



Founded In 1949

THE PROFESSIONAL LOCKSMITH

Official Publication of the
Greater Philadelphia Locksmith Association

By: Jim Handschuh, Jr

WWW.GPLA.ORG

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Jim Handschuh, CIL

Paul Kline, RL

Ron Marcinkowski Jr.

Sven Hellwig, CRL

John Williams

Alternate members

Mike Nimmo

Scott Roop

Our next meeting will be on September 16th, 2024

Location:

**The Country Squire Diner
2560 West Chester Pike (Route 3)
Broomall, PA 19008**

Dinner 6:45, Meeting at 7:30

***Dinner will be served at 7:00 @ \$25.00 Per person or
just show up at 7:30 to attend the meeting at no charge.**

PROGRAM Nominations

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE.

Hello GPLA members and friends,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and you were able to take some time off for some vacation and maybe a little travel. Fellow GPLA members Barry Wilensky, Sven Hellwig, Paul Kline, Ron and Stefanie Marcinkowski, Jack Magee, Vernon Kelley, Judy, and I represented GPLA at the ALOA Convention in Las Vegas. I presented the Lee Rognon Award to Bob Cullum. Bob is an ALOA director and has been involved for many years in the industry and a staunch supporter of ALOA and the message of cooperation of locksmiths. GPLA's presence at the ALOA Convention was noticeable and appreciated.

The 75th anniversary convention is right around the corner so make sure you sign up for any classes you want to take or send your employees to. There are 3 days of classes lined up with some top-notch instructors, so make sure you take advantage of this opportunity. Don't forget also to take part in the exhibit on Saturday, where manufacturers and distributors will have plenty of products, knowledge, and probably special pricing for attendees. You're welcome to bring a locksmith friend and why not sign them up for membership in GPLA under the open enrollment promotion.

This is an election year, which will be held at the November general meeting. The September meeting will be the presentation of the slate of officers and board directors put together by the nominations committee chairman Sven Hellwig. If you're interested in running for a leadership position, please contact Sven or you can be nominated from the floor. As a reminder, nominations from the floor are only permitted at the September and October general meetings. So step up and help keep GPLA running into the future.

The September 16th general meeting will be at a new location, the Country Squire Diner in Broomall, PA. More details with the time, pricing, and meal options will be listed in this newsletter. We would like to have a quorum at this meeting so we're looking forward to a good turnout. See you at the meeting. Thank you and take care.

Respectfully,

Ed Fitzgerald, CML
President

SOME HUMOR

I was going to tell you a joke about boxing but I forgot the punch line.

Minutes of the May 2024 GPLA General Membership Meeting

The GPLA General Membership Meeting was held at Pennsauken Country Club on May 20, 2024 and was called to order at 7:49 PM by President Ed Fitzgerald.

Sergeant at Arms Barry Wilensky lead us off with the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Ed Fitzgerald welcomed the following guests: Denise Dayton, guest of Nelson Dayton, and Mark and Peggy Ingles.

President Ed Fitzgerald welcomed and introduced our program guest Diane Humphreys from TownSteel.

Program: Diane Humphreys from TownSteel gave an interesting and informative presentation on a few of the excellent door locks made by TownSteel. Diane gave out a gift card for Lowe's.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Cliff Shafer approved the previous minutes as printed in the Newsletter with a second from Barry Wilensky and was approved unanimously by the Membership.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Marty Arnold reported submitting a financial report for the months of February and March at the April Board meeting and was approved unanimously. Marty added that he emailed the April financial report to the Board members and the report will be voted at the next Board meeting in June. Marty reminded all in attendance that any Member in good-standing may request a copy of the financial statement.

Correspondence In and Out: Dana Barnum received one Correspondence, asking about asking about the GPLA Convention.

President's Report: President Ed Fitzgerald thanked Marty Arnold for arranging the dinner meeting. Ed stated that the GPLA ID cards will be available from Marty or Barry Wilensky. Ed then added that he will be attending the ALOA Convention in Las Vegas, dates July 22 – 28. Ed mentioned that Barry and Sven Hellwig will also be attending ALOA and there is usually a good attendance from GPLA.

Ed stated that the next GPLA General Meeting will be held on Monday September 16th and to watch your Newsletter, GPLA Website and Constant Contacts for information on our meeting for the location. Ed then added that the next meeting will be the first night for nominations if anyone is interested in becoming a Board Member or a Row Officers. Ed added that both the September and October meeting GPLA members are able to run to become a Board Member or a Row Officers with nominations from the floor and elections will be held at the November general meeting.

Membership: Nelson Dayton reported that Jim Handschuh Jr. was upgraded from an Associate member to an Active member.

MINUTES CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

MINUTES CONTINUED

Education: No classes to report at this time. Cliff Shafer announced that Randolph Carpenter is taking over as Education Chairperson.

Health and Welfare: Bob Mock sadly stated that Phil Agius's daughter Taylor Marie who was just 23 years old passed away in a car accident. Bob added that he sent Arnie Rabinowitz a get-well card after a long stay in the hospital.

Communications: Nothing to report.

Newsletter: Ed Fitzgerald mentioned that Jim Handschuh Jr. has taken over the GPLA Newsletter. Ed added that if anyone has any interesting articles please forward them on to Jim.

Convention: Cliff Shafer stated that the Convention Committee held another meeting two weeks ago at the Live Casino and Hotel Philadelphia. Cliff added that Sven Hellwig is working with the hotel management to keep things moving along. Cliff stated that all of the classes are selected and will be at the hotel.

Courses

Wednesday

Basic Mechanical Combination Safe Lock Servicing

Basic Master Keying

Automotive Locksmithing

Security Cameras of the 21th Century

Thursday

Basic Safe Drilling

Advance Master Keying

All Things Lishi

Basic Low Voltage Electricity for Installers/Electric Strike Application and Instruction

Friday

NJ Locksmith Licensing Mandatory Classes (Continues on Saturday morning)

ALOA Fire Door Inspector Certification

Shop Management

Codelocks Solutions and Applications (AM)

Kaba/ILCO Advance Diagnostics (PM)

Cliff added that there will be ALOA PRP Testing on Saturday. Cliff then added that the Convention booklet has been sent out to various Convention committees to have their sections reviewed then the booklet will be added to the GPLA Convention web page. Cliff then stated that the first 200 who register online for the Convention will receive the tote bag full of gifts from our sponsors and GPLA.

MINUTES CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

MINUTES CONTINUED

Cliff thanked our Convention sponsors; Detex Corporation, GMS, Codelocks, Fried Brothers, Medeco and Allegion adding to make sure that you patronize their businesses for helping GPLA with our Convention.

Ed Fitzgerald mentioned that he hopes to start sending out contracts for the vendors and to reevaluate the layout for more vendors. Ed then added that if anyone knows of anyone who you think should be a VIP please send their information to our VIP Chair Bob Mock. Cliff mentioned that parking is free and vehicles up to 7 foot high can fit in the garage. Cliff added that there is an open air parking lot, for higher vehicles, on Tenth Street but for vendors it is best to drop off their equipment on Darien Street to not to have to carry everything across the casino floor. Cliff then added that the parking and entrance information will be in the Convention booklet.

Program: Steve Kaufman stated nothing is planned for the September meeting at this time.

P.A. Legislation: Nothing new to report.

N.J. Legislation: Ed Fitzgerald stated that a Locksmith from North New Jersey was fined \$1750 for having an expired business license.

Nomination: Ed Fitzgerald stated that Sven Hellwig agreed to Chair the Nomination Committee. Ed then stated that according to our By-Laws that since this is an election year a slate of nominees has to be presented at the September General meeting. Ed added that if anyone is interested in becoming a Board Member or a Row Officer to help GPLA continue on please reach out to Sven.

Old Business: Nothing new to Report.

New Business: Nothing new to report.

Good of the Association: Cliff Shafer mentioned that Intruder locks are no longer approved for new classroom locks in the State of New Jersey. The locks must be able to be locked inside the classroom without a key. Joe Reustle added that the next SAVTA Convention & Trade Show in 2025 will be in Lexington, KY

Ed Fitzgerald thanked Diane Humphreys from TownSteel for the gift card for Lowe's.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 was made by Barry Wilensky and was seconded by Nelson Dayton.

Respectfully submitted,
Maurice Onraet, Recording Secretary

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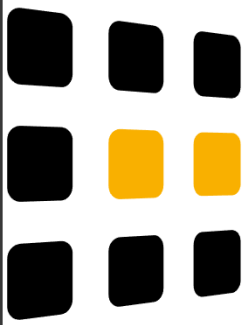


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ALOA MEMORIES

Our President, Ed Fitzgerald, collected some great pictures of the ALOA Convention.



The 75th Anniversary Convention is almost HERE!

This year marks a significant milestone as we celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the GPLA with our upcoming convention. I am thrilled to invite each of you to join us from September 25th through 29th at the LIVE! Casino & Hotel Philadelphia.

This grand event not only commemorates our past achievements but also sets the stage for future innovations in the locksmithing industry.

Convention Highlights:

1. **Education & Professional Development:** Immerse yourself in a range of classes offered throughout the convention, designed to cater to both beginners and seasoned professionals. These sessions are led by nationally recognized instructors and offer NJ State continuing education credits.
2. **Exhibition and Networking:** Explore over 50 vendor exhibits showcasing the latest in locksmithing technology, tools, and services. This is a perfect opportunity to network with peers, meet industry leaders, and catch up with old friends.
3. **Special Events:** The convention will feature our traditional Black-Tie Awards Banquet—an event that honors outstanding achievements within our community. Additionally, our Friday Night Social offers a fun-filled evening with great food and entertainment.
4. **Exclusive Offers:** Early registrants will benefit from discounted prices and receive a special GPLA 75th Anniversary commemorative tote bag. This bag includes a variety of branded items designed to enhance your convention experience.
5. **Venue and Accommodations:** The LIVE! Casino & Hotel offers luxurious accommodations and amenities, ensuring a comfortable stay for all our guests. We have arranged for a special rate to make this experience both memorable and affordable.

Your participation is crucial in making our 75th Anniversary Convention a success. Register early to take advantage of the early bird pricing and ensure your spot at this historic event. Let us come together to celebrate our achievements and forge the path forward for the locksmithing profession.

For registration and more details, please visit our website at [GPLA Convention](#). We look forward to celebrating with you in Philadelphia!





MEMBERSHIP NOTES

We have been informed that Albert Lilley, member number 205, has passed away after a long battle with an illness on Thursday, May 30, 2024. He is survived by his wife of almost 50 years, Victoria "Vickie" Ellean Boyle Lilley, 2 Sisters, 2 Children and 3 Grandchildren. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Albert's name may be made to Avon Grove Church of the Nazarene, 240 State Rd, West Grove, PA 19390.

The following members have volunteered as Candidates for Office for the 2024-2025 term

Row officers:

President:

Jim Sundstrom

Vice president:

Jack Magee

Sergeant at Arms:

Jim Handschuh, Jr.

Recording secretary:

Kevin Donaghy

Corresponding Secretary:

Jim Handschuh, Sr

Appointed treasurer:

Marty Arnold

Board of Directors:

Tony Buenaflor

Paul Kline

Randy Carpenter

Darren Essen

Sven Hellwig, Sr.

Ken Kramer

Christopher Martin

Maurice Onraet

Marty White

Barry Wilenski

John Williams

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Upcoming Events

*All event pictures are hyperlinked to locksmith ledgers page with more information

GPLA 75th Anniversary Convention

Sept. 25, 2024 - Sept. 29, 2024

Sept. 25-29: Philadelphia



Yankee Security Convention

Oct. 23, 2024 - Oct. 27, 2024



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Gerald J. Connelly, Jr.



Founded In 1949



M. Leonard Singer

GPLA MEMBER APPLICATION FOR A SCHOLARSHIP

Name: _____ GPLA Member #: _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

DOB: _____ Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Employer: _____ Supervisor's Name: _____

Work Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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:

Please return completed application to:
Cliff Shafer, c/o CLC Locksmiths, 2103 Branch Pike, Cinnaminson, NJ, 08077-3044
OR — FAX to 856-829-4088

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Do not write below this line



I'll drink to that !

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The annual cost of a web ad, linked to your site is \$300.00. The web ad will also be posted in our monthly newsletter.

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Place copy in PDF format below and E-mail to Editor Jim Handschuh, Jr.

@jhandschuh@gmail.com