

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

COMING EVENTS:

AUGUST – The August meeting will be held at 8:30 AM on Thursday, August 19 at Edmond Music located at 3400 South Broadway in Edmond. Norman Cantrell will be doing the technical.

SEPTEMBER – The September meeting will be held at 8:30 AM on Thursday, September 16 at Bob Scheer's shop located at 4305 Sycamore Lane in Edmond. If you need directions, please call Bob at 341-8668. Bob will be showing everyone his method of key bushing.

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WHAT IS THE REASON FOR DOING TWO PASS TUNINGS?

Doing two pass tunings would be like throwing a horseshoe close to the stake, then walking up, picking the horseshoe up again and easily pitching it on the stake for a ringer. Voila!

Keith McGavern, RPT
Shawnee, OK

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REMEMBER THOSE DREAMS WAITING TO BE REALIZED.

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BRICKS OR BALLOONS?

There are people in your life who will either lift you up or weigh you down. Which one are you? Learn to recognize the two.

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JUST A REMINDER TO ALL OF YOU:

The Oklahoma Chapter now has its own official website on the PTG (Piano Technicians Guild) server. The new location for the Oklahoma Chapter Archives is: <http://www.ptg.org/chapters/oklahoma/>

The information for this website is being compiled and organized by Keith McGavern. Any old newsletters, chapter minutes, treasurer reports, knowledge of past chapter officers that any of you have in your storage areas, please consider bringing to the next chapter meeting for Keith to add to the Archives. It will be greatly appreciated. Thanks for your help.

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OLD CHINESE PROVERB---

MAN WHO STAND ON TOILET IS HIGH ON POT!

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BACK TO SCHOOL...

Since this is the time of year when students are returning to the classroom, perhaps it is time that we all do the same. If you aren't in the habit of attending the monthly PTG meetings, why not add that to your

schedule and make regular attendance your “Back To School” resolution? You will find that you will learn something new at each meeting, share ideas with others in the same line of work, but the real bonus is the wonderful friends that you will make. Consider making the 3rd Thursday morning of every month a habit that you can’t break! We hope to see many new and old faces at the August meeting.

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TECH TIP???

You need only two tools: WD-40 and duct tape. If it doesn’t move and it should, use WD-40. If it moves and shouldn’t, use the duct tape!

THOSE OLD WIVES’ TALES

I am continually amazed to find that so many people are so sure about two essential truths regarding piano care: 1) You must not place a piano on an outside wall and 2) You must retune a piano every time it is moved. It makes me wonder where people get their common wisdom, or lack thereof.

Barbara and I moved a Baldwin console from a nice older couple’s home in Woodward today to their daughter’s home in Oklahoma City. We learned that this instrument, purchased new 25 years ago, has carefully been kept on the only inside living room wall of their (modern, insulated) home. After the move, we explained to the daughter that in today’s well-built homes you could place the piano most anywhere that will not expose it to major hot or cold drafts.

As we were loading the piano in Woodward, the parents informed us that it would need tuning since “everyone knows you have to tune a piano if you move it.” I started to explain how that is not necessarily true, that we sometimes choose to tune a piano for a performance before moving it because of the better tuning condition, but instead I asked how long it had been since the piano was tuned. “Oh, it hasn’t been tuned since we bought it 25 years ago.” That simplified my explanation: “You’re right, it WILL need to be tuned.”

David Bonham, RPT
Oklahoma City, OK

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IF YOU CAN’T BE KIND, AT LEAST HAVE THE DECENCY TO BE VAGUE.

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STRESS REDUCERS:

Go to bed on time.

Get up on time so you can start the day unrushed.

Simplify and unclutter your life.

Take one day at a time.

Do something for the KID in you everyday!

Talk less. Listen more.

Smile at a stranger.

Smile at someone you care about.

Write thoughts and inspirations down.

Remind yourself that you are not the general manager of the universe.

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NEWSLETTER ARTICLES NEEDED

Please remember that contributions for the newsletter are needed each month and will be appreciated. If you would like to share a tech tip, an idea, a question, or write an article, please send them to Barbara Bonham. Email address is: barbbonham@cox.net.

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President – Bob Scheer
Vice President – Ben Davis
Secretary – Keith McGavern
Treasurer – Gary Bruce
Newsletter Editor – Barbara Bonham

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