

Piano Technicians **Journal** January 1989

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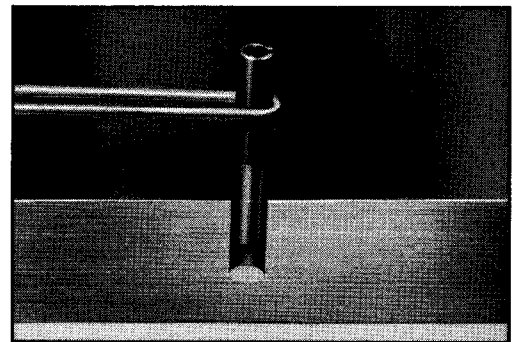
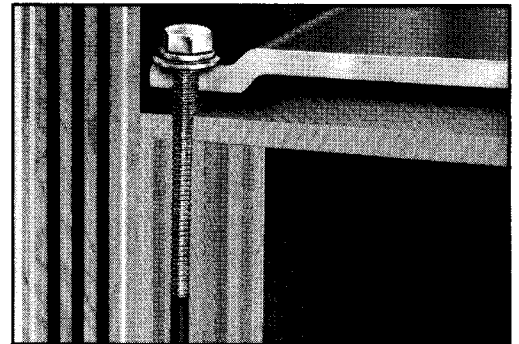
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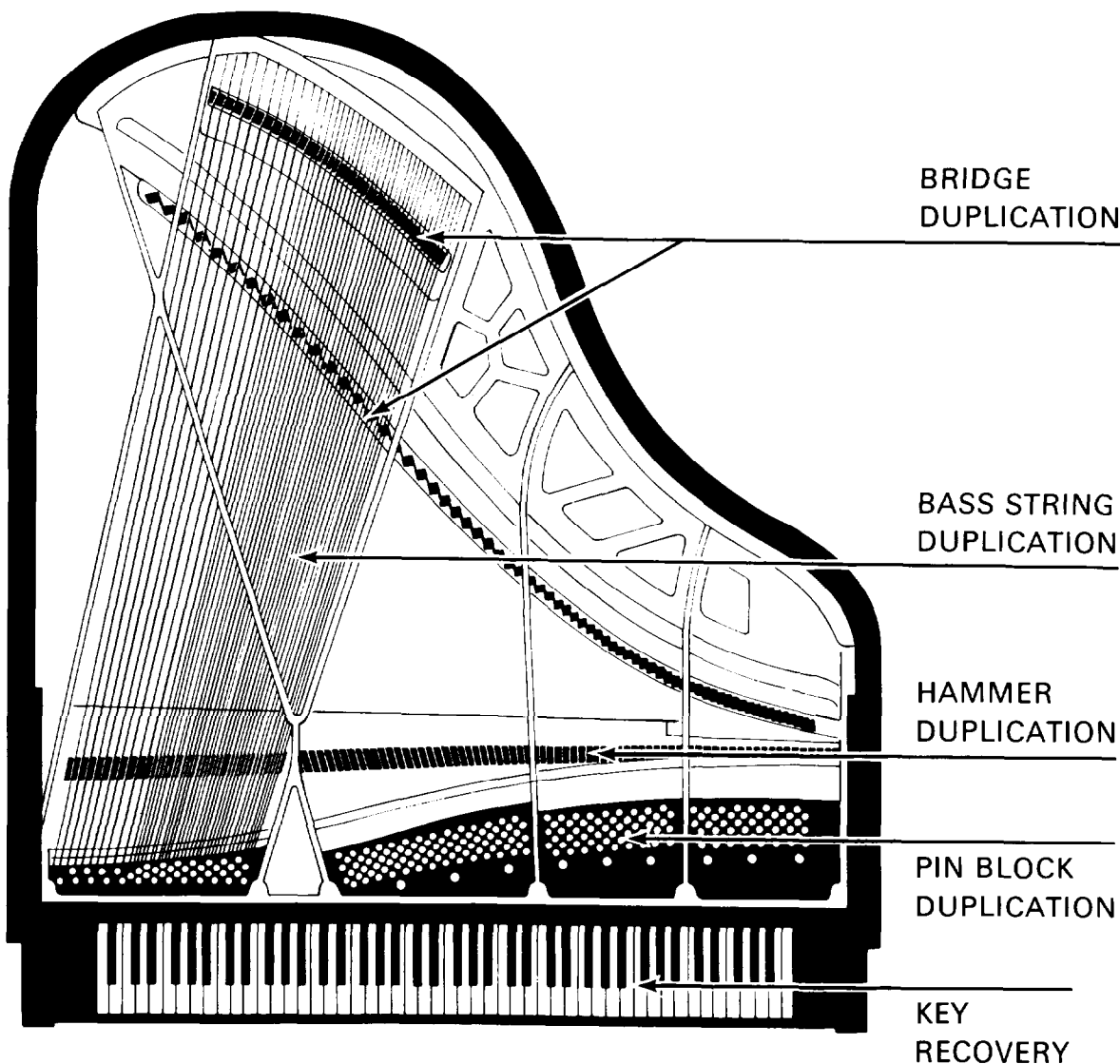


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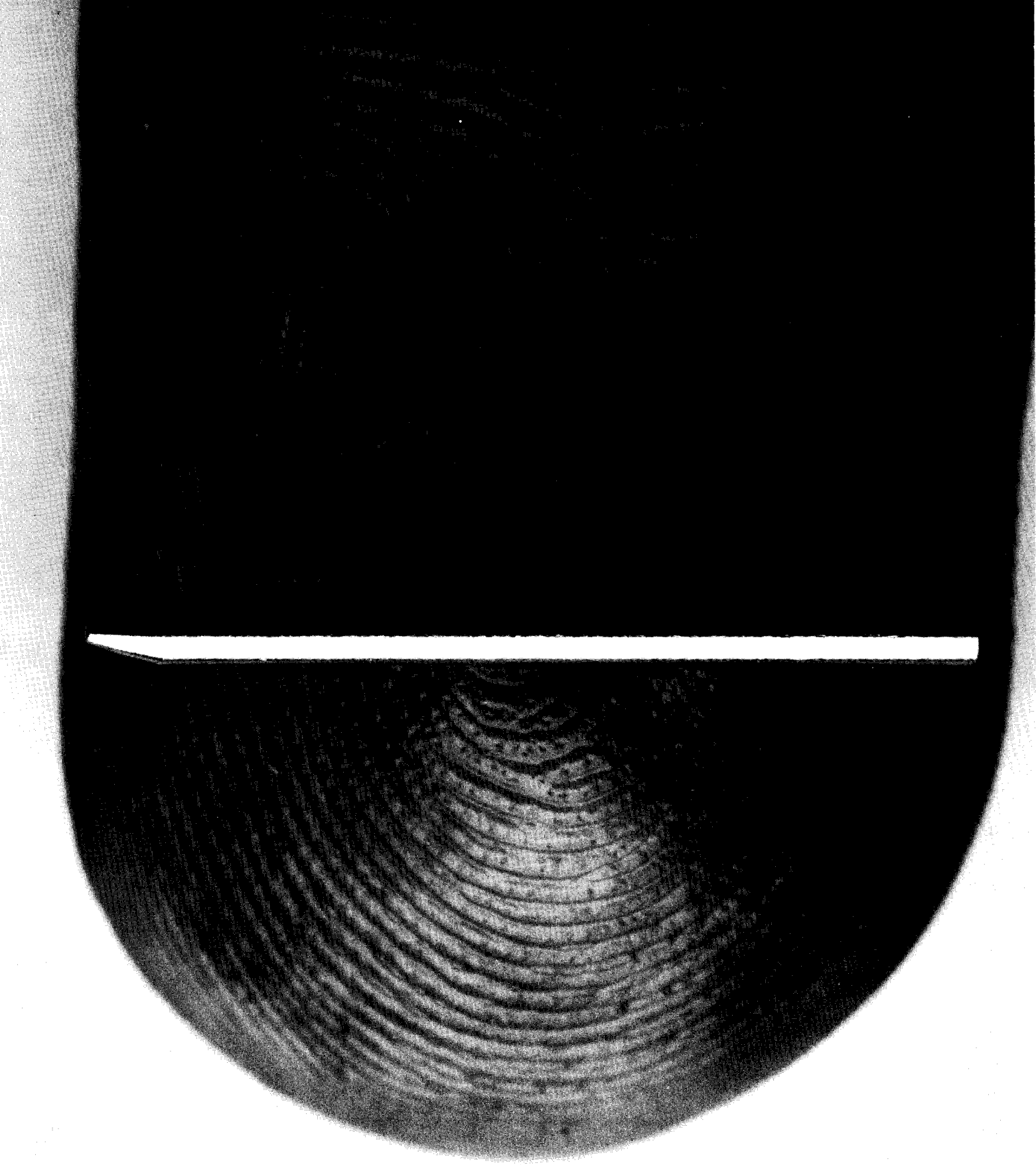
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President's Message



Ronald L. Berry
President

In this Directory issue of the Journal you will find the listing of members of PTG. Seeing the names of thousands of technicians reminds me that the greatest member benefit of PTG is the access to the wealth of knowledge represented by its members. Too often we don't take part in many of the activities of PTG which can increase our knowledge and make us better technicians. Chapter meetings, seminars, and conventions all offer technical knowledge to those who participate.

This directory has become more meaningful since most factory representatives look for an RTT member when they need service and don't know any technicians in the area. Also the directory of RTTs is meant to be used in programs for teachers.

To those nonmember subscribers who receive this directory, please note the thousands of technicians who find great benefit from membership. We encourage you to join us and participate with us. The chapter listings will help you locate members who are near you and which chapter is your closest one.

The publishing of a directory is to me a marking point in that it freezes on paper the most dynamic element of the organization, namely the people in it. In my years in PTG, I have seen it develop and become more sophisticated and better at attaining its goals. Yet throughout this growing process, the essential element of friendship and personal relations has remained. This factor has kept PTG the unique family type of organization that it has always been.

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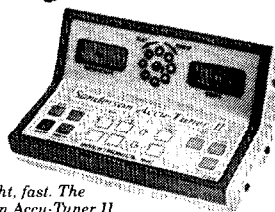
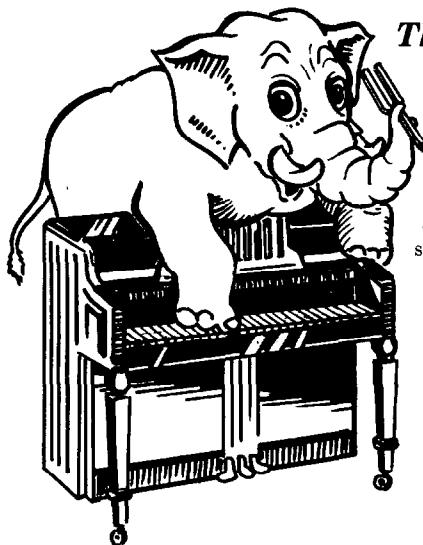
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Membership

Nolan Zerlingue
Vice President

Why do you belong to the Piano Technicians Guild, or why should you belong to the Piano Technicians Guild? If we asked ourselves these questions, I feel sure there would be many varied answers, but one of the most important answers we should hear is the desire to expand knowledge of our profession, and the wish to keep abreast of changes which occur in the piano industry.

Would you consult a physician if you knew he did not wish to belong to the American Medical Association, a dentist if you knew that he was not a member of the American Dental Association, or engage the services of an attorney who was not a member of the American Bar Association or the Bar Association for the state in which he practices? I would not use their services!

I was speaking with someone at a recent seminar recently about these thoughts, and that person thought the piano technician did not rate being categorized with these professionals. How do you feel? I think the RTT

is a professional, and every RTT should consider himself/herself a professional second to none. We may not make as much money, but the services we perform require skill and are vitally important.

I would like to direct a thought now, not to the non-member, but to some members of the Piano Technicians Guild whose names we recognize, but never see them in attendance at chapter meetings, seminars, or PTG conventions. Why do you belong if you don't want to participate in the functions of our association? It would be foolish to assume that one just has \$114.00, plus whatever chapter dues are assessed each year, as extra money just to throw away. No, even these members who never participate ARE getting some benefit from membership, i.e. the Journal, and contacts in the industry. They tell us that there is a benefit in belonging to PTG by continuing to pay their dues every year. Whatever the PTG is, it will be better if YOU will give a little

back for the benefit you received. Participate even if only at the chapter level!

I have been in attendance at a seminar where most of the members of the Host chapter did not register and attend. That was sad, because the seminar was a success, and hosting seminars in the past have proven many times to be the spark that breathes new life in a chapter. Stop and think. What if all of the 3600 members in the PTG became inactive, but would continue to pay dues? The dues money would be put in a PTG account, but there would probably be no PTG Home Office, no Journal, no conventions, no seminars, and no chapters. Where would the benefit then be in belonging to the Piano Technicians Guild?

Be supportive of your local chapter by your attendance; attend your local seminars especially if it's not possible to attend the annual PTG convention. Give a little of yourself to our professional organization. The Piano Technicians Guild will be better with you as an active participant.



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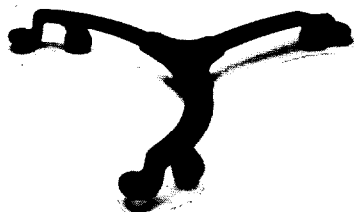


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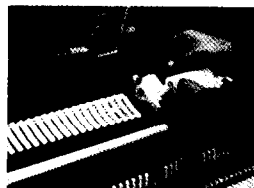
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The Piano Technicians Guild Auxiliary

The Auxiliary is an organization whose members are interested in piano technicians. Many of these people share some aspects of the piano service business with the technician. Other members are not involved in the business at all.

The members of the Auxiliary convene at national and local con-

ventions and seminars throughout the country. Most are wives or husbands of technicians. They enjoy getting to know and become friends with technicians' families from around the United States and Canada. Projects of the PTG Auxiliary help to promote education, understanding and goodwill in the world of music. The Auxiliary also provides a full complement

of activities at the annual convention.

If you or someone you know would be interested in joining the Piano Technicians Guild Auxiliary, please contact the membership chairman, Ginger Bryant, at 1012 Dunbarton Circle, Sacramento, CA 95281.

Membership

Recently I received a comprehensive membership list for the Auxiliary. The 30-page record contained not only the name, address, chapter affiliation or "at-large" category, but also the date that a member joined the Auxiliary. I found this fact of especial interest. It led me into an elementary study of our membership, the ebb and flow of the members, the members who were constant over the years, those who were involved because of spouse participation and those who never wavered in their interests as they enjoyed the friendships and fellowship offered in the Auxiliary.

Our new members' numbers peaked in 1987 when 45 people were "recruited." Was it due to the

fact that the annual convention was held in Toronto and folks were seeking the cool Canadian air? The '86 convention in Las Vegas was second only to Toronto when 17 new members joined our Auxiliary. We all know Nevada is not a cool state, but the Vegas hotels all have high-powered air-conditioning systems to make life bearable in July.

It is really difficult to assess the significance regarding attendance, but I was impressed with the number of members who joined several years ago, faithfully return to conventions and are constant in their support of each new Auxiliary Board. Our membership list indicates several who joined in the years '47, '49 and '50 who are still interested and active as they are able: **Dorothea**

Odenheimer, Pauline Miller, Frances Moon, and Helene Kingsbury. From '51 to '59 there are only a handful who remain: **Fern, Pearl, Sarah and Audrey.** Our regular attendees can supply the last names. Through the 60s and 70s there was a steady rise in our membership as many women became interested in piano technology with the growing interest shown by their spouses. As the Guild grew in strength and structure, the Auxiliary membership also thrived. We are proud to have almost 300 in our membership as we start the last year of the 80s and anticipate a new century 10 years hence.

Agnes Huether, President

Auxiliary Executive Board

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Follow The Oregon Trail

Ben McKlveen

Last year, the convention in St. Louis was advertised as the "Gateway to Excellence". Historically, it was also the start of the journey of the explorer team of Lewis and Clark who forged the Oregon trail out of western wilderness.

Our conventions and institutes are truly gateways to excellence and you are invited to "Follow the Oregon Trail", at least symbolically, to Portland next summer for the 1989 Institute and the opportunity to continue the quest for excellence thru education and peer association. Portland, the "City of Roses", is a beautiful town situated on the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia rivers. The city is noted for its spectacular scenic beauty, agreeable summer climate, clean streets and smog-free atmosphere. Art and culture abound but with an air of congeniality. Portland offers a combination of savior faire and small town friendliness that is rare in 20th-century America. Sixteen airlines fly into Portland and the airport is an honest fifteen minutes from downtown. (Ten minutes from our Red Lion Hotel.)

The Red Lion Inn-Hotel Center is on the east side of town and is served by the brand new mass transit light rail system. Streetcars! But, they are wonderful, quite modern streetcars that will whisk you into downtown in less than five minutes. From the upper floors of the hotel you can see snow-capped Mt. Hood. There is a beautiful park across a side street of the hotel, and across the main street, there is a large shopping center! (Portland has no sales tax.) The institute and exhibition space is on the ground floor and second floor in its own wing, and convenient to the five excellent restaurants in the hotel.

The Institute this year will



be an amalgam of old and new. We will be taking a look at our history through classes on historical pianos and temperaments. Mini-technicals and tutoring will be back in expanded, new and interesting directions. We are planning a sampling of traditional classes, but introducing some new, talented and exciting instructors with some new classes, as well. In future issues of the Journal I will be filling you in on the details of instructors and classes.

The "Gateway to Excellence" was a beginning and

the search for excellence continues in Portland, July 10-14, 1989. You don't have to endure the vicissitudes of Lewis and Clark to get there today, it's easy so, we urge you to make your plans to symbolically "Follow the Oregon Trail" to Portland for continuing education, inspiration, and fellowship in 1989.

1989 Institute Committee

Ben McKlveen, Director
Dick Bittinger, Assistant Director
Ernie Juhn, Assistant Director

Piano Technicians Guild Conventions

1958	Washington, D.C.	1975	Hollywood, CA
1959	Minneapolis, MN	1976	Las Vegas, NV
1960	Milwaukee, WI	1977	Dallas, TX
1961	Los Angeles, CA	1978	Cincinnati, OH
1962	New York, NY	1979	Minneapolis, MN
1963	Houston, TX	1980	Philadelphia, PA
1964	Chicago, IL	1981	San Francisco, CA
1965	San Diego, CA	1982	Washington, D.C.
1966	Miami Beach, FL	1983	New Orleans, LA
1967	Detroit, MI	1984	Indianapolis, IN
1968	Calgary, AB	1985	Kansas City, MO
1969	New Orleans, LA	1986	Las Vegas, NV
1970	Denver, CO	1987	Toronto, ON
1971	Cleveland, OH	1988	St. Louis, MO
1972	Portland, OR	1889	Portland, OR
1973	St. Louis, MO	1990	Dallas, TX
1974	New York, NY	1991	Philadelphia, PA

Portland - The City Of Roses

Taylor MacKinnon

It's coming! Just a few short months until the Annual Convention in July. And this is the one you've been waiting for. Portland, Oregon is the most desirable convention city one can imagine. Portland is not a big, big city; and yet it has all the amenities we've come to expect. Portland is not a small town; and yet it gives its visitors a sense of "home town" because of the convenience and friendliness. Portland is a "laid-back" city without hustle, bustle and stress one usually expects in a major metropolis. Portland is a convenient city with transportation and easy access. Portland is a beautiful city with parks and walkways that literally bloom with flowers, shrubs and trees. Virtually everything blooms! Portland is a convention city and you'll enjoy our city and this convention like no other convention you've attended.

Being in Portland in July will be very easy to take. The average temperature in July is 79 degrees; and the average humidity is just 45 percent. Just perfect for

pianos and people alike. The average rain fall in the month of July is less than half an inch. You'll be able to go outside during the day and not melt on the pavement. And the evenings, the evenings will make you want to move to Oregon.

There is so much to see and do in and around Portland that you will want to come early and stay after this convention to take advantage of our state. Portland is located at the convergence of the Willamette and the Columbia rivers. We're located in a long, fertile valley between the Cascade mountains and the costal range. We're about an hour and a half from Timberline Lodge on Mt. Hood with year round skiing, and we're about two hours from the Oregon coast with spectacular views of the Pacific ocean and the Oregon coast line. You may know that the entire coast is publicly owned in Oregon, there are no private beaches. We're at the beginning of the Columbia River Gorge, also with breath-taking beauty.

Some world famous trout rivers are flowing right here in Oregon; the Duschutes, the Rogue and the McKenzie to name just three. Oregon also boasts Crater Lake, the deepest lake in the country. It is the remains of Mt. Mazama, a volcanic explosion for which we have evidence. And speaking of volcanos, if your room is on the north end of the hotel you should have a good view of Mt. St. Helen, about 75 miles from downtown Portland.

If your interests are more in the line of sightseeing close to the hotel you could ride MAX, the light rail system, across the Willamette River, pronounced WIL-LAM-ette, and enjoy the parks and shopping areas along the river; or shop the downtown area; or ride TriMet up to the Rose Garden. Across the street from the hotel is Lloyd's Center, a big shopping center with an ice skating rink.

You can see an almost unlimited opportunity here for fun and education, vacation and good companionship. Plan now to be in The Rose City this coming July.

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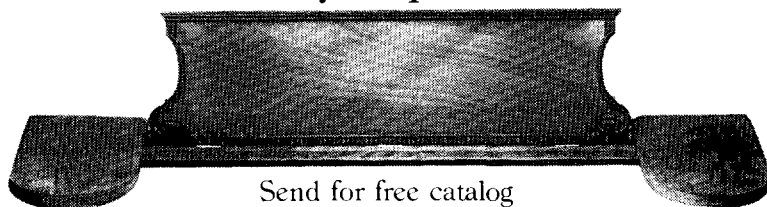
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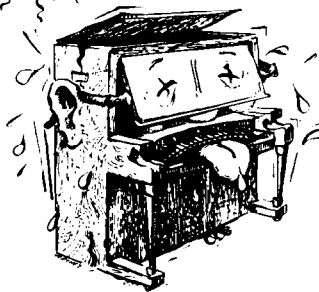
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