

Thieves Grab Safe!

On the night of August 5, Carpathia club became victim to its first burglary. Thieves broke through the back door by the new addition, kicked in the Manager's Office door, and made off with the safe containing an undisclosed amount of cash.

Sterling Heights police were delayed in responding to the call that night, because of an attempted suicide elsewhere in the city. By the time the police got to the hall, the thieves had already carried the safe out the back door, thrown it over the railing, and carried it eastward, behind the neighbor's house to a waiting car. Police at the scene called it an "inside job", because the perpetrators demonstrated good prior knowledge of the hall layout, and exploited weaknesses in the security system. They also carefully selected their objective in advance.

The burglars chose the back door by the addition as their way in, because that was the only door without an alarm sensor. It had no sensor, because the hall alarm system was not expanded to include the addition during the new construction. The burglars knew they had virtually an unlimited amount of time to open the back door. Once inside, they could walk all the way down the back hallway to the edge of the original building, before triggering the motion detector.

They knew their time was limited once they entered the field of the motion detector. The burglars raced straight to the Manager's Office, breaking through the door in great haste. In fact, the door was broken in with such force that the lock was found lying on the floor. The thieves then grabbed the safe and ran out the way they came.

This brings us to another point of prior knowledge: the burglars knew exactly what they came for. They took only the top safe from the manager's office. They did not disturb the bottom safe. They did not even move papers on the desk in an attempt to look for valuables. The burglars knew, in advance, that cash was kept in the top safe, and that's all they took.

It is also interesting to note that the night chosen for the break-in was a night when both the hall manager and the club president were known to be out of town. Adam was in Cincinnati for a Dachverband meeting, while Annemarie Gerhardt had told many members she was leaving on vacation.

Police assume that two persons were needed to carry the safe. Papers, which had been laid on top of the safe, were strewn down the hallway and on the grass below the veranda, as the criminals took no time to clear them before fleeing. Apparently, they threw the safe over the back railing, then carried it behind several houses to the east of the hall, where they made a getaway in a waiting car. Police

tracking dogs later followed the scent of the criminals to that point.

Although Sterling Heights police took fingerprints from the scene, those of nearly half our club members must be in and around Adam's office. Anyone with helpful information about the crime is urged to call Detective James Spence of the Sterling Heights Police Department at (586) 446-2825.

As for our part, you can bet that enhanced security measures will be instituted in short order. Several club members have already offered to donate new, considerably larger, and heavier safes. That back door will be armed with an alarm sensor, and more regular trips to the bank will keep cash on hand to a minimum. *Richard Gerhardt* ❀

Sprochunterricht

*Mir Schwowe hen a Universalwort:
SACH. Wenn uns nit glei's richtig Wort uf die
Zung kummt, sage mr "Sach".*

*"Lang mr mol des Sach her!" unsre Leit
wisse meischtens was far a Sach herzulange is.
Wenn awer doch 's verkehrti Sach herglangt
werd, no sage sie "nit des Sach, sell anner Sach!"
Dann kriege sie bestimmt 's richtig Sach.*

*Anri Leit kumme do als nit ganz mit, awer
des sin aa ka Schwowe.*

*Unner unsre ältre Leit werd's noch viel
vun drhom verzält. Dort hen alli "viel Sach" ghat.
Wenn awer oner sage will, daß'r noch mehr Sach
ghat hot, sagt'r: "Mir hen viel Sach und Sach
ghat."*

*Wer ka Schwob is, werd jetz mone, mehr
Sach wie "Sach und Sach" is: Sach un Sach un
Sach.*

*Irrtum! Jetz kumt: arich viel Sach.
Iwer des naus is mr nar noch oo
Steigerung bekannt, die is: Arich stark viel Sach.
Schluß, weil des is no Sach genug.*



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