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# The Voicing Tool

Monthly [ April 2009 ] Newsletter  
of the

## Wichita Chapter - Piano Technicians Guild, Inc. -

### CHAPTER OFFICERS:

Ann Fell, RPT, ~ *President*

H. Joe Wisner III, RPT ~ *Secretary*

Alan Crane, RPT, ~ *Newsletter Editor* [alan.crane@wichita.edu](mailto:alan.crane@wichita.edu) ( 316-978-6167 )

JD Hershberger, RPT, ~ *Vice-President*

Marty Hess, RPT, ~ *Treasurer*

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### **APRIL MEETING \*ALSO\* ON A DIFFERENT DAY**

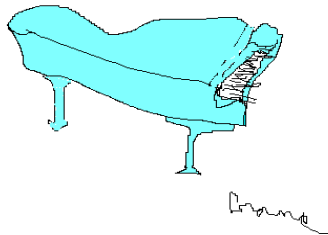
The April Chapter meeting will be held on **Friday evening, April 17th, at 7:00pm** at Alan Crane's shop in Duerksen Fine Arts Center on the WSU campus. (maps & directions are available)

\* This additional departure from our "regular" monthly meeting time is probably the last of these since the Central-West Regional Seminar in Wichita is over and only a few final details remain to be addressed.

The Technical Session is to be announced.

#### **TENTATIVE AGENDA:**

1. **Call To Order**
  - \_ welcome, introductions, & additions to the agenda (if any)
2. **Minutes**
  - \_ Mar. meeting
3. **Officers' Reports**
  - \_ president
  - \_ vice-president
  - \_ secretary
  - \_ treasurer
  - \_ newsletter editor
4. **Unfinished Business**
  - \_ Regional Seminar committee reports
5. **New Business**
  - \_ Nominating committee appointment
6. **Announcements**
7. **Next Meeting Date & Location**
8. **Adjournment**
9. **Technical Session and Q&A**
10. **Social Time**



### **PREVIOUS CHAPTER MEETING** (synopsis)

The March meeting took place on (Friday) the 13th at the WSU piano tech shop.

Present at the meeting were:

Chuck Vetter, Associate Member  
Marty Hess, RPT  
David Norman, Associate Member  
Ann Fell, RPT  
Jane Thronson, Associate Member  
Roy Howard, Associate Member  
Joe Wisner, RPT  
Ron Hill, visitor  
Alan Crane, RPT

\*[this editor thinks there may have been others at the meeting but these are the only names recorded in his notes]

The business meeting dealt mostly with the last-minute details of the upcoming Central-West Regional Seminar which the Wichita Chapter hosted at The Hotel At Old Town the following week.

Marty Hess presented the list of sponsors covering the cost of refreshments during breaks between class sessions, and those contributing "door prizes" for the banquet on Friday evening.

Joe Wisner and Alan Crane presented final drafts of signs denoting Class/Instructor and other planned events during the Seminar.

Ann Fell reported on the finalized class schedule and, with Marty Hess, led the Chapter in planning the pre-Seminar setup on Wednesday afternoon prior to the Thursday morning beginning of classes.

(synopsis, contd.)

Alan Crane reported that, for the first time ever, credit cards would be accepted for "at the door" seminar registration. Sandy Roady offered to process those transactions by phone from her office at the PTG Home Office in Kansas City.

In other business, the Chapter appointed Alan Crane delegate to Council at this summer's PTG Annual Convention & Institute in Grand Rapids, Michigan.



## **CHAPTER OFFICER ELECTIONS**

**YES, ITS THAT TIME AGAIN**

**ELECTIONS OF CHAPTER  
OFFICERS FOR THE NEXT TWELVE  
MONTHS WILL TAKE PLACE AT  
THE MAY CHAPTER MEETING.**

**IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN  
RUNNING FOR OFFICE, LET THE  
NOMINATING COMMITTEE KNOW  
(or just show up).**

**IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN NOT  
BEING ELECTED, IT WOULD BE A  
GOOD IDEA TO BE PRESENT TO  
"NIP" ANY WRITE-IN CAMPAIGN  
ON YOUR BEHALF "IN THE BUD".**

### **FINE PRINT:**

THE OFFICES OF PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT ARE OPEN ONLY TO RPT MEMBERS. RPT AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS ARE ELEGIBLE FOR ELECTION TO THE OFFICES OF SECRETARY, TREASURER, AND NEWSLETTER EDITOR.

## **Mystery Piano In Woods**

CNN on-line 11-24-08

Authorities in Harwich, Massachusetts, are probing the mysterious appearance of a piano, in good working condition, in the middle of the woods.

Discovered by a woman who was walking a trail, the Baldwin Acrosonic piano, model number 987, is intact -- and, apparently, in tune.

Sgt. Adam Hutton of the Harwich Police Department said information has been broadcast to all the other police departments in the Cape Cod area in hopes of drumming up a clue, however minor it may be.

But so far, the investigation is flat.

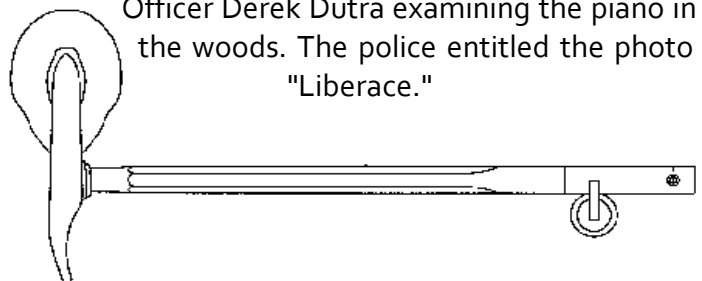
Also of note: Near the mystery piano -- serial number 733746 -- was a bench, positioned as though someone was about to play.

The piano was at the end of a dirt road, near a walking path to a footbridge in the middle of conservation land near the Cape.

It took a handful of police to move the piano into a vehicle to transport it to storage, so it would appear that putting it into the woods took more than one person.

Asked whether Harwich police will be holding a holiday party in the storage bay -- tickling the ivories, pouring eggnog -- while they await word of the piano's origin and fate, Hutton laughed. No such plans.

Harwich police have had some fun, though. Among the photos they sent to the news media is one of Officer Derek Dutra examining the piano in the woods. The police entitled the photo "Liberace."



~ **The PTG Bylaws:** ~  
**A Grand Tour ~ part 35**

**ARTICLE XVI – PTG Home Office**

**Section A – Administration**

The Executive Board shall hire an administrator for the PTG Home Office who shall have the title Executive Director.

**Section B – Duties**

1. Operate the Home Office of PTG, maintaining all necessary books and records in accordance with the accepted procedure.
2. Hire necessary personnel to operate the PTG administrative work within the PTG budget and under direction of the Executive Board.
3. Prepare a proposed annual budget for the following fiscal year. Submit the budget proposal to the Executive Board. After the Board has approved the budget, distribute to chapters as required by these Bylaws.
4. Annually and whenever directed, make available to the Executive Board all budgets, financial reports, records and recommendations.
5. Make all budgets, financial reports, records, and recommendations available to the PTG Council.
6. Coordinate PTG Annual Conventions.
7. Make all necessary records available for audit or other accounting examination or survey as directed by the Executive Board.
8. Distribute agenda books and proposed amendments to the Bylaws to chapters and the Executive Board seventy (70) days prior to the opening of the PTG Annual Convention.
9. Provide for the Council an annual report of activities of the PTG Home Office, together with all documentation necessary to clarify the report, and recommendations and suggestions appropriate for future PTG programs.

10. Provide administrative supervision and operation of the PTG Annual Convention as directed by the Executive Board.

11. In all publications to instruct the editorial board only to accept articles and classified advertising for publication that do not discriminate against any person because of race, color, creed, sex, or national origin.



## OBITUARY

Willis P. Snyder Jr., 87, died peacefully March 21, 2009, in the health care center at Phoebe Berks Village near Reading, Pennsylvania.

He was the loving husband of Kathryn (Ahrens) Snyder, whom he married in 1947. They enjoyed 61 years of marriage, 56 of which were spent living together by Furnace Creek in Robesonia, PA.

Born in Reading on March 7, 1922, Willis served in Patton's army during World War II and was awarded two Bronze Stars.

After the war, he worked as a welder at Parish Structural Products Division of Dana Corp. In 1956, he started a piano tuning and repair business that would become his passion for the next 50 years.

He was a charter member of the Reading-Lancaster chapter of the PTG, serving as secretary, vice president and president through the years.

He also served as a PTG instructor at the local, regional and national levels for more than 30 years and was a former national vice president of the PTG. His PTG awards include the Golden Hammer, Hall of Fame and Outstanding National Instructor.

He was a former member of the Robesonia Rod and Gun Club and was instrumental in building the club's fish hatchery and starting the annual fishing rodeo.

He was a member of the VFW Robesonia post as well as the Robesonia Fire Company.

He was also a member of St. Paul's UCC, Robesonia, and the Reading Bowling Association, having rolled a perfect game in 1995.

Surviving in addition to his wife are three sons: Sterling D. Snyder, Riverview Park; David B. Snyder, Robesonia; and Brian A. Snyder, Ruscombmanor Township; and three daughters: Marilyn R. Manuele, Chadds Ford; Eileen L. Mills, Douglassville; and Phyllis A. Snyder, Eagleville.

Other survivors include a brother, Charles Snyder, Stony Creek.

There are also 10 grandchildren.

He was also predeceased by his stepmother, Evelyn Snyder; and two brothers, John and Thomas Snyder.

In lieu of flowers, to support piano and music education memorial donations may be made to Piano Technicians Guild Foundation, In Memory of Willis P. Snyder Jr., 4444 Forest Ave., Kansas City, KS 66106.



# Free Info

## On Tools You May Not Own Yet

Have you been to the Pianotek Supply Company website lately? Under their heading of "INSTRUCTION" you'll find a whole column technical information and manuals (in .pdf format) on such things as:

AcryliKey II Instructions  
Back Action Instructions  
Bushmaster Instructions  
Capstan Installation  
Dampp-Chaser 7-part Grand Instructions  
Dampp-Chaser Backside Instructions  
Dampp-Chaser Grand Instructions  
Dampp-Chaser Smart Bracket Instructions  
Dampp-Chaser Vertical Instructions  
Decal Instructions  
Downbearing Gauge Instructions  
Hide Glue Technical  
Ivory Repairs Article  
Key Easing Iron Instructions  
Keyboard Weigh Off & Leading Procedure  
Strate-Mate Instructions  
Stringer II Instructions  
Testing Dampp-Chasers Article  
Tharan Keytop Material  
Treble Tone Resonator  
VS Profelt Article  
West System Epoxy Article  
Wippen Assist Spring Regulation

There's some good stuff here (diagrams and all) and its worth a look for novice and veteran alike. You'll find it all at:  
<http://www.pianoteksupply.com/>



## ... The Literary Corner...

This month's column, in lieu of actual literary content, assumes a cautionary note consisting of a warning and an admonition.

### Consumer Warning:

\_\_\_ Those of you who (like this editor) are in the occasional habit of perusing the "web" for literary publications whose subjects or settings relate in some way to our profession, are hereby warned that the small, scarce volume of poetry "Piano Tuning At Midnight" by James Magorian, published in 1979 by Laughing Bear Press, nowhere makes reference, oblique or overt, to what we do other than in its rather cryptic title!

### From the "You Should a' Been There" Dept:

\_\_\_ Anyone not firmly convinced (and many who are) of the importance of literary art to piano technicians would have been astounded at the results of the informal Talent Show & Competition which so spectacularly met the after-dinner entertainment requirement at the Friday evening banquet of the PTG C-W Regional Seminar in Wichita!

This editor, still in disbelief, will say no more than to suggest that those not in attendance at the Seminar, yet still wishing to know more about this strange affair, get themselves to a local chapter meeting and ask details of someone who did attend.



### Disclaimer:

"All expressions of opinion and all statements of supposed fact are published on the authority of the author as listed and are not to be regarded as expressing the view of this Chapter or of The Piano Technicians Guild, Inc., unless such statements have been adopted by the Chapter or by The Piano Technicians Guild, Inc."

