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PHILADELPHIA
LOCKSMITHS
ASSOCIATION

www.gpla.org

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The Professional Locksmith

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PRESIDENTIAL VIEWPOINT

My, how time flies. Here we are in November already. The Holidays are upon us and a brisk chill is in the air. It seems like only yesterday we were complaining about the heat. Before you know it, we'll be saying: "Ho..Ho..Ho"!

Take some of that precious flying time and spend it with your family and friends this Holiday season. Look at all the great people and things that you have in your life and cherish them like there is no tomorrow! Give thanks to them and for them. And, not only this Thanksgiving but all year long! For what are we without each other?

Talking about Holiday cheer, what better of a way to spread it around than a great party? John Williams, his lovely wife Carol, and his super helpful crew have arranged another fantastic Holiday Party for us this year. Great friends, great food and great fun. What more could you ask for! As your President, I cordially invite you and your family and sponsored guests to join us in this wonderful Holiday celebration. (Your good time is guaranteed indeed!) Please make plans to attend on December 9th, 2011 at 7:00 PM. Contact John for details or pick up your registration form at the next meeting.

Let me end by reminding everyone about how important November's meeting is: This is election year and your chance to vote or nominate (from the floor) the best man for the job. Each position that you vote on has its challenges and rewards, so please show the "thanks" that are deserved to each individual for taking their time to serve you, the members. One way of doing this is by voting. Another is by personally thanking them for running and taking on the tasks and challenges that lie before them.

As I come close the end of my term of Presidency, I would like to thank all of the members, broad of directors, and my row officers for the support, help and encouragement that you have all shown to me. Not only over the past two years as President, but throughout my entire membership of over 20 years. It has been a great experience that I will never forget!

I wish Health, Hope and Happiness to you and your families this Holiday Season and always.

Sincerely, your Friend & President,

Sven K. Hellwig Sr., CRL

Minutes of 2011 G.P.L.A. October General Membership Meeting

The October 2011 GPLA General Membership Meeting was held at GPLA Headquarters on October 17, 2011 and was called to order at 7:33 PM by President Sven Hellwig.

The President then introduced the following guests: Yakov Weiss, Mitch Danzig, Bruce Wallen, Mark Baldino, Joseph Verdi, Alvin Jackson, Steven Lavin, and David Levin.

A presentation on Locksmith scammers was given by Mark Baldino.

A Point of Order was made by Parliamentarian Orvis Kline to point out that due to not having a secret ballot, an illegal vote on Dave Tagtmeier's membership application had occurred during the September General Membership Meeting. President Sven Hellwig acknowledged this and requested Recording Secretary Paul Kline to reflect that this action is null and void and should be noted in September 2011 General Membership Meeting minutes.

Reading of the previous meeting minutes: A motion was made by Orvis Kline to accept the September, 2011 General Meeting Minutes with the correction concerning the vote on Dave Tagtmeier membership application, 2nd by Dana Barnum and was passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: No report.

Correspondence In: Bob Wagner reported we received a receipt from the Post Office for the 2012 GPLA P.O Box.

Correspondence Out: Nothing to report.

President's Report: Sven Hellwig reported that Orvis Kline has been appointed as Nomination Chairman. Sven also thanked everyone that helped out at this year's convention.

Health & Welfare: Nothing to report.

Convention Committee: Sven thank all of those who attended and participated in this year's 62nd Annual Education Exhibit and Awards Banquet. Sven reported the Convention classes were well attended. Sven then congratulated the following, Jay Long, recipient of the Philadelphia Award, John Williams, recipient of the Hermann C. Henssler, Jr. Memorial award, Claude Hensley recipient of the Gerald J. Connelly, Jr. Pioneer award and the Distinguished Distributor Award recipient, Mike Avena of Avco Key & Novelty.

Nominations Committee: Orvis presented the candidates for the 2012/2013 Row offices and Board of Directors as follows; Cliff Shafer for President; Nelson Dayton for Vice President; John Williams for Corresponding Secretary. Mike Nimmo for Recording Secretary and Paul Kline for Sergeant At Arms. For the Board of Directors; Dana Barnum; Edward Fitzgerald; Sven Hellwig Sr.; Orvis Kline; Edward Pfeil Jr. and Barry Wilensky. Orvis stated that if anyone who would like to run for the GPLA Board of Directors or a Row Office position, to let him know

Membership Committee: Bob Mock reported GPLA received several membership applications from the convention. These will be sent for background checks and reported on in the next meeting.

Education: Sven reported there will be many new classes coming up at GPLA. There will be more information on the GPLA website as it becomes available.

Legislation: Mike Nimmo reported that New Jersey is working on allowing applicants with 3rd degree crimes to apply for a NJ Locksmith License.

By-Laws: Orvis Kline will be working on updating the Standing Rules and By-Laws. There will be more information in the upcoming meeting.

(Continued on page 6)

GPLA Holiday Party



When: Friday, December 9th, 2011 at 7:00 pm

**Where: Canstatter Volkfest-Verein
9130 Academy Road
Philadelphia, PA 19114**



**Come and join us for a
“Magical Night”
Of Drinks,
Food, Fun
& Dancing
Together with friends!**



Reservation name: _____

Please reserve me _____ seat(s)

Cost per ticket: \$40.00 each

Hold my tickets at the door: _____ Mail me by tickets: _____

Send reservations to:

Answered Prayer Locksmithing
32 Horseshoe Lane
Nottingham, PA 19362

Make checks payable to: GPLA

Note to self: Add a parka & a candle to tool kit

By Mike Nimmo

The leading cause of lockouts in the safe and vault world are time clocks. Designed in the 1870s to protect the contents of safes and vaults before alarm systems and phone lines were invented, time clocks (pictured on the right) provide protection by limiting the access to a specific time window. So just having the complete combination does not allow the vault to open until the time has expired on the clocks.



Although they provide improved security, time clock lockouts are extremely common. Some lockouts are mechanical issues: broken springs, loose screws, disconnections of critical moving parts or the breaking of operational components. Other times its operator error: winding too much time, *accidentally* removing parts or (my personal favorite) trying to correct mistakes with an envelope opener. But, in a rare instance, it's both!

About two weeks ago, a Diebold Titan Vault door (pictured on left) was locked out in Massachusetts. The site guaranteed to the local technician that it was not an over wind. An amplified listening device confirmed it – no ticking sounds. But the door still did not open over the course of 3 business days and presented like a time clock failure. So a trip to New England to drill open the door and run a training session on the process of vault penetration was my latest assignment.



Receiving the call to duty on Friday afternoon, I pack and drive North Sunday afternoon. But this wasn't just any Sunday afternoon. It was less than 24 hours from one of the worst early season snow falls on record. Fifteen inches of snow in the Northeast isn't normally a big deal, but in the first week of November before most of the leaves have fallen off the trees is a catastrophic occurrence.

So I arrive somewhere around my hotel Sunday night just before 8 pm. But I can't *see* the hotel. It is pitch-black out – the streets, the houses, the hotel – everything! The massive weight of the snow in the trees has brought down the entire power grid for a 15-mile radius, I'm told from the hotel rep sitting in her car at the hotel entrance. Not only is the power off in the area, but every hotel in at least a 25-mile radius is sold out too! Now what??

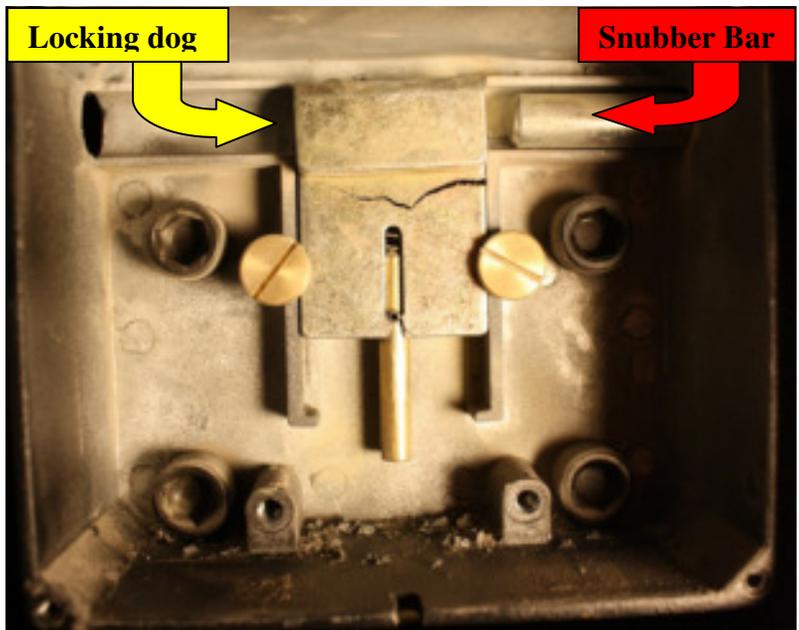
Since the beginning of the year, I have been traveling A LOT! Fifteen states to be exact. With that much travel, I have earned Diamond Rewards status with many hotel chains. So it's time someone else solves a problem. I place a call to the Rewards booking agent and put it in their hands. I'm promised a returning call within an hour once they shuffle through all the sold out locations. It's about 830 pm now. I have nowhere to sleep and all restaurants are closed so I can't even get a cup of hot tea. With plenty of time to kill, I decide to head over to the drill location just to check it out. As expected, the power at the bank is also out. I think to myself, "How am I going to drill this vault door with no power???"

I know it's late on a Sunday night, but I need to contact the local technician that set up the drilling. I ask him the same question I asked myself and all I hear is silence. "Hello? Are you there??" He is befuddled. "Oh yeah," he says. "That might be a problem." I tell him to contact the facilities department for the bank and try to coordinate a generator. Power outages in this region would have to be common; someone has to have a generator somewhere. Within an hour, I receive phone calls from the bank confirming a generator will be on site at 7 am and from the Rewards operator that I finally have a place to sleep – 36 miles away!

So, after just 4 hours of sleep, I am on site ready to begin. Armed with a work light sporting a 60-watt light bulb and my vacuum drill rig, we conquer the door in what seemed a dark cave. Did I mention there was no power at the site, so the heat has been off for 3 straight days? The temperature outside the bank is a balmy 45 degrees compared to the 39 degrees inside the branch. Not exactly ideal conditions for penetration, but that's just the way my travels have been going lately!

Once opened, we see the cause: a mechanical failure due to operator error. It's the perfect storm of lockouts. The site had been continually slamming the snubber bar over time into the locking dog (block) on the occasional over-wind. The locking dog eventually cracked and then wedged in the "up" position, causing the lock out.

Pictured at right, the locking dog is stuck in the time clock box race. Normally, other mechanical components would allow it would fall down for the snubber bar to slide across the top and unlock the vault door. In this case, the locking dog did not drop down and had to be forced down from outside the door.



The following applicants will be voted on at the November 21st meeting for membership.

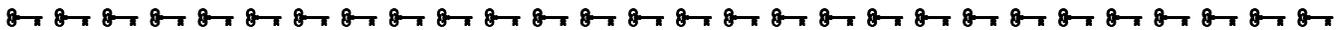
Maurice Onraet
Alvin Jackson
Bruce Wallen
Yakov Weiss

Apprentice Status
Apprentice Status
Apprentice Status
Active Status



GPLA President Sven Hellwig is proud to announce that a Toys For Tots drop box will be at the Holiday Party.

If you would like to help provide a better Christmas for the less fortunate children of the Greater Philadelphia Region, please contribute an **unwrapped** gift.



(Continued from page 2)

Programs: If anyone has a program they would like to see, contact our Program Chairman Mark Bolno.

Holiday Party: John Williams reported this year's Holiday party will be held on Friday December 9, 2011, at the Cannstatter Volksfest Club. Signup sheets will be available on the web, in the Newsletter, and at our headquarters

Web Site: Orvis Kline asked members to confirm their info on the GPLA web site. Send any corrections to him.

Good of the Association: Orvis Kline reported this year's Just Cars will be May 2012 in Orlando Florida.

Unfinished Business: Members asked about getting new GPLA shirts. Sven will look into getting an order together.

New Business: Bill Neff made a motion that any new perspective members that have been approved by the Board of Directors will have their name and business name, with the their address, published in the next issue of the GPLA Newsletter before it can be voted on by the General Membership. This motion was 2nd by Al Schulke. Barry Wilensky made a subsidiary motion to postpone this motion for further consideration by the Board, and was 2nd by Orvis Kline. The resulting vote for this subsidiary motion of 15 in favor and 5 nays postpones the main motion for discussion at the October Board of Directors Meeting.

50/50: The 50/50 was worth \$60.00 and was won by Al Schulke. Various other prizes were provided by Fried Brothers, Independent Hardware, and Colonial Lock supply.

A motion to adjourn was made by Bob Wagner, 2nd by Ed Sellers and was carried unanimously at 9:04 pm.

Paul J. Kline
Recording Secretary

The following advertisers make the publication of this newsletter possible.

Please remember them the next time you need to purchase supplies.

A & B Safe Manufacturing Corporation
Phone: 800-253-1267
www.a-bsafecorp.com

Aable Locksmiths
Phone: 203-882-0600
www.aablelocksmiths.com

Buckley Sales Company
Jerry Buckley
Phone: 856-983-9165

Doorwares Associates, Inc.
Phone: 215-258-1264
www.doorwares.com

1st in Hardware
Phone: 866-397-9900
www.1stinhardware.com

Fried Brothers, Inc.
Phone: 800-523-2924
www.fbisecurity.com

IDN Hardware Sales, Inc.
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www.idnhardware.com

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Phone: 800-346-9464
www.independenthardware.com

LAB Security Systems
Phone: 800-243-8242
www.labpins.com

Lockmasters, Inc.
Phone: 800-654-0637
www.lockmasters.com

**NEXT MEETING:
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21 7:30 PM**

**GPLA HEADQUARTERS
8015 CRAIG STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA**

**SCHEDULED PROGRAM:
DAVE BRYANT PRESENTS
COMPX CAM LOCKS, DONJO & LAB**

**The Greater Philadelphia Locksmiths Association
C/o Michael Nimmo
184 Clifton Ave.
West Berlin, NJ 08091**