



*Photo 122: The keybed of the piano, which for decades served as a restroom for mice, could be ignored no longer. With every thing else sanded and ready to finish, I told Dave that I wanted the keybed looking (and smelling) like new. In a word, it reeked.*



*Photo 123: Dave suits up. Mouse piss be damned!*



*Photo 124: While I retire to another room of the shop (and close the door behind me) to work on another piano, Dave has at the keybed with sheet after sheet of 60 grit sandpaper. The shop is thick with evil smelling dust. I help Dave out by opening doors and windows, and turning on the dust filters—before heading back to the other room.*



*Photo 125: After this job, I'll need a new filter for the shop vac.*





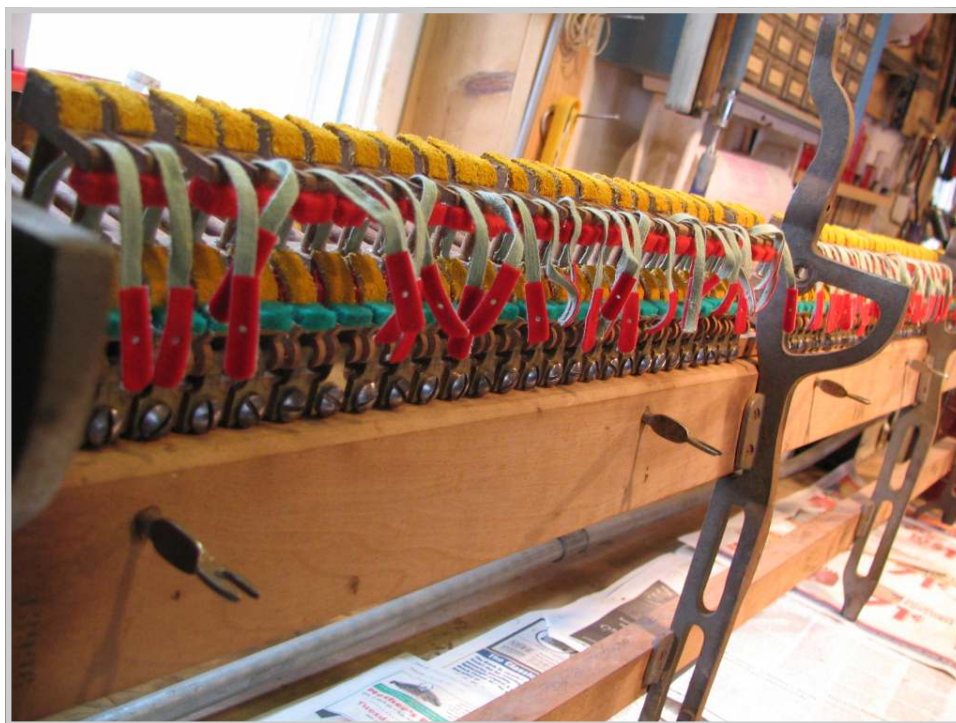
*Photo 126: Much, much better. With your nose an inch away, there's a barely discernable scent. I'll heap about 10 pounds of baking soda on it, let it set for a week, clean it off, and it will smell like a spring day.*



*Photo 127: While Dave has been in the finishing stages of preparing to apply varnish, I wrapped up the hammer butt restoration project. Here, the stack of nearly finished butts piles up, needing only new catcher buckskin to finish the job.*



*Photo 128: With every bit of leather and felt replaced, I put the hammer butts in order in preparation of reinstallation on the action..*



*Photo 129: The action starts to go back together.*





*Photo 130: The action brackets are sadly in need of attention.*



*Photo 131: A few minutes on the buffing wheel with a brass wire brush brings a shine back out.*



*Photo 132: Dave has some final veneer replacement and lacquer stick work to do, then it's on with the stain. Here, he heats up damaged veneer for removal.*



*Photo 133: After steaming, the old veneer comes off easily with a putty knife.*





*Photo 134: With both the veneer and crossbanding (underlying layer of veneer) removed, the foot of the piano is ready for reveneering.*



*Photo 135: Dave marks the crossbanding veneer for cutting. It will run with its grain perpendicular to the face veneer.*



*Photo 136: Dave sands the edges of the crossbanding layer flush to the sides.*



*Photo 137: After filling in several gouges in the core wood with an epoxy filler, Dave applies the crossbanding layer to the sides of the foot.*





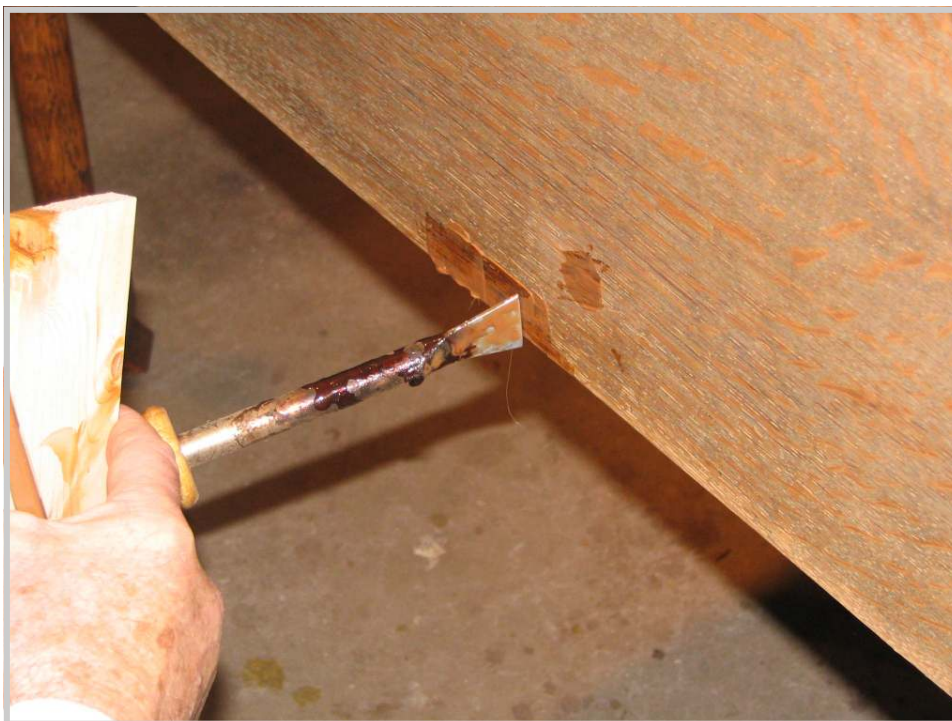
*Photo 138: Dave applies the new face veneer to the sides. The hot glue is brushed on the veneer and allowed to cool, then the piece is heated with an iron to remelt.*



*Photo 139: A cold block of pinblock scrap is then used to flatten the veneer out and set the glue.*



*Photo 140: The last piece to go on is the front, which overlaps the top and the sides, as was done originally. This piece is intentionally cut a bit large. It will be sanded down flush once the glue is set.*



*Photo 141: A few spots needed touching up with lacquer stick. Here, Dave fills a minor gouge on the back edge of the case.*





*Photo 142: At long last, Dave is able to apply the stain. The desire of the owner is to use a lighter shade. Golden oak was the preferred tone, which will bring out the grain beautifully.*



*Photo 143: The stained body, sporting newly veneer feet. Minor differences in shade between old and new veneer will be resolved later with an application of colored varnish in between clear coats.*



*Photo 144: Before applying finish to the fronts of parts, Dave applies 3 coats of shellac for protection to the backs of all the pieces.*



*Photo 145: Dave buffs a part in between coats of varnish.*





*Photo 146: The parts on the parts trolley look better every day.*