

GOOD Vibrations

NEWSLETTER OF THE RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER OF THE PIANO TECHNICIAN'S GUILD, INC.

Please Note: *We are no longer meeting at Avery Piano in Providence. Please check the newsletter each month for location of each meeting and dinner.*

APRIL 2008

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Wade Johnson, RPT

The members who came to our March chapter meeting at my place seemed to like the setup. Including nonmember/PowerPoint projectionist Gary Van Dine, seven of us showed up for supper at the Gentleman Farmer Restaurant, joined by three more members at the meeting itself. Mike Morvan's presentation (including samples of his handiwork, passed around) proved interesting.

This month, we again try something new, with Larry Brown hosting the meeting at his newest piano store, in Middletown...about which you'll find more elsewhere in this issue. For a change, the commute will be shortened for those of you on the Cape and Aquidneck Island.

I hope to see many of you there and also just a week later in Nashua!

Wade

APRIL MEETING

The Yamaha Disklavier Mark IV capabilities and beyond! - George Litterst of Rehoboth, MA

George Litterst, a Yamaha Disklavier Specialist, will demonstrate the incredible features of the Mark 1V Disklavier.

Please come and enjoy!

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Business Mtg &

Technical

April 17, 2008
7:00 pm

Meeting at
Piano Gallery of Rhode Island
238 East Main Road
Middletown, RI
Phone: 401-849-5333

Remember to join us for dinner
5:00 @ Siam Square 238 East
Main Road, Middletown
Phone 401-849-5333

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Directions for April 17th meeting:

Piano Gallery of Rhode Island 238 East Main Road, Middletown 401-849-5333

Siam Square Restaurant 238 East Main Road, Middletown 401-851-7988 (2 doors to Left of Piano Gallery)

From Jamestown/Newport/Bridges: RI-138 E over Jamestown/Newport/Bridges

Bear LEFT at end of Newport Bridge toward RI-114 N.

Turn LEFT 138 E at Newport Grand traffic light.

Turn LEFT onto W Main Road RI-114/RI-138. Go .8 mile

Turn RIGHT onto RI-138 East Main Road. Go .4 mile

To 238 E Main Rd Middletown Corner of Valley Road and East Main Road. (Across from Wendy's).

Other stores in plaza are Subway, AT&T.

From Fall River: Rte 24 South. Go 9.8 miles

Merge onto RI-114 South. Go 6.3 miles

Turn LEFT onto RI-138 East Main Road. Go .4 mile

To 238 E Main Rd Middletown

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51st Annual PTG Convention & Technical Institute

June 18-22, 2008 in Anaheim, California

www.ptg.org/conv/2008

Newsletter:

Ruth Van Dine, RPT

62 Stokes St., Warwick, RI 02889

Email – ruth@vandinedesign.com

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(Chair) & Patricia Selemon, RPT

Publicity and Public Relations: Executive Board

Refreshment Designator: Joyce Gindra

www.RI-PTG.org

Tid Bits.....

"I'm a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work the more I have of it."
- Thomas Jefferson

NEEC SO: April 25 — 27, 2008
ART, CRAFT AND INNOVATION
Nashua Radisson, Nashua, NH
www.ptg.org/necso

New from Mohawk- Finishing

www.mohawk-finishing.com

Micro Therm™ Flameless Heat Gun

The Micro Therm™ Flameless Heat Gun is a hand held self-igniting flameless heat gun and is powered by a refillable fuel cell.

Hand held, Automatic electronic ignition, Patented safety lock, Produces 1300° F flameless heat, Refillable fuel cell - disposable butane lighter, Compact ergonomic design, Butane not included



M900-3215 Micro-Therm™ Flameless Heat Gun \$36.26

How to Insert a New String in a Mason & Hamlin Screw Stringer

Found on the internet by Victor Belanger, RPT of the Boston Chapter of the Piano Technicians Guild

To begin with, one must unscrew the nut on the gear lever to the last two or three threads. For a bass string, stretch the new string from the hitch pin through the agraffe (if present) and measure exactly 1 3/8" from the bottom most end of the gear lever (where the string attaches) and cut there. The gear lever is the long piece, and at the top, is threaded for the nut. Now once you measure the 1 3/8" from the bottom end of the lever, take it out by completely removing the nut and hook it on to the end of the string, bending it like the ones already on the piano. Thread the nut back on to the lever after it is replaced back in its place, and pull up the string by tightening the nut. There will be only three-fourths of an inch of threads left on the lever, so the cut must be made accurately.

When tuning a Screw Stringer, the idea is to bring the string from flat to pitch rather than from sharp to pitch, always coming from below rather than above. It was suggested to use a stubby screw driver in the palm of the hand to gently but firmly press the string just below where the string is attached to the lever when the string is brought up almost to pitch. The idea of that is to equalize the tension of that string segment by forcing the speaking section of the string sharp by helping the string over the upper termination point, whether it be an agraffe or a vee bar.

Tech Tip

From *The HousTuner*, The newsletter of the Houston, Texas Chapter of the Piano Technicians Guild - January 2008

If you find yourself needing a screw holder to replace those hard to reach screws, apply a small amount of super glue to the screw slot, place the screwdriver tip in the slot and hold it until the glue sets. The bond between the screw and the screwdriver will hold well enough to replace the screw and is then easily broken once the screw is in place. This will work with all types of screws.

Books On Line

by Rob Mitchell *InTune!* Newsletter of the Piano Technicians Guild, San Francisco Chapter

More and more books are becoming available as schools and universities scan their libraries. Most of these are out of copyright and can therefore be freely distributed. Recent postings on the pianotech chat list noted some relevant piano books including *Modern Piano Tuning and Allied Arts* by William Braid White.

Annie Grieshop has taken it on herself to maintain a list of these books on her website at:
<http://www.allthingspiano.com/pdbooks.htm>.

PIANOS FOR SALE

Chickering Quarter Grand, 5'4", Ser. No. 130581. Bob Tomassone will take \$1000 (401) 580-5515.

Baldwin console, \$1200. Located in Cranston, RI. Call Joyce at 461-3111.

Hardman "Playotone" full-size upright, reconditioned 2001, D/C. \$750 Wade (401) 934-3049.

VOSE GRAND \$500, needs pinblock & minor repairs to the veneer David Sylvester (401-941-6816)

STEINWAY M 1940's \$17K Mahogany, tight pinblock, original action repined -David Sylvester (401-941-6816)

CONOVER GRAND \$4,000 Gloss Black, New Condition, 4'-11" long with bench Call: 401.949.8094

KIMBALL STUDIO UPRIGHT \$1,200 1974 s/n 850594, Walnut brown color, with bench Call: 401.949.8094

TOM THUMB PIANO \$500 PLAYER Walnut brown color, 66 keys, with bench Call: 401.949.8094

AUTO PLAYER PIANO \$3,000 S/n 186375 Walnut Brown, restored, plays well Call: 401.949.8094

CHICKERING CONCERT GRAND \$2,500 S/n 15334 Satin Black, no lid Call: 401.949.8094

WINTER GRAND \$1,000. 1933 s/n 113734, 4'-6", needs some action work Call: 401.949.8094

CONOVER GRAND \$4,000 Gloss Black, new condition 4'-11" Call: 401.949.8094

MASON & HAMLIN GRAND \$7,500 1935 s/n 42600, refinished in 2007, 5'-4" great shape Call: 401.949.8094

MASON & HAMLIN GRAND \$13,000 1934 s/n 42146, Satin Black refinished, new strings, hammers, 6'-2" Call: 401.949.8094

Rhode Island Chapter
www.RI-PTG.org
Ruth Van Dine, RPT
62 Stokes Street
Warwick, RI 02889



Upcoming Meeting Dates:

**April 17 – Mark IV Disklavier -Geroge Litterst of
Rehoboth, MA @ *Piano Gallery of Rhode Island,
238 E. Main Road, Middletown RI***

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