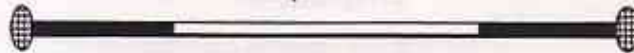


"THE SOONER TUNER"



Official Newsletter, Oklahoma Chapter 731
The Piano Technicians Guild, Inc.
April '96



NEXT MEETING*

April 18th, Thursday @ 9am

Technical by Tim Hast, RPT

"Superglues & Accelerators"

Tim will be offering some insight to some practical ways to implement these new age products in our everyday piano service business.
Be on hand for some innovative tricks of the trade to be revealed.

Directions: From I-35 and Danforth exit go west to Bryant,
north to Tim's place, 3631 North Bryant, 405-359-0440

*Please note this is a change from the previous scheduled meetings published in March '96...Editor

David Bonham, President.....	405-721-0566
Tim Hast, Vice President.....	405-359-0440
Darin Niebuhr, Secretary.....	405-329-2970
Norman Cantrell, Treasurer.....	405-272-9687
Keith McGavern, Newsletter.....	405-275-8600
(PO Box 1585, Shawnee, OK 74802-1585)	
(E-mail address: kam544@ionet.net)	

OMTA CONVENTION 1996 AT ENID, OK

by Ross Trawick, RPT

EXTRA EXTRA read all about it. Watch in your May issue of the PT Journal for a write-up on the Oklahoma Chapter concerning our participation in the OMTA State Convention held in June last year.

On that same subject Martin Wsenbaker, Vice President of the Piano Teachers Relation Committee, has asked me if we have made a decision to participate again this year in the OMTA Convention as exhibitors. We had discussed this at the November meeting, but I don't recall what our decision was. We should discuss this and reach a decision at the April meeting.

VISION 2001

It would be extremely beneficial if I could hear any and all comments and/or opinions with regards to this publication. Vision 2001 is currently under the microscope on PTG-I and will also be a subject for much debate and discussion in Dearborn. Beneficial input will be relayed in the ensuing discussions to be held both on the Internet and Dearborn.

Keith McGavern, RPT, Council Delegate, 1996

PIANOTECH (Internet) STUFF

Tuning stability articles

by Ed Foote and Joseph Vitti

Date: Wed, 07 Feb 1996 13:55:26 -0700 (MST)

From: A440A@aol.com (Ed Foote)

Subject: Re: tuning stability

One of the mistakes I made long ago was smoothing and polishing a capo bar on a Steinway, after which I rubbed it with assembly lube (molybdeum based). I wiped it down with a dry cloth and strung the piano, knowing that I had the perfect surface to move strings across.

The piano was untunable!! On the SAT, I noticed that a FF blow would move a string down as much as 2 cents, and then as I watched, it would come back up. The strings would move around like crazy, you could press on the topstring with your finger and the pitch would change, and it was like that until I took cotton balls soaked with acetone and blotted the string bearing over the entire capo section, after which it immediately began to behave. I think too much friction at the capo is problematic, but too little is a disaster.

One more pothole on the road to refinement!

Date: Wed, 07 Feb 1996 08:02:35 -0700 (MST)

From: Joseph Vitti <JVITTI@ccmail.sunysb.edu>

Subject: Concert tuning stability fuse

...Before coming to StonyBrook I was a Concert tech for Baldwins national artist dept, in NYC. I was formally trained in the "specialty". For those years I did nothing else. Baldwins C&A departments motto was the piano had to come off stage after a concert the way it went on. While I am sure there are other ways of stabilizing a concert instrument, both Steinway & Baldwin concert techs in those days tuned very hard indeed. The idea is not to "hammer the strings down to pitch" without the need for good hammer technic, but to hit the piano harder than any concert pianist can and will. One "test" blow however hard will not tell if the note will stay in tune. Certainly not when the pianist is playing extremely hard repeatedly. I for one don't want to sit in the audience squirming in my seat wondering if the tuning will last.

It's the hard tuning with precise hammer technic that will keep a concert piano in good tune on stage. It has worked for me for twenty years...

MORE PIANOTECH (Internet) STUFF

Plastic Elbow Replacement Tip
by Eric Leatha

18 Mar 1996 22:46 -0700 (MST)
Date: Mon, 18 Mar 1996 22:46:40 -0700 (MST)
From: Tunrboy@aol.com
Subject: Re: Quick Elbow replacement. Was Freedom tool
Sender: pianotech@byu.edu

>You asked for additional use of the Freedom tool. I have one more use...

Oooo, ooo, ooo! Do I have a trick for you! If you're using a freedom tool to twist on those little PLASTIC replacement elbows, you'll like-nay- LOVE this. I use a small propane torch to heat the sticker tip (3-5 seconds in the flame, threaded end) and "slide" the new PLASTIC elbow on. Of course care must also be exercised not to sink the sticker too deep, but too shallow is easily remedied with a few twists.

I don't heat the sticker long, so I don't need gloves or pliers, bare hands only. Putting new elbows on takes about 5-10 minutes this way. Using this trick I have replaced a set of elbows (Vagias Snap-ons) in 1 1/2 hours (from opening piano to walking out door).

Eric Leatha
tunrboy@aol.com

1996 SCHEDULED MEETINGS

May 16th, 9am, Thursday, Ross Trawick's place
Technical - Ross Trawick, RPT
Tentative Subject: "A Somewhat Sensible Stringing System"

June 11th, 9am, Thursday, David Bonham's place??
Technical - David Bonham, RPT, "Grand Damper Installation"

July 17-21, PTG Convention & Technical Institute, Dearborn, MI
August 22, 9am, Thursday, Darin Niebuhr's place

September 19th, 9am, Thursday, Sherman Clay, OKC (not confirmed)
Technical: Keith McGovern, RPT

October 15th, 9am, Tuesday, Gary Bruce's place

November 14th 9am, Thursday, Gilliam Music, Edmond (not confirmed)

December 6th, Christmas Banquet

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'm glad it's spring! Flowers are showing up, trees are budding, and it's about time to put away the winter clothes. Except for tax filing hazzles, I love this time of year. It's a time for newness, rebirth, and fresh life. I hope you are open to the possibilities around you and that you find yourself blossoming in new and surprising ways in your work, your friendships, and your homelife. If there are any aspects of your life that has become too routine or feels like drudgery? What needs to die in order to make room for new life?

May we each be blessed by the perennial gift of the Easter experience. I hope to see each of you at Tim's for the next meeting.

David Bonham, RPT

Recommended Reading

*"The Sweet Spot:
Beyond Matched Frequencies in Unison Tuning"*
by Chris A. Trivelas, RPT, Contributing Editor
(PT Journal, March 1996, page 18-19)

A quote from the article:
"In the beginning, unisons are the easiest thing to tune,
then they end up being the most difficult."

The "Kick" Zone

(closely related to after touch)

from
Keith McGavern, RPT

"Everything without tells the individual that he is nothing;
everything within persuades him that he is everything."
(X. Doudan)

"I've never really done anything to create what has happened.
It creates itself. I'm here because it happened.
But I didn't do anything to make it happen apart from saying 'Yes.'"
(Ringo Star concerning the era of the Beatles)

"Grandma's biscuits and preacher's sermons
both get better with more shortening."
(from Ross Trawick, RPT, seen on church marquee in Tulsa)