

# The Sooner Tuner

Official Publication of the Oklahoma Chapter PTG

May

2001

## Ψ President's Message Ψ

Regards to all fellow techs and tuners! We are headed into summer and there is no possibility of going back. Even if I could go back I don't think I would. It's funny how we quite often look back but don't grasp the lessons at hand. Piano techs are a little better off in this respect, for to make the same mistake over and over not only costs money but also effects ones reputation. It makes it necessary to constantly evaluate ones work and seek ways to improve.

There are many venues by which one can learn lessons and improve skills, local guild meetings are one of these. If nothing else, we learn to stretch and understand others problems and points of view. We almost always pick up a pointer or two to help us in our work.

I look forward to seeing you at the May meeting. Who knows, we may even look back a bit.

Ben Davis RPT

RENO!  
RENO! RENO! RENO!  
RENO!

## May Meeting Notice!

May Chapter Meeting to be held on May 17<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. at Ben Davis Piano Shop.

We will have a report from the nominating committee concerning next years officers.

The technical will be on "Evaluating pianos for rebuilding"

### Directions:

From I 35 & Memorial Rd. east (at Y bear south under the turnpike) proceed 16 miles to Harrah Rd. which is 2 miles past Luther Rd. Turn south 1 mile to 122<sup>nd</sup> east to Coffman Dr. go north then west to cul-de-sac.

If you get there early say 8:00 or so Ben will serve breakfast!

Next Meeting on June 18<sup>th</sup>  
Location to be announced!

## Chapter Officers

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## Norm's Noncents

Happy Springtime to all. The Oklahoma City area just celebrated the Festival of the Arts and here in Lawton we just concluded the Arts for All festival. The Lawton version is similar to what happens in OKC just in miniature. As I attended this years festival I saw a variety of artists and performers. I did notice that there was one booth lacking here in Lawton and I suspect that it was also missing in OKC. That would be the booth featuring piano tuning. Surely what we do can be considered art and craftsmanship. For some reason I haven't seen a booth sporting our talents. I am not sure just what the format would be since most of my customers leave the room as soon as I start banging away on the keyboard but it does give room for some thought.

Seriously what we do is somewhat remarkable. Given the total population and the comparable number of piano technicians we do provide a unique service for our communities. I do get comments from time to time that my customers claim to be tone deaf and unable to tell just what it is that I am hearing. (I've often wondered just what I hearing on some pianos.)

A lot of musicians are unable to do what we do and even if they play stringed instruments most of them are responsible for tuning only a few notes by comparison. Sure any bozo can get four strings to sound good together it takes real talent to get 230 or so strings to have a balanced harmony over such a wide range of octaves. We may never get a booth in an arts festival but what we do is truly an art form. Practice your craft like it is on display for all the world to enjoy. After all it is.

Norman Cantrell, RPT

The Sooner Tuner

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and are not to be regarded as expressing  
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Piano Proverbs

*If you do what you've always  
 done, you'll be what you've  
 always been.*

Patrick Morley