

Suffolk Soundboard

March 2006



Next Meeting
Tuesday, March 21st, 8pm
Frank and Camille's in Melville

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Good News ! We finally found the ideal piano at **Frank & Camille's Warehouse in Commack.**

It needs just about everything to be fixed. Just our cup of tea. It will be a good learning experience since we can go as far as we want to make it playable and saleable. The first thing we have to decide is when to work on it. We just have to coordinate with whom ever is going to stay after work to let us in.

Everyone who is interested in getting involved in this project, please come to this meeting. Decide what part of the project interests you so that we can lay out a schedule to have you included in that part. If you want to do it all-that's good too. It would be great if all of us could be involved, even being a cheer leader and giving a little advice would be welcome.

As far as the **technical** is concerned, I've called it "The Five Minute" technical. Each member should take 5, 10 or more minutes to present his technical. Unusual tools, unusual piano situations, techniques you've developed to solve a particular piano problem—are all fair game. If you can't come up with anything interesting, we all have one thing in common: customers. You can at least tell us how to get new customers, how you get them to repeat tunings and how you get them back when they cancel an appointment. I've attended this type of technical in the past and it is surprising how much valuable information can be generated.

How the rebuild project will work

The work to be done has been broken down into tasks such as action regulation, restringing, etc.. We would like at least 3 or 4 people to sign up for each task although we welcome any number of attendees. Note that each task will likely require more than one session, so be prepared to attend all sessions of a task you sign up for. Each session date will be collectively agreed upon by those who sign up for that task. Sign-up for tasks and project progress will be tracked on our web site <http://suffolkptg.org>. The sign-up password is A441. For all who would like to participate (and especially to those who have committed): Please go to the web site and sign up now so we may get the project under way.

The Ups and Downs, the Ins and Outs of Piano Moving – Part 5

by Frank Davis

- To remove tight hinge pins from a grand piano, use a nail filed flat and a hammer to tap the pin lightly from the smaller diameter back of the hinge opening.
- For an alternative method, use a vice grip to rock the hinge pin back and forth while pulling. Use some form of lubricant before reinserting the pin, and sand the pin with steel wool if necessary.
- Close grand piano fallboards before removing the music desk to avoid scratches to the fallboard.
- To negotiate uneven surfaces such as hills that need to be traversed sideways, use a dolly that has the wheels on one end stationary. This allows for much greater control. Cover uneven terrain with plywood sections 4ft. x 2ft. x ½ in. or 3/8 in. An 8 ft. x 4 ft. sheet will yield 16 ft. of track, and can easily be leap-frogged.
- Always use a strong helper who has common sense when moving any piano, especially if you lack either or both of these traits.