



Central Oklahoma Chapter

Newsletter www.cokptg.org



January

2024

THE SOONER TUNER

Next Chapter Meeting



When: Thursday, January 18th
Location: David Bonham's Ski Island Shop
Address: 10717 N Eastlake Cir, OKC, OK, 73162
Time: 8:30 AM

Technical: Education Resource hub on the PTG website

Our Central Oklahoma PTG Chapter Officers:

RVP - Doug Snook, RPT

President - David Bonham, RPT

Treasurer - Gary Bruce, RPT

Secretary – Steve Davis, Member

Newsletter Editor – Joseph Woolston, Member



David Bonham, RPT
COK-PTG President

President's Message

Happy New Year to each of you! I hope you feel good about the start of 2024, and I hope your resolutions for this year include taking advantage of what your PTG membership has to offer, especially the fellowship and educational opportunities of our monthly chapter meetings.

I wrote recently about tuning a piano that was only a few cents off pitch despite a long period of time having elapsed since the last tuning. Three of the last five pianos I've tuned have been 25-30 cents flat in the section just below middle-C despite having been tuned within the past six months. They sounded pretty bad, and I worked hard to get each one properly tuned, knowing full well that they would need the opposite pitch correction by sometime this spring. How do you answer your customers when they ask when is the best time to tune and how often should their pianos be tuned? Let's talk about this at our next meeting, which is next Thursday. Our technical presentation is about navigating the educational resources available through the PTG. How do we get our technical questions answered and how do we keep growing in our abilities to serve our customers?

Come share and learn!

David Bonham, RPT



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Chapter Meeting Minutes

11/16/23

Central Oklahoma Chapter Meeting November 16, 2023

Meeting held at Bruce Piano in Edmond

Call to Order by David Bonham at 8:57 a.m.

The opening prayer was offered by Bruce Johnson

Members Present were Gary Bruce, Jordan Bruce, Ben Sutter, Norman Cantrell, Bruce Johnson, and David Bonham. Guests included Dallas Chapter member Kirstyn Norris and Will McGinn a student at Oklahoma Christian

Kirstyn Norris has studied piano technology in Dallas with David Brown, RPT and lead technician at Southern Methodist University. She also has her Masters in Percussion and has been a band director prior to pursuing piano technology.

Will McGinn is planning to study abroad next spring.

The minutes from the October meeting were presented and approved as corrected.

Old Business: The Christmas banquet has been scheduled for December 15 at the Bonham's residence. The earlier date discussed was the 8th so please update your calendars accordingly. Invitations will be sent out and it is requested that you RSVP (Repondez Vous, Sil-vous Plais)

New Business—We have some new possible options for presenting the program from Oklahoma State for understanding piano for music majors. We may call it Piano Tech's on the Road. We have an invitation from Southern Nazarene University and Southwestern State University in Weatherford. If we pursue these, we may look at other times than just our regular meeting days.

A time of open discussion and sharing took place.

David asked about getting some hardware from Schaff that was out of stock. Norman Cantrell mentioned that the main supplier for brass hardware had gone out of business approximately two years ago and since then Schaff has been selling off what they had in stock prior to that event. This makes piano salvage and especially hardware before disposal a bit more of a needed activity.

There was also a discussion of replacement casters for piano trucks. It is possible to get just the wheels themselves from local suppliers such as L. E Acker and Casters of Oklahoma here in Oklahoma City. The casters come with different weight ratings and that should be considered when obtaining replacements.

Doug Snook shared a story of replacing a string on a spinet piano that had all the important action including hitch pins and bridge pins in close proximity to the back of the keybed. He reported having assistance from the owner's dog but managed to prevail.

It was also mentioned that there has been some use of TSI-301 lubricant on flanges with verdigris. It is lubricant that is supposed to penetrate the pores of the metal (center pin) and remain. It has been used on saltwater fishing reels for years with great success. Doug Snook has ordered some and will be providing some further reports on its effectiveness. Also mentioned was the use of Fantastik all-purpose cleaner applied directly to the infected flanges. If left overnight, it does free the flanges from the usual sluggishness associated with verdigris in pianos. Some testing of this approach has been discussed on the PTG forums and it seems to last longer than most other lubricants.

The meeting adjourned.

After a break Gary Bruce presented a technical on typical problems in pianos. He had both a grand and a vertical which had been prepared in advance with particular maladies. The attendees were asked to play the note or notes affected and speculate as to the most likely cause or causes. This was a good exercise in troubleshooting and the idea of looking at the most likely cause or "global" cause was discussed before trying to split hairs and waste a lot of time.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Norman Cantrell