



Founded In 1949

THE PROFESSIONAL LOCKSMITH

Official Publication of the
Greater Philadelphia Locksmith Association

WWW.GPLA.ORG

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PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Hello Members,

March is here and my spring has already sprung. I for one am ready to say "Good Bye" to the cold and "Hello" to the warm weather. Beautiful flowers, picnics and getting my boat on the water.

If anyone wants to go for a sunny Sunday boat ride, just call me and be my guest. I'll bring the boat, the burgers and the beer and you can be captain for a day.

We had no March Board meeting, so nothing to report to the Members there. To better serve our Members I'm trying to get everyone's birth date and PRP designation (ie; RL, CRL, etc.) Please forward this information to myself or Marty, so that we can accumulate the information and get all the designations in the next year's roster, thank you.

A big part of my Presidential commitment is to serve the Members the best that I and GPLA can. As you know, the Board of Directors have already approved many of the great Member benefits for a 6 month trial period, that I and others have been campaigning for and even more Membership benefits

Don't forget:

Gourmet meal and refreshments at every Membership meetingFREE.

Chance for \$100 and other door prizes.....FREE.

Attendance raffle for PIN kit and other great prizes...FREE.

Association subsidized and partial subsidization of programs and events....FREE.

Run for Row Officer or Board of Director, Membership....FREE.

First to solve the riddle gets a prize....FREE.

Help out at June clean-up meeting....FREE.

I just threw that last one in to see if you were paying attention. But seriously, we want to help you in any way we can. Just ask any one of the Row Officers or Board Members and we will do our best to make it happen.

All that we want from you is to be a loyal Member. Please come to the meetings and most definitely attend your Convention & Education Conference in September and be engaged.

Gratefully Submitted,

Your President

Sven K. Hellwig Sr., CRL

Let's Go Flyers, Lets Go !!!

MEETING NOTICE

Monday March 16, 2020

GPLA Headquarters

Food 7.00 Meeting 7.30

**Because of health reasons
The March meeting has been cancelled.**

Membership Notes

OUTSTANDING MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

March Member of the Month, Mr. Alvin Jackson

Mr. Alvin Jackson, Member #295, since November 2013. While Alvin hasn't been a Member as long as some, he has shown an outstanding effort his revered association and has proven his loyalty, dedication and compassion in many ways. Always volunteering, showing up early for the meetings to help vacuum or wipe down the tables and other things and always doing his best to attend every meeting. That statement carries a lot of weight, in the fact that Alvin lives in Clearville, PA, 203 miles away, 3 hours and 16 min. drive and that's one way. It's such a long drive, sometimes difficult at night, that Alvin often spends the night at a nearby Church and acquaintances, after the meeting on Monday. NOW that's dedication!!

Alvin for that and more, we say "Thank You" and accept our small token of appreciation by making you March's Member of the Month. Congrats to You and we hope there are many more meetings in your future.

On behalf of GPLA, submitted by Sven K. Hellwig Sr., CRL President

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Jimmy Armenakis member #93 recently had hand surgery.

Sven Hellwig, our President had 3 very painful surgical procedures on his hand and arm recently.

Honorary member Dee Mock fell and broke her left humerus with a spiral fracture recently.

We wish all a speedy recovery.

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ALOA's President Jim Wiedman's Mother passed away on March 9. Our heartfelt condolences to Jim, hoping the good memories of his Mom life may soften his pain.

Super Chef Sven prepared a delicious dinner with all the trimmings.



Scott Roop presented an introduction to locking solutions by Anixter



Joe Reustle was the Hundred Dollar Bill winner



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Minutes of the February 2020 GPLA General Membership Meeting

Prior to the meeting, S. Hellwig, Sr. provided a meal of meatball sandwiches, salads and birthday cake.

A GPLA General Membership meeting was held on February 17, 2020 at GPLA headquarters. The meeting was called to order at 7:25 PM by President S. Hellwig, Sr.

The program for the evening was presented by Scott Roop of Anixter.

The President introduced the following guests: Jim Handschuh, Jr., Neal Rose and Darren Essen.

Previous Minutes: Motion to accept the January 2020 General Meeting minutes as printed in the newsletter by M. Bilker, second by D. Barnum. Motion passed unanimously

Treasurer's Report: M. Arnold reported that the Board had approved the P&L reports of both the Operating Account and Convention Account for December 2019, the Balance Sheet for the Operating Account for 2019 and the P&L report of the Operating Account for January, 2020.

Correspondence In: None reported. **Correspondence Out:** None reported.

President's Report: S. Hellwig, Sr. thanked the previous Row Officers and Board members for their hard work and dedication to GPLA, and also thanked the newly elected Row Officers and Board members for stepping up. He then thanked M. Arnold for arranging the Installation Dinner at the Pennsauken Country Club. The special pricing allowed GPLA to pay for the meals of our guests that evening. The President also thanked John Truempy for administering the Oath of Office at the Installation Dinner meeting and for providing photos of the event for publication in Keynotes. He reported that M. Bilker was sworn in as a member of the Board at the February Board meeting as he was unable to attend the Installation Dinner. The President reminded everyone of the membership appreciation perks currently available and announced some other ones that were in the works pending approval by the Board.

Membership Committee: M. Arnold reported on behalf of the previous and current Membership Committee Chairmen who were both absent that the total membership as of February 1, 2020 was 91 members, broken down by category as follows: 42 Active; 7 Associate; 12 Shop; 26 Retired; 4 Honorary. M. Arnold presented Jim Handschuh, Jr. to the membership and reported that the Board has recommended him for approval as an Associate member. M. Arnold presented Darren Assen to the membership and reported that the Board has recommended him for approval as an Active member. Both of them must attend one of the next three meetings before being voted on.

Education Committee: C. Shafer reported that there were no classes currently scheduled.

Health & Welfare Committee: S. Hellwig reported that he was to have a routine surgery performed on his left arm later this month.

Building Committee: S. Hellwig thanked both M. Arnold and R. Marcinkowski for their efforts in maintaining the building. M. Arnold reported that he had contacted the landlord about the ongoing roof leak over the restroom.

Communications Committee: S. Hellwig thanked O. Kline for sending out the Constant Contact e-blasts when needed.

Website: S. Hellwig reported that the website has been up and running and apologized for any confusion to members who received dues notices in their email generated by the website. This occurred because the web site host was not told that we were not going to implement this feature until 2021.

CONTINUED

MINUTES (CONTIUED)

Legislation Committee: E. Fitzgerald reported that the NJ Locksmith Licensing Board has sent inquiries to Car Keys Express and Flying Locksmiths regarding their possible use of unlicensed locksmith sub-contractors in the state.

Convention Committee: C. Shafer reported that the committee has selected: "20/20 Vision in 2020 - Focusing on the Future" as the theme for this year's convention and that ALOA Executive Director Mary May has accepted the position of Honorary Chairperson. C. Shafer also reported that the theme for the Friday Night Social will be "Under the Big Top", which is a circus/carnival theme. C. Shafer announced that GPLA Active and Apprentice members will receive a 20% rebate per convention class attended (up to a maximum of \$95.00 total) to be applied to their 2021 dues. Shop members will receive up to \$20.00 total to be applied to their 2021 dues. Details will be forthcoming.

Newsletter Committee: M. Arnold reported that LAB had renewed as a newsletter sponsor and thanked Judy Fitzgerald for providing the pictures of the Installation Dinner to him for publication.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: M. Arnold announced that the 2020 roster and membership cards were now available at the meeting thanks to the hard work of Bill Neff.

Good of the Association: J. Ruestle reminded everyone that SafeTech will be held at the end of April in Tulsa, OK and that Kansas City, MO will be the host city for the ALOA convention in July. S.Hellwig reminded everyone that Just Cars will be held in Florida on April 23 & 24, S.Hellwig also reported that he and P Kline would be teaching an automotive servicing class in VA

Raffle: J. Ruestle won the \$100.00 raffle. Various other door prizes were raffled off including a dozen eggs provided by J. Handschuh.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by B. Wilensky, second by E. Fitzgerald. Motion was passed unanimously at 8:50 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Clifford L. Shafer, CPS, CML
Recording Secretary

A members response to my February Newsletter Business Article.

Dear Marty, I had to comment on the article about figuring the cost of doing business. Back in the early '80's, I took a class on business management at ALOA and as a result of that class, I raised my rate from \$15/hr to \$40 per hour in one jump.

Did I lose business because I was 3-4 times higher than competitors? NO! I gained business - customers knew I was serious about my business and knew I was a PROFESSIONAL, not some fly-by-night car-trunk guy who proclaimed to be a locksmith.

My clientele went from mediocre, one-night-stand jobs to long-term business, industrial, commercial clients, who called me on a regular basis. Increasing my rate also meant that I could have money to work with and could expand my business and meet the needs. I also reduced my advertising costs because my name was being passed from one business to another as reference of the work I was doing. Other services are charging \$100+ per hour. We're as or more professional than them, so charge accordingly.

Myron Bird #98

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Federal ADA Title III lawsuits hit all-time high
By Minh Vu and Kristina Launey - 02/28/2020
Send in by Murray Bilker

The year 2019 was another record-breaking year for Federal ADA Title III lawsuits. Plaintiffs filed at least 11,053 ADA Title III lawsuits in federal court in 2019 – 890 (or 8.8%) more than in 2018. This is the highest number since we started tracking these lawsuits in 2013, when there were only 2,722 such lawsuits.

These numbers include Title III lawsuits filed on all grounds – physical facilities, websites and mobile applications, service animals, sign language interpreters and more. The numbers do not include the significant number of disability access lawsuits filed in state courts which are much more difficult to accurately track.

California, New York, and Florida continued to lead the country with the highest number of lawsuits by a long shot, with 4,794, 2,635, and 1,885 lawsuits, respectively. These three states saw 84% of all the ADA Title III lawsuits nationwide, with California and New York each breaking their own records for the number of ADA Title III lawsuits.

Georgia, Texas, Pennsylvania, Illinois, New Jersey, Colorado, and Alabama also made the top ten but trailed very far behind with Georgia leading the second pack with 243 lawsuits.

Arizona fell out of the top ten with a dramatic decrease in lawsuit numbers (94 in 2018 to 13 in 2019), replaced by Illinois which had 190 lawsuits in 2019 – a 171% increase over 2018.

Businesses in North Dakota, South Dakota, and Vermont continued to be ADA Title III lawsuit-free for the third consecutive year (2017-2019).

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PUZZLE OF THE MONTH

I am a container without hinges, lock or key, yet a golden treasure lies inside me,
 what am I?

(1st one to send in correct answer wins a great prize)

Last month winner was Member 254, Rick Stabile.

WORDS TO LIVE BY

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 you will land among the Stars!**

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The Greater Philadelphia Locksmith Association

Martin Arnold CML, Editor

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Founded In 1949



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 Work Number: _____ Position: _____

Type of classes desired: _____
 Length of time in Locksmithing: _____ Previous Recipient? No ___ Yes ___ If yes when? _____

Please write a few sentences telling us why you would like to be considered as a recipient for this Scholarship:

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 Cliff Shafer, c/o CLC Locksmiths, 2103 Branch Pike, Cinnaminson, NJ, 08077-3044
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