



Founded In 1949

THE PROFESSIONAL LOCKSMITH
Official Publication of the
Greater Philadelphia Locksmith Association

WWW.GPLA.ORG

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Open

**Membership Meeting scheduled for
Monday September 20**

Food & Refreshments will be served.

Program:
Review of SDC Latch Retraction Exit Devices
By Jim Handschuh Jr.

Attention
**Large Pin Kit donated by a retired GPLA member will
be a prize in the 50/50 drawing.**
The donor wishes to stay anonymous

Membership Notes:
Honorary member Dee Mock fell when visiting the ALOA Convention, resulting in a swollen face and a black eye. We all hope Dee is well by now.
My wife Nelly suffered from a bad case of Covid-19 even though she did get both the Pfizer vaccinations last March. Forced in quarantine for 12 days, I missed a few golf matches, but I did learn how to use a washing machine.

**Two Applicant approved by the Board will be
introduced to the membership:**

Bryan Clark: Applying for Active membership: Sponsor Sven Hellwig
Robin Rudisill: Applying for Active membership: Sponsor Sven Hellwig

Presidents Address – September 2021

Hello Members,

As the summer of 2021 comes to an end and the temperatures get cooler, I know that all of you loyal GPLA members are thinking that it's time for the Convention.

Yes, that's right, the 72nd Anniversary Banquet, Security Training, Product Exhibit and social events are at hand. As a GPLA member and a friend of GPLA, we can all take great pride in 72 years of fellowship as one of the country's leading Locksmith Associations.

We have an outstanding and prestigious legacy to live up to, and our Executive Committee, Board of Directors and our Convention Committee stand ready to do it again. We vow to bring you only the best we can.

We skipped a year, but under the close supervision and extraordinary attention to detail that this year's Convention Chairman, Mr. Cliff Shafer, the Committee has been working very hard to make this year's celebration of 72 years bigger and better than ever. So don't miss out and please show your support in joining us from September 22nd thru the 25th: as always, we guarantee you the best you can get. Thank you in advance to Cliff and his committee for their continuing efforts. Thank you to all of our members for your continuing support.

To find out more last-minute details about the Convention, come to the Membership meeting on September 20, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,
Your President

Sven K. Hellwig Sr., CRL

Friends of GPLA,

Time is running out to make your room reservations for our convention at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Philadelphia Airport. The deadline has been extended to September 15, 2021 at the discounted rate. There will be a 60% room rate increase after that date. The link to the hotel reservations page can be found at www.gpla.org under the Convention tab. Don't hesitate, do it now!

Also, don't forget to make your reservations for the social events on Friday and Saturday. On-line reservations can be made at www.gpla.org under the "Shop" tab. I sincerely hope that you make all of your necessary reservations and look forward to seeing you on the last weekend in September!

Sven K. Hellwig Sr., CRL
GPLA President

HURRY—HURRY —HURRY**YOU STILL HAVE TIME TO REGISTER**

Fax your registration before 9/17 to (610) 975-0172

		Date	
101	Basic Safe Drilling *	9/22	
201	Impressioning *	9/23	
202	Basic Electronic Safe Locks	9/23	
203	Lock Bypass Techniques *	9/23	
204	Lock Picking	9/23	
205	Electric Strike Installation *	9/23	
206	Combination of Classes 204 & 205 *	9/23	
301	Basic Mechanical Safe Lock Servicing *	9/24	
302	Basic Low Voltage Electricity for Installers *	9/24	
303	Wiring and Basic Troubleshooting *	9/24	
304	Combination of Classes 302 * & 303 *	9/24	
305	Automotive and Residential Lishi Picks	9/24	
306-1	NJ License – Mandatory Class Day 1 *	9/24	
306-2	NJ License – Mandatory Class Day 2 *	9/25	

* New Jersey CEU approved class

Students must bring their NJ State License to class to receive their CEUs.

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Odd and Obscure Hardware By Ed Fitzgerald

Does anyone remember the **Active Safe & Lock Co. of Philadelphia**? They manufactured a rim deadlock in the 1930's that was interfaced with tear gas, which they duly noted on the face of the lock.

Was a **Keil ashtray** a fixture in all shops in years past? I'm not sure if this was something put out by Keil as a promotional item, if they existed back then, or if this was made in someone's shop. It's well made if it was.



Lastly, I found this large padlock at the Brimfield Antique Flea Market in Brimfield, MA a few years ago. There's no name on it so I think it's something someone actually made in their shop and yes it does work. The lock is approximately 12" high and to give it scale, it's shown next to a Master # 15 padlock.



These locks are just a few more of the unique and interesting pieces I've come across that I still have for one reason or another. I'll keep looking to see what else there may be buried in the shop that somehow survived our move in 2009 and I'll bring them out as they are rediscovered. Maybe you have something unusual to share with everyone as well, if you do send it to Marty for publication.

Ed Fitzgerald

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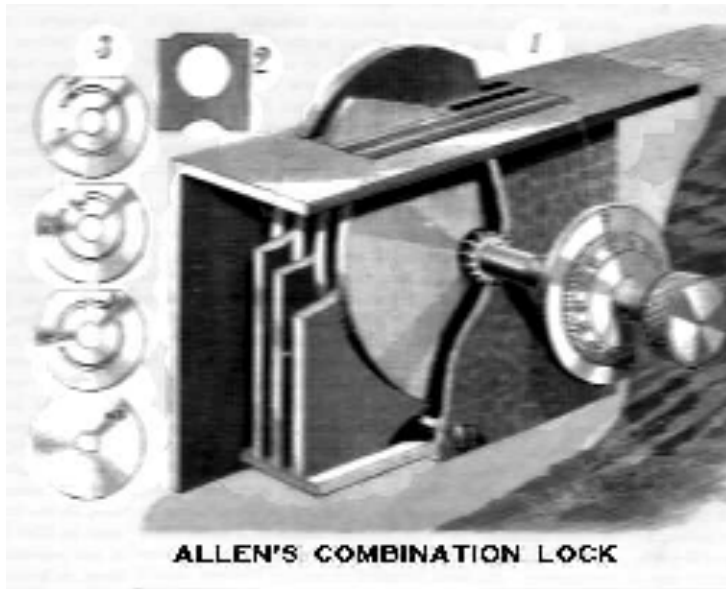
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An interesting story about a combination lock invented in 1883

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The Allen Lock



This combination lock was patented by James W. Allen of St. Louis Mo. in 1883. It consisted of four rotating disks. Each disk has a segment cut away to match the 'shear line' or edge of the safe door. The fourth disk, the one nearest the dial, acted as a driver for the remaining three. This disk was attached to the dial spindle and secured by a spindle gear.

Each of the three combination disks has a curved slot. Today we would call this a 'Fly travel area'. Each disk in the lock has a protruding stud pin on its back side. The stud pin (drive pin) passed through a curved slot of the disk below it.

As the spindle was turned, the pin of the fourth disk would travel within the curved slot of the third disk until it reach the end of the slot, which would cause that disk to move or rotate. The same action was transferred and moved the remaining disks.

To unlock the lock, the spindle was turned four times to the right and stopping on the correct dial indication. This aligned the cut away segment of the number one disk to the opening edge of the safe door. Three turns left aligned the second disk, two turns right to align the third disk and a final turn left to align the drive disk. The combination could be changed by disengaging the spindle gear from the driver and rotating it to a new position.

By today's technology, this is a very crude and simple safe lock design. It perks the imagination on methods of manipulation! Back in 1883, it was probably the "Cats meow" of inventive genius. I'm sure, Mr. Allen spent many days and nights configuring the pro's and con's of his new conceived design. Who knows, had he met up with James Sargent, today, we might be using S&A locks!

End



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