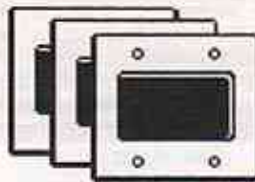


"THE SOONER TUNER"



Official Newsletter, Oklahoma Chapter 731
The Piano Technicians Guild, Inc.
October '95



NEXT MEETING

OCTOBER 17th, TUESDAY, 9AM
Quail Springs Church of Christ
14401 North May Avenue
(from Memorial Road & May Avenue go north about 1/4 mile,
follow signs to office)

YAMAHA VIDEO

37 Steps to Grand Regulation and Aftertouch

David Bonham, President.....	405-721-0566
Tim Hast, Vice President.....	405-359-0440
Darin Niebuhr, Secretary.....	405-329-2970
Norman Cantrell, Treasurer.....	405-272-9687
Keith McGavern, Newsletter.....	405-275-8600
(PO Box 1585, Shawnee, OK 74802-1585)	
(E-mail address: kam544@aol.com)	

LAST MEETING

Received reports of an excellent meeting last month from David Wallace for one, who indicated he particularly liked the topic of Ethics. Also in attendance were some newcomers: Jana Ketch and her husband. She mentioned how impressed she was with the opening prayer and with meeting Bob and Gerald from Enid. Welcome to the Oklahoma Chapter of the Piano Technicians Guild Mr. & Mrs. Ketch.

I certainly would have liked to have been there, but preponderance of the evidence clearly indicates I was selected for jury duty...Editor.

INTERNET STUFF

"PLUCKING STRINGS"

by Keith A. McGavern, RPT

The gist of the proposition: Some time ago someone indicated to me that they could judge the tone of a piano merely by plucking the strings. I, on the other hand, basically took the position that determining the tone of the piano required the hammer actually striking the string to determine the tone.

So...it may be just a matter of semantics, but here goes.

Long ago I came to understand the following: pluck a piano string, then play the same note normally. If the note sustains better plucked than struck, you know there is a problem with the hammer or action. Conversely, if the note sustains better when struck than plucked, then you know there is a problem elsewhere.

Hence the question, is there something more that one can determine by plucking a string only, in determining the potential tone or voice of a piano?

ANOTHER INTERNET ITEM FROM PIANOTECH

Subj: \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$
Date: Tue, Jul 11, 1995 8:33 AM CST
From: pianotech@byu.edu
X-From: psloffer@indiana.edu (phillip c sloffer)

NEW YORK (AP) — A piano tuner taking apart a junked spinet discovered 62 savings bonds worth at least \$20,000, then turned sleuth to find the owners' heirs.

"It was pretty amazing when you see 62 one-hundreds," Jay Nicolai, the finder, said Monday.

"The minute I saw them, all I could think of is: Somebody cared about their family pretty much to actually purchase 62 savings bonds," he said.

Nicolai's boss had taken the small upright piano from a porch in Farmingville on June 11 because its owner, who'd found it five years ago on a roadside, was going to junk it.

The Long Island piano man figured he'd either rebuild it or use it for parts. Nicolai found the treasure when he began taking apart the 48-year-old Baldwin.

The bonds would have matured in the 1980s to face value of \$100 each. But because they were never cashed in, they kept earning interest and are worth at least \$20,000.

Nicolai "started knocking on doors," searching for someone who recognized the name on the bonds. After a dozen doors, Nicolai found a man who told him: "That's my mom's maiden name."

Nicolai met the woman on Friday.

"She called us back and couldn't quite believe it," said

Nicolai's boss Alan Howard Sherman. "She didn't know her parents had set them (the bonds) aside."

The couple who originally bought the bonds are dead. The heirs promise the piano men a reward.

Nicolai's other finds inside pianos have included "30 or 40 silver dollars from the 1800s and a Movado watch.

"It turns out it was a birthday present three years before, and the woman had it for three days before it disappeared," Nicolai said.

1995 SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Nov 16: Darin Niebuhr, Associate
Helpful Hints for Piano Teachers
Darin is making a presentation to music teachers.
So, we will critique and add our
2¢ to the presentation

Dec 1: Christmas Party
Darin Niebuhr's house

January Technical: Keith McGavern, RPT
Potential subject - Learning about key weight

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi! I hope you are enjoying the fall weather. I enjoyed our conversation at the last chapter meeting about ethics and difficult decisions we face educating our customers. It's an important aspect of our business, and our sharing of thoughts and experiences helps me grow and refine my skills in this area. I hope you also found it helpful.

I'd like to announce another birth in our group. Darin and Kristin Niebuhr experienced the marvel and joy of welcoming their son, Simon, into this world on Tuesday, the third of October. Congratulations!

David Bonham

*** IN CLOSING ***

Recommended Reading

***"Inharmonicity and Octaves--Part 1"*
*"Extending the Temperament"***

by Dan Levitan, RPT, Contributing Editor
(PT Journal, September 1995, pages 24-29)

Great things are made of this kind of stuff!

The "Kick" Zone

(closely related to after touch)
from

Keith McGavern, RPT

"What you think and what is, are two different worlds."
(Kam, 9/21/95)

Sign upon entering St. Louis, OK:
"Welcome to St. Louis,
home of 179 friendly people,
1 old grouch, and
1 busybody."

"I enjoy getting hit. It wakes me up."
(Jim Kelly, Buffalo Bills quarterback)

"Listen to the piano.
It will tell you what to do."
(Dan Harteau RPT, Detroit-Windsor Chapter)

FLASH

THIS JUST IN FROM TIM HAST, RPT

"I am going to Nashville this Thanksgiving and wanted to know if there is anyone who needs a piano delivered to there or somewhere in between. I can be reached at 405-359-0440".