



the SOONER TUNER

July, 1988

The Newsletter of
The Oklahoma Chapter, PTG, Inc.



Announcements:

The Oklahoma Chapter won 1st Place in the Medium Chapter category (11-25) for Chapter Management and Achievement. Congratulations Sooner Tuners!

The Piano Technicians Guild recognized Keith M. McGovern, RTT with a Special Award for his outstanding work on the 1987-88 Chapter Management and Achievement Committee. The South Central Region, was the first to make 100% contact with all of its chapters.



Bob Qualls, RTT and Jesse Lyons, RTT received Registered Technician, National Sustaining in Council Session at Saint Louis. Congratulations guys!!



Saint Louis '88



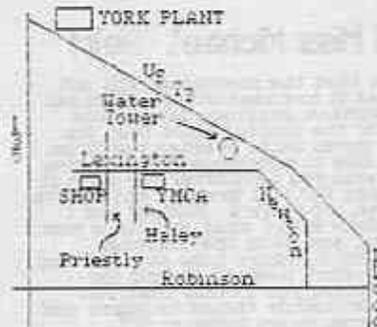
This year's annual PTG convention and institute, Gateway to Excellence, was my first national event. I was impressed with the range of subjects, the quality of the instructors, and perhaps most by the huge number of piano technicians there hungry to absorb new ideas, see new tools and other products, and learn about new methods to do our work better.

I enjoyed visiting with Jamie Marks who was there representing Prattwin. Robert Qualls and Jesse Lyons were there, as were Keith McGovern and Carol Bienemann. I was glad to find my own instructor from my 1980 training in Chicago, Robert Carbaugh. Two student assistants from my 01 workshop, Diana Woodard and Julie Dobson, were able to attend also. I look forward to introducing these enthusiastic worker-learners to the chapter, perhaps at our next meeting.-Ed.

What's Next?

Ebony Finishes, that's What.

Jin Yeager, Piano and Furniture Refinisher, is planning a technical for the next meeting on August 20 at his shop in Norman (see map below). The subject: Ebony Finishes. Surface preparation, filling, priming, lacquer application, and top-coating are on the agenda with tips, warnings, remedies, and techniques for everyone. The address: 1500 Lexington, Room 1, Norman. The phone: 366-1943.



Presidential Pearls

The Responsibility of Membership...

This is something that has been nagging at me: Like what are the parameters of belonging to and maintaining membership in a group such as The Piano Technicians Guild, Inc., or for that matter, any organization which purports to exist for the benefit of its members?

Is it just a process of paying dues and sitting on the sidelines letting others do the work? Is it being totally involved in meetings (business, committee, technical, social) to the point of burn-out and never thinking of one's self or family? Either situation seems to be undesirable. A balance of some sort would seem to be more in order.

One thing is for certain. At least we live in a society where the freedom of the individual exists to be either. Somehow knowing this makes all the difference in the world to me. That each one of us at any time can choose to participate or drop out.

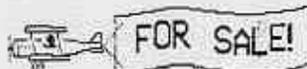
Associate with those who have made their choice to participate by attending the next meeting. It just might spark that flame that has been dwindling within you!

Until...

Keith

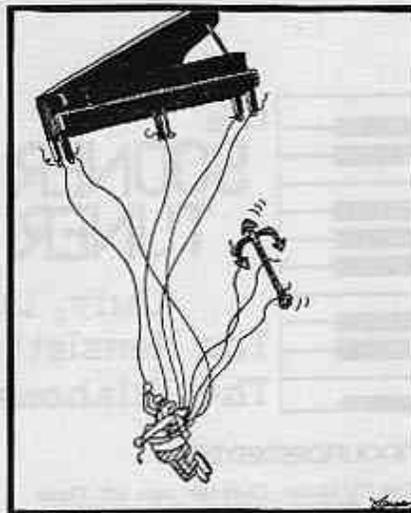
The Ads

From Yeager's Shop:
 Melodex and spinet, \$500
 Kimball grand, 1906, reconditioned,
 refinished, \$3200
 Baldwin Hamilton, 1986. ANY REASONABLE
 OFFER



We'll Miss Michael. Help!

I know that the newsletter will not be what it has been without Michael. The banners, graphics, layout and much of the content have been his. As he moves on to greener pastures, I would like to encourage those of you who value the newsletter for what it can mean for this growing chapter to have an input here. Michael and I have done 90% of what you have been reading, and he is the computer whiz--not I. I sure hope our size and quality don't have to shrink too much before you realize that you have worthwhile things to share and might even enjoy doing so.-Ed.



Michael didn't feel the first pangs of real panic until he pulled the emergency cord.

Member Michael Yeager, RTI, has accepted an offer from the Baldwin Piano and Organ Company to join the team at the Wurlitzer Piano Company in Holly Springs, Mississippi, where he will have the title of Quality Control Manager.

Baldwin purchased Wurlitzer some months ago and have been reorganizing the plant. They have asserted that they need piano rebuilders to function as quality control officers because of the "total piano" experience they bring to the job.

While Yeager will be moving out of the Inner-Technician mainstream, he will maintain his membership in the PTC, probably joining the Memphis chapter. He feels that the continuing education and technician input available in the PTC to be of extreme value.

He states that friends and associates will be sorely missed and conveys his best wishes for the chapter's future.

also, any persons from the Oklahoma Chapter wishing to visit the Wurlitzer plant in Holly Springs can expect a first class, no-holds barred guided tour.

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We invite your contributions, comments, and suggestions. Contact us by the first day of each month to have information included in the next issue.

