

THE SOONER TUNER

Official newsletter of the [Oklahoma Chapter 731](#)

[Piano Technicians Guild](#)

April 2014



Oklahoma Chapter President
David Bonham, RPT

President's Message

I had an interesting but disturbing exchange with a client this last week. I moved an older (perhaps 70-80 year old) 5½' Everett grand this last week for a woman in Edmond. She had asked me to help her sell it a few weeks ago, and I had asked her a few questions about it at that time. It has quite a few loose tuning pins, so the tuning is unstable. It needs a pin block and restringing. It was refinished some years ago and the mahogany case looks nice, but the pores were not filled and the finish is thin. I thought I might be able to help her sell it in the \$1500-2,000 range until she shared with me that it had been appraised at \$15,000. I then told her I didn't think I could help her because she had what I thought was an unreasonable expectation of its value. I didn't want to insult her, but I also didn't want to waste my time on a mutually frustrating and disappointing process that I feared could diminish my credibility in our profession.

Why write about this here? Based on the information I have just provided, I know that the appraisal side of our business is not an exact science, but felt there must be some point in time where no one of us would advise a client to buy this type of piano at such a price as appraised. If one's goal was to make her feel good about her piano, that's not all bad, but since we can't know each other's heart and motivation in all our dealings, I still feel we have a duty to help keep each other informed to be honest and true to all customers.

I certainly would hope that you would let me know if you perceived any one of my business operations to be suspect or unjust in any way. This particular situation seems to be resolved at present with the customer having decided to keep the piano.

I hope to see many of you at the next meeting, just ten days from today!



Oklahoma Chapter
Vice President & Treasurer
Gary Bruce, RPT

Next Meeting
April 17th
8:30am

Bruce Piano Services

9713 Hillcrest Drive

Edmond, OK 73025

405-285-8324

(this is our shop, not the showroom)

I am finishing up the refurbishing of an Emerson square grand, and it will still be available for inspection/demonstration. As usual all are encouraged to bring a brief item to share that may be of assistance/interest to others, or a question with which you need some help.

May's meeting will be at Bob Scheer's shop, where he and Jamie Marks will show us the progress on the installation of WNG parts in a Steinway K upright.



Spinet Radio



Oklahoma Chapter Secretary
Bob Scheer, RPT

- Oklahoma Chapter PTG Minutes:
- The March 20 PTG meeting began with a prayer at 9:00 AM. Members present were Keith McGavern, Jamie Marks, Brad Broomfield, Jordan Bruce, Norman Cantrell, Keith Morgan, Jon Edwards, David Bonham, Ben Davis and Bob Scheer. The meeting was held at David and Barbara's home, and we appreciate their hosting the meeting.
- The February minutes were read and approved. Treasurers report: \$ 2,566.42
- Old Business: Discussion continued concerning the possibilities of using the Pace books including the 1. Tuning 2. Technical, and 3. Written instruction books, and DVD Journal reprints. Discussion was also made concerning advertising and internet opportunities for our Chapter. The upcoming chapter name change was brought to the attention of those that might not know, and was asked for any misgiving for the change.
- It was suggested that quarterly meetings should be held by Chapter officers to plan future meetings.
- Jordan Bruce, Keith Morgan, Jon Edwards and Ben Davis were chosen to be the nominating committee. for next years Chapter Officers.
- David Bonham gave an interesting technical presentation about voicing the "hot pressed" hammer. The audience participation was lively and informative. Since the desired tone of a hammer is so subjective, the door was opened for many opinions, techniques and learning opportunities.
- Bob



Floating Piano

Piano Links

[*Upcoming Piano Technicians Guild Events*](#)

(Regional and National events, 2014-15)

[*Piano Technicians Journal Media*](#)

(These videos are referenced by the Piano Technician Journal)

[*YouTube Channel*](#)

[*Virtual Piano Appraisal*](#)

(This virtual-piano-appraisal link can save you some time and educate customers all in a very nice easy going way ... David Estey, RPT)

[*Determine The Condition of Your Piano*](#)

(This .pdf won't make you an expert, nor will it solve your technical problems, but it will help you spot a nightmare in the making ... David Estey, RPT)

Oklahoma Chapter Officers

June 2013 – May 2014

President – [David Bonham](#), RPT

Vice President – [Gary Bruce](#), RPT

Secretary – [Bob Scheer](#), RPT

Treasurer – [Gary Bruce](#), RPT

Newsletter Editor – [Keith McGavern](#), RPT

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DISCLAIMER

“All expressions of opinion and all statements of supposed facts are published on the authority of the editor as listed and are not to be regarded as expressing the views of this chapter or the Piano Technicians Guild unless statements or opinions have been adopted by the Chapter or the Guild.”



Oklahoma Chapter Newsletter Editor
Keith McGavern, RPT

~ High Lights ~

[Clayton Cameron](#)

(A-rhythm-etic. The math behind the beats)

[Avi Avital](#)

(Tiny Desk Concerts)

[Irina Kulikova](#)

(Agustín Barrios Mangoré/ Valz nr. 4 opus 8)

[Joaquin Achucarro](#)

(Nocturno. Scriabin. Carta a Nahia)

[Explore the Taj Mahal](#)

(Google Maps)

[Grand Canyon Skywalk](#)

[Tommy Emmanuel](#)

(Close To You)

[Ryan O'Shaughnessy](#)

(No Name)

[Bela Fleck, Edgar Meyer, Zakir Hussain](#)

(Tiny Desk Concert)

[The Corrs](#)

(Little Wing)

[Valentina Lisitsa](#)

(Rachmaninov / Prelude Opus 32 nr.12)

[Fractals, The Hidden Dimension](#)

(Nova)

Executive Outlook
April 2014
Where are We Going

Norman Cantrell, RPT
PTG President



If you have ever planned a trip or event, you have asked a form of the question, “Where are we going?” The counterpoint to this question is, “If you aim at nothing, you will hit it every time.” All of our U.S. members are well aware that on the 15th of this month taxes are due. Without planning we can find ourselves short and owing money to the IRS. Business planning is an important part of each of our lives.

Likewise, planning is part of what the board of directors is charged with doing in order to help PTG perform its duties. The board is charged with the development of the budget that is presented and approved by Council at the PTG convention each year. A budget in its basic form is a spending plan. While there are certain fixed spending categories for which PTG is basically committed each year, there are categories onto which focus can be shifted and priorities can be emphasized. Balancing all the demands from each category and moving forward is but one of the challenges facing your PTG board each year. Not only do we need to anticipate needs in the short term, but we must also look at the long-term focus of PTG.

During the midyear board meeting, we spent the first day reviewing the various long-range plans that have been provided to the PTG membership over the last almost 20 years. We began with a YouTube clip of a performance from the Ed Sullivan show, where a gentleman named Eric Brenn was featured spinning plates on small flexible rods. At one point in the clip he is busy twirling one of the rods to help a plate maintain its spinning energy. Unfortunately, he has been so preoccupied that he hasn't taken the time to actually load a plate on this particular rod.

Before we laugh too loudly, we might ask ourselves how many times we have been guilty of the same thing in our personal lives or with the corporate life of PTG. We may be busy devoting resources to a program or committee that has lost its focus or purpose, but because of tradition, we continue to twirl a rod that has no plate.

Deciding on priorities is a challenge for the board. Reviewing the various long-range plans that have been adopted over the years helps us to get the flavor of what our membership expects. There have been several proposals over the years to strengthen our marketing of the RPT, both to the public and to Associates, by encouraging opportunities to become an RPT and for making the public aware of the value of using an RPT for piano service. There are also statements challenging us to provide opportunities for professional development and avenues for continuing education. A commitment was made to maintain our facilities in a sufficient manner to provide for present and future programs.

A list of the long-range planning goals that were last affirmed by Council can be found on the ptg.org website in the member area under Forms and Documents. I would encourage each of you to visit this document and see how your chapter can incorporate this year's technical programs to reflect these goals.

We are committed as your board of directors to make sure that we use the resources at hand to keep us on track with our long-range plans and keep PTG moving forward.

I have managed to collect a number of piano technicians' websites over the last few years. These sites offer an excellent perspective into the variety of ways each person has chosen to present their presence on the World Wide Web. Hopefully, you will find something of interest from at least one of these individuals.

Sincerely,
Keith McGavern
current newsletter editor
(page 1)

http://www.janssenpiano.com/ Petrus Janssen	http://www.anneackerkeyboards.com Anne Acker
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http://www.a440.co.uk/ Barrie Heaton	http://www.donrose.ca/ Don Rose
www.mccallpiano.com Rob McCall	http://aftune.angelfire.com Wally Scherer
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Sincerely,
Keith McGavern
current newsletter editor
(page 2)

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Yamaha Transporter



[ebony pic & article](#)
(courtesy of Kent Swafford on my.ptg.org)