Founded In 1949

THE PROFESSIONAL LOCKSMITH

Official Publication of the
Greater Philadelphia Locksmith Association
By: Jim Handschuh, Jr

WWW.GPLA.ORG

Editor
Jim Handschuh, Jr., AFDI
jhandschuh@gmail.com

Officers

PRESIDENT
Paul Kline, RL

VICE PRESIDENT
Mike Nimmo

TREASURER
Marty Arnold, CML

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY
Jim HandschuhSr., CIL

RECORDING SECRETARY
Kevin Donaghy, ACH, CRL

SERGEANT AT ARMS
Jim Handschuh Jr., AFDI

Board

CHAIRMAN
Sven K. Hellwig Sr., CRL

MEMBERS
Randolff Carpenter, CFPS
Maurice Onraet
Anthony Buenaflor
Barry Wilensky, CRL
John Williams, CRL
Ken Kramer
Steven Kaufman

Our next meeting will be on May 19th, 2025

Location:

Tiffany On The BLVD

9010 Roosevelt Blvd

Philadelphia, PA 19115

Dinner 6:45, Meeting at 7:30

Dinner will be served at 7:00 @ $5.00 Per member

$25 for non-members or just show up at 7:30 to attend the meeting at no charge.

PROGRAM

Ruth Lattanzi

Asst. Mgr. TABB Inc.

All about Background Checks

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Hello Members,

GPLA has always been a great place for training and information, so to start off I would like to thank Sven Hellwig for teaching a Continuous Hinge class, IDN Hardware for the great Food, beverages and location and the Handschuh's for the awesome giveaways.

If you couldn't make it, you missed so great hands-on training and a few tips and tricks that even a seasoned locksmith might not have known.

Going forward if anyone is interested in a certain class or training just let me or anyone on the Board know. We are always looking for ideas. As GPLA moves in the next chapter we need to revamp our bylaws to incorporate Zoom Meetings with how membership requirements are met. I would like to add a new category in the roaster for up-and-coming Locksmiths called "LIT" Locksmith in Training.

This new Category would have relaxed membership requirements and limited voting rights but would get them access to training and networking options. I would like to start the discussion at the next Board/ Membership meetings to get everyone's input. Hope to see you at the next meeting.

Respectfully,
Paul Kline, President

SOME HUMOR

When life gives you melons you might be dyslexic.



Minutes of the January 2025 GPLA General Membership Meeting

1. A GPLA General membership meeting was held on April 21, 2025, at Tiffany's Restaurant on The Roosevelt Boulevard. The President introduced the following guests. Guests included Ms. Patty Trott, Mr. Bigler, and new member candidate CJ
2. The meeting began with the educational program, Mr. Corey Bigler of PDQ.
3. Motion to accept previous meeting minutes as printed in the Newsletter by M. Arnold, seconded by Maurice Monraet.
4. The Treasurer's Report - M. Arnold - reported that the Treasurer's Report presented at the Board of Directors' Meeting was accepted and approved unanimously. M. Arnold reminded members that they may request an email copy of the Treasurer's report. S. Hellwig, Sr., reminded Recording Secretary Donaghy to send the Meeting Minutes as an independent email and not to send as a reply-all in response to the Treasurer's Report.
5. President's Report: President Kline
a. Recommended a new format for the meeting portion entitled "For the Good of the Association." The recommendation included the topic of Tips and Tricks.
i. Subject/Topics shall include Commercial, Residential, Safes, and Auto.
ii. GPLA has always been about education, so let's include it in our Newsletter

6. Membership Report – Mr. Mike Nimmo
a. In attendance:
i. Via Zoom, Mr. Paul Detweiler, Mr. T.J.
ii. 19 Ballots were distributed to voting members.
iii. All 8 Nominees for membership were unanimously voted into our organization.
iv. There was a 9 th Steven Britton, who was with Island Masters, is no longer with Island Masters. A decision was made to drop the membership from consideration, motioned by President Kline, who has yet to respond to our communications.
v. Membership Report. Motion to accept by Elliot _____ and Jim Handshuh Jr. seconded.

7. Education Committee –
a. There will be a continuous hinge training demonstration at IDN Hardware.
b. Date and details to be announced.
c. Doorwares Associates will furnish a continuous hinge, perhaps some tools, and prizes.
d. IDN is providing a free lunch for the attendees.
8. Health and Welfare Committee
a. Former GPLA President Bill Young has had surgery and is recovering at home.
b. Mr. Kline reported that Dana is home and working to regain his strength.
c. Bob Mock, resigned from Health and Welfare, will be held now by –
9. Zoom Meeting – Jim Handshuh Jr., Jim reported that he is investigating audio mixing to have multiple microphones during a meeting.

a. Jim Handshuh Jr., inquired about posting the recordings of our meetings on our website.
10. Newsletter Chairman—Jim Handshuh is working on the newsletter, which will go out a few days after the monthly board meeting.
11. Communication Committee President Paul Kline reported that Constant Contact is paid through September. Jim Handshuh Sr. will receive a login to update member information.
12. Website Chairman – Sven Hellwig, Sr., reported that it will be updated.
a. At the next meeting, we'll have roasted chicken and fish.
b. Several public announcements and Find a Locksmith need to be updated.
c. c. Sven also reported seeking ways to advertise for GPLA and our members.
d. Jim Handshuh Sr., inquired about memorials for deceased members.
e. Sven Hellwig, Sr., will talk to Sam regarding the above.
13. Legislation Committee – New Jersey
a. Precision Lock, NJ, received a 5,000 fine for operating without a license
b. Paul Donahue, Woodbury, NJ, RFP Solutions was working under Andy Campbell's license, but the State of NJ was not notified, so a $5,000 fine.
c. CEU updates: There has been a lot of activity regarding approvals for CEU Classes, including those offered by NAPCO, ASSA/ABLOY, Staysafe Ventures, and Precision Locksmith. Bob Chardran also has classes.
d. Cliff Shafer noted that the electrical knowledge required to be licensed in NJ is extreme. He predicts that as one-man shops close, they won't be replaced.
14. Legislation Committee – PA
a. Nothing to report.
b. PA Certificate for insurance
15. Convention Committee – Sven Hellwig.
a. We are still seeing interest, but perhaps for 2026, not 2025.
b. Potentially team up with South Jersey Locksmiths
16. Program Committee –
a. Thanks to Steve for getting PDQ, and the following program to be announced.
17. By-Laws Committee – Sven Hellwig, Sr. Reported that there will be some minor changes to accommodate the meeting attendance requirements, hoping to have them sorted out in the subsequent few meetings.
18. President's Report:
19. Unfinished Business – nothing to report
20. New Business –
a. Mike Nimmo (?) reported a class on advanced video.
b. Very expensive, like 2,000 per seat.
21. Good of the Association
a. Sven Hellwig noted that we are considering GPLA subsidizing a CPR recertification class since the certifications of those who attended last time have expired.
b. President Kline opened the floor for discussions on the Tips and Tricks.
i. Topic, price increases
ii. Some suppliers have introduced a flat surcharge based on invoice amount.
iii. Discussing bad closers may be covered by warranty, and they have non-ball bearing hinges. Don't miss the chance to install the correct hinges for a door with a door closer.
iv. Access Control – Jim Handshuh, ACM-12 fits the same footprint as an ACMA –

v. Residential – Paul Kline, when opening a Kwikset Smart Lock Series 5, ACCUREADER will now read the Kwikset Smart Locks 1-5.___ changed
vi. Safes – Mike Nimmo, If doing Safe work, use the original change keys.
1. The big 4-wheel change keys will not work 100%.
2. Keep the original lock change keys; the issue is the hub size.
3. Use original change keys when changing the combination.
vii. Auto—John Williams—On Lexus, the negative ground cable is placed in a deceptive location, and you could be putting a positive charge lead onto the negative pole. This is a deliberate, deceptive practice from the manufacturer.
viii. Perhaps delay your Autel upgrade, since it forces you to make extra keys.
1. You cannot do “add a key,” for Ford and Mazda are forced to make 2 keys for models 2023-24 and up.
2. They are trying to register the machines, which is part of the update.
3. Fees for locksmiths are increasing, for instance 120 for a Jeep.

22. Raffle and Door Prize
a. 50/50 won.
b. Door prizes were awarded.
23. Motion to adjourn the meeting made by -Sven Hellwig, Sr., seconded by Elliot

Hands-On Success at IDN Hardware: GPLA Hosts Select SL-57 Hinge Installation Class

On Saturday, May 10th, the Greater Philadelphia Locksmith Association (GPLA) teamed up with IDN Hardware and Select Hinge to host a hands-on training event focused on the installation of the Select SL-57 full surface continuous geared hinge. The free class, open to GPLA and South Jersey Locksmith Association (SJLA) members, drew a strong turnout of locksmith professionals eager to learn and connect.

Held outside IDN Hardware's location in Bristol, PA, the class ran for approximately 2.5 to 3 hours and featured a full live installation on IDN's front entry door. Leading the session was longtime locksmith and instructor Sven K. Hellwig Sr., CRL, who shared valuable insights drawn from years of field experience. Attendees benefited from step-by-step guidance, covering layout, preparation, mounting, and final adjustments.

In addition to the SL-57 hinge, the class also included the installation of a new Select product: a full latch guard cover, designed to complement the hinge and provide added security and aesthetic appeal.

To keep the atmosphere fun and engaging, the event included a free lunch and refreshments, as well as a raffle giveaway. One lucky attendee, Jim Sundstrum, took home a brand-new Select hinge along with two of the tools demonstrated during the class—a self-centering drill bit and a masonry bit (the latter of which wasn't needed on this install but was included for future use).

This event was another strong example of GPLA's commitment to hands-on, real-world education and community building within the locksmithing profession. Special thanks to Select Hinge and IDN Hardware for their support, and to everyone who participated and helped make the day such a success.

Stay tuned for future training opportunities—and if you haven't joined GPLA or SJLA yet, events like this are a great reason to get involved!

Enjoy some of the great shots of the install below!


J
R
Monday - 8AM - 5PM
Tuesday - 8AM - 5PM
Wednesday - 8AM - 5PM
Thursday - 8AM - 5PM
Friday - 8AM - 5PM
Saturday - Closed
Sunday - Closed
PUL


J IDN


J IDN
Hardware Sales
EAGLES


J IDN
Hardware Sales
Monday - 8AM - 5PM
Tuesday - 8AM - 5PM
Wednesday - 8AM - 5PM
Thursday - 8AM - 5PM
Friday - 8AM - 5PM
Saturday - Closed
Sunday - Closed
SELECT HINGES™
thegreenhinge.com
25,000,000 cycles make it
the last hinge you'll ever need.


J
IDN
Hardware Sales
Monday - 8AM - 5PM
Tuesday - 8AM - 5PM
Wednesday - 8AM - 5PM
Thursday - 8AM - 5PM
Friday - 8AM - 5PM
Saturday - Closed
Sunday - Closed
VISA
Master


J
IDN
Hardware Sales
Monday - 8AM-5PM
Tuesday - 8AM-5PM
Wednesday - 8AM-5PM
Thursday - 8AM-5PM
Friday - 8AM-5PM
Saturday - Closed
Sunday - Closed


IDN
Hardware Sales


J
IDN
Hardware Sales
EAGLES
Coleman


J
R
1-800-We-Unlock
For all your security needs Call
SKH LOCKSMITH & SECURITY LLC
215-442-9191
Hatboro, PA.
"We do it all; We do it right; We

OUR WEB SPONSORS



We make security simple

WWW.IDN-INC.COM————————————-1-800-233-3355



SUPPLYING THE GLOBAL SECURITY COMMUNITY SINCE 1956

labpins.com

800-243-8242

OUR WEB SPONSORS

CODELOCKS

control + convenience

SELECT HINGES®

SELECT Products Limited

Where Trust is Built™

DETEX®

Life Safety, Security and Security Assurance



MEMBERSHIP NOTES

During the last General Membership meeting, we unanimously voted to approve the following applicants for membership. Stephen Miller, Eliot Kolner, Paul Bilker, DJ Dabenigno, Ray Wible, Adam Schreier, Paul Detwiler III and Samuel Diggins. Congradulations!

.

OUR WEB SPONSORS

FBI FRIED BROTHERS, INC.

ESTABLISHED 1922

SUPPLIER OF DOOR HARDWARE, SECURITY PRODUCTS AND ACCESS CONTROL



FBIsecurity.com

800-523-2924

ClearStar SECURITY NETWORK

The 1st Choice of Professional Locksmiths & Safe-Techs On-line

On-line Education 24/7

Free Trial Memberships

www.clearstar.com

OUR WEB SPONSORS

Doorwares Associates Inc.

Manufacturers Technical Field Representatives

324 Clump Rd. Green Lane PA 18054

Jim Handschuh Sr. 215-651-2124

Jim Handschuh Jr. 215-390-6093



Email us at jim@doorwares.com

FRAMON

PRECISION TOOLS FOR THE LOCKSMITH PROFESSION

WWW.FRAMON.COM

sales@framon.com

For more information call 989-354-5623



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



WHY NOT BE A WEB SPONSOR FOR GPLA

At GPLA, we strive to provide the best to our members and due in part to our Web Advertisers and Convention Sponsors, we are able to achieve that goal. We would like to include your Company as a GPLA supporter by becoming a Web Advertiser on our professionally managed website at <GPLA.ORG> If you have any questions about the benefits, do not hesitate to contact Marty at <martysr1@mac.com>

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.

Company Name:_____ Contact Person:_____

Phone:_____ E-mail:_____Web URL:_____

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

@jhandschuh@gmail.com