

THE SOONER TUNER

"peace be with you.....and you.....and you,,,etc"

Howdy ya'll. Welcome to the September edition of the Sooner Tuner. This Month's meeting will be held on Thursday September 16th 2010 at 8:30 am. The meeting will be held at David and Barbara Bonham's house which is located at 10717 Eastlake cir. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73162 near the intersection of Hefner rd. and MacArthur Blvd. In the Ski Island community.

This months technical will be a surprise. David will be showing some of the latest techniques in Piano technology and attending this event will not be disappointing. Breakfast finger foods will be provided. So come one come all. See you there.... and by the way its great seeing the new faces and some of the experienced technicians attending the most recent meetings. If you haven't attended in a while it's almost always the third Thursday of the month at 8:30am. So mark that time out in you calender now for the rest of the year and please come. We are usually done by 12:00 and a few of us get together for lunch afterword. Come fellowship with us.....we don't know when our time is up and if there is anything you want to share with the newer technicians.....Now is the Time.....I know we all develop technique that is unique for our own style.....I would love to see how you do it.....

From The President;

Recession? Depression? What's the difference? Although both involve an economic slow down, I think one major difference is in the overall attitude, not only of the country as a whole, but in particular, the attitude of the individual. We can either look at the gloom and doom, bite our nails and worry about tomorrow, or we can look at the opportunities that lay in front of us today.

We need to impress upon our tuning customers that NOW is the time to upgrade to a better, new, or pre-owned, piano. If they don't have the cash on hand, the borrowing rate of interest can't get much lower. If they have money in the bank, it's not making much, so why not spend it on something they can enjoy? There are incredible bargains to be had today!

Or, why not restore that old family heirloom? Staying home and playing the piano is one of the least expensive forms of entertainment! Right? Most folks will continue to spend on what they enjoy most. You've probably noticed that most restuarants and movie theatres seem to be doing quite well.

I believe we should greet our customers with a hearty smile and a positive attitude! If they happen to ask how our business is doing, respond with "Fantastic", whether it's true or not! Bob

Our prayers and sympathy go out to the family of one of our Associate members, David Lucas from Lawton, who recently passed away from complications from a stroke. David was a retired band director, and Piano Technician. He was well respected in the Lawton Community and will be greatly missed.

All equipment well maintained and fully operational. A turn-key operation for the right rebuilder or college/university situation!

Remember the story of the guy who went to the ringmaster of the circus with an idea for a new act? He said he would dive from a platform, 150' in the air into an 8 ounce glass of water. The ringmaster was amazed. He said, "awesome" let's do it." The guy said "Ok...but I can only do it once."

So here's the deal: after four and a half decades of piano rebuilding, we are closing our doors. These doors are to the most comprehensive piano remanufacturing shop in the industry. It has effected some of the finest rebuildings on the planet. And now...we're done.

So, if you have ever thought of having your own rebuilding shop, or are a college or university technician who has been trying to convince the school that rebuilding that inventory of Steinways in-house would be most cost-effective, then here is your chance for a literal turn-key operation.

Take a look at the following photos of our equipment. Our hope is that it will all go to one person or organization. We will make you a deal you will find hard to pass up!

After looking through the lot, you can go to our gallery of photos on this site to see some of them in action. If you have questions, feel free to email Ralph directly at: ralph_onesti@msn.com. Questions are free!

Buying equipment by the piece will be more expensive...so think about taking, and having it all!

You won't find any toys here but you will find some one-of-a-kind custom machines that helped us build wonderful pianos!

You can make an appointment to come visit the shop and see the equipment first hand. Come see if it's not what we say it is!

Have fun!

Here is the web address for the site. Some real nice equipment to be had

<http://www.onestipiano.com/pages/Equipment.html>

Copy and paste it to your address bar.

“Repair, Reconditioning and Rebuilding”

Excerpt from
The Piano Book: Buying & Owning a New or Used Piano

by Larry Fine.

THREE terms are often used when discussing restoration work on pianos: repair, reconditioning, and rebuilding. There are no precise definitions of these terms, and any particular job may contain elements of more than one of them. It's therefore vital, when having work done on your piano or when buying a piano that has been worked on, that you find out exactly what jobs have been, or will be, carried out. “This piano has been reconditioned” or “I'll rebuild this piano” are not sufficient answers. One person's rebuilding may be another's reconditioning.

Generally speaking, a **REPAIR** job involves fixing isolated broken parts, such as a broken hammer, a missing string, or an improperly working pedal. That is, it does not necessarily involve upgrading the condition of the instrument as a whole, but attends only to specific broken parts.

RECONDITIONING always involves a general upgrading of the whole piano, but with as little actual replacement of parts as possible. For instance, the reconditioning of an old upright piano might include resurfacing the hammers (instead of replacing them) and twisting the bass strings to improve their tone (instead of replacing them), as well as cleaning the whole instrument and regulating the action. If parts are broken or missing, of course, they must also be repaired or replaced, so this particular reconditioning job might also include replacing a set of bridle straps and other relatively minor parts, if needed. Rebuilding is the most complete of the three levels of restoration.

REBUILDING involves restringing the piano and usually, replacing the pinblock in a grand [piano] and repairing or replacing the soundboard. In the action, rebuilding would include replacing the hammer heads, damper felts,

and key bushings, and possibly replacing or completely overhauling other sets of parts as well. Refinishing the piano case may also be done as part of a rebuilding job. Ideally, rebuilding means putting the piano into “factory-new” condition. In practice, however, it may involve much less, depending on the needs and the value of the particular instrument, the amount of money available, and the scrupulousness of the rebuilder. The bottom line is the restringing. If a piano has not been restrung, it really cannot qualify as a rebuilt instrument. Indeed, many technicians would assert that a piano has been rebuilt only if the pinblock has been replaced.

Due to the varied and sometimes unwarranted use of the word rebuilding, some rebuilders have come up with a new term -- remanufacturing -- to indicate the most complete restoration job possible, with special emphasis on the fact that the soundboard has been replaced, which may not be included in a regular rebuilding job. In my opinion, this new word only confuses the issue and, in time, it too will become tarnished. There is no substitute for requesting an itemization of the work performed. [End of article]

The opinions in this newsletter not endorsed by the PTG nor the Oklahoma chapter of the PTG.

The Oklahoma chapter of the PTG are as follow.

President- Bob Scheer

Vice President- David Bonham

Treasurer- Gary Bruce

Secretary- Jordan Bruce

Newsletter editor- Eric Williams

South Central Regional Vice President- Norman Cantrell

When someone tells you something defies description, you can be pretty sure he's going to have a go at it anyway.

Clyde B. Aster

The right word may be effective, but no word was ever as effective as a rightly timed pause.

Mark Twain (1835 – 1910)

If you leave your tools in your car, cover them or hide them. They will get stolen sooner or later..

Eric Williams