

The Sooner Tuner

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



Caution: Watch for graduating Seniors!

May 1999

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well most of us have once again had to re-evaluate values and priorities this week. In light of last weeks tornados and storms things like false beats, leaky dampers and sluggish keys seem insignificant when compared to the preciousness of life itself. I hope none of you lost loved ones or friends in this tragedy. Sometimes we all need to slow down from the hectic pace of life to value family and friends. Occasionally events come our way to make us slow down.



It certainly has been good to see the outpouring of love and concern from all over. It has also been good to hear some of the stories of victims maintaining their sense of humor in all this mess. Some people have "For Sale" signs in front of their damaged or obliterated properties with additional comments like "Price Really Reduced" or "Great Fixer Upper!"

I was talking with Kelly Ogle this evening (he attends my church) and he told of one man who had lost his home and part of his neighborhood. The man said, "I moved to Moore about 30 years ago. Back then I had to drive into town to get my mail. Here it is 30 years later and I'm having to drive into town to get my mail." This same man said that as he was crawling out of the rubble that had once been his home he was his neighbor across the street also digging himself out of a similar situation. His comment to his neighbor, "You know Bob, I really wish you would keep your yard picked up a little better. You are going to make the neighborhood look junky." Sometimes our

faith and our sense of humor are all we have left.

As you go back about your life this week don't forget to lift these people up in your prayers. I look forward to seeing all of you on the 20th.

Norman Cantrell

Meeting Notice

May 20th in OKC at
Norman Cantrell's Shop
1311 N. Youngs Blvd.

2 blocks west of Penn
2 blocks north of 10th
Parking in the rear

Jack Wyatt to present
Turbo Charging the Vertical

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Treble String "Follow" by Peter Krauss

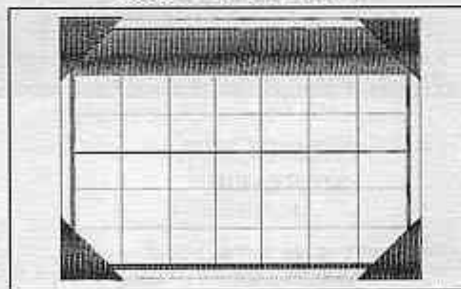
Treble wire cuts little notches into V-bars after 10 to 15 years, causing voicing problems (trashy, whining sounds) and tuning problems. Pitch doesn't follow tuning pin manipulation because the wire hangs up in the notches. Sometimes lubrication at the V-bar and heavy pounding can get you through this for a while, but eventually the result will be string breakage from abrasion in the notches, and concert tuning instability.

If the wire is fairly new (stringer just didn't bother to dress the V-bar--shame-shame) you can let the tension down 1/2 turn in those top 2 sections, separate the trichords with a wooden wedge, and dress the V-bar in small sections by shoe-shining it with emery cloth. Inspect visually with a mirror and by feeling with fingernails. The bar should end up perfectly smooth, bright and clean. Space the hammers before letting down strings, then use them to realign trichords.

If the wire is 5 to 10 years old and especially if several have broken, suggesting damage from notches, the top 2 sections should be restrung--after dressing the bar of course. You may be able to use the existing tuning pins, so don't automatically go up a size.

These procedures have been used for generations by the Steinway concert departments in both New York and Hamburg.

1999 PTG Calendar



May 20 Chapter Meeting
Cantrell's Piano Clinic
1311 N. Youngs
Jack Wyatt to be guest speaker
Nominating Committee Report

June 17 Chapter Meeting
Northwest Baptist Church, OKC
Setting Up Shop by Norman Cantrell

July 21-25 PTG Convention
Kansas City, MO

August 19 Chapter Meeting
Location to be announced

September 16 Chapter Meeting
Location to be announced

October 8-10 TSA
Waco, TX

October 21 Chapter Meeting
Location to be announced

November 18 Chapter Meeting
Location to be announced

Piano Proverbs

**LIFE IS NOT A MATTER OF
HOLDING GOOD CARDS
IT'S PLAYING A POOR HAND WELL**

Robert Louis Stevenson

Meeting in Review

Last month's meeting was held at the University of Oklahoma. There were four RPT's in attendance and one associate. A nominating committee was selected for the purpose of bring a slate of officers for our chapter for the upcoming year. Those serving on the committee are Ross Traywick, Keith McGavern and Peter Krauss.

We had an opportunity to tour some of the new music facilities and performance hall. The hall is quite impressive and appears to be ideal for musical performance. If you have not had a chance to see your tax dollars at work you might want to drop by sometime.

The technical presentation was a round table discussion of how to value used pianos. Several factors which influence the decision were discussed including insurance estimates, replacement cost, retail vs. wholesale, sentimental value and fair market pricing based on an average of what similar instruments bring in the marketplace. It was pointed out that a price tag on an instrument was not always the real sale price as most prices are negotiable. The other most important consideration was the desire of the buyer and their goals. All in all no real consensus was formed other than to do your homework. If nothing else a lively discussion was present.

The Editor.

"All expressions of opinion and all statements of supposed facts are published on the authority of the author as listed and are not to be regarded as expressing the views of this Chapter or of the Piano Technicians Guild unless such statements or opinions have been adopted by the Chapter or the Guild"

Oklahoma PTG Personal

On Sunday May 2nd, Jimmy Gold of Duncan, Oklahoma passed away. Jimmy was a member of the Texhoma Chapter but was well known in both Oklahoma and Texas. Many of our long time members know Jimmy and his contributions to PTG over the years. Our thoughts and hearts go out to his wife Barbara at this time.

Technical Tip

Most of us have used strips of sandpaper to file the felt on hammers at one time or another. Some prefer a sandpaper file. If you make strips and use clear packing tape on the back of the sandpaper as a reinforcement you have added one more tool to your arsenal. If you are needing to slightly brighten a few notes you can simply follow the filing of the hammer felt with a shoe shining effect using the back of the sandpaper strip. The smooth packing tape acts as a burnisher and slightly packs the felt fibers on the strike point.

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OAKIE DOAKIE PIANO SUPPLY

Introducing **Bill's Icky Sticky Blaster**

Have you ever been in a home with questionable substances on the keys and feared for your health and welfare? Use **Bill's Icky Sticky Blaster** to clean shine, polish and disinfect those keys. This quality product is guaranteed safe on all key top surfaces from pyralin to ivory to the new space age plastics. The pleasant scent will delight your customers. This is available in a handy pump sprayer 5 oz. bottle as well as the industrial 1 gallon container refill. Order yours today!

5 oz. spray \$4.95
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Consider yourself warned and us not liable!

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