



Photo 39: With the bench stripped, Dave begins the 3rd day of work by tackling the case parts.

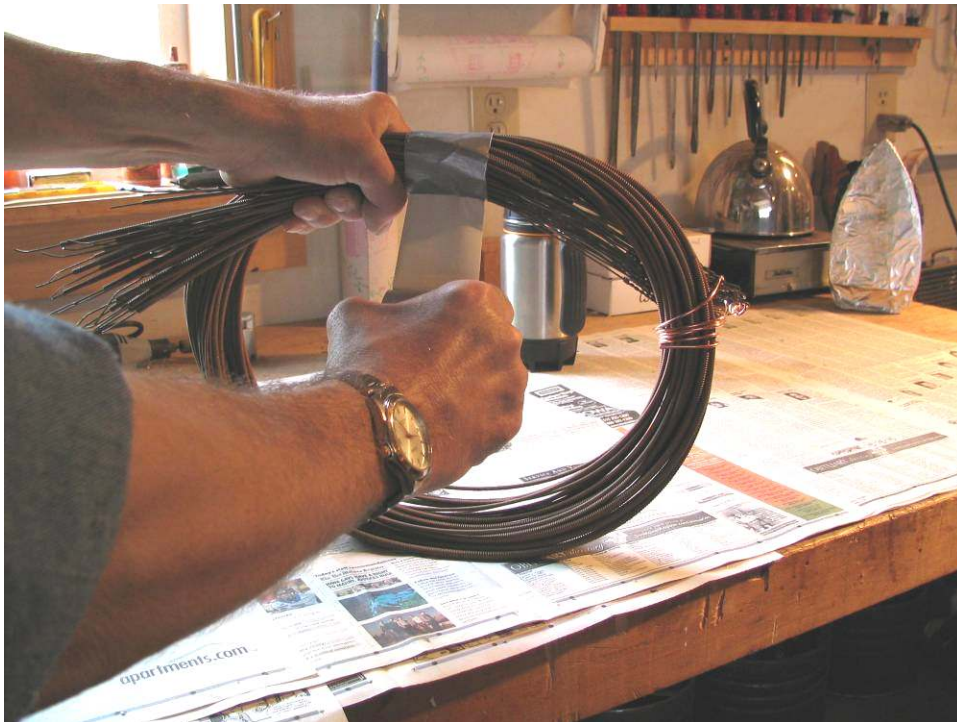


Photo 40: At another work station, I prepare to send out the bass strings for duplication. They are coiled, taped, labeled, boxed and readied for shipment.



Photo 41: With the strings ready to take to the post office, the action is put on the bench for its initial inspection. Deciding what to replace, and what to simply clean is always an issue. On this action, for example, the back check felts show little wear, and will just need to be cleaned.



Photo 42: With the hammers, it's another story. Some "technician" in the past apparently thought that removing the string marks was best solved by simply sawing off the fronts of certain hammers. Imagine the tone produced! Gives a new meaning to the term "blocking hammer."



Photo 43: To have the hammers duplicated, the end hammers from each of the three sections of the action are removed to be sent in as samples. Here the hammer butt assembly, with attached hammer shank and hammer from the end of the treble section is being removed from the action.



Photo 44: For each of these end hammers, the shank is removed from the hammer butt by softening the glue joint with steam and using a special hammershank extractor and clamp.

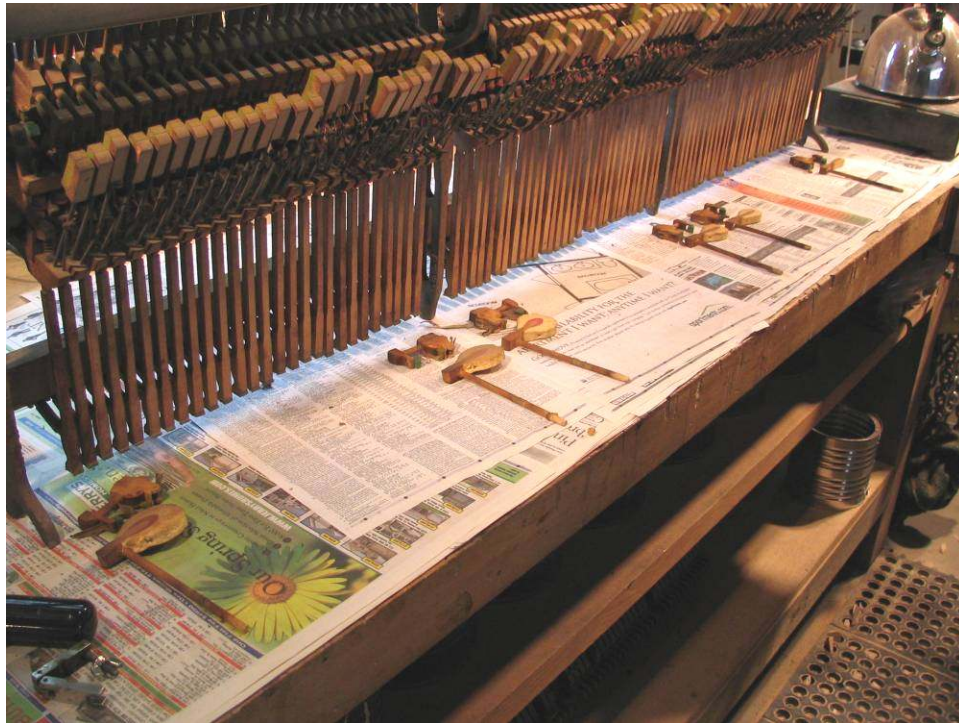


Photo 45: The sample hammers with shanks, ready to label, box and send.



Photo 46: Each of the six sample hammers is numbered and labeled with the name of the sender.



Photo 47: While I work on boxing and addressing the string and hammer samples, Dave continues his work stripping parts. Here, the stripper does it work on the front board of the piano.



Photo 48: Parts that have been stripped and cleaned begin to stack up on the parts trolley.



Photo 49: On the action bench, I finish the morning by removing the odd numbered hammers from the action. When the new hammers come back from the factory, I'll put on the even hammers first, using the remaining odd hammers as a guide. Snipping the old ones off as shown is the most efficient method.

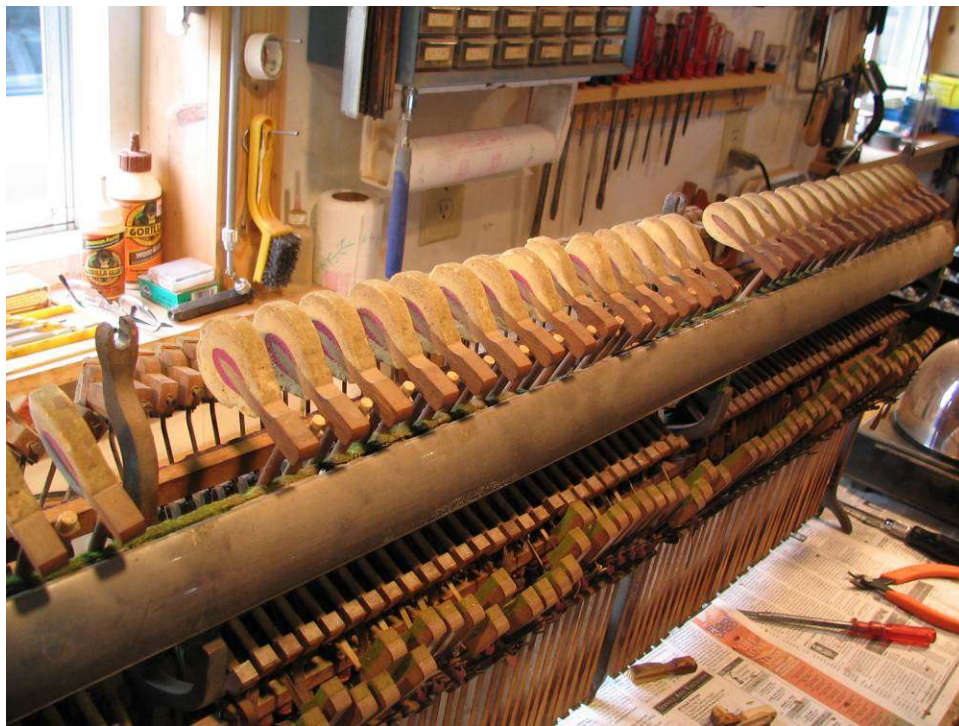


Photo 50: The remaining hammers. By the time the replacement hammers arrive, I hope to have the rest of the action gone through with everything either cleaned or replaced.



Photo 51: Since the decal will be replaced, a phone call is made and an order placed for a new decal from Decals Unlimited Inc. A number 2546 will just do the trick, I believe.



Photo 52: Jan at the post office is more than happy to send my packages on their way to Lake Zurich.

Well, that's it for the morning and probably for the rest of the week. Next week, come Monday morning, we'll be back at it again. Dave will finish stripping the case parts, and I'll do what needs done on the action.