



the SOONER TUNER

Newsletter of
the Oklahoma
Chapter, PTG



DON'T MISS "AN ALTUS AFFAIR"

Joint meeting of Oklahoma
and Texoma Chapters, 9:00
a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (approx)
Sept. 17 at Western
Oklahoma State College,
Altus, Okla.

Danny Boone, RTT, our new
South Central Regional
Vice President of the PTG,
will be our guest
instructor. His topics
are grand
regulating/servicing and
passing the technical
exam, which should be
helpful to those at any
level of development. He
is both a highly skilled
technician and an
excellent teacher.

Directions: Take H.E.
Bailey Turnpike to Lawton,
then Rt. 62 into Altus to
the Altus downtown square.
Turn north on Main Street
and go two miles to
W.O.S.C. Park in south
parking lot, enter
southwest doors and go to
room D-3. (about 3 hrs
from OKC)

Many thanks to our own Ben
Bailey, RTT, for setting
up this workshop/meeting.
If you are hesitating
about coming because of
the time and distance
involved, consider Ben's
monthly commitment over

the years. He makes the
Altus-Metro OKC commute to
our meetings regularly.
This is a good way for us
to show our appreciation
to him for his dedicated
service, while enhancing
our skills and having fun
in the process! Several
of us are bringing our
families and making it a
special day or weekend.

Coming Events

Sept. 17 "An Altus
Affair"

Oct. 14-16 TSA Convention

Nov. 19 Technical on
Work Management and
Organization by Tim Hast

Dec. 10 Christmas Party

Texas State
Convention/Seminar

October 14-16
San Antonio, Texas

Topics include vertical
and grand regulation,
tuning, appraising pianos,
grand dampers, and
business methods. Our own
Jesse Lyons and Bob Qualls
will be presenting a
Klunker Clinic.

This will be our October
event for the Chapter.
Try to attend!

Presidential Pearls

Just make it work!

Ever heard that expression? Especially from a potential customer. There are many instances where customers indicate what they would like to have done to their piano rather than what we determine ought to be done.

--Like when the piano is over one half step flat and they want it tuned where it is.

--Like when several notes don't work from A0 to C8 and they only want the notes in the middle two octaves to work.

--Like when they want the left pedal to work and never mind that the right one doesn't.

--Like when the tuning pins are at a seven degree angle towards the strings and cracks in the pinblock are too numerous to count.

Well, do you walk away shaking your head, proclaiming this is beneath your professional integrity, possibly even declaring a doomsday verdict on the piano as well as the people? If you do, you potentially are missing a golden opportunity to rise to an occasion that could forever change your outlook on piano service.

Pianos and people need many second chances, even when at first they don't rate to the standards we live and learn by. From the too often voice of experience,

Keith

Meeting Highlights

St. Louis Convention photo album available for perusal

Achievement Award plaque presented to Chapter

Chapter to purchase PTG videotape: "The Unseen Artist"

Increase in Chapter dues considered (Be sure to return your ballot on this question)

ATTENTION:

Any address changes or corrections need to be sent in to the Home Office prior to September 30, 1988 to be in the next printing of the roster in the directory!

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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.

A WORD TO THE WISE

You just got the big rebuilding job you have always dreamed about, and you got it at the price you bid for. The piano is in your shop and you entertain visions of making it into the finest piano that has ever been restored. You are getting ready to tear it down--and isn't this stage of the work great fun. Who doesn't get a bang out of tearing an old Steinway "D" apart? Stop right there, partner! Consider a little extra work that will really save you time at the other end of the job when you are anxious to finish and just about to go over budget. We all know to make careful measurements of string height, plate height, key height, etc. But consider a little grand regulation BEFORE tearing the piano apart. Check the piece of wood to the left side of the key-bed to make sure the felt is still there. If it isn't, replace it. Then align the hammers to the strings and the repetition levers to the keys and hammers. Compromise if you must, but the idea is to get the piano like it used to be when it was made so that when you have restrung the piano you can use the old

grooved hammers to help you get the new strings aligned before you pull the tension up on your new string job. If you are replacing hammers and shanks, this pre-teardown regulation is even more helpful if you wait until after you have strung and aligned the strings to put on the new hammers and shanks. It is easy to line the new shanks up to the repetition lever at the knuckle, and in the end you'll come out ahead on time with that big job.



Thank you, Tim, for that technical advice. Who knows what time it might save us someday?

I would like to encourage each of us to contribute technical tips for the newsletter. We each have ideas and discoveries that might benefit the group, and such contributions make the newsletter more valuable. --David