# THE SOONER TUNER Newsletter of The Oklahoma Chapter 731 of the Piano Technicians Guild, Inc. JANUARY 2004

#### **COMING EVENTS:**

The next meeting of the PTG will be held Thursday, January 15, 2004 at 8:30 AM at the Holiday Inn Airport where the TSA Seminar is being held. At this meeting, we will be doing planning for the Seminar and checking the facilities offered at the Holiday Inn. Please plan to attend and help be a part of the preparation for TSA. We need each and every one of you.

FEBRUARY: TO BE ANNOUNCED

MARCH: TSA CONVENTION – March 11-14

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Sooner Spring Seminar

I hope all of you have had a prosperous year and a Happy Holiday season. If you are thinking of making New Year's Resolutions and haven't attended a TSA Seminar you would be wise to include it on your list. If you would like the latest information about TSA go to the PTG web site at ptg.org and click on upcoming events. Look for the TSA information and click on the title. You will find information about restaurants in the area and a link to the hotel website.

PTG and TSA are a blessing in my life and I count it a great joy to have had the opportunity to get to know so many people from our region over the past few years. I started out attending the classes and really knew very few people except from my own chapter. After a few regional and national events, I began to recognize familiar faces and began to put names with them. As I visited with other convention attendees I began to form some lasting friendships. These friendships have been an invaluable source of information and moral support when I found myself stuck in a particularly difficult situation.

I hope that you are planning to attend the TSA Sooner Spring Seminar in Oklahoma City this coming March. The hotel rates are very reasonable and the class lineup is quite diverse. If you need to make reservations our room block is available until February 27, 2004 and I suggest you make your reservations early. March is a popular basketball tournament season and hotel rooms go quickly. Just mention TSA when you make your reservation and you will receive the special rate of \$69 plus tax. You will also be receiving in the mail in the next few days in official registration form. If you would like to get a jump-start on reservations just print the form on the web site and mail it.

There will be opportunities to learn grand piano preparation, voicing, and how to sharpen your tools. There will be a class on the history and development of the piano, a class on vertical regulation and one on string leveling. Classes will be offered to sharpen your tuning skills or to brush up on your practical field repairs. We will have a mini tech on developing a web site for your business and another mini tech on dealer relations taught by the local Steinway and Kawai dealer. We have instructors coming from as far away as New York and Los Angeles. There are instructors from our own region that will amaze and amuse you as well. Plan now to attend and begin to develop some long-term friendships that you will cherish in the coming years.

I hope all of you have an incredible New Year. Looking forward to seeing as many of you as can make it to Oklahoma City in March.

Norman Cantrell, TSA President

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#### TSA WEBSITE

You can now visit the Texas State Association's Sooner Spring Seminar being held March 11-14, 2004 on the web. Stay abreast of the development of the seminar on a weekly basis as we draw nearer to the event. Simply go to: http://www.ptg.org/tsa/seminar/hp.html. There are no excuses for not being informed and aware of this upcoming event. Please feel free to offer any additions, corrections and/or deletions. MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THIS EVENT!

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Does anyone have pictures from the seminar held at Oklahoma City in 1992? If so, please contact Keith McGavern through email at kam544@gbronline.com or by telephone at 405-275-8600. He would really appreciate hearing from you.

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#### TECH TIP:

When you are trying to seat trichord dampers in a vertical piano it is a simple thing to tap the open string lightly toward the center string and help it make contact with the damper felt. You can also do the same thing on a grand piano in the agraffe section by simply squeezing the strings in toward the center with a pair of pliers. You can also wedge a screwdriver blade between the middle and an outside string and ease it from side to side to help trichords seat better.

Norman Cantrell, Lawton, OK

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## STRESS BUSTERS:

Pray

Pace yourself. Spread out big changes and difficult projects over time. Don't lump the hard things all together.

Get enough exercise.

Laugh.

Laugh some more!

Develop a forgiving attitude (most people are doing the best they can).

Every night before bed, think of one thing you're grateful for that you've never been grateful for before.

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### A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

For most of us, the holiday season is a time for joy, celebration and time spent with family and friends. It is also a good time for reflection on the past year, hope for the coming year and time to analyze our own personal thoughts and growth. This past year has taught me, more than ever, that my life is totally in God's hands and the only thing I really have ANY control over is my own personal attitude. My hope for the coming year is that will be one of positive growth both personally and professionally. One good way we can all grow professionally is to attend the TSA Seminar in March. We have some excellent classes and instructors lined up to teach them. It won't get any closer than OKC! If you would like more information, Keith McGavern has provided a wonderful website at http://www:kamcam.com. No matter how much knowledge and experience we may have, there is always more to learn. What a great opportunity we share in the Piano Technicians Guild! Hope to see you at the next meeting.

Bob Scheer, President Edmond, Oklahoma

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE BIG UPCOMING EVENT!!!

March 11-14, 2004 TSA Convention

Be there or be square!?!?!?!! ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^
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HAPPY NEW YEAR May health, happiness, love and prosperity be present in your life throughout 2004. God bless you all.
Here's a little ditty you might enjoy!
Mahatma Gandhi, as you know, walked barefoot most of the time, which produced an impressive set of calluses on his feet. He also ate very little, which made him rather frail. With his odd diet, he suffered from bad breath. This made him  A super calloused fragile mystic hexed by halitosis.
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