

The Oklahoma Master Locksmith Association general membership meeting at the Hampton Inn Midwest City, OK May 4th 2013 at 5:31pm. Invocation by Frank, Pledge to the flag done by all.

Roll call by Secretary Clarence with 2 absent. (Mike McGrew, & John Ruperd)

#### OLD BUSINESS

Minutes for last meeting reviewed. Lowell made a motion to except. Vote YEAs=12 NAYs=1 Passed.

President Charles informed every one present that the Association is being sued by Maurice Grant.

Three apps to be voted on: Ricky (Charley) Merriman with Charley's Southside Lock out of Bixby, OK;

Dana Ray Hall with A-1 Lock and key out of Topeka, KS; James Ray Ripley with Aztec Locksmith out of Claremore, OK. All three were voted in. Welcome to the Association.

James Perry asked about his app and was informed that the board, minus Charles, voted not to put James app through for membership.

Applications that were turned in to the secretary Friday evening will be tabled till the next meeting as there was not time to review, and the State web site was down to verify info and no review was possible by the board.

Questions asked on membership review procedure and why James Perry wasn't brought back up to the body for membership, and is this info in the Constitution and Bylaws? President Charles Hudecek explained everything. Question also asked about publishing new app's info in newsletter and Lowell Roberts explained that info.

V.P. Dusty gave out info on vendors that have been listed as coming to the 2014 show.

Treasurer Lorretta Loomis: The financial report is out. Was reviewed. Clarence made motion to except the report. Voted on YEAs=13 NAYs=0

Lowell Roberts: SB1042 was approved by the Senate, House, and signed by the Governor.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Lorretta: Bills need to be paid. Frank made a motion to let Lorretta pay the bills. Voted and passed.

Jim: OPLA is having problems and is dissolving the Association.

Lowell: First Wednesday of each month is the Dept. of Labor meeting.

Ron: Run Local has been trying to get license and has been shot down along with other Companies. He also informed us about renewing our license. Pictures are also good for 10 years. DOL is working on getting renewal on the web.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Charles had the three new members come up for their swearing in.

Grady Grant: Asking about the cards sent out with incorrect info. Clarence owned up to the mistake.

Jim: Made a comment of how he feels and thanked everybody for their patience.

Grady Grant: commented about being disruptive and that is because he does not believe in Charles and Lowell and that we need to un-elect them and get rid of them in order for the average locksmith to get their Association back. Meeting after meeting I have been to, we have recorded all of it. Every board meeting we've gone to, I've never been asked by Lowell and Charles or anybody from OMLA. First of all they don't answer any of my questions, second of all they don't ask me of my opinion on the law, even though we have volunteered to help, we were never asked. Roy...he was never asked and he has been doing it since the 50's. Nobody was ever asked their opinions, their inputs nothing on this locksmith law stuff. It was done by Lowell and with Charles, very little information was disseminated to us. My brother started 4okinfo on line just to help the locksmith find out what's going on, he has been instrumental on getting people showing up to meetings even though they don't want them here, we can't get answers from our own board. Just like this, James should be up for membership again today, but, and I, I do believe Charles saying he tried to get them to approve it. He should be approved, he defiantly should be approved. It should not be somebody on the board deciding for us, whether somebody with 40 years should be a member or not. As long as they have good moral character that's all I care about. If it's because Lowell don't like him, I don't care. That should not be a factor in this. Thank you very much.

Ed Humes : Was asked by John to put on an automotive class.

James Perry: I just want to make clear to those who voted against me. I have been accused of having a hidden agenda and can't be trusted and I don't understand what this organization were all living in America we all enjoy the freedoms of it. But yet we have Charles I think you're retired from the service, and thank you for that service, and Lowell I think you are retired from the service and we thank you for that. Both of you fought for our freedom for this country you have dedicated a certain amount of your life here for those freedoms. And I can't understand why a small group would take an industry, like the locksmith industry, to a position where we have to get an ok from the State in order to open our doors to do business. And then that's not good enough, you want to take our industry to another level. You want to take it to continuing ed (education) mandated by our State. Another control and another freedom taken from us, our business we have worked all our lives for. And a

small group here, without consulting in with the locksmiths here in Oklahoma except a very small few right here in this room, you haven't asked them, you haven't asked the industry if they wanted licensing. You accuse me of not wanting license, nobody confronted me, no one told me what was going on. But yet you have made it, you have taken freedom from every individual in here and turned it into another nazi camp or something. We can't open our doors without having that license. I will tell you about the license, I think there are things that it has helped but I don't think it's right that we can't open our doors without that piece of paper and paying that money. And I don't think it's right that this small community right here would make a policy that would cover every locksmith, every alarm tech in this State to every year have a continuing ed class when we have trade shows around our State and outside of our State that offer all kinds of freedom of choice, what any locksmith what like to have. It might be something he might really want to get into but don't know anything about. But if we have State mandated education you have no freedom, you have no freedom of choice, it's gone. Because of a small group, you two, you two, want to put Continuing ed as a mandated thing in this State and charge 200-300 dollars a person. Financial gain? Sounds like it to me. That's what my agenda is here, if that's wrong, then maybe I'm living in the wrong country or maybe you guys are living in the wrong country. This is still America.

(name?) I've come to a lot of meetings with my husband, haven't to them all, but these resent ones I've been coming to there have been complaining about the licensing and stuff now but when it was all being discussed back in 2004-2005 or before, where were they? Where were their questions? If you were members and coming to the meetings you would have known what was going on. That's how I see it, that's why I was coming with him to figure out what we had to do to keep our license and our business going.

Rodger Davis: And I was at a meeting where it was discussed by Lowell and some other people, and a little old lady from a small town doing this on the side her and her husband. And Lowell had chastised her because.....I know, it's a shame because some of these people that are in these small communities cannot afford a big fee every year because they don't do much. But they do help their people in their community, and you can't make them pay an absorbent amount for them to run one or two calls a month just to help someone out, but now they can't do it because their saying you have to pay. And I disagree with the way some of those people were treated.

Lowell Roberts: Ok, that particular situation of that little lady was addressed. If you as a locksmith, only do locksmithing, have no employees, you only have to pay for the manager's license, a hundred dollars a year. The two hundred dollar company license is waved you don't have to do that. I can't see that a hundred dollars to see that someone is not a criminal and that's what the check was for. We had a situation where you could come out of McAlister in the morning and hang your shingle in the afternoon and there was nothing that could be done. There was a law on the books that said if you had lock picks and you weren't a lock smith then you were a burglar. First rattles out of the box, locksmiths were not defined. Second thing, burglar tools or lock

picks were not defined. If you look in the act now you will see that they are. And the reason we brought the information forward to license locksmiths was because of what had happened in Texas. The alarm people changed one word in their law and made it to where you could not even put a simplex on unless you were an alarm person.

Sandy Ripley: Clarification on what would prohibit an individual to go and voice his/her opinion.

Answer was nothing.

Wendy Bors: We are both managers of our Company and we still have to pay the \$250.00 dollars?

Charles: yes because you are considered to have an employee. The exception only applies to a one person business.

Grady Grant: Yes anybody can go and talk to the senators and everything, the biggest thing is understanding what's going on, getting the proper information and supporting something that is actually is in our benefit instead of the benefit that some of the board members here will tell you. So get a wide versified opinion of what is good for the Industry. I have talked to senator Newberry he has told me things that I have never heard in this meeting from Lowell and Charles and I have talked to him personally. So if there is any information you would like to know from me because I have audiotaped all the meetings for the past two years and the board meetings I've been to, plus you know my brother has a website out that is very accurate and if you want any information and you find anything wrong you let him know.

Frank Belizzi: Commented about the little old lady when licensing started.

Clarence Weber: I don't know if I missed something or not but I was under the assumption that the Fire Marshals started the licensing because of 2 locksmiths messing up and not us. We are just trying to keep it to where we can keep working instead of the alarm industry taking it away from us. Also I have not heard anything on education and hope we don't.

Charles clarified that it was the State Fire Marshal at the time.

Charlie with Southside Lock: I don't like paying the state any more than anybody else, none of us likes paying taxes. But that's what we got. But now if they are trying to enforce it then there are benefits and I'm glad to see that they are starting to do that. Part of the reason I joined the organization, as an organization, as a group of locksmiths we got to work together to protect what we have. I know there are some sore feelings between different members here. February's meeting was painfully evident and I was embarrassed and horrified to be quite honest with ya. We need to put aside our differences for the common good and I hope tonight maybe going forward some of those things that others feel, we could put them aside and work together as a group to protect our Industry.

Roger Davis: Commented about a company needing multiple licenses and a single owner running out of his house only needs one and don't need to post anything on walls.

James Perry: Commented and asked Charles if he presented rule changes that would include state organization of being the provider of continuing ed. Charles: 4 years ago. Clarence: that was 4 years ago and nothing else has come up about it since that I know.

Matt Kelm: Commented on the price of license being too much.

Lowell Roberts: Commented on you pay 1 price for your license no matter how many category's you have then you pay for the Company's license and your employees if they don't pay for their own, and commented on the way it was enforced and fined.

Larry Goodson: Commented about not having the choice of 100 dollar license and this all started.

Maudie Davis: Commented on testing for the license. Study and what was missed

Also comments about some questions that come up on the test that has nothing to do with locksmithing. More comments about how the test is done up and administered.

Frank commented on getting a Texas license.

Don't forget the SWAP

meet in August right after the meeting.

#### DOOR PRIZE DRAWING

Dusty.....Knife set

Ron.....Lockset

Gary.....Lock

Gary.....Screw Driver

Gary.....Knife set

Meeting adjourned @ 7:35pm

Next meeting is in Tulsa/Bixby Hampton Inn Meeting starts at 5:30pm