## THE SOONER TUNER

Newsletter of The Oklahoma Chapter 731 of the Piano Technicians Guild, Inc. **JUNE 2006** 

## **COMING EVENTS**

<u>JUNE</u> – Due to the convention being held in Rochester, New York this month, there will be no local meeting of the PTG. The next meeting will be held in July.

<u>JULY</u> – The July meeting will be held Thursday, July 20 15 8:30 AM. The technical will be presented by Norman Cantrell, "Piano Dollies Versus Tonal Resonance." The place for the meeting will be announced in the July newsletter.

the July newsletter.
<u>AUGUST</u> – Watch for details for the August Cookout and Lake Fest at the home of David and Barbara Bonham.
OFFICERS FOR 2006/2007 YEAR: Election of officers for the new year took place at the May meeting. The officers are as follows: President – Bob Scheer, Vice President – David Bonham, Secretary – Nathan Sobel, Treasurer – Gary Bruce and Co-Editors of the Newsletter - Norman Cantrell and Blane Morris.
2006 ANNUAL PTG CONVENTION- ROCHESTER, NY – JUNE 21-25, 2006
Just a quick reminder about the upcoming Rochester Institute June 21-25, 2006. A special thank you to Norman Cantrell who is representing the Oklahoma Chapter in Rochester. We wish Norman a safe and enjoyable trip. If you haven't yet registered and you still wish to be a part of this Convention, call (913) 432-9975 to register or register online at HYPERLINK "http://www.ptg.org/conv/reg" http://www.ptg.org/conv/reg.
Laughing is good exercise. It's like jogging on the inside.
HINTS ON HOW TO BE A FRIEND  Be trustworthy.  Be sensitive.  Be dependable.  Be a good listener.  Be honest.

There is a sacredness in tears. They are not the mark of weakness but of power. They speak more eloquently than ten thousand tongues. They are the messengers of overwhelming grief, of deep contrition, and of unspeakable love Washington Irving
PTG MEETS OMTA
The weekend of June 2-3, the Oklahoma Chapter of PTG sponsored a booth at the annual Oklahoma Music Teacher's Association State Conference held at Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma. Chapter members Norman Cantrell, Blane Morris and Ben Davis manned the booth. On Friday morning, June 2, they were joined by PTG Vice President Dale Probst who traveled up from Wichita Falls to assist the chapter.
Despite limited break opportunities in the OMTA schedule, many good contacts were made with teachers from across the state. At the booth we gave away many items from the Home Office including PTG water bottles, paper clips and various brochures. We gave samples of the new PTG coloring book for piano students. Several of the teachers had seen this item when it was first revealed at the National Convention in Austin, Texas earlier this year. We promoted the PTG website which is currently being updated. We gave technical bulletins covering topis like humidity control, pitch raising, finish care, regulation and voicing.
In addition to the brochures, we gave away two door prizes. The door prizes were copies of the book "Piano Parts and Their Functions" compiled by Merle Mason. We displayed a couple of action models including a vertical and grand model. We also had the two piano challenge we nicknames "The Good, The Bad and The Ugly." This consisted of two Baldwin Hamilton studio pianos, model 243. These pianos were both made in 1968 and the serial numbers placed them 500 units apart. In other words they were identical pianos, at least when they were new. One of the pianos was good, one was bad, and after 38 years in the practice building, both were pretty ugly!
These two instruments have been in service at Cameron since they were purchased. One of them was completely regulated and voiced by Norman Cantrell about two years ago and used for a demonstration piano in his TSA class in Oklahoma City entitled "Vertical Limits". Approximately 21 hours of action preparation was performed on the piano at that time. The other piano was typical of a 38 year old school piano with loose key bushings, worn hammers, lost motion, shallow key dip and the like. Teachers were challenged to play each piano and decide what, if any, difference they could experience. Our goal was to show that pianos could be improved greatly with a little regulation and voicing. Many teachers were amazed at the difference and everyone could at least tell the difference. For the most part, the weekend was very successful.
Norman Cantrell, RPT Lawton, Oklahoma

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President – Bob Scheer Vice President – David Bonham Secretary – Nathan Sobel Treasurer – Gary Bruce

## Newsletter Editor – Barbara Bonham

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