

TEXAS LOCKSMITH ADVISOR



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Serving Texas Since 1964

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3	2009 OFFICERS
4& 5	PRESIDENTS MESSAGE
6	PROTECT YOURSELF FROM THE HEAT
7	LEGISLATIVE LETTER
8& 9	PSB REPORT 7/09
10 &11	PSB REPORT 8/09
12	PSB SEPT. MEETING INFO
12	OBITUARY, JAMES BURNETT
13	HIGH SEC AUTO CLASS
14 & 15	ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIPS

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For Further Information and Pictures.....
<http://www.texaslocksmiths.org/board2.htm>

President's Message

John Arnold, CML - TLA President

Hey Members,

I have not had a chance to write to you for a while now. Our new Editor Christina Whitney has been slowly reinventing the wheel. We have been updating our software, member list, and making other changes. We just could not get the May June Advisor out sooner. The Advisor is a work in progress. I really appreciate the patience and persistence Christina has shown to us as she has been under the stress of learning a new task as well as taking care of her kids and her job (she is a 24 hour do it all working locksmith). Let Christina know what a good job she is doing. I am sure she would not mind hearing what you like and don't like about our publication. Of course Laurie Simon is a tough act to follow, but Christina is up to the challenge.

The 81 Texas Legislature ended June 1st. We had a very good session and our lobbyist earned his money. WE got consumer protection passed making it illegal to solicit locksmith work. This also gives the DPS a whole new set of tools to pursue scammers and unlicensed locksmiths. The original bill got stopped, but Keith saved it by including this in the Sunset Bill at the very last minute. We also got funding for the new pocket cards and computer upgrades to the licensing division. The new pocket cards will include a photo and will be printed like your driver's license. It will include a list on the back of what you

are endorsed to work on. Employees will carry only one card. The computer upgrades will allow easier and quicker transactions with the licensing division, this is long overdue.

Now some bad news. We could have done more. We had no plan going into this legislature. Losing our previous lobbyist did not help, but we must start on the 82 legislature now. We need to continue protecting our trade. 20 years ago locksmiths used to be in the car opening business. Now we have lost the majority of this work. It will not come back to us. we buried our heads in the sand and the auto clubs, wrecker drivers, and whoever took our business. Some of you say, who cares, I don't unlock cars. What will we lose tomorrow? Deadbolts, hardware, access control, safes, rekeys, automotive, etc. All these are gradually going or gone to other trades. If we don't stay proactive, we will be out of business. we have 300 or so active members. 100.00 a year is a very small investment to keep a lobbyist and keep a high legislative profile. The real loser in the end will be the public.

I will be in sunny Las Vegas August 11 to 16 for the ALOA convention. I can't wait. I will be talking with locksmiths from all over the world considering their issues with our trade. I hope to be looking for new classes and vendors for our Texas convention in Plano March 16-21, 2010. Hope to see you there.

Till September, Happy Locksmithing!
John

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM THE HEAT

Christina Whitney

As locksmiths we often work in the summer heat, and should familiarize ourselves with the warning signs of heat exhaustion. Unoccupied houses and businesses and parked cars often lead to several hours each day in temperatures that can have serious health consequences.

Warning signs include;

- • Feeling faint or dizzy
- • Nausea
- • Heavy sweating
- • Rapid, weak heartbeat
- • Low blood pressure
- • Cool, moist, pale skin
- • Low grade fever
- • Heat cramps
- • Headache
- • Fatigue
- • Dark colored urine

If you or a coworker is showing signs of heat exhaustion take the following precautions;

- Remove the person from the sun into air conditioning or shade
- Lay down and elevate the legs and feet slightly
- Loosen or remove clothing
- Spray or sponge with cool water
- Fan if possible
- Drink cool water
- Watch to ensure that the person doesn't get worse.

If fever reaches 102° F or higher, confusion, fainting, or seizures occur, seek medical help immediately

OUR INPUT DETERMINES OUR LEGISLATIVE PROGRESS

The Texas Locksmith Association maintains the Texas Locksmith Legislative fund. This fund is kept separate from our general fund because the legislative funds are not tax deductible and keeping the monies together affects our status as a nonprofit. The fund is there to hire a lobbyist and pay for expenses that are required to deal with the PSB and our legislature. This requires about 30,000.00 dollars per year. We have managed to pay for these expenses through TLA dues assessment and fund raising. The fact is most of the money has come from a small group of individuals and volunteers. This is probably not in the average locksmith's interest. Ultimately the guys writing the big checks are not going to be looking out for your interests. We should all contribute and all receive fair and equal representation. I recommend all locksmiths that desire a bright future donate a service call per month. I can afford this and you can also. The economy is tough, but this means others are looking at taking a piece of our business. Door companies, contractors, mechanics, tow companies, cleaning companies, are hurting also and our looking to take chunks of our trade. We must remain proactive, please contribute today. Money is needed, but we can also use your time. Contact me if you want some more info.

Thanks,
John Arnold, CML
President
Texas Locksmith Association

Report from July 14, 2009 DPS/PSB Board meeting – Bonnie Brown Morse

7 of the 9 TLA officers were present along with at least 4 additional locksmiths from Texas. Several other industries' folks spoke positively at the Locksmith's showing! Thank you all.

The PSB Board introduced a new member, Pat Patterson. An Adversity Committee was named by the PSB Board. This committee includes John Arnold a Locksmith from the Dallas/Ft. Worth area. We were glad to be included in this group of industry representatives. With the 2009 legislative session completed and HB 2730 (Sunset) we expect a number of changes.

Adopted by the Board at this meeting: (These can be read on DPS/PSB website.)

Amendment concerning '**Television Camera or Still Camera Systems**' (Rule 35.1-definitions).

Amendment concerning '**Disqualifying Class B Misdemeanors**' (Rule 35.42).

Amendment concerning '**Operation without Manager**' (Rule 35.71).

Amendment concerning '**Location of Records-in Texas**' (Rule 35.202).

Amendment concerning '**Training Levels I, II, & III**' (Rules 35.250, 35.251, & 35.252).

Amendment concerning '**Exemptions-installing locksets without B licensure**' (Rule 35.311).

Referred to Committee by the Board: (These can be read on DPS/PSB website).

Proposed amendment concerning '**Other than Honorable Discharges**' (Rule 35.42).

Proposed amendment concerning '**Fees**' in light of HB2730 (Rules 35.70, 35.231, 35.232, &

35.233).

Proposed amendment concerning '**Fingerprints**' (Rule 35.72 & 35.182).

Proposed amendment concerning '**Registration Deadline**' (Rule 35.185).

Proposed amendment concerning '**Guidelines for Disqualifying Convictions**' (Rule 35.46).

The PSB Board instructed Capt. Bowie to select 'core items' for testing of managers until the new Law & Rules can be published.

Capt. Bowie introduced Lt. Wayne Muller who will replace Lt. Jim Morgan-Investigation Section. Capt. Bowie reported monies have been allocated to complete the 're-engineering' of software. This will affect the look of the 'pocket card' as well as the tracking of a number of things including Employee Terminations. Capt. Bowie reported from the Investigation Section: 998 violations investigated April-June 2009. Closed with no action-691, closed with administrative citations-125, closed with administrative warning-65, & closed with other/administrative/criminal action-117.

Reggie Andrews reported from the Licensing Section: (4/09-6/09). New company license issued 205, new individual registrations issued 10,276, renewal of company licenses 1,261, renewal of individual registrations 7,134, & Employee updates processed were 5,405. Active company licenses 5,188, active individual registrations 119,727, and active school licenses 191.

Public comments included Bonnie Brown Morse (LASA President) who made a comment concerning the approved amendment to Exemption 35.311. "It is not legal for the public to hire just anyone to do their plumbing or their electrical work, but now it IS legal to hire just anyone to install a lockset (security). We from the San Antonia area do not see this as 'protecting the public'. Where is the protection for the consumer?"

We did not remain through the administrative hearings.

Report from August 27, 2009 DPS/PSB Board meet – Bonnie Brown Morse

Two of the nine TLA officers were present along with three additional locksmiths from Texas. This was not a regular quarterly scheduled PSB Board meeting.

Adopted by the Board at this meeting: (These can be read on DPS/PSB website.)

Amendment concerning **‘Other than Honorable Discharges’** (Rule 35.43).

Amendment concerning **‘Guidelines for Disqualifying Convictions’** (Rule 35.46).

Amendments related to **‘Fees’** (35.70, 35.231, 35.232, 35.233)

Amendments related to **‘Fingerprints’** (Rule 35.72, 35.182).

Repealed by the Board at this meeting:

Amendment concerning **‘Registration Deadline’** (35.185)

Discussion of future action needed by the Board to meet Sunset Bill requirements:

35.203 Records to be Available for Inspection

35.273 Statutory or Rule Violations

Term ‘endorsement’

You each need to offer a special ‘thank you’ to Locksmith John Arnold, who served on the advisory committee to the PSB Board in preparing many of the sections presented today.

Public comments included TLA President **John Arnold** concerning CEU hours, enforcement against Out-of-State operators, & company managers being accepted without any experience. LASA President **Bonnie Brown Morse** spoke concerning the need to have Bureau check that CEU hours have really been completed and enforcement against locksmiths working for themselves (unlicensed) while holding a registration as 1099 (contract labor) employee for a licensed company.

I did not remain through the administrative hearings.

THANK YOU BONNIE BROWN MORSE,

\For sharing your clear and concise records of the PSB meetings with the TLA Advisor. Your dedicated service to the locksmith community is unending and appreciated.

PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBERS

Daniel T Alcala, Austin, TX
Donald R. Brazil, Las Cruces, NM
Margo R. Courreges, Austin, TX
Mark Lee Dawson, Spring, TX
Richard R. Hidell, JR, Austin, TX
Tommy Mull, Arlington, TX
Jerry P. Picon, Lubbock, TX
Warren J. Pitcher, Elgin, TX

SCAMMER ALERT!!!!

PSB license meeting September 14, 2009

Associated Locksmiths of North Texas announces their September meeting will be in Dallas on Sept. 14, 2009 at 6:30pm at the Crowne Plaza at 7050 N Stemmons Fwy, Dallas, TX 75247. Captain RenEarl Bowie, TLA lobbyist Keith Oakley, TLA president John Arnold, Tim McMullin from ALOA, and others will be in attendance. Topics of discussion will be scammers, legislative action, license enforcement, and compliance. Refreshments will be served. Bring your questions. All interested parties are invited. Call Mark Caudle for more information at 972-890-5554.

IT IS WITH DEEP REGRET THAT WE INFORM YOU OF THE PASSING OF JAMES BURNETT

Life member James Burnett, age 86, died on July 17th following a protracted battle with congestive heart failure and diabetes. During the past three years Mr. Burnett has been on oxygen and still went into the office each day.

In 1972 James married Dorothy and a year later became a locksmith. He became a TLA member in 1974. Together they ran Burnett Safe & Lock and raised six daughters. Today they have eight grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

When asked about her husband of 37 years Mrs. Burnett said that he was a good man and a fair man who worked as a Shriner to benefit the children's hospital in Galveston.

On behalf of the Board of TLA I offer our heartfelt condolences to the family, friends, and employees of Mr. Burnett.

High Security Auto Class
September 13, 2009 1:30 P. M.
Instructor : Mark Caudill CRL

Host : Eagle Douglas of Bilco

Location : 601 S. Hampton Road
Dallas, Texas 75208
S.W. Corner of Hampton Rd. & Gladstone Dr.

This Class is an 8 Hour C.E.U. Credit and we will have a lunch with 2 breaks. The cost of the Class is \$ 150.00 a person and has a limit of ten people so sign up as soon as possible. It will be a prepay and the last day to sign up is September 11, 2009.

**If you would like to sign up for this class call Mark Caudill at
(972) 890 - 5554 or Email : keyman972@aol.com**

In this Class you will learn the different ways to make Sidewinder and Tibbie keys at the Vehicle from scratch. Plus you will receive a DVD of the Class with a lot more data that you can use as a resource.

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