

JUNE 2011

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President's Message

Troy Maynard

Hello Fellow TLA Members:

Well I must say I'm glad May is over. May of this year was one of the toughest months I have ever had to deal with. I lost one of my best friends David Berry to cancer...David and I worked together almost 20 years. Then my son's wedding which was great. The only thing that would have made it 110% perfect would have been David performing the service, but we know he was looking over us and keeping the day as perfect as it was!

Then we found out that the two bills we were trying to get passed were going nowhere, so this was starting to wear on me. The final outcome was we got the tools bill passed. The bill we truly wanted didn't make it, due to a lack of time... that was the omnibus bill. This would have put a Locksmith on the PSB board. The good news on that one is, Keith Oakley is working on getting us a Locksmith in an advisory position to the PSB board. This is why Keith is so important to our great association, we lost one battle and he's already working on moving us closer to what we want! I would ask all of you to do everything you can to show our numbers when we walk the halls in 2013 at the capitol. If you can't show up to visit your state reps then pick up the phone and call or fill their inbox up with emails!

I will be talking to Earl Bowie with the PSB to get you more info on what we will need to do to be legal when we install access control with an audit trail and CCTV. At this time you have to have your alarm installer endorsement on your license. Also be looking for Billy's LAC report....

Well that's all I have for now, stay cool as summer is now here and it's HOT!!!

2nd Vice President's Report Steven Sharp

First, I would like to thank you for the thoughts, prayers and support you extended to me and my family during the loss of my Father, Norman Sharp. Your compassion and empathy mean a lot to me. This has been an extremely hard time. I know others have experienced the same hardship and I extend my sincerest sympathy to those of you.

Subject: 2012 Plano Convention and Expo

To date I have received two requests for classes from memberships. I expected a much higher participation from the members. These classes are for the members to make their shops more profitable, to make their jobs easier, and to obtain higher education.

The Board has provided me with their ideas for instructors. I would like to get a commitment from our instructors by August 2011, so they will have time to plan and prepare course outlines for requested classes. This only leaves us with this month and July to select classes.

This is your opportunity to provide contributions on this subject to make this event a success for all. Please contact me as soon as possible at 2nd@texaslocksmiths.org.

Have a safe, fun and COOL June!

Treasurer's Report

Billy Garrett

TLA Financial Report May 4 - June 2, 2011

Chase General Fund	\$40,721.36
Chase Legislative Money Market	\$11,701.53
Chase Scholarship Money Market	\$8,601.72
Chase Education Fund	\$15,180.42
Chase College Fund	<u>\$62,079.19</u>
TOTAL OF ALL ACCOUNTS	\$138,284.22

Chase General Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$40,855.76
Deposits	\$856.28
Total Check Withdrawals	-\$53.00
Total Debit Withdrawals	<u>-\$937.68</u>
Ending Balance	\$40,721.36

Check & Debit Withdrawal Categories

Advisor Printing & Mailing	\$390.87
Intuit Quickbooks Yearly Fee	\$401.80
Public Storage	\$106.00
Flowers for Member's Funeral	\$92.01

Thanks from an Appreciative Recipient

Dear Board Member and/or Committee Member of TLA:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the contribution you made to my college education through the TLA Scholarship Award Program. Being chosen as a recipient was quite an honor since you could say I was "born" into this association and have known many of the members my entire life.

I am proud to say that on May 14, 2011 I walked across the stage with hundreds of other graduates and received my Associate Degree in Nursing. I was fortunate enough to maintain a 3.9 GPA throughout my time at Brazosport College and was a proud member of the Phi Theta Kappa Sorority while at the same time taking care of two children, a husband and home! This is a period of time in my life that I will never forget but am most certainly happy to leave behind and settle down into my chosen career. I have passed my State Board exams and am now officially an RN (Registered Nurse) and have taken a job with a major home health company working hand in hand with my Sister (Michelle Clifford Oldenwalder) doing what we love. Although my current plan is to "rest" awhile I also have intentions of returning to school soon to work toward my BSN.

Thank You again for the part you and the Texas Locksmiths Association played in this very important part of my life!

— Kristi Lyn Clifford Susen, RN



UPDATE

The Regulatory Services Division has completed the first phase of training for the personnel who will be conducting administrative compliance audits relating to the Private Security profession. As a result, these compliance auditors will begin initiating general office compliance audits to ensure compliance with Texas Administrative Code Title 37 Chapter 5 and the Private Security Act. Please feel free to contact your nearest DPS Regional Office if further information is needed or to answer questions.

The Auditors are Coming, The Auditors are Coming...

When was the last time you read Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 1702 or Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 35? When was the last time you even looked at either of the aforementioned codes? Do you know where to find them? Why should you care? In fact, most of us probably do not spend much time reading 1702 or 35 to stay current with changes. Many locksmiths were "Grandfathered" in and may not be very familiar with 1702 and 35. The good news is that the codes do not really change all that much and the changes that do occur are usually disseminated to the members of the locksmiths associations.

You may be wondering why I mention all of this? In case you have not heard, DPS has recently trained over a hundred civilian auditors to begin auditing every security company in Texas. Their goal is to audit the records of every security company, every two years. Don't panic! We have an inside man. Larry Shimek is a DPS Trooper that occasionally attends the alarm meetings. Larry has been around a long time and wrote the curriculum for the civilian

auditors that will be doing the inspections. Larry has also taught many classes over the years at the Alarm Conventions about How to Survive a DPS Audit.

I was also able to sweet talk a person at DPS in to giving me a check list of things the auditors will be looking for. Unfortunately the list was geared more towards CEU Schools than businesses. However, I was able to glean some useful information from the check lists. I also compiled the notes I took from the alarm meeting in which Larry spoke and I consulted the codes to accumulate a list of things the auditors will be looking for.

It's not a matter of if... it's a matter of when DPS Civilian Auditors will show up at your office to inspect your records. As the Qualified Manager it's your responsibility to maintain good records that contain certain things that the auditors will be looking for. Don't panic! We've developed a check list that should help.

- Have the DPS signage posted (**1702.128 & 35.36**)
- Separate files for each employee, including yourself, located at the location listed in DPS records (**1702.127 & 35.202, 35.203**)
- Pre-employment background check documentation (**35.204**)
- Employee application (should include full name, DOB, SSN, DL#, etc—(**1702.230 & 35.201**))
- CEU's (**35.291**)
- Workplace Drug Policy (**35.143**)
- Current color photograph (a color copy of the drivers license works well) (**35.201**)
- Advertising (**1702.131 & 35.37**)

TLA LAC REPORT

After a lot of work this year we got one of the two legislative bills approved through congress.

The Omnibus Bill did not get placed on the floor for a vote until the day before the closing of bills that pass the Calendars committee. We can all speculate as to why or why not, since this bill met very little opposition the whole way through, but it is dead.

The Lock Pick Bill did pass congress and is now waiting for a signature from Governor Rick Perry. This is the bill which increases the severity of the penalty one receives when using locksmith tools in the commission of a crime. This was the weaker of the two bills. In two years, at the next legislative session, we can push to make it even stronger, and maybe get some criminals off the streets who use our tools.

The legislative year may be over for locksmiths, but we still need help with the Private Security Board. Thank you to each locksmith who has taken time to go the Austin this year and talked to legislators on behalf of locksmith issues. I want to encourage all Texas licensed locksmiths to try and attend each quarterly PSB meeting that they can, starting with the meeting on July 8, 2011. It has always been said that there is strength in numbers. Now is not the time to let our numbers dwindle. Let's continue to let our voices be heard.

Billy Garrett
LAC Chairman

LockPAC Pledge Card

It began as early as August 2005. It was published in the Advisor that there was a need for the locksmiths of the TLA to help with additional contributions to the Legislative Fund. The need was great then and even greater now. Just as in 2005 you are being encouraged to help with the following:

1. Would you pledge one service call fee a month for one year?
2. Would you make an honest attempt to sign up a non-member. There are many locksmiths who are not members, but should be.

If each member of TLA pledges the above, we could continue to fund our lobbyist, Keith Oakley, as he works on our behalf in the legislature and with the PSB board. We could also increase our membership to approx. 800 members.

We are anticipating many positive legislative changes this year, but those changes do not automatically happen. Will you join with other locksmiths in Texas affect changes for the future of our industry? Please sign up today!

I, _____ will pledge one service call fee per month for one year to support our lobbyist efforts, and I will contact one non-member and ask him to join TLA.

It's that simple! You may mail in your pledge monthly, quarterly, or yearly. Thank you in advance for those who will pledge and for those who continue to honor there pledges.

TLA Board of Directors.

Member & Company Name:

TLA Member Number: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code _____

A Word from the Editor

John C. Helweg

Summer is here and the legislative session is over. I don't really want to talk about the legislative session, so I thought I would share a recent photo of my daughters. Avery (left) is my eight year old and Addison (right) is my soon to be seven month old. The kid's mom is a school teacher, so Addie stays with me during the days. She gets on the job training with her Dad and Grandpa at the shop and on job sites. The girls have been to a number of TLA and GHLA conventions, meetings & Board meetings. In the late seventies and eighties I grew up going to TLA and GHLA meetings and now my kids are the third generation to share in the experience. Avery even went with me this year to the Walk the Halls at the Capital to support our trades. I've been very blessed to have well behaved daughters and supportive Board members.



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