



topics to be presented were discussed also the schedule and the availability of members at the time periods we will be responsible to fill. [Click](#) for schedule of assignments.

Pamphlets to be ordered from PTG will also be available for events in any community in the Chapter area.

The March meeting of the chapter will be held at the USD #259 School Center at 3815 N. Hydraulic in Wichita.

Chuck Vetter reported his observations at the annual NAMM meeting in Anaheim, CA as our tech session. There was a great reduction this year in acoustic pianos and an increase in electronic devices.

Music festival at Botanica March 6 & 7.

We need musicians for the "*Back to the Future Suite*". [Click](#) for rehearsal and performance times.

Help set up and tear down and man the booths. [Click](#) for schedule of events.

If any of your customers are music teachers that are attending the MTNA convention in Albuquerque March 20-24, tell them to be sure to visit the PTG booth and pick up reproducible activities and lessons from the Piano Learning Center, piano care literature and a free gift!

PTG Convention & Technical Institute

Saturday - Wednesday, June 26 - 30, 2010
Las Vegas, NV

Registration is now open at www.ptg.org/convention2010!

PTG convention in Las Vegas June 26-30. Scholarship information available from Joe Wisner.

Delegate names will need to be submitted by March 22 to Kathy Maxwell at the home office (kathy@ptg.org). We will also at the next meeting determine the stipend amount for the delegate.

PTG has some committee openings that need to be filled. Both RPTs and Associates are eligible to serve. They need volunteers - contact Jim Coleman, Jr. at vp@ptg.org.

Full Registration, Weekend Pass, or Weekday Pass Options Available.

The Practical Technician Convention

What defines a "practical technician," you ask?

The Practical Technician {the prak-ti-kuhl tek-nish-uhn} noun, adjective & superlative appellation; ME, Gk

1. One who is useful, skilled, accomplished
2. One who knows how to get things done efficiently and quickly
3. One who has attended the 2010 Convention & Technical Institute

The theme of the "Practical Technician" drove every decision, every request to our instructors, every new class idea from the builders & exhibitors, and every other facet of the institute.

You'll find that those who attend will be the most Practical Technicians.

This convention is playing all the angles, covering every bet, and offering you the chance to truly become a Practical Technician by bringing the most amazing, new, interesting, and practical classes you can find in one place....and it's Las Vegas!



**NEW CLASSES**

"Definition of an Old Upright? Money!" - Ward Guthrie, RPT

"Care and Feeding of the Practice Room

Upright" - Fred Sturm, RPT

"Treating Piano PMS (Post-Moving-Syndrome)" - Isaac Sadigursky, RPT

"Your Money or Your Life" - Dale Probst, RPT

"First Contact" - Alan Zacijek, RPT

...and many, many more.

You want new tuning classes? How about "Zen and the Art of Speed Tuning", "Bulletproof Aural Tuning" or maybe "Fusion Tuning."

Looking for new regulation classes? New business classes? Yes, we have them, too!

MANUFACTURER & EXHIBITOR

OFFERINGS (Our biggest supporters are... bringing NEW classes!)

Yamaha - "Essential Prep in an Efficient Manner"

Kawai - "The Sound of Your Tuning" and "Tuning Stability Into Your Client's Piano"

Brooks Ltd - "Rebuilding and Technical Tips - The Little Things That Count"

Steingraeber - "21st Century Innovations"

J.D. Grandt String Co. - "Bass String Basics and Beyond" and "Bass String Rescaling"

Dampp-Chaser - "Relative Humidity, Wood, and Protecting the Piano"

...and many, many more. Getting the idea, here?

Note that our first full day of classes is Saturday, June 26 and we will end at noon on Wednesday, June 30.

Visit www.ptg.org/conv/2010/classes to read class descriptions, download a schedule, or search the class database by instructor, day, time, topic, or level of instruction. Register online at or download a registration form but do it NOW to get the best rate and ensure your spot in

limited-size class offerings. And, coming soon, watch your mailbox for the 2010 PTG Convention and Technical Institute brochure.

You will find that this convention is the one that you always told yourself you'd get to "someday." Your Institute Team, with the help of the best instructors and supporters of the PTG, has assembled the convention that everyone will talk about (and use everyday in their business) for years and years to come.

Very Sincerely,

Jeffrey T. Hickey, RPT

Institute Director - Las Vegas 2010

Vegas Is Calling!

PTG CONVENTION & TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

June 26, 2010 to June 30, 2010

**Bally's Resort & Casino
Las Vegas, Nevada**

**Contact: Sandy Roady
4444 Forest Avenue, Kansas City, KS
66106**

Phone: 913-432-9975

Central West Regional Seminar

March 18-21, 2010

Lincoln, Nebraska

*Find information and register online at
<http://www.ptg.org/cwrs2010>.*

Holiday Inn, Lincoln—Downtown

www.holiday-inn.com/lincolnne

(402) 475-4011



**All-Day Classes**

Tim Coates • Wapin, Hands-On Complete Installation
Ann Fell • The Ups and Downs of Vertical Regulation & • Basic
Repairs

Joe Swenson & Don Fortner • Grand Regulation
Kent Webb • Steinway Grand Service for Touch & Tone

Half-Day Classes

Vince Mrykalo • New Hammers on an Old Upright
Trevor Nelson • Touchweight

Dale Probst • Your Money or Your Life
Kevin Stock • Concert Prep/voicing

Wessel Nickel Gross • Composite Parts Installation

Hour-and-a-Half Classes

Scott Jones • "TouchRail"

Eric Nikiforoff • 1-2-3 Temperament & • Aural/ETD Tuning
Strategies

Dale Probst • Damper Love

Lucy Urlacher • Restraining: My Place or Yours & • "Tips"

Mini Classes

Fujan Tuning Levers with *Steve Fujan*

PitchLock with *Scott Jones*

Bedding the Steinway Keyframe with *Paul Williams*

Piano Math with *Steve Lehr*

Regulating the Sostenuuto with *Bob Erlandson*

Dampp • Chaser Installation Problems with *Larry Caldwell*

Seminar Coordinator: Richard West

Email: rwest1@unl.edu

Phone: (402) 477-7198

Central West Regional Seminar

Car Pool (four hour drive to the [University of Nebraska](http://www.unl.edu))

Send me a "Mythbuster" item to give to Kent Webb, the Steinway instructor at our regional seminar in Lincoln, Nebraska. Send some questions/gripes/complaints/myths about Steinway history or manufacturing.

(<http://www.ptg.org/cwrs2010>). Wapin is sponsoring a pizza party on Thursday March 18 and Yamaha is sponsoring an evening reception on Friday. We also will have a banquet on Saturday.

Calendar**March 6-7, 2010**

Back to the Future
Festival at Botanica

March 4-7, 2010

Bellevue, WA

[Pacific NW Regional](#)

March 11, 2010

7 pm Chapter Mtg.

Wichita Schools Service
Center Piano Shop,
3815 N. Hydraulic

March 18-21, 2010

[Central West Regional](#),
at the University of
Nebraska

March 20, 2010

[Del Fandrich Seminar](#),
Placerville, CA

April 8 - 11, 2010

[PTG Music City](#)

Nashville, TN

June 26-30, 2010

PTG Convention &
Technical Institute,
Bally's Restort, Las
Vegas, NV

www.ptg.org/conv/2010





Exhibitors include Scott Jones (TouchRail/Pitchlock), Larry Fine (Brookside Press), Steve Fujan (Fujan hammers), Steve James (Grand Muffler Felt retrofit kit), Ronsen Hammers, and possibly one or two more.

Richard West

Central West Regional Seminar Coordinator

TECH Challenge from the email:

"I recently took a job to repair an old upright and so far it has become a nightmare- Among other things I have replaced 4 hammer butts , the ones that hold the Billings flanges- they seemed to be a bit larger then the originals but considered standard for today- I am having a tough time to get them to function because the jacks are pushing the hammers causing them to block against the strings- I tried to lower the capstans which helped a little but now the hammers are not resetting under the butt and the back checks are not exactly meeting the catchers- Should I bend the back checks closer to the catchers? or increase the key dip? I will also try to bend the backcheck closer to the catcher because it's not meeting it at all and as a result the hammer butt seems to fall back before the jack can reset. I would appreciate some advice if possible."

Please send your advice to 2rhoward@att.net

Editor's musings:

The correct butt for the Billings flanges is Schaff #509.

Your description of the problem sounds exactly like a problem I had last week. I puzzled over this strange phenomenon for a while. I happened to move the bridle strap a bit and the problem was solved. Indeed, the bridle strap was kinked near the catcher in such a way that the back check was actually pushing on the strap and lifting the hammer after let off.

Another possibility is that the jacks may need to be smoothed so they ride better on the hammer butt leather. Sand the edge of the jack that touches the leather so it is rounded.

Check that. If it works, then you will have to restore all the other adjustments to regulation.



Back to the Future Festival

Please continue to volunteer, and see updates at future/assignments.html
Saturday, March 6 and
Sunday, March 7, 2010
[Botanica](#), The Wichita Gardens

Celebrating the birthday of the piano

Friday set up 2 to 6 pm

Saturday Morning

8:00 set up

10:00 to 11:15 Recital A

10:20 Visit by Cristofori: *Marty*
10:30 Suite

10:50 - 11:20 Workshops and activities

Piano Care - Joe Wisner
Piano History display with Ann Fell's
Hammered Dulcimer and a Will Overholt
Harpsichord - Thomas
Piano Parts
Piano Care
Why Music, Why Piano - Larry Ray
Piano History
Tuning Demonstration - David Norman

Saturday Afternoon

1:00 to 2:15 Recital B
1:25 Visit by Cristofori: *Marty*
1:45 Suite

2:15 - 2:45 Workshops and activities

Piano Care - Joe Wisner
Piano History and Acoustic vs Digital
Pianos - Ann Fell
Piano Parts
Piano Care
Tuning Demonstration - David Norman

3:30 to 4:00 Workshops and activities

Piano Care - Joe Wisner
Piano History and Acoustic vs Digital

Pianos - *Ann Fell*
Piano Parts
Piano Care/Tuning Demonstration -
David Norman

4:00 to 4:55 Recital C

4:10 Visit by Cristofori: *Marty*
4:25 Suite

Sunday Afternoon

1:05 to 2:15 Recital D

1:45 Suite
2:10 Visit by Cristofori: *Marty*

2:15 - 2:45 Workshops and activities

Piano Care - Joe Wisner
Piano History and Acoustic vs Digital
Pianos - *Ann Fell*
Piano Parts
Piano Care
Why Music, Why Piano - *Larry Ray*
Tuning Demonstration - *David Norman*

3:15 to 3:45 Workshops and activities

Piano Care - Joe Wisner
Piano History and Acoustic vs Digital
Pianos - *Ann Fell*
Piano Parts
Piano Care
Tuning Demonstration - *David Norman*

3:45 to 4:55 Recital E

4:25 Suite
4:40 Visit by Cristofori: *Marty*

5:00 Tear Down

The Future of the Piano

The Piano only has a future if people of all ages play the piano. Following are excerpts from the composition competition from students aged 14 and 9. If children are playing and composing for the piano, then it does indeed have a future!

What can you do to keep this tradition alive?
Be a part of the future of the piano: participate in the "Back to the Future Festival", March 6, 7 at Botanica Gardens in Wichita.

<http://www.cantos.org/Piano/future>

We'll have a small window of time on Saturday to down a little lunch (from 11:45 to 12:15 for some of us). Let [Sally](#) know your opinion on the kind of food, and then please let her know how many of you and your group may be around at lunch. strbux@cox.net



For Sale

Do you have a piano or bench or anything else for sale? Bring photos/posters/handouts/brochures to the Festival for display.



Free hearing screenings offered at WSU

The Audiology Clinic at Wichita State University's Evelyn Hendren Cassat Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic will offer free hearing screenings for all ages March 22-26.

The clinic is located at the Eugene M. Hughes Metropolitan Complex, Entrance T, at 29th Street and Oliver.

Call (316) 978-3289 to schedule an appointment. Limited space available.

PTG Exam Study Session:

Wednesdays 7:30 pm at the Piano Man Shop:

Larry Ray
1018 N Buffum
Wichita, KS 67203
316-644-9241

Curriculum: <http://www.ptg.org/members/certificationExams.php>

[RSVP](#)

Central West Regional Seminar [NEWS](#)

Four hours drive from Wichita to Lincoln

Save hotel expense by partnering with a roommate. Instead of \$114 you'd pay only \$57 to stay in a nice hotel which is the seminar center. Contact [Richard West](#)

ASAP. If there are several people wanting to split hotel expenses, he'll try to get people together to make arrangements.

I've been trying to get chapters to send me at least one "Mythbuster" item to give to Kent Webb, the Steinway instructor at our regional seminar in Lincoln, Nebraska next month. I've only received two myths to bust. Surely there are some questions/gripes/complaints/myths about Steinway history or manufacturing that you or your members have wondered about. If you could run this by your members and submit one question, I'd sure appreciate it. I trust that I'll see someone from your chapter at our seminar. It's not that far and I believe it would be worth the trip. I wanted to

pass along information that isn't on the web site (<http://www.ptg.org/cwrs2010>). If FREE FOOD is an incentive, Wapin is sponsoring a pizza party on Thursday March 18 and Yamaha is sponsoring an evening reception on Friday. We also will have a banquet on Saturday, but that's not free.

Another bit of information that isn't on the web site is our list of exhibitors. That lineup includes PTG booth, Scott Jones (TouchRail), Wessel Nickel Gross, Larry Fine (the Piano Book), Steve James (Grand Muffler retrofit kit), Steve Fujan (Fujan hammers) and possibly Mother Goose Tools. A number of companies have sent door prizes (complete Dampp-Chaser unit, Yamaha tuning hammer, Schaff \$50 gift certificate, Kawai grand action model, and more). Please do what you can to pass along this information. And I hope you'll take the time to come up with a myth to bust. Thanks.

Richard West
Central West Regional Seminar Coordinator



**Autumn Breeze**

Katherine Dillard

Moderato**Piano in the Mist**

Madi Malone

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