

THE SOONER TUNER

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

[Piano Technicians Guild](#)

May 2014



Oklahoma Chapter President
David Bonham, RPT

President's Message

I was speaking with my son-in-law, Travis, recently and I thought it might be worth sharing some of his comments with you. He runs an appliance repair business in Shawnee, and he formerly worked as an employee in a similar operation in Oklahoma City. He works on washing machines and dryers, refrigerators, stoves, and other household appliances. He has lots of stories to tell of homes that are filthy, run down, and unpleasant in a number of ways. He has had customers that were rude, aggressive, demanding, and insulting. He has been aware of dangers of various kinds in the house calls he has made. When I shared that I really couldn't relate to many of the experiences he was describing, he said he wasn't surprised. Most everyone has a refrigerator and these other appliances, but those who own a piano and can afford to have someone out to service it are a much smaller segment of the population.

Have you ever really thought about that? We deal with those in this world who have some money to spend beyond the meeting of bare essentials. They are certainly not all wealthy, but rarely are we called to the homes of the poorest people in our society or those who would likely be dangerous or mean to us. This could give us a distorted impression of what is "normal" or average, and I think it is worthwhile to reflect on this. The main result of my thinking on this subject is my greater appreciation for this profession. We are privileged to get to work in many nice homes for people who appreciate us and treat us well. Of course there are exceptions to any rule, but most of the homes I visit are pretty clean and comfortable: heated in the winter and air conditioned in the summer. Many have children taking piano lessons, which shows their respect for discipline and appreciation for music. For many of them, the piano is a treasured possession and it brings them personal joy and creative expression. We are very lucky and blessed to be serving our piano customers! If you need reminding of that, compare stories with an appliance repairman. I also encourage us all to think about the large number of people in our world who may never need our piano service skills, but who need our compassion and care.

I hope to see you at the next meeting. Remember that it is time to line up chapter officers for the coming year. If you are wanting to serve, be sure to speak up. The nominating committee is made up of Jordan Bruce, Ben Davis, Jonathan Edwards, and Keith Morgan.



Oklahoma Chapter
Vice President & Treasurer
Gary Bruce, RPT

Next Meeting
May 15th
8:30am

[Bruce Piano Gallery](#)

13722 N Lincoln Blvd.
Edmond, OK 73013
405-285-8324

The business agenda will include a report by the Nomination Committee and National Delegate discussion/selection. Bob and Jamie's presentation of the WNG upright modification has been moved to June.

This month's technical will be by David Bonham and Gary Bruce on "Aural Tuning Techniques for Setting Temperament and Testing the Intervals". Bring your ETDs and your ears and let's compare what we hear. Meeting time is 8:30 a.m. with breakfast provided.



Oklahoma Chapter Secretary
Bob Scheer, RPT

- * The April 17, 2014 Oklahoma PTG Chapter meeting was held at Bruce Piano Services.
- * The meeting began with a prayer at 9:03.
- * Members present: Keith McGavern, David Bonham, Gary Bruce, Jordan Bruce, Brad Broomfield, Jamie Marks, Jon Edwards, and Bob Scheer.
- * Treasurers report: \$2338.94.
- * Old business: Nominating Committee: no report.
- * New Business: no new business.
- * An interesting discussion concerning methods used for making appraisals, brought about much participation. Gary Bruce showed us his restoration work to a rosewood square grand. I'll gladly send him any square grand calls I might get in the future.

Bob

Generic Appraisal Concept

In our April chapter meeting the discussion of appraising pianos came up. As a result of that discussion, a generic appraisal form was offered by Oklahoma Chapter member, Gary Bruce, RPT. The words/phrases shown in red are the places where the information would need to be changed/inserted/deleted.

Date

Customer Name

Customer Address

Customer City, State & Zip

RE: Appraisal of Grand Piano

Description: XXXXX Grand Piano Model XX Serial # XXXXXXXX with matching bench
Manufactured in XXXX

Condition: This piano is in very good condition and shows normal wear for its age and usage.
It has been regularly maintained and has been kept in a stable environment.

The Model XX is no longer in production. The comparable new XX Model is the XXXX.

The original MSRP of this piano was about \$X,XXX.XX. The current MSRP for the XX is about \$XX,XXX.XX.

The Fair Market Value for a comparable used piano would be about \$X,XXX.XX

Method of Fair Market Valuation: Comparable offerings and sales.

I certify that:

1. Statements of fact contained in this report are true and correct.
2. The reported analysis, opinions and conclusions are my personal, impartial and unbiased professional analysis, opinions and conclusions. I have no undisclosed personal interest with respect to the parties involved.
3. While I know Customer's Name because I have serviced this piano since it was new, I have no bias with respect to the property that is the subject of this report or to the parties involved.
4. My engagement in this assignment was not contingent upon developing or reporting predetermined results.
5. My compensation for this appraisal is not contingent upon the development or reporting of a predetermined value or direction in a value that favors the cause of the client, the amount of the value opinion, the attainment of a stipulated result or the occurrence of a subsequent event directly related to the intended use of this appraisal.
6. I have been servicing, estimating and appraising pianos for XXXX years and I am a Registered Piano Technician with the Piano Technicians Guild, Member #XXXX.
7. This appraisal was prepared for insurance purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

Piano Tuner, RPT



<u>Ward & Probst, Inc.</u> <u>Piano & Organ Service</u>	<u>Bruce Piano Sales and Service</u>
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If there are other members who have websites, please submit to the [Chapter Newsletter Editor](#)

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 ~

2013 Tony Awards

(Neil Patrick Harris formerly Doogie Howser)

Alex & Sierra
(Gravity)

It's De-Lovely
(Ampico Recording)

Cesar Espinoza
(Pan Flute - Unchained Melody)

We Deliver.....Anywhere
(by Ravencroft Pianos)

HM Hidrau-Tech
(Automatic lift piano bench)

Eva Cassidy
(Over The Rainbow)

Klaviermacher
(Recapping a treble bridge in the piano)

Sirena Huang
(Young Violinist at TED)

Jane Zhang
(Don't Cry For Me, Argentina)

Lea Michelle & Idina Menzel
(I Dreamed a Dream from Glee)

Qyunqyun // Annie Zhou // Valentina
(Un Sospiro by Franz Listz)

Executive Outlook
May 2014
Looking Back, Looking Forward
Norman Cantrell, RPT
PTG President



A young couple had only been married a short time. One Sunday the bride wanted to impress her husband and told him that she would be preparing pot roast for dinner that day, and she would be following her family's special recipe. The young husband was intrigued by this and followed her into the kitchen to help and to continue the conversation while the meal was being prepared. She washed and cut the vegetables that would be included in the pot and got out the appropriate spices. Then she took the roast and trimmed a good portion off each end before placing it in the pot along with the other ingredients. The young man was puzzled by this and asked his bride why she cut the ends off the roast. She replied, "That's the way my mother always did it, so that is the way I do it."

A few weeks later the young couple was visiting her parents and the conversation turned to the family pot roast recipe. When the young man asked his mother-in-law why she cut the ends off the roast before cooking it, she answered that it was the way she was taught by her mother. This explained one thing but left questions in the young man's mind.

Over the holidays the entire family was gathered, and the young man had a chance to ask his wife's grandmother about the pot roast. "Grandma, why do you cut the ends off the roast before cooking it?"

The answer came back. "I have a small pan, and it is the only way the roast will fit in the pan."

If we are not careful, we can develop habits and traditions to which we feel very attached, without considering why we are doing them and whether those reasons are still valid. We can do this on a personal level and as an organization. Your board of directors has been looking at our governance and particularly at our committee structure. Some of our standing committees have been around for a long time, but are they still providing us the best use of the time and energy it takes to staff them? Some of them flounder trying to meet vague committee charges. We looked at shifting some of the effort to short term "task groups" instead. In last month's article I described the energy required to keep the plates spinning by the entertainer on a variety show. Evaluating our committee structure is one way we are trying to make sure that the plates we do have spinning are ones that matter. This is something that will benefit PTG in the long run. A similar exercise of your business practices is a healthy thing to do as well.

Pot roast, anyone?

A vintage dark wood upright piano with a matching wooden bench, positioned in a room with a yellow chair and a white wall. The piano has a classic design with a dark wood finish and a white keyboard. The bench is made of the same wood and is placed in front of the piano. To the left of the piano, there is a yellow plastic chair. The background is a plain white wall, and the floor is covered with a grey carpet.

[illegible]

02

Acrosonic Spinnet by Baldwin with Aluminum Stickers
Serial no. 627691, Year 1957



03



04

Acrosonic Spinnet by Baldwin with Aluminum Stickers
Serial no. 627691, Year 1957



05



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