



<http://my.ptg.org/tucson/home>  
<http://tucsonpianotuners.net/home.htm>

## Chapter News

Tucson Chapter (857)  
Piano Technicians Guild, Inc.  
Tucson, Arizona

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September

2019

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# Tucson Chapter Meeting

## Wednesday, October 9, 2019

### 3300 S. Dodge

Tech Topic: **PianoDisc/Mason & Hamlin**

**Jack Phelps, Presenter**

We're meeting at Jack Phelps' new shop. Jack attended a week-long PianoDisc installation and service workshop this past June at the Mason & Hamlin factory in Haverhill, MA. He'll be telling us all about the experience. Come to the meeting to find out more about what is possibly the best after-market, modern player system.

**5:30, refreshments; 6:30, meeting**



## Chapter Minutes

### **Tucson Chapter meeting**

**June 19, 2019**

**Hachenberg and Sons Piano**

**4333 Broadway Blvd., Tucson, AZ**

Minutes taken by Sarah Hong Soto

Those attending included Randy Prentice, Rick Woodruff, Neil Flint, Kirby Tucker, Mike Erickson, Bob Conrad, Steve Dexter, and Sarah Hong Soto. (Kirby's young assistant Jesse made a brief appearance during the social hour, but left before the meeting began.)

Randy Prentice demonstrated to everyone how to use the Pima County Assessor's online property tax database to supplement information on customers (who are often homeowners). He says this is particularly helpful when customers book a tuning by text, or online message, and fail to include all the relevant information. Sometimes, they give an incomplete address, so cross-referencing with public tax information can often fill in the missing information needed for GPS directions. Randy also recommends using MileIQ app to track his mileage for business purposes, and says it only costs him around \$60/year.

Rick Woodruff recently returned from a training session at Steinway, and reports that they are making as good a piano as ever. Their new recording/player is one that Steinway hopes to include on every new piano they sell, so they are targeting their marketing to the very wealthy, and institutions. Kirby noted that Steinway has stopped selling not only decals but also pinblocks to non-Steinway technicians. Because of the shrinking, competitive piano market, Steinway's attempts to control their market might make sense, but overall PTG technicians feel that PTG should bring up this issue with Steinway and consider antitrust legal challenges.

Bob Anderson's Treasurer's report, delivered by Kirby reported about \$2400 in the account. Steve Dexter was welcomed as a new member attending his first chapter meeting. Rick Woodruff mentioned that he had let his PTG membership lapse. Kirby proposed that we welcome nonmembers to our meetings, and this was approved by all.

Bob Conrad mentioned his two different classes to be taught at the annual convention institute, one about the FAC tuning of the Accutuner, and the other related to his recent technical presentation on mapping out partial changes and building his database of inharmonicity curves.

In other news about the convention, Kirby's assistant Jesse will be playing piano to accompany the US and Canadian national anthems at the Opening Session. Bob Anderson will represent the Host Chapter and give a welcome speech. There was no disagreement with Kirby's selection of Bob Anderson for this role. If anyone can help with sitting in attendance at the visitor's booth at the convention, please contact Cassie Van Gelder. The booth will be open Wednesday - Saturday, approximately 10am-5pm, and you do not need to be registered for the convention to help our out-of-town guild members find their way around town and enjoy our city.

## MORE Tucson Chapter News

### **A Little Help????**

1. I'm asking for a little help. Over the past year we've scheduled a couple of basic-level, all-day, learning/review classes, one on grand regulation and one on vertical regulation. Now it's time to review basic repair skills. Being retired, I don't have the resources for teaching basic skills any more. I left my ample, University of Nebraska shop and moved to Oro Valley and a small garage workbench.

So, would anyone like to help organize and teach one or more of the following basic skills?:

- hammer shank replacement
- hammer filing
- key bushing replacement
- flange bushing replacement and pinning
- tying a string
- installing a new string

2. Website review. Kirby Tucker suggests that we could help the chapter by submitting a Google review of the website that Kirby created for the chapter a couple of years ago. Our web site will go higher on Google's search list if there are reviews. This means more people will see our site and you'll potentially get more interested customers calling you.

Here are the steps:

Click on this link:

[piano technicians guild - Google search](#)

You'll get some Piano Technicians

Guild information showing up on the right.

Look for the rating stars and the blue review

link just to the right of the stars. Click on that

link to get an invitation to write a review. You

will probably have to sign into your Google

account using your Google password. If you

don't have an account, you'll have to sign up

for one. If you do have an account but have

forgotten your password, you can reset it and

then make the review. If you run into trouble

or you want someone to talk you through it,

give Kirby Tucker a call at Hachenberg Pianos,

520-327-0371.

3. Sarah Hong-Soto is working on updating

the chapter bylaws. Any reference to

"Associates" has to be eliminated. That

category is history. Sarah, our convention

delegate, may have some final comments

regardin her first-year experience.

4. The people who attended last summer's PTG

convention can share their experiences and

knowledge gleaned from the classes and

interactions with fellow technicians from

around the world.

5. Next year our convention is in Orlando. I

hope we'll have a few Tucsonans make the trip.

6. Want to carpool to the upcoming Phoenix

Chapter meeting? Email me.

440richard@gmail.com

Richard West, Secretary

## Phoenix Chapter October Meeting

**Tuesday, October 1, 2019**

7 pm at Stillwell Piano  
1941 W. Guadalupe Rd., #115  
Mesa, AZ 85202

**Tech Topic: Harpsichord 101: What does  
Lurch really want?**

This class will be taught by Tom Flowers. It will cover harpsichord basics (construction, mechanics, tone).



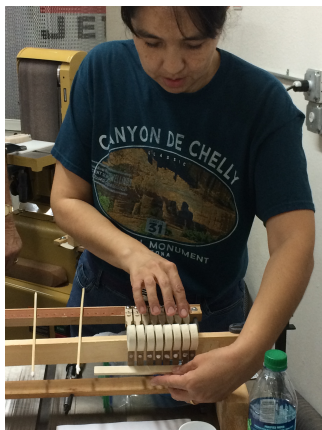
Lurch regales PTG Members with his haunting, harpsichord melodies. Unfortunately, Lurch's busy concert schedule prevents him from attending the upcoming Phoenix Chapter meeting.

## Visiting Phoenix (September Meeting)

Several Tucson Chapter members attended last month's meeting of the Phoenix Chapter. They were celebrating Alice Miles' retirement from Renner USA. Alice returned the favor by leading a hands-on class on hammer hanging. Renner hosted the meeting at their warehouse and provided pizza and drinks.



Alice is third from the left.  
Stephen Dexter, Tucson  
Chapter's newest member  
is on the right.



Sarah Hong-Soto and Jack Phelps try their hands at hanging hammers.



Renner is making the new 3-key grand action model for PTG. It was on display at Phoenix Chapter's September meeting.

## Tucson Chapter Officers

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