



PIANO  
TECHNICIANS  
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Central Oklahoma Chapter

March

2026

Newsletter [www.cokptg.org](http://www.cokptg.org)

## *THE SOONER TUNER*

### Next Chapter Meeting



**When:** Thursday, March, 19<sup>th</sup>

**Location:** Edmond Music

**Address:** 3400 S. Broadway, Edmond, OK 73013

**Time:** 8:30 AM

**Technical:** Susan and Scott Starns are looking forward to hosting and connecting with everyone. Besides hearing about the current trends in the Piano Retail Trade and maybe get a tour of the “vault” where they repair, restore and tune Steinway pianos.



### Our Central Oklahoma PTG Chapter Officers:

Co-President - Doug Snook, RPT

Secretary – Maddie Magee,  
Member

Co-President - David Bonham, RPT

Newsletter Editor – Joseph  
Woolston, Member

Treasurer - Gary Bruce, RPT

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.”



David Bonham, RPT

### President's Message

Sometimes when it comes time to write these president's messages, I struggle to come up with something to say. This has been one of those times, and I think the newsletter has been delayed because of me. I apologize. I have chosen to share three moments of my work week that have been the most gratifying.

The first was part of my delivery of an old console piano to a young family living near the fairgrounds in NW Okc. They purchased it from a person across town. After I had placed it in the home, the four-year-old daughter sat down on the bench and began to play on it with wide eyes and a big smile of wonder on her face. I was moved by her enthusiasm, and I hoped that this would lead to lessons and a continuing interest in music. I left with a smile of my own.

The next day I delivered a beautiful Yamaha baby grand being donated by a recently widowed woman in Oak Tree to a United Methodist church in Del City. The music director there is a friend of mine. The donor expressed sadness and spoke of her difficulty in letting the piano go, as it had been such a joy to her husband who passed away a little over a year ago. In contrast, my friend at the church receiving the gift was overjoyed and thankful. I loved hearing him play it as we packed up our tools. As a bonus, after we moved the grand, they were retiring from the sanctuary into the fellowship hall that was being set up for a Wiz Kids tutoring event, several of the volunteers started taking turns playing on it. We knew it had found a new welcoming home.

Then today I got a call from an older woman who has been talking with me about her search for a good used baby grand. She went to see one advertised on Facebook and she wanted my opinion. Based on the information she gave me and my understanding of what she wanted, I boldly told her that she should buy it. I even promised to buy it from her if she turned out to be dissatisfied with it. That gave her the confidence to proceed, and we had it in her home by 6:00 this evening. She seems to be very happy with it.

Piano sales may have declined from what they once were, and fewer children are taking piano lessons...but there are still MANY enthusiastic people of all ages who are discovering the joy of piano playing and piano ownership. Come to our chapter meeting next Thursday at Edmond Music and learn more about the current industry as well as helping to welcome back some friends into our piano technicians community.

David Bonham, RPT

**PTG Central Oklahoma Chapter 731**

**Meeting Minutes**

February 19th, 2026

**Location:** Bruce Piano  
13726 N Lincoln Blvd, Edmond, OK 73013

**Members Present:** Vince Mrykalo, Joe Woolston, Norman Cantrell, Gary Bruce, Jordan Bruce, David Bonham, Doug Snook, Kelsey Toole, Maddie Magee

**Guests Present:** Jacob Theisen, James Judd, Abigail Judd

**Opening Prayer:** Gary Bruce

Call to order at 9:00 AM

Minutes presented by Maddie Magee. Minutes approved as read.

**Treasurer's Report:** \$2,610.99 (\$117.28 reimbursement given to Norman and Vicky for hosting the December banquet)

**Old Business:** David reminded the group that anyone can write an article for the newsletter (regarding questions, observations in the field, etc).

Returned to our discussion of the best way to support new members with training and resources. We talked about the PTG education hub, leveraging our technical presentation to educate about specific/requested topics, and specific books and websites written by other PTG members (i.e. Jason Cassel's new book *The Fundamentals of Piano Tuning and Maintenance*, Jim Busby's website "Piano Technician Tutorials").

**New Business:** Announced that Ben Cross is holding a one-day seminar in Dallas on April 11th. One half of the day will be spent on regulation, and the other half will be spent on voicing.

Scott Starns reached out and offered to let us have meetings at Edmond Music in the future.

Business meeting adjourned at 10:00.

**Technical Presentation:** Norman gave a two-part technical on the importance of playing the piano in relation to regulating and the different kinds of glue commonly used in the business. In part one, Norman played a few different pieces for us that highlighted different elements that require proper regulation (sensitive dynamics, rapid repetition of a single note, etc.). He said that when he tunes for a concert, he likes to find out what pieces the pianist will be playing so he knows what type of sound and feel to aim for. He reminded us that the more we focus on making sure the piano is capable of supporting the needs of the music, the better the service will be (and the more satisfied the pianist will be as well). In part two, Norman demonstrated many different types of glue. These included hide glue, fish glue, melamine glue, burnt shellac, wood glue, super glue, and more. He covered which glues are preferred for different situations and materials, along with how to prepare and use them.



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## Upcoming PTG Events

### March 2026

#### [Washington State Hands-On Seminar](#)

Starts: Mar 26, 2026 12:00 (PT)

Ends: Mar 28, 2026 14:00 (PT)

Where: Central Washington University, 400 E University Way, Ellensburg, WA 98925

### April 2026

#### [One Day Seminar with Ben Cross](#)

When: Apr 11, 2026 from 08:00 to 17:00 (CT)

Where: Dallas College Brookhaven Campus, 3939 Valley View Ln, Farmers Branch, TX 75244

#### [A Day with Mario Igrac](#)

When: Apr 18, 2026 from 08:00 to 17:00 (PT)

Where: Lighthammer Piano, 4440 Chennault Beach Rd STE 103, Mulкитеo, WA 98275

#### [Exam Weekend at the PTG Home Office](#)

Starts: Apr 18, 2026 08:00 (CT)

Ends: Apr 19, 2026 17:00 (CT)

Where: PTG Home Office, 4444 Forest Ave, Kansas City, KS 66106-3750

#### [Appalachian Piano Tuning Camp 1](#)

Starts: Apr 27, 2026 08:00 (ET)

Ends: May 1, 2026 17:00 (ET)

Where: Appalachian South Folklife Center, 820 Rocky Mount Rd, Pipestem, WV 25979

### May 2026

#### [Polyester & Lacquer Finish Touch Up Academy](#)

Starts: May 1, 2026 08:00 (CT)

Ends: May 2, 2026 17:30 (CT)

Where: PTG Home Office, 4444 Forest Ave, Kansas City, KS 66106

#### [Appalachian Piano Tuning Camp 2](#)

Starts: May 3, 2026 08:00 (ET)

Ends: May 9, 2026 17:00 (ET)

Where: Appalachian South Folklife Center, 820 Rocky Mount Rd, Pipestem, WV 25979

#### [Grand Action Regulation in 37 Steps](#)

Starts: May 14, 2026 08:00 (CT)

Ends: May 16, 2026 17:30 (CT)

Where: Piano Technicians Guild Home Office, 4444 Forest Ave, Kansas City, KS 66106-3750

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# THE SOONER TUNER – PTG Central Oklahoma Chapter 731

## [Appalachian Piano Tech Camp](#)

Starts: May 15, 2026 08:00 (ET)

Ends: May 16, 2026 17:00 (ET)

Where: Appalachian South Folklife Center, 820 Rocky Mount Rd, Pipestem, WV 25979

## [A Day with Fred Sturm](#)

When: May 16, 2026 from 08:00 to 17:00 (ET)

Where: Faust-Harrison Pianos, 214 Central Avenue, White Plains, NY 10606

## [A Day with Wim Blee](#)

When: May 16, 2026 from 08:00 to 17:00 (CT)

Where: Dallas College Brookhaven Campus, 3939 Valley View Ln, Farmers Branch, TX 75244

## **July 2026**

### [2026 PTG Convention & Technical Institute](#)

Starts: Jul 22, 2026 08:00 (ET)

Ends: Jul 25, 2026 17:00 (ET)

Where: Hyatt Regency Crystal City (Arlington), 2799 Richmond Hwy, Arlington, VA 22202

## **October 2026**

### [2026 Midwest Regional Conference](#)

Starts: Oct 3, 2026 08:00 (CT)

Ends: Oct 5, 2026 17:00 (CT)

Where: Washington University, 560 Center, St. Louis, MO 63130

## **April 2027**

### [Southeast Regional Seminar](#)

Starts: Apr 7, 2027 09:00 (ET)

Ends: Apr 10, 2027 17:00 (ET)

Where: Holiday Inn Knoxville, 9134 Executive Park Drive, Knoxville, TN 37923