



Photo 77: With Dave done stripping the body and removing the layer of newspapers, I begin removing pins with a drill equipped with a power tuning pin socket. With the old pinblock material to be replaced, heating the pins with rapid removal is not a problem.



Photo 78: Used tuning pins are thrown into the recycling barrel.



Photo 79: Plate with pins removed. What bushings are left will fall out or be punched out after the plate is removed from the piano.



Photo 80: With the pins out, the various plate screws must be removed and stored before the plate may be pulled from the piano. A wooden holder for the screws is marked with their locations.

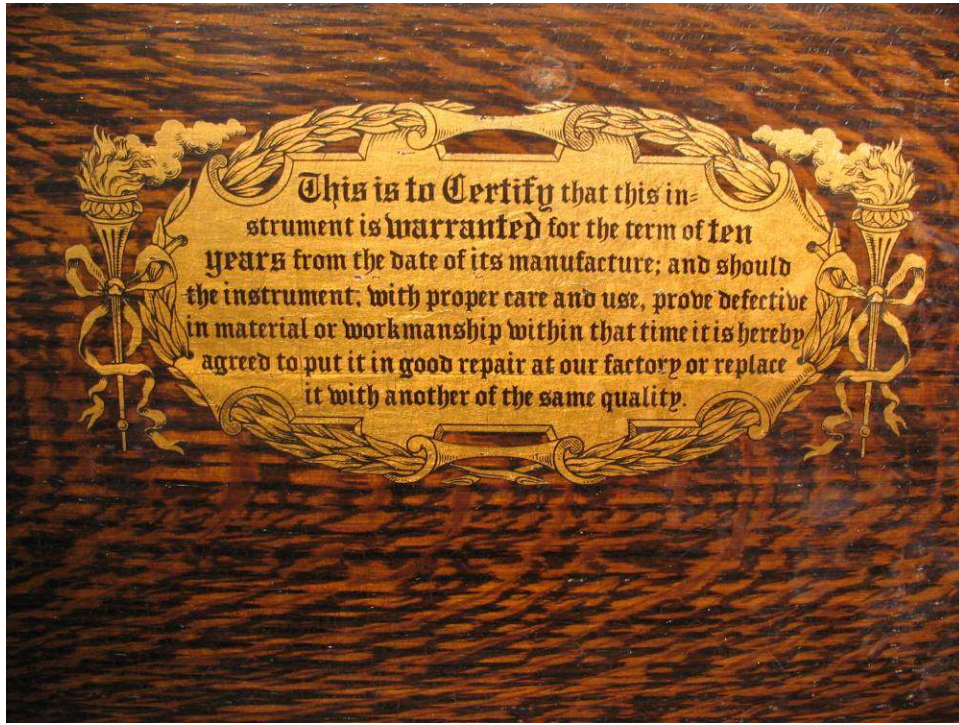


Photo 81: While I prepare to pull the plate, Dave has one piece left to finish stripping. The underside of the lid was postpone until the owner could decide whether to save the lid decal, have it duplicated for replacement, or to make do with a generic lid decal. The decision to replace with generic is made, but we photograph and measure the old decal in case the owner has a change of heart. Replacements must be hand drawn, and run from \$600 - \$1000.



Photo 82: Here Dave uses the rounded head of a bolt to strip the edge of the lid. The decal has stripper applied to it, and will scrub off with steel wool.



Photo 81: With the stripping of the case completed, Dave begins steel wooling and sanding the case parts. The #3 steel wool is used first to remove any stripper residue. He then progress from 100 grit, to 150 grit and finally 220 grit sandpaper for each piece.



Photo 82: Following sanding, each part is vacuumed. This will be repeated before staining, and before each coat of finish is applied. The idea is to prevent the accumulation of dust in the shop as each step is completed.



Photo 83: With the screw pattern drawn out, I drill holes for the various sizes of screws which will be removed. The legs of the holder are long enough that the longest screws are given adequate room.



Photo 84: The plate screws are removed, followed by the pressure bar screws. Each of these screws has been measured for its height above the plate, using a combination square marked in 32nds of an inch. The heights are recorded on the wooden holder where they won't be lost.



Photo 85: All the screws are now safely stored with pertinent information until the piano goes back together again.

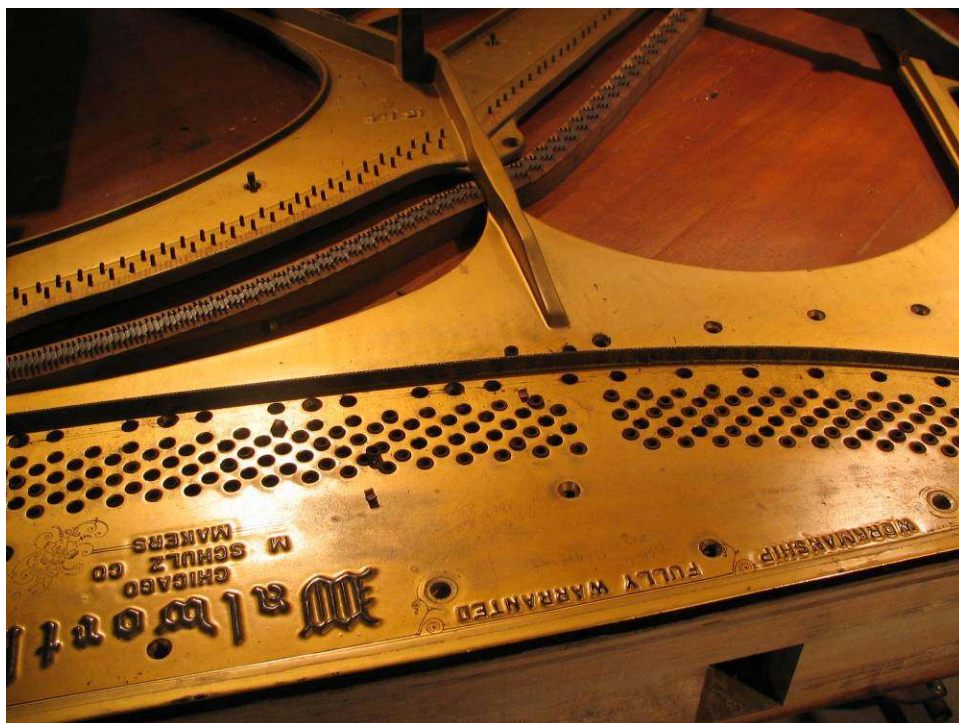


Photo 86: The plate, with all bolts and plate screws removed.



Photo 87: Straps are attached to the plate at 3 points. Each strap is connected to a hook on a 1000 lb. capacity chain hoist. Straps are double knotted to prevent slipping.



Photo 88: The plate is lifted several inches and the piano is rolled out from under it. The bags of sand and weights are used to balance the plate so that it lifts evenly.



Photo #89: The plate is momentarily suspended in mid-air while I get the sawhorses down from storage. The chain hoist is perfectly secure.



Photo 90: The plate rests for a time on sawhorses. When Dave stops by later in the day (I'm working by myself at this point), we will place the plate between two back-to-back uprights for storage.



Photo 91: Getting down to the bare essentials.



Photo 92: The pinblock. Putting new panels in this will be no problem at all. Nice and flat and simple.

At this point, I'm stopping for the day. The plate is now tucked safely away. I have leather ordered to finish the hammer butt repairs, and will most likely take that up next week. If nothing else, a restoration business offers variety, as you can be doing something different every day.