

## THE SOONER TUNER

Newsletter of The Oklahoma Chapter 731 of the Piano Technicians Guild, Inc.

SEPTEMBER 2004

## COMING EVENTS:

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 demonstrating his method of key bushing.

[illegible]

## WORLD WAR TWO VETERANS

This may or may not be of interest, but if any of our members are, or have friends or relatives who are veterans of the second world war, you might like to know that the only people who were automatically registered in the new WWII memorial were those who were either killed in action or missing in action, and some of those were even omitted. There are many veterans who made it back from WWII who are not recognized and honored. I am a lifetime charter member of the WWII memorial and can register anyone who is entitled to be. If anyone is interested let me know. My email address is as follows: mary-gene@sbcglobal.net.

Gene Black, Associate Member  
Norman, OK

[illegible]

IF YOU DON'T LEARN TO LAUGH AT TROUBLE, YOU WON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO LAUGH AT WHEN YOU ARE OLD.

[illegible]

## SLUGGISH (HEAVY?) ACTION

I have for the past several years tried to understand why a GS-60 Kawai in my care had such a sluggish (heavy?) action. I could find nothing wrong with the action geometry, so I finally gave up and called Kawai.

It turns out that the leather covering the knuckles was loose and caused an excessive amount of drag on the jacks. There were two cures, new knuckles or removing one end of the leather covering the knuckles, trimming or making the covering shorter and re-gluing. I chose to trim the knuckle covering and re-glue. This indeed made the action lighter, maybe even 9 grams lighter. I welcome any comments or criticism.

Ben Davis (The Confused), RPT  
Luther, OK

[illegible]

The mighty oak tree was once a little nut that held its ground.

[illegible]

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WORDS OF WISDOM FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

While refinishing a Baldwin baby grand for a customer last week, I had decided that the top probably looked fine, but would look better with one more coat of finish. Just as I finished spraying the final coat, the phone rang. I politely told the lady that I really wasn't interested in purchasing more insurance and then turned to see that two flies had decided to take a swim with all the tenacity of an Olympic swimmer in my finish! Have you ever had days like this? I'm sure we have all had days that we feel like we should have just stayed in bed, but we have to laugh and look on the bright side of life. Sometimes we need a little rain in order to appreciate the sunshine. I do, however, believe the world would be better off with a lot less FLIES!!!! See you at the next meeting.

Bob Scheer, RPT  
Edmond, OK

[illegible]

## TIME OUT

[illegible][illegible]

## MIDGET MOVER?

David and I get a lot of interesting comments and skeptical customers when we show up to move a piano. Quite often people will look at us and say, “Where is your help? There is no way the two of you can move this piano. Last time it took six gorillas.” Last week we moved a very large, HEAVY old upright piano. The owners of the piano were a couple (very countrified) probably in their early 60s. The woman took one look at the two of us, scowled and said to David, “It’s just the two of you?” David replied, “Yes, it’s just the two of us.” She shrugged her shoulders and rolled her eyes at her husband. The piano had to be taken out of a freestanding garage and rolled across about thirty feet of cracked, rugged pavement and dirt. Stabilizing an old upright under these conditions is difficult work and requires a great deal of concentration on my part. The woman proceeded to walk directly behind me and every time the piano would wiggle an inch or two she would make sounds such as, “Aaaah, eeeek, oh my...” You get the picture. I could feel the perspiration dripping down my forehead as I struggled to hold the piano steady and look confident.

When we arrived at the destination with the piano, I could sense that this couple was feeling a little more confident about our piano moving ability. We had at least survived the first half of the move. They ushered us into their new home and showed us where the piano was to be placed. Of course it couldn't be easy. The piano had to go up about four steps, through a living room, then through a very small hallway with doors that were offset from one another so that it had to be angled out one door and into another. It was, needless to say, challenging. We had about a quarter of an inch to spare in both doorways, but we made it. As we got ready to leave this home the man who was the owner of the piano looked at me and then at David and said, "David, you are one hell of a man! You brung you a half-grown woman to move a piano that I couldn't even roll an inch across the floor." The lady just shook her head and kept repeating, "FANTASTIC." We got into the car and laughed all the way down the street.

Barbara Bonham  
Newsletter Editor

HOPE TO SEE ALL OF YOU AT BOB SCHEER'S ON SEPTEMBER 16. STAY IN THE LOOP, BE INFORMED AND GET TO KNOW YOUR FELLOW TECHNICIANS.

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

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