

THE GREATER  
PHILADELPHIA  
LOCKSMITHS  
ASSOCIATION

www.gpla.org

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# The Professional Locksmith

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## PRESIDENTIAL VIEWPOINT

I'm sure most of us have learned a few things the hard way at various points in our lives. Some people refer to it as studying at the School of Hard Knocks, and I admit to being a star pupil there when I was younger! Lock and safe servicing seem to lend themselves to this method of PKA (Professional Knowledge Acquisition). Learning things the hard way can be an effective training philosophy, but it isn't very efficient and usually isn't very profitable. Also, it's typically embarrassing and can frequently be painful! Ask me how I know.

Fortunately, there is a better way to learn: attend the GPLA convention. There are classes being offered in basic and advanced locksmithing skills, safe servicing and automotive servicing. Attending any one of these classes will allow you to maximize your profits while minimizing lumps, bumps, scraped knuckles and embarrassing call-backs.

In addition to the classes held at our convention, the Professional Product Exhibit on Saturday is also a valuable learning resource. It's a great opportunity to get your hands on the latest in innovative products and tools. Our Convention Chairman and Exhibit Chairman have put together several promotions this year that will make the entire exhibit much more interactive for attendees. There are some superb door prizes (including good old US greenbacks) that several lucky people will take home, and cash prizes for the best times at the lock picking and bumping contests. The Grand Prize is a complete convention package to the ALOA show in New Orleans next year, including 5 days of education.

It is with great sadness and sense of loss that we report the untimely passing of Board of Directors member Eddie Pfeil, Jr. Please see Martin Arnold's heartfelt eulogy about his friend elsewhere in this newsletter.

Fraternally,  
Clifford L. Shafer, CPS, CML  
President

## Minutes of the June 2013 GPLA General Membership Meeting

The June 2013 GPLA General Membership Meeting was held at the GPLA Headquarters June 17, 2013 and was not called to order as there were not enough members present to declare a quorum, therefore, no membership business was conducted.

### Calendar of Events

October 2-5	GPLA Convention at Phila. Airport Hilton	Philadelphia, PA
October 21	GPLA General Membership Meeting	Philadelphia, PA
November 18	GPLA General Membership Meeting	Philadelphia, PA
December 14	GPLA Holiday Party	Philadelphia, PA

## **THE GREATER PHILADELPHIA LOCKSMITHS ASSOCIATION 64<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION**

↔ **Friday Night is “Game Show Night – Let’s Make A Deal.”** Come ready to make a deal and win cash and other prizes! Costumes or get-ups are encouraged, just like on the show. Join “Monty Hallwig” and take part in the tye of fun that GPLA has become famous for!!

↔ **The Professional Products Exhibit.** On Saturday morning and early afternoon, the product exhibit features both manufacturers and distributors. Don't miss this opportunity to view new products or strike a bargain with your favorite distributor.

↔ **The GPLA Annual Awards Banquet.** Then on Saturday night, a black tie (preferred) affair, the Awards Banquet has long been known as the pre-eminent social event on the locksmith calendar.

### *Potential Members to be Voted on at September Membership Meeting*

Jay Ricciardi	Shop Member	Sponsor: Ed Fitzgerald
Zachary Gale	Shop Member	Sponsor: Ed Fitzgerald
Michael Hall	Shop Member	Sponsor: Jack Magee
Harold McHale	Shop Member	Sponsor: Jack Magee
Daniel McHale	Shop Member	Sponsor: Jack Magee
Cheri Gizzie	Shop Member	Sponsor: Jack Magee
John Reimel	Shop Member	Sponsor: Jack Magee

## In Memorandum



GPLA Board member Edward Pfeil, Jr. passed away on his 54th birthday, after a courageous 18 month battle with cancer. Ed's grandfather was an active member in the 50's & 60's. His father Ed, Sr. was a fixture on the Board and Convention Committee for over 40 years and was known as Mr. GPLA. His Uncle Fred has been a member since 1969. Yes, the Pfeil name has a long and storied history with GPLA.

I have been a friend of the Pfeil family since 1962. I traveled with Ed Jr' s. grandfather and father to many ALOA conventions, and it was his grandfather who in 1968 introduced me to GPLA by taking me to a membership meeting. I accompanied his father to local and national locksmith conventions as Goodwill Ambassadors for GPLA for over 30 years. Regardless of his size, Eddie Jr. was always referred to as little Eddie in our conversations. It was no secret that Little Eddie loved and admired his grandfather. When I talked to him about safes or locks, he would change the subject of the conversation to the old man. He just loved to hear stories about him.

He was ready to step into his father's footsteps when he took the Oath of Office and became a member of the Board of Directors in January of 2012. He was diagnosed with cancer several months later. Even after a year of treatments, Eddie was still determined to beat this disease. A few months ago he requested that I ask the President to keep his chair on the Board open because he was coming back.

Overcoming one infection after another; going through his chemo and radiation treatments and taking more and more medication to relieve his pain took its toll. His sister Emily was at his side every day to help him cope with his discomfort. The last time I saw him lying in his hospital bed brought tears to my eyes, and while having difficulty maintaining my composure, I told him a funny story about his grandfather while he held my hand. Emily and I were happy to see his eyes light up and a smile coming to his face. Hopefully it relieved him of his pain for just a minute.

His sister Emily told me he had accepted his fate, and was looking forward to peacefully joining his mother, father and his sister Eleanor who passed before him. The very next day, just a few hours after GPLA members Mike Nimmo and Tony Buenaflor sang Happy Birthday to him standing at his hospital bed, little Eddie passed away while being tenderly held by Emily. May he rest in peace.

# 64<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention & Banquet October 2 – October 5, 2013

## Honoring Their Legacies: The Connelly-Singer Scholarship Fund of the GPLA

### 2013 CLASS SCHEDULE

#### Wednesday, October 2, 2013

**Please note:** This class will be held at GPLA Headquarters. Please see the map for directions.

1. **Fundamentals of Locksmithing 101**

#### Thursday, October 3, 2013

**Please note:** This class will be held at GPLA Headquarters. Please see the map for directions.

2. **High Security & Standard Automotive Key Origination**

#### Friday, October 4, 2013

**Please note:** These classes will be held at the Hilton Philadelphia Airport. Please see the map for directions.

3. **Kaba-Mas® X-09™ & X-10™ Dual Factory Certifications**
4. **Automotive Remotes 101**
5. **Impressioning \***
6. **Lock Bypass Techniques \***

Print out the registration form (found on the [GPLAconvention.com](http://GPLAconvention.com) website), then mail or fax the completed form and required documents with your payment to:

Nelson Dayton, CML  
324 W. Lancaster Avenue  
Wayne, PA 19087  
**Fax: (610) 975-0172**

Please register early. Please do not mail your registration after September 23, 2013. You may FAX your registration in through September 30, 2013. After these dates, you must register on site.

**The following advertisers make the publication of this newsletter possible.**

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**NEXT MEETING:**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 7:30 PM**

**GPLA HEADQUARTERS**

8015 CRAIG STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA

**SCHEDULED PROGRAM:**

**Gerald Guzinski**

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