

November 2012

News & Notes



Newsletter of the Boston Chapter *Piano Technicians Guild*

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NOVEMBER MEETING - M Steinert & Sons/Boston
FEATURING: Ed Foote presenting 3 types of regulation procedures

When: Monday, November 5th

Where: 162 Boylston Street
Boston, MA 02116

Schedule: **6:00 PM.** Gather, Converse, Eat
7:00 PM. Chapter Business Meeting
7:30 PM. Technical Meeting



"Three regulations and how I sell them" -- Ed Foote

There is more than one way to regulate if we are to give the customer maximum value. What is needed in a recording studio is not the same as on a concert stage or in a living room. Three approaches to regulation, depending on venue, and what has proven to be most effective in selling them.



From the web site: <http://my.ptg.org/PTG/MyProfile/Contacts/?UserKey=3db543d7-e7c0-4282-8814-33280ad72b8a>

Nashville, TN

United States

37212

<http://www.piano-tuners.org/edfoote/index.html>

a440a@aol.com

Bio

BFA Louisiana Tech University Diploma from the North Bennett Street School, Boston
1976

Professional Associations

Piano Technician's Guild

1998 - 2012

Education

La. Tech. University

Ruston, Louisiana, United States

B.F.A., 1975

North Bennett Street School

Diploma, 1976

Keyboard Technology

Job History

Piano Technician for performance and studio pianos

Vanderbilt University

January 1978 - present

Precision Piano Works

Owner

Nashville, TN, United States

January 1976 - present



"PREZ SEZ"

Doug Tybor, RPT
President, Boston
Chapter PTG

Hello Everyone -

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the people and their families affected by Hurricane Sandy. Please consider donating to the charity of your choice that is dedicated to the ongoing relief efforts.

Otherwise, the autumn season is in full bloom, the leaves (what's left) are in a state of never-ending free-fall, the World Series just finished....

.....and I think I hear that new iPad Mini calling to me....

.....and that new iPad Mini is calling to me....

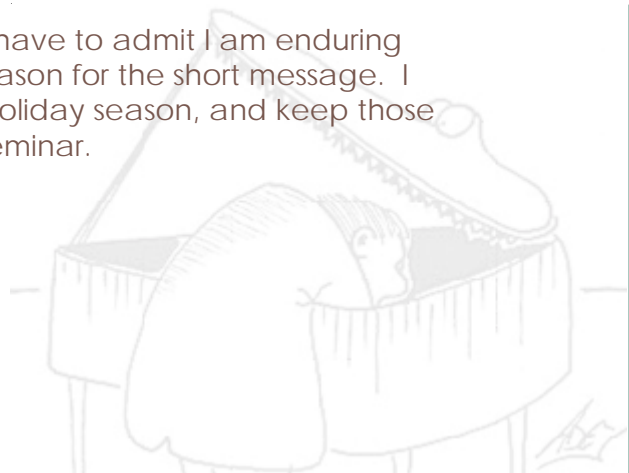
Actually, I need to be convinced as to how this new toy, or any new tech toy for that matter, will help me be more productive. And there are some things I admit I just have not taken the plunge on - I still don't have an iPod - but as time marches on I do see a real benefit to becoming more "tech-mobile." Customers really appreciate it when you return their phone call or email very quickly....and by the way, what is this new "cloud" thing....? Google it - it's there...I'm sure I'll learn about it...in time....

We're having the November chapter meeting a little early this time - Monday November 5th at Steinert's in Boston. Ed Foote will present a program on three types of grand action regulation.

This is the last newsletter for the year, and I have to admit I am enduring a mild case of writer's block, which is the reason for the short message. I want to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season, and keep those suggestions coming for the NEECSO 2014 Seminar.

Thanks,

Doug Tybor
President, Boston Chapter PTG



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Piano Factory Images





According to wiseGEEK.com:

A piano tuner adjusts delicate pins and strings inside a piano to ensure that every key will result in the correct tone. Professionals use a number of different tools to tweak strings and check for appropriate pitches, including specialized hammers, screwdrivers, pliers, mutes, and tuning forks. Tuners may also work as technicians, making repairs and maintaining other parts of pianos. Most piano tuners work for repair shops, piano manufacturers, any retail stores, though many experienced professionals operate their own full- or part-time businesses.

Piano strings tend to move around and loosen over time, changing the tones they emit when played. Changes in humidity and temperature can also affect string tension, and constant vibrations cause tuning pins to loosen. A piano tuner is able to identify and correct the problems that pianos experience by carefully inspecting the interior components, testing each string to determine its pitch, and making fine adjustments to realign pins. **Since transporting a piano is both cumbersome and presents the possibility of knocking strings back out of tune, most piano tuners perform their work at clients' homes.**

What's the difference between a pianist and a large pizza? A large pizza can feed a family of four.

Two people are walking down the street. One is a pianist; the other didn't have any money either.

How do you make a million dollars playing the piano? Start with two million.

Why is a person who plays the piano called a pianist but a person who drives a racecar not called a racist?

What's the difference between a piano and a Harley-Davidson? One of us might be able to tune a Harley.

Definition of a piano tuner: A person employed to come into the home, rearrange the furniture, and annoy the cat. The tuner's chief purpose is to ascertain the breaking point of the piano's strings.

Piano Tuner: I've come to tune the piano.

Music Teacher: But we didn't send for you.

Piano Tuner: No, but the people who live across the street did.



ASSIST WITH THE TUNING EXAM—We have been doing quite a few tuning exams lately. Any RPTs out there willing to help out? The tuning exam requires one CTE (Certified Tuning Exam-iner) and two (or more) RPTs. Recently I asked several RPTs to help out and both were under the mistaken impression that one had to be a CTE to take part in a tuning exam. Not so. Any RPT can help. It's a good way to give back to our organization, have fun and probably learn something. Plus you have the satisfaction of knowing you are helping uphold the high standards of PTG! There is no monetary reward, but you might get a sandwich and cup of coffee, and reimbursement for parking.

Another reminder—the pool of CTEs nationwide is shrinking. If any RPT is considering becoming a CTE, the first step is to take the full tuning exam (entirely by ear) and pass all categories at 90 or above. THE TEST FEE IS WAIVED, whether or not your scores are all 90 or above.

The Boston Chapter does testing on a by request basis. So, if anyone is thinking about taking the tuning exam, it usually takes a few weeks to set up a time. Testing is done at North Bennet St. School on one of three approved pianos: A Steinway L, a Mason & Hamlin BB or a Kawai RX2.

Questions? Call or email me. - *Christine Lovgren*





The next meeting is Monday November 5 at Steinert's with Ed Foote presenting 3 types of regulation procedures.

New members to the chapter include Gerry Johnston, Michael Collins, Keith Ward, and Jiaao Yu.

Joe Morocco presented the Treasurer's report.

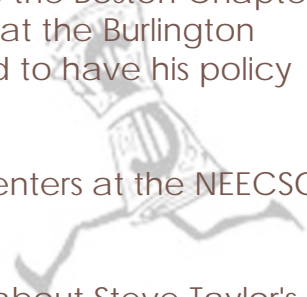
The PTG Home Office has confirmed the dates of April 24-27, 2014 for the next NEECSO Seminar.

The NEECSO committee includes Allan Day (President), Doug Tybor, and representatives from other regional chapters: Ruth Van Dine, Jim Birch, Doug Kirkwood, Gordon Large, and Helen Weston.

On Sunday, October 28 at 12:00 noon, Steve Taylor will give the Boston Chapter hosting committee and the NEECSO Committee a site tour at the Burlington Marriott. Mr. Taylor does carry event insurance, and offered to have his policy cover the requirements of the Seminar's host site.

The officers are continuing to entertain suggestions for presenters at the NEECSO Seminar.

Pat Draine asked as to whether there was a Chapter vote about Steve Taylor's involvement in the NEECSO Seminar negotiations to date. Mr. Draine also asked if there was any written contract with Steve Taylor at this point. A discussion followed, reviewing Mr. Taylor's involvement to date, as well as the audio-visual equipment he and his company have offered to provide. Eric Donnelly made a motion to accept the shared-risk agreement between Mr. Taylor and the Boston Chapter to include everything up until this point, and to continue as planned. Jude Reveley seconded the motion. The motion carried without a negative vote.





For those of you who know your Steinway pianos, the 7' model B is the flagship of the company. This is a spectacular piano originally manufactured in one of the the prime years, 1926. A new soundboard has been installed and all new Steinway action. This concert grand piano roars and whispers depending on the occasion. Price:



Martin Snow
781-837-6531
martinsnowpianos@yahoo.com



\$47,500. Fully restored Steinway model M, 5'7", originally manufactured in 1933. New pinblock, strings, tuning pins; original soundboard in excellent condition. New hammer action. Fully refinished mahogany cabinet. \$26,500. This model M mahogany Steinway piano is still being made and retails new for \$67K.



Steinway console piano, 43" tall. Beautiful condition, made in the 1960s. \$3900.



2003 Yamaha grand model C1, absolutely mint condition on this Conservatory Series 5'3" piano. Retails new at \$31K. My Nearly New price: \$11,900.

There's always room for a baby grand. Very good condition on this Chickering small grand piano, walnut cabinet... \$4500.



Kawai RX-3 Professional Piano purchased new in Feb of 2000 from a large Kawai dealer in Boston. This piano is in excellent condition, near mint and has been tuned regularly. It's 6-feet 1-inches long and classified as a Grand Piano, not a "Baby Grand." Its has the sound necessary for a professional concert or for a recording artist. If your shopping for a high-end piano research this model, its one of the best for talented players, students and professionals. Before purchasing this we studied the famous green Piano book which has rated the Kawai pianos one of the best in the world because of its sound, quality and craftsmanship. I just had this piano tuned, so it sounds beautiful. Additional pictures available upon request. Located in Salem MA - \$13,500.00. If your interested, email me to set up an appointment to come by and play it: fredcma@comcast.net



Steinway Console, serial number P322641, dated 1947. One owner, well maintained. Asking \$4000. Please call Susan for more info at 617-721-7036.

For Sale: Samick Grand Piano with working, fully functional Pianocorder P100 player system. Piano model is G-1A (5' 1"), serial number 820225 (30 years old), walnut polish finish. Original owner, properly tuned and maintained. Bench is included. Also included are Pianocorder user manual and 22 tapes. Can also provide contact information for service professionals familiar with Pianocorder systems. Additional photos available upon request. \$5500. Located in Beverly, MA.

Doug Tybor:
cybertybor@comcast.net
or
617-645-3519





Bill Fucito at 978-692-3293 (Westford, MA). Barry Rosenberg, RPT



I have a customer who must sell his 5'2" Knabe grand by the end of this month (August). It is in very good shape for original parts (I replaced an agraffe, the two strings that went through it and one hammer head). He wants \$4000 or best offer.



Pristine 10-year old KAWAI Cherrywood Console piano (model 606FRC) with matching bench...only one owner...not a scratch! Professionally tuned and well cared for...played by adults only...excellent sound quality...beautiful style... brass accents...located in Beverly, MA..... \$3200.



Steinway L for sale. Serial #225837. Made in 1924. Has a stunning, highly figured/ribbon mahogany case. Piano has been completely rebuilt with a new soundboard and pinblock. It has new Renner shanks and flanges, Hamburg repetitions, N.Y. hammers and N.Y. damper backaction. It also has a Stanwood™ action rebalance. Has a big, sweet sound and very even touch. \$36,000. Piano is located in Bedford, MA.



Ken Prescott

781 687-9181k. prescott@comcast.net



P Donnelly 978-922-9445 Boston grand piano for sale. GP-193 6'4". 10 years old. Polished Mahogany Finish. Pristine. Comes with M.Steinert trade-up guarantee. Claudia Cimenti email: cimenti@gmail.com Stowe, MA

Steinway B from around 1900. Completely redone in the mid 80's at Camaleri in NY. Spade legs (not original), black case. Authentic Steinway parts used throughout. Plastic keytops. 88 notes. Well maintained. Piano located in Cambridge. Asking low 30's. Call Christine Lovgren 508 733 2935

Original owner of an upright Charles R. Walter (1999) Traditional Console Model 1520, serial # 524283, with a Cherry Finish and Bench. The piano is in excellent condition, has been regularly tuned, and played only by our daughter. \$2,400 or Best Offer. Boston Tel: 617-620-8651.

Steinway 45 upright, Serial #553473 (circa 2000) Mahogany "Crown Jewel Collection" Damp-Chaser installed Owned and played by an RPT, second owner Hammers recently filed, action recently regulated, tuned regularly, tight pinblock, perfect soundboard Middle pedal is true sostenuto mechanism Asking \$14,500.00 Christopher A. Storch (617) 489-6436



November 2012
Steinway M - \$10950
(Allston)



Beautiful tone 5'7" baby grand from the '20's, Steinway's golden age. As far as structural work, it has replaced pinblock, strings, dampers, which generally costs at least \$6000. The action has had the hammers, shanks and flanges replaced, which are the parts that wear and have the dreaded "vertigris" found in most older Steinways. We are regulating it now, which is the fine action adjustment to make the touch feel like new. This action work is normally at least \$3500.

It has been refinished in an open grain walnut worth \$4000. Adding all the work done, the piano is less than free at this price. We are paying you to buy this piano!



Classic Knabe 5'2" baby grand in original condition; thoroughly regulated and voiced. \$2000.

Chris Pleim
119 Braintree St Rm 511
Allston MA
617-783-1030
chrispleimpiano@me.com

2 Ivers and Pond Full Sized Uprights - \$1650 (Allston) and \$1950



The final evolution of the full sized upright; deep rich sound surpassing most baby grands. Uprights this good are mostly no longer made, and when they are they cost well over 10K. Original mahogany finish in good shape.

Includes complete Life Saver System (humidity control which costs \$600 installed). This piano is fully tuned, regulated, and guaranteed.

Mason & Hamlin "A" 5'8" Grand Piano



Unique, customized instrument with many design improvements resulting in a very special, one of a kind piano. \$35,000.

With Weiblers
The Piano
Made in Germany
since 1877

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Fine pianos. Made in Germany.
Since 1877.

*Crafting the best pianos is
an exacting science.
Crafting the best pianos at
an affordable price is an art.*

This has been, and always will be, the hallmark of Wilh. Steinberg Pianos. Unifying the expertise of modern German piano construction with 130 years of experience and tradition in manufacturing, the result is a unique blend of tonal quality, attractive cabinet design and affordable prices.

Mozartstrasse 3 - D07607 Eisenberg

For more information, contact
E. J. Buck & Sons Piano
171 Lincoln St ~ Lowell, MA 01852
978-458-8688
larry@ejbuckpiano.com



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www.bostonptg.org



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LOCATION MAPS

