

THE SOONER TUNER

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

[Piano Technicians Guild](#)

November 2012



Oklahoma Chapter President
David Bonham, RPT

The South
Regional
the PTG was held

Central
Conference of
three weeks

ago in Kerrville, Texas. Barbara and I had the pleasure of being a part of the event, along with Norman, Dale, and Jordan of our chapter and a record number of Texas technicians as well as several national figures in our industry. Billed as the friendliest regional conference, it lived up to its claim and offered a number of informative classes and networking opportunities. We had a good time!

Barbara and I taught a class on piano moving tools and techniques. We had a number of people with questions, comments and feedback in and after our presentation that left me knowing that what we shared was appreciated and will impact the work of others in our region. We in turn were blessed by gaining new knowledge and skills presented by a number of good teachers there.

It takes a lot of work to put on such an event. Those of us who have helped put on our own regional events here know this very well. These play an important role in our careers. Not everyone is able to attend the national seminar. The regional events are more accessible for some of us. I encourage each you to keep this in mind for the future.

Next Meeting, Thursday, November 15th

This November meeting of the Oklahoma PTG will be held 8:30 AM at the Granville School of Music located at 2304 Exchange Avenue (this is on the SW corner building of Exchange & Agnew between the [Exchange Pharmacy](#) and the Beef Council offices). Contact 405-605-6133 (Leticia Garcia). Granville is a school that offers music lessons to lower income families for a nominal fee. Back in April 21, 2011 we met at this same school and worked on some of the pianos, both individually and as a group. We plan to continue this project where we left off at that time. Please come and join in on this worthwhile community project. After the meeting, we will gather for lunch at [Cattlemen's Steakhouse](#) afterwards. We hope to see many of you there.



Oklahoma Chapter Newsletter Editor
Keith McGavern, RPT

~ High Lights ~

Charlie Albright

Port House - Antwerp Belgium
Zaha Hadid Architects

Time to Say Goodbye
Sarah Brightman & Andrea Bocelli

Davenport Tools
Tool Instructions

Oklahoma Chapter Officers
June 2012 – May 2013

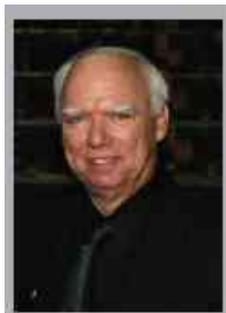
President – David Bonham, RPT
Vice President – Gary Bruce, RPT
Secretary – Bob Scheer, RPT
Treasurer – Gary Bruce, RPT
Newsletter Editor – Keith McGavern, RPT

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From Jordan Bruce, Associate Member of the Oklahoma Chapter
regarding the
South Central Regional Conference
he attended that was held in Texas

[Regional Conference Photos](#)

October 2012
Executive Outlook
Submitted by
Richard Bittner, RPT
Central East Regional Vice President



Do You Make Deposits or Withdrawals?

Richard Bittner, RPT
Regional Vice President

This fall starts a new beginning for most chapters. New officers and programs are in motion. Are you feeling the changeover as strongly as I am? It's the beginning of the season.

We are busy this time of year. Public and private schools, colleges, and churches all need piano service. The Piano Technicians Guild will also be asking you for your time. How much are you willing to give?

The title above is a quote from a President's message by Charlie Huether, PTG president from 1984-86. What kind of member are you? Are you one who makes deposits or do you make withdrawals? Members who make withdrawals will soon deplete their account and lose out on what the Guild has to offer. The members who make deposits are those who serve on committees. They are also the ones who teach at our institute as well as at regional and chapter meetings. The members who are examiners contribute hours of their time to upgrade Associates to RPT. These are the members who make PTG strong and vibrant, and who benefit the most from their membership. We need and appreciate people who make deposits.

The Piano Technicians Guild has a lot to offer in the way of education. Our state-of-the-art software is the best in any organization. We should be proud that we have worked so hard to make constant improvements. The Piano Technicians Journal is a very good source of education, thanks to Ed Sutton, RPT, our Journal Editor. Ed has raised the bar to make our current Journal the best it has ever been. Recent regional conferences have been well attended. The PTG Academy is the newest source for continuing education. Keep watching as we add more class offerings. All the signs show that our members are hungry for knowledge.

Think about what kind of member you want to be—one who makes deposits or one who makes withdrawals. I hope you choose to be one of those who deposits time, talent and energy into your PTG membership.

Piano Technicians Journal

October 2012

Letters to the Editor

Submitted by

Nick Gravagne, RPT

Phoenix AZ Chapter



At the recent Annual Convention in Bellevue WA I was honored to be inducted into the PTG Hall of Fame. At the same time, I can't help but feel a bit awkward and certainly humbled to receive such special recognition, since claims made in my behalf for those things I have done for PTG have come natural for me, especially those things related to writing and instruction. There can be no higher honor than to be recognized by one's peers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who began the nomination process, and all those who wrote in letters of support and cast votes for me, and the Nominating Committee's deliberation and final vote to favor me with this honor. I now find myself in the good company of past and future recipients of the Hall of Fame Award and hope to live up to the high standards that such an honor entails.

On a personal note, I couldn't be more pleased on two fronts: first that Vice President Normal Cantrell made the choice to personally introduce me at the awards ceremony, as Norman and I go way back to those days when I used to belong to the South Central Region where we shared many common experiences and quite a few laughs; and second, that I share this honor with Steve Brady, also inducted into the Hall of Fame this year, as Steve and I began our careers way back in the early '70s. We met and hung out together at the Arizona State Seminar held in Tucson in 1977. We were young and eager to learn. We had a good time. Teaching at that seminar were Jim Coleman, Sr. and the late George Defebaugh, two pioneers and highly recognized instructors in our organization. It was their high standards and force of personality that inspired so many of us to move forward.

Sincerely and with gratitude,

Nick Gravagne, RPT
Phoenix AZ Chapter

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