

# The Sooner Tuner

Official Publication of the Oklahoma Chapter PTG

April

2001

## Ψ President's Message Ψ

I hope this message finds all in good health. If you are not in good health, consider getting medical help or the treatment that suits your needs.

This is a time of renewal and I wish all a happy and beautiful Easter. It won't be long now until the meeting in Reno and it looks like there will be a great number of interesting classes to attend. I personally intend to find out more about rebuilding and business organization. Speaking of renewal, I suppose that meeting in Reno will be a type of renewal for those who attend.

The next meeting will be on lyre repair and Bob Scheer has agreed to officiate. Make no mistake, Bob knows a quite a bit about lyres and other social misfits. See y'all Thursday April 19<sup>th</sup>. This date should not be hard to remember.

Respectfully, Ben



## Meeting Notice

**April 19<sup>th</sup> At 8:30 a.m.**

**We will meet at Robert Overhulser's new shop location.  
1408 Fretz #3 in Edmond OK.  
From Broadway and SE 15<sup>th</sup>  
go west across the railroad tracks  
to the first right turn go north to  
the second right on Fretz.**

**Bob Scheer will present the  
technical on lyre repair. So pedal  
your way on over to the next  
meeting!**

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## Norm's Noncents

I hope everyone is doing well this Spring. I have had several calls recently for tuning following the advent of warmer weather and high humidity. I do love changes in the weather. For the last two or three issues of the Sooner Tuner a couple of the email addresses for our officers have been listed incorrectly. I have made the appropriate changes and offer my humble apologies for the inconvenience.

I was going to discuss this month a tip to help in tuning some older grand pianos which have problems with stability. I was tuning a Kawai grand in my church last Christmas. This model is about 25 years old with the blue under felt. I have tuned this piano several times since moving to Lawton and have always had trouble with the strings not wanting to move with the tuning pin or "render" as it is sometimes referred to. I would move the pin and nothing would happen. I would move it some more and still nothing finally everything would let loose and move at once. This same problem would cause the unisons to be less stable as I would think I had them nailed down only to have them slip rather dramatically after only a couple of weeks

of playing. Needless to say this bothered me and my ego. This was also somewhat unusual for this brand of piano.

As I said I was tuning the piano for Christmas and having the usual slip sliding problems when it dawned on me that there was just enough rust and corrosion on the underside of the string to be catching on the underfelt. I got out my Protek and began to carefully lubricate all of the strings where they crossed the felt and all of the bearing points including the capo bar and the upper bearing bar at the top of the non speaking length of string. I even put a drop on each agraffe in the tenor section. I was very careful not to get any lubricant on the strings near the tuning pins or pinblock. This treatment worked magic and the piano became instantly easier to tune and more stable as a result. I have tuned the piano a couple of times since December including earlier this week and it is still much more "tuner friendly." I hope this helps with some of those real rust buckets out there.

Norman Cantrell, RPT

## » Congratulations «

**Valerie Crawford has now passed  
the Written Exam and Part II of the  
Tuning Exam!**

## Piano Proverbs

*If you are selling something complex,  
simplify it with a metaphor.*

Harry Bedewitz from  
[Selling the Invisible](#)