, and how it got there must have been a great story as well.

-- Rob & Helen Goodale wrote --

I'm in the middle of restoring a 1925 Wurlitzer 146-B band organ to factory condition. It's quite a collector's piece, best I can tell there are perhaps less than 9 surviving model Bs. The model B has wings on each side of the facade with hand made carvings. The wings were beyond salvage so I had to reproduce new ones. I carefully steamed off all the original carvings to transfer onto the new wood.



One the back of one portion of a carving that was glued down I found written in pencil: "Made By D. Wralla". Obviously a hand carver in the facade department. This is a very exciting find on machines like this.

-- Jon Page wrote: --

Elmer E. Carter scribed his name on these keys which I salvaged the ivory by cutting the keys ~1/4" below the wafers to transplant onlays to a needy keyboard. It's the first in my collection of script.





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www.ptgcolumbus.org

Columbus Chapter of the Piano Technicians Guild

President Kim Hoessly, RPT
Vice-President Chris Altenburg, RPT
Treasurer Ron Kenreich
Secretary David Stang

Upcoming Events

No chapter meeting in July.

Chapter Picnic and Meeting

Tuesday August 19, 6:30pm
The Hartzler's
1179 S. Galena Rd, Galena
(check ptgcolumbus.org for a map)
Please RSVP to Bryan at 740/972-9466
or [bryanhartzler @ yahoo . com](mailto:bryanhartzler@yahoo.com)
before 8/15.
Bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Voicing Master Class

Sept. 19 - 21, 2008
PTG Home Office

Central East Regional Seminar

October 10 - 12, 2008
Des Plaines, Illinois

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