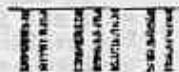


THE SOONER TUNER

NEWSLETTER OF THE OKLAHOMA CHAPTER
OF THE PIANO TECHNICIANS GUILD, INC.



September 9, 1991

President's Message

"If you continue to think what you've always thought, then you will continue to get what you've always gotten." I've heard this saying several times recently and realized it has a real message for me. I'm trying to make several changes in my personal and professional life and I'm amazed how difficult it is to change old habits and ways of thinking. I'm finding real value in another saying on this subject: "Lord grant me the strength to change what needs to be changed, the serenity to accept the things that can't, and the wisdom to know the difference."

I'm looking forward to seeing you all at Grandy's on the 21st. We are working on a program for the October meeting on tax filing, record keeping, whether to incorporate or not, etc. Executive committee please plan to spend 45 minutes after the chapter meeting to discuss upcoming chapter business.

David Bonham - President

Upcoming Events

The next meeting will be held Saturday Sept. 21st at 8:30 a.m. It will be at Grandy's on N.W. Highway just past 63rd. Tim Hast will present a slide show technical on repairing separated upright pinblocks. Bring your appetites and your questions.

Keep watching for infr on the spring seminar. This years seminar called "Mid-America Piano Technician's Tool Show & Workshop will be held March 6-8, 1992. In case you have been on another planet our chapter has agreed to host this event.

Condolences

We wish to express sympathy to Ruthie and Tim Hast in the loss of Ruthie's Father. Our thoughts and prayers have been with you.

Piano Proverbs

Being your own boss is great because you only have to work half a day. You only have to decide which twelve hours you want to work.

Norm's Noncents

Thank you for your contributions and feedback from the last newsletter. My desire is to get the newsletter out a little more quickly each month to inform you of upcoming events. I also believe a theme would be appropriate for October's newsletter. Since Halloween falls at the end of the month I thought I'd ask for contributions about your favorite piano "HORROR" story. Perhaps it is the customer that was weird or maybe the tuning seemed haunted. I've even heard of pianos, sold more than once, that were re-possessed. If you have a haunting story or an action that goes bump in the night share it with us. You could bring your contributions to the next meeting since my telephone dictation is mercilessly slow.

Norman Cantrell
Editor-Associate

The Case of the Squeaking
Pedal

A Sam Spinet Mini-Mystery

It was a hot afternoon as I sat in my office. The ceiling fan was fairly useless as it struggled to keep up with the heat. I was going over some notes on my desk when the phone rang. My secretary Miss Chase Baker picked up the line. After a brief pause the intercom on my desk crackled.

"Sam, its Charlie on the line." As I picked up the phone my mind flashed to Charlie; good ole Charlie. Charlie was a struggling young piano technician who often called when he got in a jam. He was beginning to make a name for himself though. Perhaps you have even heard of "Charlie the Tuner."

"Charlie what's up," I asked.

"Sam I'm in a real mess this time," sighed Charlie.

"Just relax kid," I tried to calm him down, "Tell me what the problem is."

"Sam I've got a studio piano with a squeak in the pedal that I can't fix and I've tried everything I know to do."

"Where ya at kid? I'll be over in a flash."

I got a fix on Charlie's location as quick as I could. I grabbed my overcoat and hurried out the door. As I drove to the address my mind began to churn out causes for squeaking pedals.

When I arrived at the house Charlie was sure glad to see me. We went in and examined the piano. Charlie showed me how the sustain pedal squeaked horribly when he pressed it slowly. I had a sticky feeling about this one.

"Sam, I've lubricated the pedal and the pedal spring and it still squeaks," Charlie said worriedly.

"Charlie, when is a pedal squeak not a pedal squeak?" I asked. Blankly Charlie replied, "I'm not sure I understand."

"A pedal squeak is not a pedal squeak when the squeak isn't in the pedal but in the piano action."

We pulled the action out of the piano and slid the damper lift rod out of the hangers. I had Charlie clean and polish the rod and lubricate the hangers. We slid the lift rod back into place and to Charlie's dismay the squeak was still there. This was really starting to annoy me kind of like the president gets around broccoli. That's when I noticed the pencil behind Charlie's ear.

Now what does a pencil behind Charlie's ear have to do with a squeak in a piano? The answer is simple. I took the pencil from Charlie and used it to lubricate the felt in the spring grooves of each damper including the Dummy damper. When we checked it out it was as smooth as Chase's legs but that's another story. Charlie was off the hook and I could go back to work. I, Sam Spinet had solved another case.

Available & Wanted

Looking for a late 70's or early 80's Kawai grand 5'1" or 5'3" in satin walnut contact Gary Bruce

For sale: Chickering Brothers upright with new keytops. Price \$350.00 contact Gary Bruce.