

The Buckeye Backcheck

Newsletter of the Columbus Chapter of the Piano Technicians Guild

Volume 37 Issue 7 November 2012



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Our chapter traveled to Croton to see Muller Pipe Organ Company's operation. We had our business meeting and then took a tour of his organ factory. It was surprising to see this large of an operation out in the country near the famous Hartford Fair Grounds. John Muller gave us a brief history of the Muller Pipe Organ Company which was started in 1913 in Toledo, Ohio, by John's grandfather. John later started his own shop in Columbus and, in 1996, finally moved to Croton. John's son is in charge of the very large woodworking shop, with industrial sized equipment, used in making the wood parts of a pipe organ. Most all of the wood used is poplar.

There were many shapes of pipes. They sometimes need to be fitted to the room if they are too long. It is reminiscent of a brass instrument wrapped around as needed. It interested me, as a tuner, that John starts with an audible pitch of C and then sets a temperament with only fourths and fifths and then tunes dead on octaves throughout the organ. He can't understand why you would use an electronic tuning device to tune every note. John invited us back anytime during their operating hours, so we can see the shop in operation. We thank John for his willingness to host our meeting and for the informational tour.

Our next meeting will be at Graves Piano on Karl Road in Columbus. I would like to do a few meetings honoring some of older members by having them present their "Life And Times" as a piano technician: how they first became interested in tuning, how they received their training, and how they promoted themselves. This would not be a how-to of tuning, but rather what worked and what didn't in starting their business. I have talked with some of our younger members and they are very interested in hearing these presentations. I'll be calling some of you, so be thinking about it. Thanks to all who attended.

John Schmall, RPT

The Buckeye Backcheck

Newsletter of the Columbus Chapter of the Piano Technicians Guild

J W Muller Pipe Organ Co. Factory Tour



The Buckeye Backcheck

Newsletter of the Columbus Chapter of the Piano Technicians Guild

Chapter Meeting Minutes

October 16, 2012

The meeting was held at The Muller Pipe Organ Co. in Croton, Ohio

Attendance:

John Schmoll, Mark Ritchie, Ron Kenreich, Bryan Hartzler, Victor Wolfe, Judy Schmoll (special guest)

Treasurer's Report:

The Chapter has \$3076.89 in checking.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

The next meeting will be at Graves Pianos, Tuesday November 20. A possible topic may be "The life and times of my piano business" (by one or more of our distinguished members).

We have no meeting in December. Our Annual Winter Party will be In January. (Details later).

The chapter Bylaws were discussed. We have no plans to change them.

Our president shared a DVD on Aural Tuning by Virgil Smith.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

Ron Kenreich Secretary Pro Tem

The Cliburn: 50 Years of Gold



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yEeDIN8QfKs&feature=youtu.be>





The Buckeye Backcheck

Newsletter of the Columbus Chapter of the Piano Technicians Guild

www.ptgcolumbus.org



Courtesy of Doug Brandt

My music is the Spiritual expression of what I am; my faith, my knowledge, my Being.

~John Coltrane

Columbus Chapter of the Piano Technicians Guild

President John Schmoll, RPT
Vice-President Bryan Hartzler, RPT
Treasurer Ron Kenreich
Secretary Christopher Burget

*Contributions and pictures for
the Buckeye Backcheck and the
web page are always welcome,
(even if they are only
peripherally related to pianos)!
- Chris Burget*

Upcoming Events

Chapter Meeting

Tuesday, November 20, 2012,
7:30 pm

Graves Piano & Organ Co.
5798 Karl Road
Columbus, OH 43229
(614) 847-4322

<http://www.gravespianos.com>

Map Link:

<http://goo.gl/maps/IrDrm>

This newsletter was created using the open-source program Scribus running on the Linux Mint operating system.

Disclaimer:

All expressions of opinion and all statements of supposed facts are published on the authority of the author as listed and are not to be regarded as expressing the views of the Columbus Chapter of the Piano Technicians Guild unless such statements or opinions have been adopted by the chapter or the guild.

Articles and illustrations may be re-printed by other PTG newsletters with proper acknowledgment, unless otherwise indicated in the article.

Comments, articles, and advertising requests may be sent to the editor:

Chris Burget, 1706 Pin Oak Dr., Columbus, OH 43229 cjburget@gmail.com