President’s Message

Our Educational Outreach trip to Italy in late August was a wonderful international exchange. We spent nearly an entire day at the Carabinieri Laboratory in Rome with demonstrations and discussions with the scientists. We also travelled to Parma for a day-long Congresso for 180 scientists, judges, lawyers, and forensic science students. It was standing room only! I have to thank Dr. Luciano Garofano, Professor Giovanni Mori and Joe Bono for all their assistance in putting on a fabulous Congresso. David Benjamin, Joe Bono, Amy Carney, and I made presentations. All other participants in the Educational Outreach trip (Peter Ausli, Deborah Enns, Erin Koester, Joseph Koester, Nancy Jackson, Linda Perrot, and Joseph Perrot) attended the Congresso and met with many Italian colleagues. Other AAFS members from Italy made presentations as well – Dr. Garofano and Dr. Roberto Testi, among others. Our Italian colleagues were incredibly gracious and warm. For a description of our other activities see the article by Nancy Jackson, Director of Development and Accreditation on page 18).

The AAFS Italy connection convened once more a few weeks later. I am writing this column from Sanremo, Italy, having been invited by AAFS colleague Dr. Andrea Lomi to make a presentation on Science, Technology and Law to a joint meeting of three professional associations representing the Italian Specialists in Legal Medicine. His colleagues, Dr. Simona Del Vecchio, President of IASPHA, and Dr. Massimo Mortelloni, President of COMLAS, produced an excellent conference. The conference theme was International Benchmarking in Legal Medicine and Forensic Science. It was well attended with more than 300 attendees. Issues addressed include: toxicology, DNA, crime scene processing, training, accreditation, ISO guidelines, bioethics, risk management, and even the CSI Effect. My favorite slide was a picture of William Peterson and Marge Helgenberger with the words “No Grazie”!!! (No Thank You!!) on it.

One of the things that impressed me on these international trips, as well as other trips over the years, is how passionate those in the forensic science field are about their work and the concern for the future of forensic science. Globally there is a concern regarding standards, ethics, certification, accreditation, and other issues. We distributed more than 300 AAFS applications at both conferences – people were filling them out on the spot in order to get other AAFS applications at both conferences – people were filling them out on the spot in order to get other AAFS...
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Future Annual Meeting Dates

February 16-21, 2009
Colorado Convention Center
Denver, CO

February 22-27, 2010
Washington State Convention & Trade Center
Seattle, WA

February 21-26, 2011
Hyatt Regency Chicago
Chicago, IL

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Legislative Corner

“Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect.” - Mark Twain

In September, I attended the annual meeting of the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors in Salt Lake City. I was asked to be on a panel and speak about crime laboratory regulation. The following article is based on my presentation. I am sure that some in the AAFS will have different views on this subject. My purpose in writing about crime lab regulation is to ask readers to take a second look at the oversight issue which I believe is closer to a reality than we think. The “regulation train” has left the station. Several powerful groups including the Innocence Project, the American Bar Association’s Criminal Justice Section, and the National Academy have discussed forensic oversight from several points of view. A few states have already mandated laboratory oversight. My biggest concern is that if we choose to do nothing, others will step in to fill the void.

Regulation of crime labs through accreditation of labs or certification of examiners is certainly not new. With reason, the Defense Bar has raised these issues for some time. How is this possible? In some ways we have ourselves to blame. Consider some of the following assertions that forensic scientists have made:

- Our error rate is 0%; in a forensic context, it’s not possible to make an error!
- No two snowflakes are alike; nature doesn’t repeat itself, and therefore [fill in the type of pattern evidence here] is unique.
- Critics of forensic science, including lawyers and academics, are not able to really criticize our practices because they don’t have a background to truly understand forensic science!

Statements like these will not stop our detractors from demanding some form of mandatory oversight of the forensic science profession. It is a fair question to ask ourselves: what is wrong with oversight? Recently, I have asked the following question in several talks I have given: Which group does not belong in this list?

(1) Physicians, (2) Lawyers, (3) Forensic Scientists, (4) Hair Stylists, or (5) Accountants?

The answer is (3) forensic scientists. They are the only profession that has no mandatory government oversight. So what’s the point? Is this a problem? Ask yourself:

- Would you rather seek professional legal advice from a lawyer who passed the bar or from one who has not?
- Would you prefer to have surgery in an accredited or non-accredited hospital?
- When you retain a professional, how do you determine professional competency?

continued on page 4
The fundamental question comes down to: Should the government have some sort of oversight in areas such as crime labs and forensic science practitioners, which potentially have profound impacts into people’s lives and liberty?

A few states have already created oversight commissions; others are considering some form of oversight. I am not certain whether we can or should, as a profession, try to stop this movement. It is generally better to be part of the solution than to have others dictate the outcome. Perhaps some form of oversight would be in our best interests.

There are a number of oversight modalities today. These include:

- Study committees
- Advisory groups
- Forensic commissions
- Innocence commissions
- Mandatory accreditation and certification
- Licensing

Soon, the National Academy’s report will be published and it is likely to contain some discussion about oversight. The NAS will prompt Washington to take some action to encourage oversight of programs through accreditation, certification, or possibly some form of forensic oversight commission. Naturally, state and local crime labs and medical examiner/coroner operations are under the control of State and local government. The Federal government cannot dictate much of anything without connecting funding to oversight. But the government could take a leadership role by encouraging progress in the area.

These are interesting times for forensic practitioners. I am optimistic that the continuing focus on forensic science is a good thing, which can only improve the quality and timeliness of our efforts. I guess we will just have to wait and see how it all plays out.

Correction
Attention AAFS Voting Membership: Please note the following correction to the Biography of Joseph P. Bono, mailed in the 2008-09 Nominating Committee Report on October 15, 2008.

American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB) 1999-2007

Register For the AAFS Annual Meeting Online at www.aafs.org
The AAFS 61st Annual Meeting is just three months away and the AAFS staff is busily preparing the printed materials for the Advance Program, scheduled to be mailed in late November. The same information will be posted to the AAFS website (www.aafs.org) in early November - just follow the meeting link! The program information will be available on the web and AAFS will continue to update the website information weekly, even after the paper copy is mailed, so you’ll want to check www.aafs.org for the most accurate and up-to-date meeting materials. You will be able to view, download, and print the .pdf session descriptions directly from the web. Best of all you, will be able to register online at the same time! Through the secure server, this is a safe and convenient way to register. Don’t forget the pre-registration deadline is January 28, 2009!
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The American Society of Forensic Odontology Invites You to Attend...

Source: Adam J. Freeman, DDS, ASFO President-Elect

The American Society of Forensic Odontology’s 2009 meeting is less than five months away. This year we will examine the current and possible future bite mark paradigms by a retrospective examination of bite mark testimony in noteworthy criminal cases. We will review three cases and have the odontologists who were retained by both the prosecution and defense present in each case. Additionally, we will have Dr. John Wallace a forensic entomologist discuss his research on crayfish bites as well as Vanessa Potkin from the Innocence Project who will discuss their perspective on bite mark evidence.

This year we would like to invite all sections of the AAFS to join us. You can register for the meeting at www.ASFO.org. Our schedule is as follows:

- **Dr. J. Curtis Dailey**, the Chairperson of the ABFO’s Bite Mark Evidence and Patterned Injury Committee, will open the meeting by discussing the ABFO’s current bite mark paradigm.

- **Case Reviews:**
  - *United States v. Novak*
    - Dr. Peter Loomis, the prosecution expert, and Dr. Tom David, the defense expert, will discuss their review of the evidence and testimony.
  - *California v. Frimpong*
    - Dr. Duane Spencer, the defense expert, and Dr. Gregory Golden, the prosecution expert, will discuss their review of the evidence and testimony.
  - *Mississippi v. Kennedy Brewer*
    - Kennedy Brewer was charged and convicted of the rape and murder of a three-year-old for which he was sentenced to death and served fifteen years in prison. The Innocence Project helped to exonerate Kennedy Brewer. Drs. David Senn and Iain Pretty will present their review of the evidence that was originally collected, and Dr. Richard Souviron will present a summary of the opinions of the prosecution expert, Dr. Mike West. Dr. John Wallace, a forensic entomologist, will present his research on crayfish bites and how that applies to the case in question. Lastly, Vanessa Potkin from the Innocence Project will then discuss the outcome of this case.

- **Dr. David Senn**, incoming ABFO President, will discuss his opinions and concerns about the current bite mark paradigm as well as discuss the possible future of bite mark evidence.

Please take the time to go online and register early for the meeting so we may arrange appropriately.

I look forward to welcoming you all to Denver, and I think this will be a thought-provoking meeting for all who attend.
members present to fill out their recommendation forms. Many attendees at both conferences said they will be at the meeting in Denver.

One of the concerns addressed at both Italian conferences was the lack of funding for research in forensic science – a concern we share here and discussed at the NAS meetings. As you know, I am very committed to raising research funds and what better way than to start at home. I am pleased to report that FSF has received $300,000 from NIJ that will provide grants for students in FEPAC accredited institutions to do research and present that research at national and international meetings. I am very excited about this research initiative. Now is the time for us to show our commitment to forensic science research and give ourselves a “High Five” as I discussed in the last newsletter – Any contribution in a multiple of five. My vision is to raise another $200,000 in contributions to the FSF during this year for a total of $500,000. We will send a resounding message to many communities if we have a 100% contribution level – even if it is $5 per member. Please give what you can for this worthy cause.

I want to share a very moving personal experience I had while in Italy, which encapsulates why I think what we all do is so important. Before I go on a trip, which is 20 to 30 times a year due to my Directorship of NCSTL and other writing and speaking commitments, I ask my mother, Mary, who is 78 what she would like me to take a picture of or bring back (she is an artist). This time Mom asked me to bring her glass earrings from Italy. I went into a shop in Italy, which has exquisite glass work. I struck up a conversation with the owner and after talking about Murano glass, food and forensics (they have many forensic shows in Italy) she asked me what I do. I told her and she asked me if I would listen to her story. She was raped 27 years ago in Chicago (she has lived in Italy for 18 years) – the person she was with was murdered. They were sitting in a car and were dragged out and attacked. It was a cold case for years, but a lead developed and she was sent a DNA kit to collect her buccal swab; they still had her rape kit from years ago. There was a match with the two assailants. Even though the rape statute of limitations had expired, she flew back to Chicago to testify regarding the homicide. The two defendants were convicted. She was concerned because the accused said they did not do it, but the DNA placed them there. She asked whether the DNA could be wrong. I told her it was highly unlikely - science does not lie. She was brave to unearth this part of her life so many years later to help solve a case and right a wrong. That is why we do what we do.

President’s Message cont.

Bloodstain Pattern Analysis (BPA) has long been accepted in the courts around the world. Under the Frye or the general acceptance standard, there were no significant challenges to BPA in the United States. The advent of the Daubert standard in 1993 introduced new variables that needed to be evaluated. In addition to the general acceptance standard, Daubert looked to evaluate additional parameters such as the known or potential error rate of the technique or procedure.

While essentially no process has a negative error rate (not even computers), finding an effective way to evaluate it for BPA is problematic. Current proficiency testing in BPA has proved to be an ineffective method to establish known or potential error rate. This is a serious issue and needs immediate attention.

Under the direction of Brian Gestring (Criminalistics), Breeanna Meneses from the forensic science program at Cedar Crest College has designed a preliminary study to evaluate error rate. Since basic pattern recognition is the first critical step in this process, this study will focus exclusively on pattern recognition.

To achieve this goal, a web based survey has been created. Participants can log on to the survey and complete it in less than 15 minutes. The survey is composed of very basic bloodstain patterns that have been created in a controlled environment and photodocumented. Since there are a number of valid terminologies, this study will ask participants how a given pattern was created and discount terminology altogether. After participants have completed the pattern recognition portion of the survey, they will be asked some basic questions about their background. Participants will need a password to access the web survey, but their identity will remain anonymous.

If you have any questions about this research or would like to participate, please send an e-mail to bloodstain08@gmail.com.

Research into the Error Rates Associated with Bloodstain Pattern Analysis

Bloodstain Pattern Analysis (BPA) has long been accepted in the courts around the world. Under the Frye or the general acceptance standard, there were no significant challenges to BPA in the United States. The advent of the Daubert standard in 1993 introduced new variables that needed to be evaluated. In addition to the general acceptance standard, Daubert looked to evaluate additional parameters such as the known or potential error rate of the technique or procedure.

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If you have any questions about this research or would like to participate, please send an e-mail to bloodstain08@gmail.com.
A Word From Your 2009 Program Chair

Due to the hard work of each and every AAFS member, we have been able to put together a wonderful and exciting program for the 2009 American Academy of Forensic Sciences Annual Scientific Meeting in Denver, Colorado! A round of applause goes out to thank each of you who worked so hard this year to make this upcoming event the best ever presented! We have had a great response from all of you in your research and proposals for presentations for the meeting. All of your papers are in and have gone through the review process. Now we can start the arduous process of putting it all together and getting it to the printer. That task is being done by Sondra Doolittle and the Academy staff. They are putting in many hours to make this a great event.

There are many workshops to choose from and each section has given us a great variety of presentations from which to choose. Once you receive the Advance Program, plan out which ones you would like to attend. Make your hotel reservations early to get the best rooms. We would like to have a great turnout of people attending the workshops.

I hope all of our members will come join us for this exciting conference in Denver. Plan to attend meetings, meet with old friends, plan future research projects, and come ready to play in the snow. You have earned the break so plan on enjoying it. Colorado in February is ski country in ski season. I look forward to seeing you all there!

Attend the 2009 AAFS Annual Business Meeting and Enter to Win a Complimentary Meeting Registration!

The Annual Business Meeting of the Members of AAFS will be held Wednesday, February 18, at 4:15 p.m., at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, CO. It is essential for all Fellows and Members to attend this very important meeting in order to reach a quorum for the voting process. Agenda items include the election of 2009-10 Officers and recognition of all Members being promoted to Fellow status. You also will be briefed on AAFS activities during the past year and plans for the future.

As an incentive to attend, all Fellows and Members present will automatically be entered to receive a complimentary meeting registration to attend the 2010 AAFS Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington.
Make Your Hotel Reservations Early!

The 2009 AAFS Annual Meeting will be held February 16-21, 2009, at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, Colorado. Our block of rooms has been reserved at the Hyatt Regency Denver and the Grand Hyatt Denver hotels. Space will fill up quickly. For best availability, make your reservations today via the Internet. The hotel reservation’s links are:


Attendees will receive a special group rate for this event. Rooms start at $149 at the Hyatt Regency and $139 at the Grand Hyatt. You must make your reservations by 01/22/2009 to receive the special rate!

Official Airline and Car Rental Agency Selected

The American Academy of Forensic Sciences has selected United Airlines and Hertz as the official airline carrier and car rental agency for the 61st Annual Scientific Meeting in Denver, Colorado.

The meeting ID number for United Airlines is 585DM and should be used when booking travel on United. The same code is to be used by international travelers. Reservations may be made through United’s Meetings Plus Reservation System or a travel professional. In the U.S. or Canada, contact United’s MeetingsPlus reservation service at (800) 521-4041. For international travel, contact your local reservation office.

As a bonus, you can receive special discounts on car rentals through Hertz® (www.hertz.com). To reserve a vehicle at our special meeting rates, go to the Ground Transportation link on the Meetings page of the AAFS website (Meetings > Annual Meeting > Ground Transportation) or provide the CV# (022Q4194) to your corporate travel department or travel agent, when making reservations. In the U.S. and Canada call: (800) 654-2240, all others: (405) 749-4434.

Special Accommodations

If you have a disability that may impact your participation at the AAFS 61st Annual Scientific Meeting, please check the appropriate box on the AAFS Pre-Registration Form (page 13), and include a statement regarding your special needs. Someone from the AAFS headquarters will contact you prior to the meeting to discuss accommodations. Availability of appropriate accommodations cannot be ensured without prior notification of need.

Annual Meeting Employment Forum

The AAFS will be hosting its sixth annual Employment Forum at the upcoming meeting in Denver, Colorado. The intention is to provide a means for employers and applicants to meet, exchange information, conduct informal interviews, or schedule interviews for later in the week.

This special event will be held on Tuesday, February 17, 2009, from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., directly adjacent to the AAFS Welcoming Reception.

Space is limited! Employers, to reserve your place at the Employment Forum, please contact Sondra Doolittle at the AAFS office by email: sdooolittle@aafs.org, or fax: (719) 636-1993. Sondra will be happy to answer any questions you may have. Plan on joining us for the AAFS Annual Meeting Employment Forum!
# 2009 Workshops Announced

Twenty-four workshops have been accepted for the 2009 AAFS Annual Meeting, offering a wide range of topics. Workshops are an excellent means to meet your continuing education needs while maintaining and expanding your knowledge of your specific forensic discipline. Many workshops have limited registration, so fill out the pre-registration form on page 13 today!

## MONDAY - FEBRUARY 16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Chair</th>
<th>Co-Chair</th>
<th>Registration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Ethics in the Practice of Forensic Science</td>
<td>Robin Bowen, MA</td>
<td>Samantha H. Neal, BS, BA</td>
<td>limited to the first 50 registrants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#2</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.</td>
<td>New Insight into Asphyxia by Hanging: From Basic Hanging Deaths and Autoerotic Asphyxial Fatalities to Advanced Pathophysiology of Human Hanging</td>
<td>Anny Sauvageau, MD</td>
<td>Vernon J. Geberth, MS, MPS</td>
<td>limited to the first 50 registrants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#3</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>They’re Alive! Breathing New Life Into the Investigation and Prosecution of Cold Case Homicides</td>
<td>Richard H. Walton, EdD; Mary Ellen O’Toole, PhD</td>
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<tr>
<td>#4</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Microscopical Thinking and Trace Evidence</td>
<td>Peter R. De Forest, DCrim; Gary J. Laughlin, PhD</td>
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<td>#5</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Pediatric Forensic Medicine</td>
<td>Karen F. Ross, MD</td>
<td>Kim A. Collins, MD</td>
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<td>#6</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>So You Think You Know Digital Imaging? SWGIT Advice to All AAFS Disciplines</td>
<td>Richard Vorder Bruegge, PhD</td>
<td>William R. Oliver, MD</td>
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<td>#7</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Security Documents Before and After the Crime: REAL ID, Physical and Electronic Security Features, Developments in Commercial Printing Technology, and an Introduction to Counterfeit Link Analysis</td>
<td>Gregory R. Dalzell, MA; Chester W. Ubowski, BA, Carolyn Bayer-Broring, MFS</td>
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<tr>
<td>#8</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Solid Phase Extraction in Forensic Science-Principles and Applications</td>
<td>Jeffery Hackett, MSc</td>
<td>Albert A. Elian, MS</td>
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<tr>
<td>#9</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Beyond Anaphylaxis – Death by Immunity: When Should Acute and Chronic-Immune-Mediated Death be Considered Part of the Differential Diagnosis?</td>
<td>Jan E. Leestma, MD</td>
<td>Elaine Whitfield Sharp, JD</td>
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<tr>
<td>#10</td>
<td>1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Digital Forensics in Large Scale Cases</td>
<td>Alan E. Brill, MBS</td>
<td>Mark Pollitt, MS</td>
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<tr>
<td>#11</td>
<td>1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Integrated Microfluidics for Forensic Applications</td>
<td>Joan M. Bienvenue, PhD; Suzanne Bell, PhD, Robert C. Giles, PhD, James P. Landers, PhD</td>
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<tr>
<td>#12</td>
<td>1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Quality Assurance in Human Identification</td>
<td>Vincent J. Sava, MA; John E. Byrd, PhD</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## TUESDAY - FEBRUARY 17

| #13 | 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Recent Advances in Liquid Chromatography and Mass Spectrometry for Applications in a Variety of Disciplines in the Forensic Sciences | Peter R. Stout, PhD | Ira S. Lurie, MS |
#14 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Forensic Imaging: Current Developments and Future Directions  
Chair: Craig T. Mallak, JD, MD; Co-Chair: David R. Fowler, MD

#15 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Deciphering the Code: How to Interpret Reports and Work With Forensic Scientists to Evaluate the Significance of Scientific Findings  
Chair: Vincent J. Desiderio, MS; Co-Chair: Ken Williams, MS

#16 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. International Accreditation of Forensic Laboratories  
Chair: Ashraf Mozayani, PhD, PharmD; Co-Chairs: Mark Mogle, BS*, Luis A. Sanchez, MD

#17 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Etiology of Serial Murders: Analyzing Behavioral and Psychological Perspectives  
Chair: Robert J. Morton, MS; Co-Chair: Mark Hills, BA

#18 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Standards in the Forensic Sciences: Their History, Development, and Impact on Laboratory Practice  
Chair: John J. Lentini, BA; Co-Chair: Peter V. Tytell, BA

#19 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Forensic Image and Video Processing  
Chair: Zeno J. Geradts, PhD; Co-Chair: Nicole A. Spaun, PhD

#20 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. ISO/IEC 17025:2005: Section 5.4.6: Estimation of Uncertainty – Is Anyone Certain What This Means?  
Chair: Elizabeth A. Mishalanie, PhD; Co-Chair: Joseph P. Bono, MA

#21 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Ethics and Forensic Science  
Chair: Roderick T. Kennedy, JD; Co-Chair: Paul Messner, JD

#22 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Pharmacology and Pharmacokinetics for Forensic Toxicologists  
Chair: David M. Benjain, PhD; Co-Chair: H. Chip Walls, BS

#23 1:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. Operation Street Smart: An Overview of Current Street Drugs and Drug Culture  
Chair: John F. Wyman, PhD; Co-Chair: John R. Sudimack, BS

#24 1:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. Advances in Archaeological Approaches to Crime Scene Investigation  
Chair: Ian Hanson, MSc; Co-Chairs: Paul Cheetham, MSc, Steven V. Gilbert, PhD

---

**Badge Alert!**

It is the policy at AAFS annual meetings for attendees to have name badges in order to enter special sessions, workshops, breakfasts, and scientific sessions. In the past, attendees and guests have been allowed to enter the Exhibit Hall without a badge. Please note, **ALL** functions will require a name badge in order to enter. All attendees, guests, and the press will not be allowed to enter to any function without a badge. This policy will be strictly enforced, so please come prepared.

---

**Need to Share a Room in Denver, CO?**

If you would like to have more spending money to take in some of the “must see” sights while in Denver during the AAFS annual meeting, then share a room! The AAFS office is maintaining a list of meeting attendees who would like to share a room with a colleague. For more information, please contact the AAFS office at (719) 636-1100.
2009 Breakfast Seminars — Pre-Register Today!

Prepare yourself for breakfast because you will not want to miss these great seminars (pre-registration only) arranged by Chair Stephen Billick. You will enjoy a wonderful breakfast — buffet style — with fresh fruit, muffins, and dry cereal, in addition to ham, bacon, sausage, scrambled eggs, hash browns, pastries, juices, coffee, tea, and milk. Breakfast is from 7:00 a.m. to 7:25 a.m., with the special presentation scheduled to conclude at 8:30 a.m., just in time to join your colleagues for the scientific sessions.

TUESDAY — FEBRUARY 17
B1 Stories Behind the Evolving Story on Heparin Related Deaths: Just Opportunism or Unrestricted Capitalism?
Abraham T. Phillip, MD

B5 Departure Angle From Roadway Using Vault Calculations
Robert L. Anderson, BSME

WEDNESDAY — FEBRUARY 18
B2 The Real Mason Verger: The Man Who Fed His Face to the Dogs
Vernon J. Geberth, MS, MPS

B3 The Seven Deadly Sins of Forensic Practice
J.C. Upshaw Downs, MD

FRIDAY — FEBRUARY 20
B6 Taking Sexual Assault Response Teams to the Next Level: California SART Report
William Green, MD; Marilyn Peterson, MSW, MPA; Brooke Allison, MA

B7 Tom Krauss Memorial Bite Mark Breakfast 2009: Broken Bones, Bites, Taphonomy, and Tool Marks - Getting More From Traumatized Bones
Steven A. Symes, PhD

2009 Luncheon Seminars

An educational venue is being offered again at the 2009 AAFS Annual Meeting in the form of Luncheon Seminars. The luncheons will follow the same model of the breakfast seminars, with the presentations focusing on intellectually challenging and stimulating topics. Don’t miss this opportunity to have lunch with colleagues from various disciplines and to listen to the presentations. The luncheons are available by pre-registration only.

THURSDAY — FEBRUARY 19
#1 When You’re in Hell, Don’t Screw With the Guy Holding the Pitchfork
Larry Pozner, JD

FRIDAY — FEBRUARY 20
#2 Neuroscience and the Law: Forensic Applications of Cerebral Single Photon Computed Tomography in Mild Traumatic Brain Injury
Hal S. Wortzel, MD
1. REGISTRATION INFORMATION (Please print or type all information)

Name ____________________________________________

Agency ____________________________________________

Address ____________________________________________

City __________________ State ______ Zip ______ Country

Phone ( ) Fax ( )

Email ____________________________________________ AAFS Member No.

Spouse attending? □ Yes □ No Spouse Name ____________________________________________

First AAFS Meeting? □ Yes □ No Hotel where staying __________________________

Vocational Status: □ Professional □ Student □ Academic □ Decision Maker □ Purchasing Agent □ Other

Would you like to receive pre-meeting mailings? □ Yes □ No

2. REGISTRATION FEES - SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS

To be pre-registered, your registration, change, or replacement must be received at AAFS by January 28, 2009. After this date, all registrations will be processed as on-site registrations at the AAFS Registration Desk. - - The deadline is firm - -

All requests for cancellation must be made to the AAFS headquarters in writing via fax, mail, or email. Phone cancellations are not accepted. Cancellation registration fees will be refunded as follows: Prior to Dec. 1 - full rebate less $25 admin. fee; Dec. 1-31 /75%, Jan. 1-31 /60%; Feb. 1-8 /50%.

No refunds after February 8, 2009.

Check Fee Category Pre-Registration On-Site

1. AAFS Members & Trainees $250 $250

2. Applicants $250 $250

3. Non-Member Trainees $250 $250

4. IAI Members $250 $250

5. AFTE Members $250 $250

6. Non-Members $425 $425

7. AAFS Retired Fellow $ -0- $ -0-

8. Full-Time Students $100 $125

(Must be full-time student. If non-AAFS member, must provide copy of Spring '09 class schedule.)

9. Daily Registrants $135/day $150/day

 Prior to Jan. 28

10. Workshops Only

* Receives Reception Beverage Ticket.

Subtotal $ ________

3. REGISTRATION FEES - SPECIAL FUNCTIONS

Registration form must be received by January 28, 2009, in order to attend Special Functions. There will be no on-site registration for the following Special Functions.

EVENT CODE PRICE QTY. TOTAL

TU Evolving Story on Heparin Related Deaths B-1 $ 38

W The Real Mason Verger B-2 $ 38

W Seven Deadly Sins of Forensic Practice B-3 $ 38

TH Alferd G. Packer: CO's Premier Cannibal B-4 $ 38

TH Departure Angle From Roadway B-5 $ 38

FR SART: Taking Teams to the Next Level B-6 $ 38

FR Tom Krauss Bite Mark Breakfast B-7 $ 38

Luncheons

L-1 $ 46

L-2 $ 46

Section Business Luncheons

Lunches

L-3 $ 46

L-4 $ 46

L-5 $ 46

L-6 $ 46

L-7 $ 46

Special Sessions

M NamUs (limited to the first 50 registrants. Free of charge.) S-1 $ 0

M Interdisciplinary Symposium S-2 $ 85

TU Young Forensic Scientists Forum S-3 $ 85

Workshops

W/Meeting Workshop

M Ethics in Forensic Practice W-1 $ 100

M New Insight into Asphyxia by Hanging W-2 $ 100

M Cold Case Homicides W-3 $ 200

M Microscopic Thinking & Trace Evidence W-4 $ 200

M Pediatric Forensic Medicine W-5 $ 200

M So You Think You Know Digital Imaging W-6 $ 200

M Security Documents W-7 $ 200

M Solid Phase Extraction W-8 $ 200

M Beyond Anaphylaxis W-9 $ 200

M Digital Forensics in Large Scale Cases W-10 $ 100

M Integrated Microfluidics W-11 $ 100

M Quality Assurance in Human ID W-12 $ 100

M Advances in Liquid Chromatography W-13 $ 100

M Forensic Imaging W-14 $ 125

M Deciphering the Code W-15 $ 100

M International Accreditation of Labs W-16 $ 200

M Etiology of Serial Murders W-17 $ 200

M Standards in the Forensic Sciences W-18 $ 200

M Forensic Imaging and Video W-19 $ 200

M Estimation of Uncertainty W-20 $ 200

M Ethics & Forensic Science W-21 $ 200

M Pharmacology & Pharmaokinetics W-22 $ 100

M Operation Street Smart W-23 $ 125

M Archaeological Approaches to CSI W-24 $ 125

Subtotal $ ________

4. CONTINUING EDUCATION

Only registrants may request continuing education credit.

□ $50.00 Administrative Fee

CE forms will be available at the AAFS Registration Desk.

□ Academy of General Dentistry

□ American Association of Clinical Chemistry

□ Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education

□ American Dental Association

□ Continuing Legal Education

□ General Continuing Education Subtotal $ ________

5. PAYMENT PROCESSING

□ Check Enclosed □ Purchase Order

□ American Express □ MasterCard/Visa

NAME (as it appears on your card) ____________________________________________

CARD NO. ____________________________________________

EXP. DATE ______

SIGNATURE ____________________________________________

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE $ ________ (Totals from Nos. 2, 3, & 4)
The 2009 AAFS Annual Meeting is scheduled for February 16-21, 2009, in Denver, Colorado. Volunteers are needed to accomplish an array of administrative and gatekeeping tasks throughout the week of the meeting. Volunteers who are not members of the Academy may receive complimentary registration to attend all non-ticketed sessions of the meeting with a minimum of 8 hours of completed volunteer service at the meeting. This does not include sessions requiring pre-registration or fees other than the basic meeting registration fee. If you plan to attend sessions, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator for the AAFS Registration Form. Please Note: Those individuals receiving complimentary registration will not be eligible for continuing education credit.

Although AAFS Members do not receive complimentary registration for volunteering, the Academy needs its members to volunteer. Your service to the Academy is recognized as instrumental in making the event a success. Persons accompanying registered attendees are also welcome to volunteer if they wish.

Below is a list of the various areas where volunteers are needed as well as an information form. Credit Card information is now required; however, your card will only be charged should you attend the meeting for free and fail to fulfill your volunteer commitment*. Volunteer Applications must be received no later than December 1, 2008, and are accepted on a first come, first served basis. Incomplete forms will not be accepted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AAFFS Office Administration</th>
<th>Luncheons</th>
<th>Plenary Session</th>
<th>Registration Desk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast Seminars</td>
<td>Special Sessions</td>
<td>2010 Meeting Promotion Booth</td>
<td>Scientific Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshops</td>
<td>Student Academy</td>
<td>Local Information Booth</td>
<td>Section Business Meetings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### AAFS 61st Annual Meeting Volunteer Information Form*

Name: ___________________________________ Title: ____________________ Organization: __________________________

Mailing Address: __________________________________________________________________________________________

City: _________________________________________________ State/Province: ________________________________________

Zip/Postal Code: __________________ Country: __________________ Home Phone: ________________________________

Fax: __________________________ Work Phone: ___________________________ Cell Phone: _________________________

E-mail: _________________________________________________ AAFS Member? Yes [ ] No [ ] Member #______________

The best way to contact me during the meeting is: [ ] Phone [ ] Email [ ] Other ____________ Ex. Date: ___________ MC [ ] Visa [ ] AE [ ]

Signature: ______________________________________ Credit Card #: _______________________________

AAFS is authorized to charge up to $425.00 for registration fees should I attend the meeting and not fulfill my volunteer work assignment(s).

I plan to arrive in Denver, CO, on __________________________ and depart on __________________________

Please check all dates you are available to volunteer. Mark the time(s) of day you are available (am and/or pm) as well as the maximum number of days for which you are willing to volunteer. Please Note: Every attempt is made to fulfill your requests however there is no guarantee your requests will match our needs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates Available</th>
<th>Time of Day Available</th>
<th>I prefer to work: [ ] Full Days [ ] Half Days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, February 14</td>
<td>______ ______ am ______ pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, February 15</td>
<td>______ ______ am ______ pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, February 16</td>
<td>______ ______ am ______ pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, February 17</td>
<td>______ ______ am ______ pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, February 18</td>
<td>______ ______ am ______ pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, February 19</td>
<td>______ ______ am ______ pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, February 20</td>
<td>______ ______ am ______ pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, February 21</td>
<td>______ ______ am ______ pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maximum number of days willing to work: ________________________________________________________________

[ ] I am requesting "Complimentary" registration as a non-member with a minimum of 8 hours of volunteer service.

*Return completed form by December 1, 2008, to:

Volunteer Coordinator
AAFS
410 North 21st Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80904
Fax: (719) 636-1993
acorrin@aafs.org

*Form must be filled out completely. Incomplete forms will not be accepted.
BRING YOUR OWN SLIDES (PowerPoint)  
BYOS.ppt  
Wednesday Evening: 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

In order to keep BYOS.ppt informal, fun, and informative for the large and diverse audience, here are a few things to keep in mind for the BYOS.ppt program at the 2008 AAFS Annual Meeting in Washington, DC:

- To present at BYOS.ppt presentations must be in PowerPoint format. 35mm slides are no longer be accepted.
- Proposals must be submitted on this form accompanied by a “6-slides per page” printout of the presentation and an electronic copy on CD or “flash” drive.
- BYOS is not intended as a forum to present scientific papers. It is designed as a means to present interesting information and/or unusual case(s) that may be educational and blended with humor.
- Speakers should plan on ten minutes in which to present their material.
- Material being presented in other parts of the AAFS scientific program will not be accepted at BYOS.ppt.
- Tables, charts, and graphs should be avoided, making every effort to use slides of scenes, bodily findings, and evidence.

This complete form, a 6-slide per page printout, and the electronic presentation copy should be delivered to the on-site AAFS Staff Office by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, sooner if possible. Presentations will be selected and scheduled based on perceived interest to the audience and on the order in which the completed submissions are received. This form and required printout are needed to organize the BYOS.ppt program and to allow appropriate allocation of continuing education credit. A BYOS.ppt Program Form also will be placed in each registrant’s meeting packet.

**BYOS PROGRAM FORM**

Name (include academic degree/s) _______________________________________________________________________________

Job title _____________________________________________________________________________________________________

Place of employment __________________________________________________________________________________________

AAFS Section Affiliation (if none, write “none”)? __________________________________________________________________

The presentation is being offered primarily to:
- Solicit input/advice on a challenging case
- Present interesting information or case(s) for educational purposes
- Entertainment

Presentation is:
- A single case
- A series of cases with a common topic
- Multiple cases with unrelated topics
- Other (please specify):

Briefly describe the material to be present

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________

What are the major points to be emphasized?

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________

How will the attendees benefit from this presentation?

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Is there financial interest in the material being discussed?  □ No  □ Yes (If yes, please describe)

How much presentation time is required? ________ minutes  How many ppt slides will be shown? ________

Presenter’s local hotel ___________________________ Room # _______ Phone # _________________________

The BYOS agenda, scheduled presentation times, and continuing education credit hours will be posted near the BYOS meeting room. If you have any questions, contact Nancy Jackson or Sondra Doolittle at (719) 636-1100, or at the on-site AAFS Staff Office.

AAFS STAFF USE ONLY: Date Received: ________________________ Time: ________________________
Guidelines for Poster Presentations

Each poster session presenter will be provided with a 4’ (height) x 8’ (width) poster board and an ample supply of push-pins. The board will be labeled with the presentation title and pre-assigned AAFS presentation number. Presenters are responsible for posting their material at least 15 minutes prior to the opening of the session and removing the material at the close of the session. Volunteers will be available to assist the presenters. The AAFS is not responsible for material posted early or left after the session is over. Materials left will be disposed of after presentation hours.

CHANGES TO THE 2009 AAFS POSTER PROGRAM ARE AS FOLLOWS:

* Presenting authors are asked to have their posters ready for display at 9:00 a.m. for attendee viewing.
* Presenting authors will be required to be present from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. to answer questions.
* Posters should be removed by 5:00 p.m.

AAFS or its representatives will verify poster presentations. Authors who display a poster but do not present materials during required hours will not get credit for the poster presentations. Authors are also encouraged to bring reprints for distribution during the session and may wish to bring sign-up sheets for attendees who desire additional information.

CONTENT

The poster presentation should cover all key aspects of the work and contain the following items:

- Abstract
- Introduction
- Materials
- Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusions
- References

PRESENTATION FORMAT

* Extensive narratives are not necessary. Short, “bulleted” statements are preferred.
* Results presented in the form of figures, diagrams, graphs, etc., are preferred, but may be presented in clear, concise tabular format.
* Statistical data should be titled and summarized in a clear, concise format.
* Material should be displayed in a logical sequence from top left to bottom right. Number all poster panels or use arrows so that the sequence of presentation is clear.
* All type should be a minimum of 14 pt and readable from a distance of 3-4 feet. Use standard type styles (e.g., Arial, Helvetica, Times New Roman).
* All poster panels should be printed with a laser or other high quality printer.
* The display does not need to be “artsy,” but the overall effectiveness of a poster presentation can be enhanced by using techniques such as mounting poster panels on colored paper or crescent board. Colors may be used to highlight important points.

See the Sites in Denver!

For those of you who plan to take in some of the sites in and around Denver during the AAFS annual meeting in February, the Denver Metro Visitor and Conventions Bureau has a wealth of information on their website: http://www.denver.org/. You will find information about how to get around town, all of must-see sites, places to shop, where to eat, etc. You may also request a copy of the official Denver Visitor’s Guide directly from their website.
Guidelines for LCD Projector Presentations

Each section will be provided one computer to use in its scientific sessions. However, if sections have scheduled concurrent sessions, they may elect not to provide a computer in each room. Please contact your section program chair to verify the availability of computer equipment. Otherwise, it will be your responsibility to provide a laptop computer for your presentation. All inquiries should be addressed to your Section Program Chair.

PREPARING YOUR PRESENTATION:

- Microsoft PowerPoint® 2003 or later is highly recommended. Other versions of PowerPoint and programs may be difficult to support at the conference.
- Dark background and light text provide acceptable contrast and display well in the darkened meeting rooms. Avoid distracting or otherwise hard to read color combinations such as red and blue, and yellow and green.
- Arial, Times New Roman, or Helvetica are the recommended font styles. Avoid using fonts that project poorly. Unusual or custom fonts may not be available on the host computer.
- Use as large a font as possible and fill the screen. Anything less than 24 pt is too small. Suggested font sizes are Titles: 48-54 pt, Main text titles: 32 pt; Smallest text lines: 24 pt.
- Keep your presentation simple. Do not crowd the frame. Limit the number of text lines per frame to a maximum of seven lines, with no more than 30 characters per line.
- Use simple graphs and illustrations with a minimum of captions. Avoid using thin lines, dots, dashes, or other specialty lines.
- Verify your computer resolution by going to your computer’s control panel, selecting “Display” then “Settings.” The recommended resolution is 1024 x 768.
- Avoid the use of commercial messages (e.g., logo) and video and audio clips unless presenter has knowledge of using these special functions.
- Save your presentation on a flash drive or CD-ROM. Always test your presentation on another computer to verify file compatibility, layout, and style.

IF YOU PLAN TO USE AN LCD PROJECTOR AT THE MEETING:

- Test your presentation with the LCD projection unit provided in the speaker ready room.
- You must report to your assigned room at least 30 minutes before the session is scheduled to begin (not your scheduled presentation time). Introduce yourself to the session moderators. Bring your presentation on a flash drive or CD-ROM that is clearly labeled with your name. Please contact your Section Program Chair for these details.
- If using your own computer, you will be given instructions on how and when to connect to the LCD projection unit.
- If technical problems occur, you may be asked to present without visual aids.

Guidelines for the Richard Rosner Award for the Best Paper

The Psychiatry & Behavioral Science Section of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences announces its annual award, “The Richard Rosner Award for the Best Paper by a Fellow in Forensic Psychiatry or Forensic Psychology.” To qualify: 1) the paper should have been completed as part of the work of the forensic fellowship year, OR within one year of the completion of the forensic fellowship year based upon work or research that took place during that year, 2) the paper must have not been previously published, and 3) submission constitutes permission for publication in the Journal of Forensic Sciences.

To apply for the award: 1) send the original paper, plus six copies, 2) send an original letter, plus six copies, from the director of the forensic fellowship program affirming that the author was a forensic fellow and the year of the author’s forensic fellowship, and 3) send seven copies of the author’s curriculum vitae. All submissions should be sent to: Sondra Doolittle, AAFS, 410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904. Submissions must be received by December 31, 2008.

The award consists of:
- Free membership for one year in the Psychiatry & Behavioral Science Section of the AAFS, IF the author meets the requirements and completes the application process
- Free registration to the AAFS Annual Scientific Meeting
- Acceptance of the paper for presentation at the Psychiatry & Behavioral Science Section of the AAFS Annual Scientific Meeting
- Free subscription for one year to the Journal of Forensic Sciences, the official publication of the AAFS
- Recommendation of publication to the Editorial Board of the Journal of Forensic Sciences
- A cash award of $350 to the author
Planning and Development

Source: Nancy J. Jackson, Director of Development & Accreditation

AAFS 2008 International Educational Outreach Program - Italy

All of the participants of the AAFS 2008 International Educational Outreach Program have expressed their thanks to AAFS President Carol Henderson and our Italian hosts for their hospitality and amazing reception of the American travelers. I think I can speak for all participants when I say this was an adventure to be remembered! There was so much to take in; I will only share a very few of my most memorable moments. A visit to Rome would not be complete without seeing the Sistine Chapel, the Colosseum, and the Pantheon; and yes, I threw my three coins in the Trevi Fountain! Of course, the true highlight in Rome was a tour of the Carabinieri Laboratory. General Nicola Raggetti and the Carabinieri warmly welcomed the group to the lab for a fascinating tour and exchange of information. While in the beautiful city of Siena, a trip to St. Dominic’s Basilica was in order to view the head and finger of St. Catherine. For those interested, it was determined that the finger was the right index finger and not the thumb. On to Florence and a visit to the Gallery of the Accademia di Belle Arti to view Michelangelo’s David. While standing in awe of this amazing masterpiece, it was pointed out by one of our group that Michelangelo had masterfully incorporated a 13th floating rib on David’s left side. These are just two of the things I would have never known had I not traveled with members of the Academy. Lastly, we traveled to Parma where Giovanni Mori and Dott. Luciano Garofano with the assistance of Joseph Bono, AAFS Secretary, and Claudia Donnini (Università degli Studi di Parma) arranged a daylong conference at the University of Parma. The enthusiastic audience far exceeded the number originally anticipated, leaving standing room only. Speakers included Errore Randazzo (Avvocato del Foro di Siracusa), Giuseppe Gennari (GIP del Tribunale di Milano), Laura Volpini (Università di Roma La Sapienza), Giovanni Mori (Università degli Studi di Parma), Carol Henderson (Juris), Luciano Garofano (Reparto Carabinieri Investigazioni Scientifiche), Joseph Bono (Crim), Roberto Testi (Medico Legale), David M. Benjamin (Tox), and Amy Carney (Gen).

Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC)

At this writing, 13 forensic science programs are under consideration for accreditation. The new applicants are: Duquesne University Master of Science, Forensic Science and Law; John Jay College of Criminal Justice Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science; Keystone College Bachelor of Science - Biological Science/Natural Science - Forensic Biology Concentration; Pennsylvania State University Bachelor of Science – Forensic Science; Sam Houston State University Master of Science in Forensic Science; University of Alabama at Birmingham Master of Science in Forensic Science; and University of Illinois at Chicago Master of Science in Forensic Science. The six programs up for reaccreditation from the initial pilot programs are: Cedar Crest College Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, Biochemistry, Biology, and Genetic Engineering with a concentration in Forensic Science; Eastern Kentucky University Bachelor of
Science in Forensic Science; Florida State University Certificate Programs in conjunction with the Bachelor of Science Degree in a natural science such as chemistry or biology and Master of Science in Forensic Science; Metropolitan State College Denver Bachelor of Science in Chemistry with a concentration in Criminalistics; and Michigan State University Master of Science (biology and chemistry tracks).

With this record number of programs under review, the Commissioners and evaluation teams are very busy. Final results will be published in February 2009.

To date, there are 19 programs from 17 institutions that have been accredited by FEPAC. Specifics regarding these and all awards of accreditation may be found on the AAFS website (www.aafs.org) under the FEPAC Accreditation Information link.

There will be three Practitioner vacancies on the Commission in February 2009. A “Call for Applicants” has been posted to the AAFS website with details for practitioners interested in applying for the vacant seats. AAFS Members or Fellows may submit letters of intent with a curriculum vitae to the Director of Accreditation by fax or electronic communication. As defined in the FEPAC Policies and Procedures Section 2.2 (Composition), “At least three of the forensic science practitioners must be members of the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD).”

Finally, FEPAC is very pleased to announce its election to membership in the Association of Specialized & Professional Accreditors (ASPA). ASPA, a national organization that works with accrediting bodies to enhance the quality of higher education through specialized and professional accreditors, agreed that FEPAC met its code of good practice and approved its application for membership at its September 7-9, 2008 meeting.

FEPAC’s commitment to maintaining and enhancing the quality of forensic science education through a formal evaluation and accreditation system for college-level academic programs that lead to a baccalaureate or graduate degree will be enhanced by membership in ASPA.

Forensic Science Educational Conferences (FSECs)

Another series of successful and well-attended conferences held for high school teachers was completed this summer: Florida Gulf Coast University under the guidance of Heather Walsh-Haney; Saint Louis University under the guidance of Past President Mary Fran Ernst and Julie Howe; and Michigan State University under the guidance of David Foran.

Florida Gulf Coast University

The FSEC at Florida Gulf Coast University, held May 2-4, 2008, was a great success. This year’s event was hosted by Heather Walsh-Haney (Phy Anth), with assistance from fellow FGCU colleagues David Lounsbury (Gen) and Barry Lipton (Odon). Additionally, several AAFS members took time from their busy schedules to share their knowledge and expertise with more than 30 eager elementary, middle, and high school teachers from Florida and the rest of the country. Richard Bisbing (Crim), Jason Byrd (Path), Sue Coticone (Crim), Michele Merves (Tox), AAFS Past President Bruce Goldberger (Tox) all contributed their time creating interactive labs and lectures for the conference participants to utilize with their classes. Geoff Mitchell with TruTV lectured on Forensics in the Classroom, and Lisa Alston, TruTV Marketing Manager, worked closely with FGCU and AAFS to provide the participants with complimentary TruTV bags that were stuffed with additional materials. Ed Gifford and Glen Beitzman, scientists with Super Science and Amazing Art, in Naples, FL, enthusiastically presented ways to make science fun for younger classes. Friday’s luncheon featured Jan Garavaglia (Path/Bio), who discussed her fascinating casework, while on Saturday AAFS President Carol Henderson (Juris), accompanied by Anjal Swenton (Crim), shared their work on the National Clearinghouse for Science, Technology and the Law (NCSTL), and provided numerous resources for the teachers to use when they returned to their classrooms. Sunday included an emotional testimony by Christine Mumma, an attorney with the Innocence Project in North Carolina, and her exonerate Dwayne Dail, who shared his experience of almost two decades of imprisonment, and how forensic science helped to free him. Other Academy members and Florida Gulf Coast University students who made this conference possible included Christen Herrick, Kait Shepherd, Laura Gibson, and Andy Waters.

Saint Louis University

Once again Past President Mary Fran Ernst (Gen) and Julie Howe (Gen) conducted another very successful FSEC at Saint Louis University hosting over 75 high school and middle school teachers on July 21-23, 2008. Area teachers were presented with a wide array of forensic topics and hands on workshops. On the first day, participants learned crime scene investigation techniques and “investigated” mock crime scenes. In addition, teachers had the opportunity to share their favorite forensic science activity with attendees. The second day focused on DNA background techniques, performance, and interpretation of data and uses in the courtroom. Day three applied the concepts of forensic science to school safety including a case example, drug trends, gangs, computers and internet safety. Topics included Death Scene Investigation by Mary Fran Ernst (Gen); Profiling by Dayle Hinman (Gen); Crime Scene Labs by Major Mike Copeland, Detective Chuck Subke, and Special Agent Brian Ritter; The Innocence Project with Susan McGraugh; DNA discussions by Lisa Campbell (Crim), Eileen Lyons, Reena Roy (Crim), and Barbara Weekley; the VA Tech School Shootings by Marcella Fierro (Path); School Safety by Officer Chuck Weinman; Drug Trends and Gangs by Special Agent Melanie Domagala; and Computer Forensics by Special Agent James Thompson.

Michigan State University

The FSEC held at Michigan State University from August 4-7, 2008, was a huge success. Sixty science teachers from the US and Canada joined forensic scientists from MSU and the Michigan State Police Forensic Science Division for four packed days of learning, networking, and fun. The event was organized by David Foran (Crim), Ruth Waddell Smith (Crim), and Melissa Christie (School of Criminal Justice) from MSU, Jeff Nye (Crim) from the MSP, and eight incredibly dedicated Michigan high school science teachers. First up was a crime scene processing seminar by Bill Wilson (Crim), after which teachers were shown (and photographed) 10 sample crime scenes for use in their classrooms. More sessions followed, led by AAFS members including Guy Nutter (Crim) who ...
covered both impression evidence and trace analysis. Lauren Stanchek (Crim) who discussed blood spatter analysis. Other topics included glass and soil—David Szymanski (Crim); entomology—Rich Merritt (Path/Bio); anthropology—Mary Megyesi (Phy Anth); chromatography—Ruth Waddell Smith (Crim); and, DNA/serology—David Foran (Crim). Helping to keep the laboratory sessions running smoothly were AAFS Student Affiliates Rachel Aikman, Kim Anderson, Jamie Baerncopf, Scott Grammer, Patricia Joiner, Brianne Kiley, Erin Lenz, Ashley McClellan, and Ruth Udey. Other speakers from the MSP included Robert Rayer (firearms), Elaine Dougherty (drugs), and Scott Hrcka (latent prints), from MSU Alan Prather (botany) and Ryan Tubbs (anthropology), and Michelle Elieff from the Ingham County Medical Examiner’s Office. The teachers had the opportunity to interact with forensic scientists both inside and outside of the classroom. By the time Thursday rolled around everyone was exhausted, but forensic science education in our schools had been enhanced, and many new friends had been made.

For the 2009 year, three FSECs are being planned. All three are first time ventures for the universities and AAFS would like to thank them for their dedication and efforts. They are: Joseph Peterson (Gen) at California State University at Los Angeles who will join forces with other CSUs to produce a west coast FSEC; David Norris (Gen) and Jane Bock (Gen) will host a first time FSEC at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Dates for these two FSECs will be forthcoming. Finally, Jerry Melbye (Phy Anth) will host a first time FSEC at Texas State University at San Marcos, August 16–19, 2009. Watch for additional details on the AAFS website (www.aafs.org) under the Forensic Science Educational Conferences link.
AAFS 2008 Educational Outreach Program to Italy

Source: Joseph Bono, MA

Our mission is clearly defined: The American Academy of Forensic Sciences is a multidisciplinary professional organization that provides leadership to advance science and its application to the legal system. The objectives of the Academy are to promote education, foster research, improve practice, and encourage collaboration in the forensic sciences.

On August 25, 2008, eleven representatives of the Academy set out on an educational outreach program to take the concepts of the mission statement above, and produce a product of which we could be proud. For many years our colleagues from Italy have supported the Academy by sending one of the largest delegations from outside of the United States to our annual meetings. They have contributed to the success of our meetings through the years by their memberships in the AAFS, and also by active participation in our scientific sessions. They have demonstrated a genuine willingness to share information and provide assistance in countless other ways.

During our time in Italy, we did provide leadership to advance science; we did communicate with those in their legal system; we did promote education; and we did encourage collaboration in the forensic sciences in a way achievable only through human interaction. The American delegation demonstrated that we cared about the Academy and our colleagues in Italy. Our Italian colleagues demonstrated their dedication to the advancement of forensic science through mutual cooperation in an international forum.

Our forensic science community is relatively small; however, it is a global community. Through the efforts of the 2008 AAFS Educational Outreach Program, all the participants came closer to an understanding of each other and the importance of working together as a global community.

The 2008 American Academy of Forensic Sciences Educational Outreach Program provided us the opportunity to meet with our colleagues in their laboratory in Rome, and at one of Europe’s premier universities in Parma. The “educational outreach” also provided us a forum to share our experiences with forensic scientists from other cities in Italy who have never been able to attend our meetings. Four members of our delegation, President Carol Henderson, Dr. David Benjamin, Amy Carney and I lectured at the University of Parma to approximately 200 forensic scientists, university professors, physicians, lawyers and judges from throughout Italy. The organizers from Italy, Dr. Luciano Garofano and Professor Giovanni Mori, worked tirelessly to ensure that everything was in place for our visit to the University. When those interested in forensic science throughout Italy discovered that we were coming, they too showed up in Parma, on Monday, September 1, to greet us and to participate in the ensuing discussions. The interest in our visit was so great that there was not enough room in the university auditorium to accommodate the audience. The press, both newspaper and television stations, were also there to document the visit of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences to Italy and the University of Parma. Five representatives from Italy also made presentations at the symposium, enabling everyone present to exchange ideas. The result - we gained valuable information which will enable us to better address the problems we encounter here in the United States.
When the Academy announced the 2008 educational outreach program to Italy, I knew it was a very unique opportunity that I couldn’t miss. I really liked the thought of being able to enjoy Italian culture, sights, and cuisine, while at the same time enhancing my professional development with peers in the AAFS as well as Italy. So I signed up for an adventure—travel to a foreign country with a group of people I had never met, with no ability to speak the language, and with no support from my employer. Obviously, I had some concerns:

Travel arrangements at first seemed very complicated. I worried about making all connecting flights, hoped that all flights would proceed in a safe and timely fashion to my destination of Rome, and that I could then make my way to the first stop on the tour without disaster… Getting lost in a foreign country was not appealing to me.

Considering the expense of the trip and the fact that I was burning through a good chunk of personal vacation time, I hoped that in addition to visiting the Carabinieri lab and attending the international forensic science conference, I could also make the trip fun and relaxing, like a vacation should be.

I imagined that it was quite possible that the other Academy members who were embarking on this journey had much more experience within the forensic science community than the eight years I have with the CA Department of Justice. I wondered if they would accept me; would I feel included in the group, or excluded due to age or lack of experience?

Fortunately, none of my concerns were warranted. I was able to make my way from far northern California to the Grand Hotel in Florence without any problems, and was even lucky enough to be seated next to nice people on my flights.

Italy was beautiful and amazing; that is the simplest and most honest way to describe it. The people, the architecture, the art, the food, the wine – all were spectacular. I felt like this tour gave me a perfect blend of opportunities. I had the benefit of touring with a group, but also had time to wander and explore on my own. I discovered new friends, both personal and professional, yet also had enough time to relax so that I did not feel rushed or stressed. And amid all of the personal fun, I benefited from new professional experiences that will greatly enrich my career. Touring the Carabinieri lab in Rome was one of the highlights of the trip for me. I love my job and I loved being able to see people in another country work towards the similar goals that we have as criminalists. I enjoyed being able to compare and contrast equipment, techniques, and ideas with our Italian colleagues. The conference at University di Parma also proved to be a great experience. It was educational, thought provoking, and FUN!

And my colleagues and companions on this tour? Wow! What an awesome group of people! It was an honor for me to have kept such good company. They were indeed more experienced than I, but rather than intimidating me, this enhanced the entire program both professionally and personally. It was a great opportunity for networking on a more intimate level that I’ve had at annual meetings in the past. My colleagues were kind, funny, informative, and did make an effort to include me, of which I was quite appreciative.

To sum up the experience, it was worth every Euro cent! I am so grateful that I was able to participate in this trip. I encourage all members of the AAFS, regardless of age or experience, to take advantage of the AAFS International Educational Outreach Program in the future when the timing is right for you. You will have no regrets, and you will greatly appreciate the enriching and fulfilling experience.
CRIMINALISTICS

Source:  Matt Wood, MS, Program Chair

With the holiday season quickly approaching, February will be here before you know it. Now is the time to begin planning to attend the 61st Annual AAFS Meeting in Denver. Encourage your colleagues to travel and join you at the meeting. This is a perfect way to introduce potential members to the benefits of applying for membership in the Academy.

The Criminalistics Section program for the annual meeting is in the final stages of planning. Approximately 200 abstracts for the poster and oral presentation sections were received and reviewed. The scientific session will begin bright and early on Thursday morning with a special series of presentations specifically related to AAFS President Carol Henderson’s theme “Forensic Science: Envisioning and Creating the Future.” Over the next three days, the scientific session will contain a broad range of interesting research, certain to have something for everyone. The scientific session is scheduled through noon on Saturday, so plan your travel accordingly.

The Forensic Sciences Foundation supports much of the research being presented at the meeting through Acorn and Lucas Grants, as well as the Emerging Forensic Scientist Award. While qualified members are encouraged to apply for research support, everyone is qualified to donate to support the research that is the lifeblood of forensic science. Information for contributing to this worthwhile cause can be found on page 35 of this newsletter.

A very important function at the AAFS annual meeting is the Criminalistics Section Luncheon and Business Meeting. This is an opportunity for the members to have their voices heard, influence decisions and policies for future meetings, and network with other members of the section. In addition to a wonderful luncheon, the business meeting is also an occasion to recognize the special accomplishments of the section’s Paul Kirk Award and Mary E. Cowan Outstanding Service Award honorees as well as the FSF Jan Bashinski Grant recipient. The number of attendees for the luncheon is estimated in advance of the meeting and is available on a first come, first served basis.

Finally, dues notices were recently sent out to all members of the Academy. Please don’t let your membership expire by forgetting to submit your dues. While you’re at it, take a moment to ensure that your membership information is current by going online at www.aafs.org.

DIGITAL & MULTIMEDIA SCIENCES

Source:  Mark Pollitt, MS, & Eoghan Casey, MA
Program Co-Chairs

There were many excellent workshop and paper submissions for the AAFS 61st Annual Meeting, enabling us to schedule the Digital & Multimedia Sciences program for one and a half days. Two workshops will be sponsored by the Digital and Multimedia Sciences section this year.

The program on February 19, 2009, focuses on computer and media forensics, beginning with approaches to making our processes more effective and consistent. The first presentation of the day will get us off to an explosive start. Subsequent presentations deal with tool testing and validation, as well as advancements in identifying embedded objects and known data.

We then delve into the analysis of digital evidence, covering search techniques, embedded data, data mining, and new devices. Towards the end of the day we will get into more specialized types of analysis, including applying linguistics and natural language processing to digital forensics. Case studies are peppered throughout the day to keep it real. On February 20, 2009, the program is dedicated to analysis of digital audio, video and images. A pair of presentations dealing with testing video quality promises to generate discussion from the outset. We will then learn about interesting approaches to ascertaining whether a specific camera was the source of photographs of interest, using a database of electric network frequency to determine the time of a recording, determining the speed of a car, and performing 3-D analysis using video footage, followed by an impressive attempt to apply statistics to the process of estimating height from video footage. A comparison of face recognition tools and techniques precedes the final presentation of our section which looks to the future of digital audio analysis, and we hope will get everyone thinking about the future of their areas of specialization and our field as a whole!

ENGINEERING SCIENCES

Source:  Roy Crawford, BSME, Section Secretary

Membership Committee Chair, Holly Adams, asks members to consider taking on her job next year and to give some thought on ways to increase membership. She can be contacted at hadams_engr@yahoo.com. Also, ideas on anything relating to our section can be thrown out on our Yahoo group site at http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/AAFSESS/. Since we will next meet in the beautiful skiing state of...
Awards Committee Chair Annabelle Boehm is pleased to announce that for your efforts in this difficult task. Your submissions will make the General Section’s presentation. Thanks to all who took the time to submit their abstracts for which will cover three days (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday).

Lastly, we hope to see you in Denver. If you make the conference, please make sure to attend the Engineering Sciences Section luncheon and Annual Business Meeting on Wednesday. This gathering is the heart of our activities for the year, and what you can learn and contribute are invaluable.

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**GENERAL**

Source: Robert C. Gaffney, MFS, Section Secretary

General Section Chair Paul Kish and Secretary Robert Gaffney are in the process of reviewing applications for membership and promotion within the General Section. Two avenues to insure promotion are attendance at the General Section Business meeting and volunteering as a committee member or moderator, which is done at the Annual Meeting. Please plan to attend and support the Section. Thanks to your support, last year we had a tremendous turnout! This year, bring a friend and colleague for another large turnout in Denver, Colorado.

Program Committee Co-Chairs Joanna Collins and Angela Asaro Geis have reviewed the submitted abstracts and have organized the General Section Program Schedule. They have accepted presentations and posters for the General Section Scientific Session, which will cover three days (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday). Thanks to all who took the time to submit their abstracts for presentation. Your submissions will make the General Section’s Scientific Program a success. Special thanks to Joanna and Angela for your efforts in this difficult task.

Awards Committee Chair Alan Boehm is pleased to announce that the Committee has selected the recipients of the General Section’s Awards. The Awards Committee has also reviewed several Applicants’ abstracts for the General Section Achievement Award. Those competing for the General Section Achievement Award will make either oral or poster presentations during the section’s scientific session in Denver, CO. Award winners will be announced and awards presented during the General Section Business Meeting on Wednesday, February 18, 2009. They also will be recognized during the Annual Business Meeting of AAFS Members later that day.

The General Section Scholarship Committee is offering two (2) $500 Scholarships to be awarded in 2009. Applicants must be an immediate family member, defined as a spouse or dependent child, of a General Section Fellow or Full Member, who is enrolled full-time in a nationally-accredited college or university, with a declared major in a discipline that is accepted by the General Section for membership. If you and your “student” fit these criteria, consider contacting General Section Scholarship Chair, Steven Gilbert, for a scholarship submission form, which includes the submission of a paper. Keep in mind the deadline is December 31, 2008.

Mary Fran Ernst and the Reception Committee are working on the Third Annual General Section Reception. This year, we will co-host the reception with the Digital & Multimedia Sciences Section, the newest addition to the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. If you have a potential sponsor in mind to help defray costs, please contact Mary Fran.

Robert Freed and the Nominating Committee are putting together the nominees for the General Section’s Officers. The General Section offices of Chair and Secretary are open for election this year. The Nominating Committee will identify one candidate for each of these positions. Candidates nominated by the Committee will be asked to provide the Committee with a one-page resume no later than December 15, 2008. The Committee will publish a list of the candidates for General Section offices in the January Academy News. Nominations may also be made from the floor during the section business meeting on February 18, 2009.

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**JURISPRUDENCE**

Source: Roderick T. Kennedy, JD, Section Chair

First, a word from our sponsor: Book your rooms for the 2009 Denver meeting now!!! The meeting is over the President’s Day Holiday.

Denver is the home town of our late Fellow Harold Feder, for whom the Jurisprudence Section award for excellence is named. Those of us who knew Harold at all in the Academy were likely drawn into further activity with the Academy by his enthusiasm and generosity of spirit. Harold was a fine lawyer, sage advisor and a great friend to the forensic sciences and the Academy. The most recent recipient of the Harold A. Feder Award, Bob Joling, and previous recipients as distaff as Colorado-educated Gil Sapir and Colorado Springs resident and former fellow Steve Brunette all call to mind our friend and mentor by their own example and commitment to scientific truth in court as we prepare to gather in Denver next February.

I can’t say enough by way of fawning over people in power about how proud the section is to be represented by President Carol Henderson, whose tour to Italy this summer with AAFS members was a grand success, Carol’s energy and representation of the Academy is exceptional on the national and international stages. Not stopping there, Cynthia Windsor, 2009 Program Chair is working hard to ensure a great program in Denver, assisted in part by Margaret Tarver, who is helping to plan the Academy-wide luncheons. One of those luncheons promises to be exceptional, and is described below. Last, our board member Betty Layne DesPortes
has been active with the Academy helping draft guidelines concerning if and how the Academy might take a position in litigation concerning forensic science issues, and working with a proposal to exchange ideas and programming jointly with the NACDL, also mentioned below. Kidding aside, the Jurisprudence Section is proud to be so well represented in the Academy by these women, and takes seriously its position putting the “forensic” in forensic sciences.

AAFS members seem to be interested in the number of books and seminars lately purporting to teach expert witnesses how to either survive or try to turn the tables in court on their adversary lawyers. With that in mind, the Jurisprudence Section is providing to the Academy best-selling co-author of The Art and Science of Cross Examination, attorney, Larry Pozner, to speak at a luncheon entitled When You’re In Hell, Don’t Screw With The Guy Holding the Pitchfork. Mr. Pozner is also the former President of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. Cross examination is intended to expose the whole truth of a witness’s testimony. The witness trying to be “dangerous” to the other side from the witness stand because of reading a book may more properly be heading for a chapter in a book like The Naked and the Dead. Sign up for the luncheon and find out why. The Jurisprudence Section will also present papers on familial DNA searches solicited by retired prosecutor Rockne Harmon, jury practice, and phony witnesses, according to Program Chairs Paul Messner and Alan Black.

Other exciting news: The Academy has been approached by the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers who, in 2013, will also have a meeting in Washington, DC. Discussions have been held on whether we can engage in joint programming and an exchange of speakers and knowledge of the use of science in the courts. For all scientists who have wondered how to get good information to lawyers and all lawyers who have had trouble understanding how to get good information from expert witnesses, such an exchange could provide a useful and productive meeting ground. For scientists who primarily work for the government, it could be a useful window on a somewhat foreign aspect of forensic practice. An exchange like this could also be a boon to placing a greater emphasis on the fair use of science in the courts, and fair access to government-funded science for all participants in the criminal justice system. If arrangements can be made, we consider this to be a unique and powerful opportunity to share ideas of the role of science in the courts, promote greater recognition of what scientists do that is valuable for promoting the ends of justice, and exposing forensic scientists to the needs and methods of attorneys to better understand both scientific method and technique. Reinforcing the idea that the forensic sciences serve the greater goal of justice with responsibilities to no side of a dispute in court other than objective testimony should promote spirited and enlightening discussion. (Disclaimer: nothing in the above paragraph represents an official position of the Section. To the extent to which any of the author’s views are shared by anyone will only be borne out as time goes on. RTK)

We are happy to have received applications for membership and promotion that should increase our cohort of attorneys and legal scholars participating in the Academy. We look forward to an active and stimulating meeting in the Rockies this coming February. Thanks to all section officers for their hard work, our program chairs for obtaining high-speed programming, and our members for their continued interest and support.

ODONTOLOGY

Source: Richard Weems, DMD, MS, Section Secretary

The weather is getting cooler and dryer even in the Southeast, and the AAFS Annual Meeting in Denver is drawing nearer. Program Chair Paula Brumit has been busy evaluating and selecting abstracts submitted for the Scientific Sessions. This year’s submissions should provide a wealth of information concerning all areas of forensic odontology, and we should all come away from the session better prepared to perform the duties required within our profession.

Several AAFS Odontology members were recently deployed to south Texas and Louisiana by DMORT to deal with disinterred caskets from flooded cemeteries resulting from Hurricane Ike. At the time of this submission those members were: Peter Loomis (section leader), Adam Freeman, Ken Hermse, Richard Weems, Bob Williams, and Eric Wilson. Interestingly, several caskets that were recovered, re-casketed and re-interred by DMORT after Hurricane Rita were once again recovered after a second appearance due to flooded cemeteries created by Hurricane Ike.

The Odontology Section Nominating Committee has unanimously submitted the following candidates for a second term in office: Odontology Section Chair - Gary Berman, Odontology Secretary - Richard Weems, and Odontology Program Chair - Paula Brumit.

Also, join us at our section’s business meeting for the presentation of the Reidar Sognaas Award to Ed Woolridge, and the presentation of the Lester Luntz Award to B. Kalman (B.K.) Friedman. Congratulations to both of these award recipients.

PATHOLOGY/BIOLOGY

Source: Craig T. Mallak, MD, JD, Section Secretary

We’ve reached the halfway point in our Academy year with Washington now a distant memory, and your Program Chair Jeffrey Tomberlin is spending his evenings reviewing abstracts and correcting our grammar for the presentations in Denver. As always, this year’s meeting is looking to be one you won’t want to miss. You are strongly encouraged to make your plans now for hotel accommodations as the rooms will fill very quickly. Every year some members end up waiting too long and aren’t able to get the reservation they want. As for those who submitted an abstract, start looking for your acceptance letters the first week in November. Thank you to all who submitted abstracts. Prior to the scientific sessions, the Pathology/Biology Section Business Meeting will be conducted on Wednesday, February 18, and all are encouraged to attend.

A topic that has evolved over the last several years has been disaster planning. Many of you have been asked to participate or forced your way into mass casualty exercises sponsored by your local and State jurisdictions. If your exercises go anything like the ones I been involved with, members of law enforcement, medical services,
public affairs, lawyers, and other groups spend careers planning and carrying out these exercises. On the day of the exercise there is flurry of activity all morning and when the topic of dealing with the deceased comes up late in the day, everyone loses interest and goes to lunch. Maybe some of you have better powers of persuasion and have actually gotten outside agencies to pay attention to our role in these exercises and scenarios. Recently, I’ve had the opportunity to speak at a couple of state emergency planning meetings and it has been an eye opening experience. There are lots of questions from the planners with comments along the lines of “we’ve never thought about that.” All of us in the Path/Bio Section have a role to play in time of regional or national mass disasters. Part of that is being involved with the planning for such contingencies and taking part in the exercises that are held on a regular basis. While some jurisdictions have incorporated our role into the planning, there are many that have not. As members of the Academy, our talents are needed in the process. I would encourage all of us to get involved and stay involved with our emergency planning committees and agencies as we never know when the next disaster will strike.

PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Source: Thomas D. Holland, PhD, DABFA, Section Secretary

The National Institute of Justice has awarded several grants totaling almost one million dollars to the Department of Applied Forensic Sciences at Mercyhurst College. The grants include $399,240 for a project led by Steven Synes with Dennis Dirkmaat and Stephen Ousley: “Recovery and Interpretation of Burned Human Remains;” $282,340 for research conducted by Dirkmaat and forensic anthropology lab director Luis Cabo: “Enhancing Scene Processing Protocols to Improve Victim Identification and Field Detection of Human Remains at Mass Fatality Scenes;” and $293,924 for Ousley’s project: “A Radiographic Database for Estimating Biological Parameters in Modern Subadults.” Congratulations!

To other members of the Physical Anthropology Section, please share with me news of your own accomplishments for the newsletter!

One final reminder: now is the time to submit your nominations for the T. Dale Stewart Award. Nominees should be recognized members of the field of forensic anthropology who have made significant contributions to the discipline. Please send your selection to Norm Sauer (nsauer@msu.edu) with a brief bio and your top three reasons for the nomination.

PSYCHIATRY & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

Source: John L. Young, MD, Section Secretary

Already it is time for the preliminary announcement of the Tristate Chapter’s 34th Annual Conference of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law (AAPL) to be held on Saturday, January 24, 2009, in New York City. It is entitled “Forensic Controversies.” Topics to be covered include delayed PTSD, suicidal behaviors allegedly caused by antidepressants in adolescents, the ethics and effectiveness of psychological interrogation of prisoners, and the competence to have sex. The venue once again will be the NYU School of Medicine, Schwartz Lecture Hall, 550 First Ave., Manhattan.

Details are still pending at this time, so email Rusty Reeves at: reevesdo@umdnj.edu to get early registration discount information. The conference traditionally features only the best-vetted speakers chosen by a discriminating group of our colleagues, along with a not-to-be-missed lineup of refreshments and stimulating conversation.

Once again, the opportunity comes to share the news of a colleague’s recognition. Section Chair, Dr. Stephen Billick, has been named the Associate Chair for Faculty Development for the Department of Psychiatry of Saint Vincent’s Catholic Medical Center at New York Medical College. Dr. Billick has been helping faculty and residents with research designs, academic presentations and publications for years. This appointment simply recognizes the work he has already been doing and continues to do.

Please send any news to: jlmyoung@pol.net.

QUESTIONED DOCUMENTS

Source: Carl R. McClary, Section Secretary

Greetings members! Since the deadline for abstracts has passed, the QD program chair persons and executive committee are completing preliminary plans for your 2009 meeting program. The Academy’s online abstract submission program has provided a simplified system for review and editing of abstracts, but remember the deadlines for submissions are final!

Arrangements are currently under way to conduct the High Technology Counterfeiting Workshop describing the latest document security features, printing technologies, and an update on the REAL ID Act of 2005. This workshop will be held during the AAFS Annual Meeting in February. QD section members should register for the workshop before January 15, 2009, after which time registration will be open to everyone. In addition, we have received an excellent selection of abstracts for our technical program, which should prove to be well worth your trip to Denver in February! Our 2009 program Co-Chairs are Carolyn Bayer-Browning (703-285-2482, carolyn.bayerbrowning@dhs.gov), Chet Uboński (303-239-4303, chet.ubowski@cdps.state.co.us), and Greg Dalzell (703-285-2482, gregory.dalzell@dhs.gov). Please contact them with any questions you may have regarding our program or your previously submitted abstracts.

Enjoy the cool Fall months, and remember to consult the AAFS newsletters and website for your February arrangements information.


**TOXICOLOGY**

Source: Jeri D. Ropero-Miller, PhD, D-ABFT, Section Secretary

Our meeting rapidly approaches and we look forward to seeing everyone in Denver in February. Having grown up in Denver, pack a little of everything. The weather may be beautiful or it may be painfully cold and snowy. We will hope for the beautiful option.

The program for the Toxicology section has shaped up very nicely, thanks to Ken Ferslew, Program Chair and Phil Kemp, Workshop Chair. We have scheduled 33 poster presentations and 29 oral presentations for the meeting. There will be a Drugs & Driving Special Session, a Multidisciplinary Session of Pathology/Biology and Toxicology, as well as the Postmortem Pediatric Toxicology Special Session. We will have the classic Toxicology Open Forum with H. Chip Walls and Bob Zettel. We are fortunate this year to have Dr. Daniel Piomelli for the Annual Lectureship in Toxicology speaking on “The Endocannabinoid Signaling System.” Again, the section has risen to the occasion, providing for an excellent meeting.

We have been making an additional effort this year to foster membership promotions. So far, this has been paying off. The section currently has 488 members of various statuses. As of October 1, we received 54 membership applications. This includes 15 applications for Associate Member, 26 applications for Trainee and Student Affiliate, and 13 applications for Member and Fellow.

By the time you read this, we will be well past the deadline for submitting applications. Please remember, if you are eligible to promote your membership for next year that attendance at the meetings and participation in the section are necessary for advancement. So, please discuss with our committee chairs about how you might be able to participate.

Thank you to all of the contributors, sponsors, and volunteers who are working towards another excellent meeting.

**AAFS Chronicles - Do You Remember When?**

Source: Ken Field, Academy Historian

In 1948...
...three men did the planning for the Academy’s first meeting held in St. Louis: R.B.H. Gradwohl, Sidney Kaye, and Orville Richardson. Dr. Gradwohl was the driving force and the financier of the meeting. Dr. Kaye was in charge of contacting potential attendees and assisting in the selection of program topics. Mr. Richardson provided necessary legal advice and wrote a constitution for a possible permanent organization. Their hard work paid off because in January 1948, the Academy’s first meeting was attended by 150 enthusiastic scientists, all of whom endorsed the concept of organizing a permanent society.

In 1958...
...for the first time, the Academy leadership agreed to offer to all local students free admittance to the Academy’s Saturday program. The question of recruiting young forensic scientists and encouraging high school and college students to enter the field of forensic science had been discussed for some time but no action had ever been taken.

In 1968...
...after years of indifferent discussions by the Executive Committee about approving the creation of a General Section, the unassigned AAFS members took matter into their own hands and held an Organizational Meeting at the 1968 meeting in Chicago. John Hunt was elected its first Chairman and because he was not a Fellow, the officers of the section were listed in the Member Directory as “Acting only and not in accordance with the bylaws.” It should be noted that John was promoted to Fellow the following year. Several years later, Past President Ollie Schroder observed, “The General Section appeared to have been conceived in controversy and born in illegitimacy.”

In 1978...
...the first Gradwohl Medallion was awarded. Dr. Milton Helpem, the 1962 President of the Academy, was designated the Academy’s first Gradwohl Laureate, posthumously. Dr. Helpem died unexpectedly following the 1977 Annual Meeting in San Diego. Accepting the award from President Whittaker at the St. Louis meeting was Dr. Helpem’s wife, Mrs. Beatrice Helpem of New York. As of 2008, eleven Academy members have been awarded the Gradwohl Medallion.
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E-mail questions to: tmccray@aafs.org. Mail or fax form to: Tracie McCray, American Academy of Forensic Sciences, 410 N. 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904; Fax: (719) 636-5245;
Over the last several months we have heard a lot about change. I want to briefly talk with Academy members about something a little different from the need for change we have heard so much about from candidates seeking political office. Some of the political focus has been on taxation and the effect that taxes will have on our discretionary income. Basing their concerns on possible future scenarios, cynical pundits have said that at the end of the day, each of us will have a little change left in our pockets. Accepting that we will have some coins left over after paying the bills, I have an idea for the change that will be left in your pocket or purse. Please consider saving that change and then donating that money to the Forensic Sciences Foundation. I promise you that your donation to the Forensic Sciences Foundation will go to good use. The Foundation needs your support for the Lucas and Acorn Grants.

The Forensic Sciences Foundation is pleased to announce the recipients of the research awards for this year. The FSF Lucas Grant recipients are:

**Ruth Waddell Smith, PhD** - $1,250 for Development of Microwave-Assisted Extraction Procedures for Organic Impurity Profiling of Seized 3,4-Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA)

**Daniel Wescott, PhD** - $720 for Sexual Dimorphism in Auricular Surface Medial Projection and Post-Auricular Sulcus Morphology

The FSF Acorn Grant Recipients are:

**Jason Linville, PhD** - $420 for A Comparison of Collection Methods for Low Copy Number DNA

**Stephen L. Sgan, MD** - $250 for Autopsy Performance in Transfusion Recipient Fatalities Reported to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) During 2005-2006

Thanks to AAFS President Carol Henderson, FSF has received $300,000 from the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to provide grants to students in FEPAC accredited institutions to do research and present that research at national and international meetings. I, too, am very excited about this research initiative.

Also, please remember to make your contributions to the FSF auction at the February 2009 meeting in Denver. I again encourage all members of the Academy to participate in the “I Gave an Hour” campaign; and for the forensic odontologists, the equivalent of one dental restoration. Thanks for your continuing and generous support of the Forensic Sciences Foundation.
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### DIGITAL & MULTIMEDIA SCIENCES

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FSF Trustee Gil Brodton came up with a great idea for Academy members with advanced degrees. The idea was for everyone to consider contributing to the FSF the equivalent of one hour of their annual salary or the equivalent of the fee charged for one hour of consultation. The forensic sciences have been good to all of us. If you make a lot, consider contributing a lot! For salaried persons, one hour represents about 1/2000th of annual income. For those who receive consulting fees, please consider contributing an amount consistent with one hour (or more) of what you charge for consultation. Below is a list of the “I Gave an Hour” contributors thus far. The fund’s balance through 10/01/08 was $8,532. For those of you who would like to contribute, please complete the form below and return to the AAFS office. Please consider digging deeper than you ever have before to support the Forensic Sciences Foundation’s grant and research fund.

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Thank you for your commitment to the forensic sciences.
Lessons in Ethics for the Expert from Aesop: Part I

Once upon a time many years ago a city man was frustrated by his inability to move about the city streets with ease by automobile. So out he went to the country to buy a donkey. He found a farmer willing to sell a donkey. The city man paid $100 for the animal and promised to return with a trailer on the next day to pick up his purchase.

But on that day the farmer informed the city man that, during the night, the donkey had died. When the city man demanded the return of the $100 he had paid for the donkey, the farmer refused, saying a deal is a deal. So the city man, in a fierce huff, transported the dead donkey back to the city.

To recoup his losses, the city man advertised that he was raffling off a donkey, nothing being said of the state of the donkey’s health. Some time later the farmer came to the city, and having located the city man, asked him how things went with the dead donkey.

The city man, all smiles, told the farmer about the raffle and that 500 tickets had been sold for $2 each. But, asked the farmer, “what did you do when the winner demanded his donkey?” “I simply returned the $2 he had paid for the ticket and pocketed the remaining $998 as my profit,” he explained.

Lesson: Expert witnesses should not indulge in trickery, such as giving the erroneous impression, through dry labeling and the like, that things are other than what they should be reported to be after full and exacting testing. The gullibility of those who rely on the expert’s opinion does not justify deception by way of cutting corners in the testing.

The preceding is not one of Aesop’s Fables but it well could be since it has all the ingredients of one, i.e. an animal as the modus operandi, a surprise ending and a cautionary lesson, enunciated or not. Nor is it designed to be a cliché like “two wrongs do not make a right” or “do good and avoid evil” but a real world application of an ethical mandate, as opposed to an ephemeral, glittering generality.

Aesop’s Fables were good enough for Aristotle and Socrates to hold them in high regard. That being so, most assuredly, they should have some special place in the pantheon of instructionals for experts in the justice (civil and criminal) system. Aesop’s Fables, along with the series of Curious George stories by Rey, not to mention Hans Andersen’s Fairy Tales and Grimm’s Fairy Tales and the like, are often touted as only children’s stories for their lead characters are most frequently animals pitted against other animals. And children love animal stories, not realizing the animals in Aesop’s Fables play the multifaceted roles of grown-ups. The moral strictures appended to each of Aesop’s tales are not mere afterthoughts of limited importance but are, instead, meant to give the fables an active and permanent place as tutorials by which to live or even just to ruminate. Like the fables themselves these instructional are of universal and timeless appeal and relevance. It became for me, therefore, an easy task to reformulate those tales and their instructionals to the work-a-day world of expert witnesses.
Aesop, who lived in the sixth century B.C., is believed to have been a slave as a result of being captured in war. Even though a slave he seems to have lived a privileged life as a clerk or secretary for his owners. His fables were referenced often in the plays of Aristophanes and the rhetoric of politicians and lawyers of the times. Indeed Socrates is known to have sought to versify some of the fables while he was imprisoned awaiting his execution. And Jean de la Fontaine’s fables originating in 17th century France are modeled after Aesop’s Fables but are penned as pure poetry of “brevity and elegance.”

Aristotle collected many of Aesop’s Fables, some of which are reproduced in his The Parts of Animals. One of those portrays Aesop as a lawyer pleading a client’s cause before the Samian assembly on the island of Samos. Also punctuated his argument for the release of his client, a popular leader, for the crime of theft by recounting one of his own fables. In that fable a fox, seeking to cross a river, was caught up in the current and carried down stream where he was mired among the rocks. Being unable to extricate himself, a swarm of fleas beset him.

As it happened a hedgehog was passing by on the river bank and seeing the plight of the fox, offered to chase the fleas from it. The fox, however, rejected the kind offer, saying the fleas which had been gauging it had already had their fill while if chased away a new, voraciously hungry batch of new fleas would replace them, much to his continuing distress.

Aesop is said to have used this fable to make the point that putting his client, now a wealthy man due to his thievery, to death would just leave the Samos treasury open to be plundered by newcomers who would come along with the same avaricious proclivities. What he seemed to be saying was that there was less danger from his client than from others who would replace him upon his execution.

How receptive the Samian Assembly was to Aesop’s appeal for leniency is not reported. But, to the contemporary mind, the premise of the fable that thieves are just waiting in the wings to supplant another thief whose wrongdoing has profited him mightily out of any further interest in money-gouging, appears baseless and even risible.

The selections from Aesop’s Fables which are included, in reconstructed form, in this article are paraphrases of the Aesop translations of Olivia and Robert Temple published in 1998 as Aesop, the Complete Fables (New York: Penguin Books). I have taken this occasion to substitute different titles for the fables which are here retold, while retaining the numbering of the fables in the Temple edition. These replacement titles are all one-worders, signifying in succinct compass the lesson which each fable is intended to convey in this writer’s understanding.

The Temple collection states, in its introduction that the italicized materials they appended to most of the fables were probably not written by Aesop. Who might have been responsible for choosing and drafting those moralistic appendages is not stated by the translators. Since this writer has selected fables which seem to him, without extreme warping, to fit the practices of expert witnesses, it did not seem inappropriate for new lessons to be added to the fables, more tailored to the activities of such expert witnesses today. The lessons which are postscripts to the tales in this essay are not designed to be moralistic in their thrust since morals is often considered to be a matter of personal conscience without any firm roots in objectivity. Nevertheless the lessons which are given are intentionally didactic and, from this writer’s perspective, of wide, if not also universal, application to the diurnal activities of expert witnesses, whether scientists or technicians and whether laboratory based or not.

The introduction to the Temples’ Penguin edition characterizes many of the fables as “political satire” but speaks also of the entire collection as “essentially a joke collection.” More importantly they are deemed to be “reference books of material intended for use” in any number of different contexts. What the fables are not are “sugary children’s stories” to amuse and appeal to the younger set alone. Nor are the fables “the pretty purveyors of Victorian morals” that many persons have believed and espoused. They are, on the contrary, “savage, coarse, brutal, and lacking in all mercy or compassion.”

Although the fables are plainly “studies of human nature,” they could be seen as lampooning and lambasting human nature in the guise of a jungle book. The motto of Aesop, gleaned from this compendium of 358 fables, might be the unwelcome one popularized by Randy Newman who tells us in song that “it’s a jungle out there.” Even in such a jungle there is a law of the wild with its lessons to be learned or at least soberly contemplated. That is the message in what follows.

Fable #105: Blind-Sided
A doe had been born with but one eye. Being by nature a browser she went to the seashore to survey the scene. She kept her good eye focused on the shore on the look out for hunters. Her blind eye she turned to the sea, not expecting any danger to appear from that direction. But, to the doe’s surprise she suffered a fatal wound when shot by a hunter-poacher who just happened to be boating by on the sea. The doe, with her death coming nigh, bemoaned her short-sighty failing to judge a danger being likely to appear from the sea.

Lesson: So the expert witness, although well-prepared scientifically for a courtroom appearance in which his/her opinion will be solicited, must keep a weather eye out for the limitations the rules of evidence will impose on his/her direct and cross-examination, a failure of which can compromise even the soundest and surest opinion.

Fable #41: Self-Interest
A fox was distraught for his tail had been cut off in a trap. Seeking a way out of his embarrassment among his peers, he called a meeting of the foxes at which he urged them to shorten their tails, mimicking his. He argued that their tails were just useless extra baggage and merely a rudimentary appendage. But one of the assembly of foxes spoke up saying: You would not be so quick to have us follow your advice were it not for your own self-interest.

Lesson: The expert witness who puts himself and his own interests ahead of the attainment of a just and true result is altogether likely to have his words and opinions come to naught and to find himself demeaned by his peers.
Fable #39: Humility
A fox and a monkey were traveling together. Along the way they disputed who had more distinction and more accomplishments to his credit. When they came upon a cemetery the monkey broke down in heavy sobs. The fox inquired what troubled the monkey. The monkey pointed to the impressive monuments in the cemetery and said: I weep for these my lordly ancestors long buried in this cemetery. What? replied the fox disdainfully. You can lie to your heart’s content when none of those you claim to be your forebears can arise to contradict you.

Lesson: When an expert who appears at trial is not confronted by an opposing expert, the expert should not consider that fact to be an invitation to embellish his/her opinion or qualifications with exaggerations or untruths.

Fable #45: Multi-Faceted
A murderer was in flight from his murder victim’s family. As he neared the banks of the Nile he came upon a menacing wolf. In his panic he climbed a tree growing by the riverside. But his refuge was not altogether safe for a stealthy serpent was climbing up the tree towards him. In his terror he fell into the river where a crocodile found him to be a tasty meal.

Lesson: The pursuit of criminals, especially violent ones, should never be declared to be fruitless for the unexpected has been known to trap the fugitive. Cold case investigations, resorting to the skills of experts and others, should never be abandoned. Criminals should not be given the comfort of feeling safe in their fugitivity.

Fable #34: Congruence
A fox was seeking to escape the hunters who were tracking him. Coming upon a woodcutter the fox asked him to give him refuge. The woodcutter took the fox to his cottage where he let him remain sight unseen by the hunters.

Upon the arrival of the hunters the woodcutter boldly lied that he had not seen the fox. But in gesture, rather than words, the woodcutter made as if to say to the hunters that the fox was hiding in his cottage. And the fox saw those gestures of the woodcutter from his hiding place from which he watched the hunters departing without realizing that they had been gestured to their prey.

Lesson: Expert witnesses often render their opinions in the form of a written report with their oral testimony to follow in court or in a deposition. It is important that there be no unexplainable incongruities between that which is expressed in the courtroom or a deposition and that which appears in a written report. Major divergences between the two will lead the way to the quick-witted and well-prepared cross-examiner to suggest that such divergences are indicative of concealment or worse.

Fable #258: Appearances
There was once a group of travelers seeking a way to exit an island on which they were marooned. From a hilltop they observed what, to them at that distance appeared to be a warship. And such they took it to be until, on hurrying down the hill and coming closer to the object, they realized they were mistaken for the warship now appeared to be a cargo ship. Whereupon they rushed headlong to the beach from which their escape seemed assured. But, to their utter dismay, the cargo ship was in reality nothing but floating brushwood. Loudly did they bemoan their having been taken in by appearances.

Lesson: An expert should not rely for a certain opinion upon the appearances derived from presumptive tests in contrast to more conclusive, confirmatory tests. A closer analysis with more definitive tests can change appearances to a more certain and accurate determination.

Fable #22: Chance
A skilled fisherman was disconsolate for in many hours of fishing he had caught nothing. As he sat dejected in his boat he saw that the waters were being disturbed by a fish being chased by a school of larger fish. The fugitive fish, to save itself, jumped into the fisherman’s boat. And the fisherman was glad for his good fortune, it being an accident of fate.

Lesson: Experts cannot always rely only on their knowledge and their instruments to suffice to answer the problem before them. Sometimes chance will play a part in resolving the dilemma that besets them. Science and luck are not necessarily antipodes in competition with each other.

Fable #182: Ambiguity
A hound, while hunting, snared a hare. In between biting his prey, the hound licked it amicably. The hare, tiring of such divided attention, said to the hound either to bite or to kiss him as he wanted to know whether his opinion of him was as a friend or an enemy.

Lesson: Experts, in their opinions, should studiously avoid ambiguous words or statements which may be construed, to their regret, to be deliberately deceptive or at least misleading. Transparency, as the goal of the scientist qua expert, is never achieved by linguistic obfuscation.

To be continued ......
The following individuals have submitted applications for Associate Member, Trainee Affiliate, or Student Affiliate. **Applications that are received and completed by October 1, 2008, will be considered for approval at the February 2009 Board of Directors Meeting.** Due to space constraints, AAFS does not list members who are applying for promotion to Fellow or to Member. Comments or concerns regarding an applicant should be submitted in writing to: Cheryl Hunter, Membership Coordinator, AAFS, 410 North 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904; chunter@aafs.org. **Comments must be received by February 13, 2009.**

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Ropp, Stephanie, BS
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Rozycki, Andrew, BS
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Russell, Peyton, BS
Richmond, VA

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Smith, Leslie A., BS
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Stapleton, Lauren, BS
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Stotts, Elizabeth M., BS
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Taylor, Elizabeth, BS
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Porter, Kiara
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Wisely, Alison J.
Western, Diane
Webb, Nicole M., BS
Warren, Karen M., BA
Stephens, Danielle N., BA
Seigfried, Kathryn C., MS
Rink, April M.
Remek, Ryan R.
Rao, Ridhima D., BSc
Contini, Jennifer M., BA
Chamberlain, Michael, JD
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Apstein, Matt, JD
Greensboro, NC
Hill, Camille A., JD
Santa Ana, CA
King, Pam A., JD
Rochester, MN
Levergood, Robert F., JD
Clayton, MO
Lloyd, Debora L., JD
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Parise, Joseph M., JD
Moorehead, MN
Reinstein, Ronald, JD
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Scoville, Scott G., JD
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Smith, Scott R., JD
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Spadaccini, Gerard M., JD
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Kaiser, Wayne, DDS
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Pearson, Murray H., DO
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Seitz, Stefanie D., DDS
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Foster, Amber J., BS
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Ngande, Paul F., DDS
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Sonkin, Zachary S., MA
Woodbury, NY

PATHOLOGY / BIOLOGY

Associate Member
Aljabri, Jalal M., PhD
Bethlehem, Westbank
Arnall, Michael F., MD
Brighton, CO
Barr, Michelle B., MD
Albuquerque, NM
Castro, Hugo, MD
Lima, Peru
Chittenden, Shane R., DO
Richmond, VA
Chundru, Satish, DO
Austin, TX
Cline-Parhamovich, Karen, DO
Albuquerque, NM
Clouse, Jolene R., MD
Winston-Salem, NC
Di Mizio, Giulio, PhD, MD
Catanzaro, Italy
Duque Pedrahiha, Maximo A., M
Bogota, Colombia
Fabrice, Dedouit, MD
Toulouse, France
Grigsby, Tamara M., MD
Honolulu, HI
Hammers, Jennifer L., DO
New York, NY
Huntington, Timothy E., PhD
Seward, NE
Iliescu, Michael D., MD
Chandler, AZ
Kirsksy, Clarissa, MD
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House, Samuel J., BA
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Kocovski, Linda, BS
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Mangamele, Dena M., DVM
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Osterman, Nicole
Big Rapids, MI
Rakay, Christine A., BS
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Thomas, Sarah C., BA
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continued on page 42
Applicants cont.

Underwood, Bethany R., BS
    Colorado Springs, CO
Wagner, Matthew P., BS
    Loma Linda, CA
Wiley, Rachel E.,
    Missouri City, TX
Williams, Cassandra R., BS
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Gipson, Desina R., MS
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Henderson, Julie A., BA
    Morton, WA
Hines, David Z.C., MA
    Gainesville, FL
Huntington, Sarah M., BSc
    Kingston, WA
Kaye, Michelle
    Benica, CA
Kim, Deog-Im, PhD
    Gangneug, Korea
Latham, Krista E., PhD
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Lyles, Jessica A., MA
    Austin, TX
Reeval, Malina L., MSc
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Semeraro, Dominique, MS
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Bongiovanni, Rosanne, BA
    San Marcos, TX
Brown, Katie A., BA
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Butler, Alyssa L., BA
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Cosgriff-Hernandez, Meghan-Tomasita J., MFS
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Cridaer, Stephanie M., BA
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Curtin, Brian A, BA
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Daly, Elizabeth S., BA
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Del Alamo, Ana
    Ft. Lauderdale, FL
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Ingvoldstad, Megan E., MA
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Juarez, Jessica K., BS
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    Erie, PA
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    Bogota, Colombia
Servello, John A., BA
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Shattuck, Rebecca E., BA
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Des Plaines, IL
Lee, Dayong, BS
Tampa, FL
Ramoo, Bheemraj, BS
New Carrollton, MD
Santiago, Annie G., BS
Woodside, NY
Wade, Brittany M.
Menomonee Falls, WI

In Memoriam

Richard Arther, MA Retired Fellow of the Criminalistics Section, July 2007
Michael Carlo, PhD Retired Member of the Toxicology Section, September 2008
John Cody, PhD Former Fellow of the Toxicology Section, October 2008
Wilkaan Fong, BS Retired Fellow of the Criminalistics Section, September 2007
Charles Gould, III, MS Member of the Criminalistics Section, September 2008
Vincent P. Guinn, PhD Retired Fellow of the Criminalistics Section, November 2007
John Huschart, DDS, JD Retired Fellow of the Odontology Section, December 2007
Howard Shaub, MD Retired Fellow of the Pathology/Biology Section, September 2007
Robert Wayne Wall, MS Associate Member of the Toxicology Section, June 2008
Supplement to the Academy News
November 2008
Editor: Jennifer W. Mercer, BS

Young Forensic Scientists Forum
Newsletter

Greetings Young Forensic Scientists!

As we work our way through the fall months, we get closer and closer to registering for the 2009 AAFS meeting! This is your first reminder to watch for the 61st Annual Meeting registration mid to late November. Make sure you register early to ensure your spot in the Young Forensic Scientists Forum Special Session! This session has been growing in popularity for a number of years and last year we had a waiting list for people to get into the session. We regret having to turn anyone away, but are limited by the size of the venue where the meeting is held. This year we are trying to accommodate as many people as possible but it’s always a good idea to register early - we want ALL of you there! Check out the articles on session events from your program chairs and co-chairs, they have been working hard to put together another successful year!

In this newsletter, I also wanted to take a minute to mention AAFS President Carol Henderson’s Five for Forensic Science Research Plan proposed in the September 2008 Academy News. The goal is to have 100% of the AAFS membership donate to this campaign, and that includes the Student Affiliates and Trainee Affiliates in our group! The donations received will go to the Forensic Sciences Foundation to further research and education in the forensic science field. Now who better understands the need for money to support forensic science education and research than those of us currently (or recently) involved in forensic science education and research? Take this opportunity to show that this cause is an important one to you and that it should be to everyone else in our field as well! With 100% participation from the thousands of AAFS members that make up our organization, a donation as small as $5 per person really adds up. The successes of this campaign will be coming back to you so I hope you consider joining this effort to promote forensic science education and research!

Enjoy the rest of the year and get those meeting registration forms in; we’re looking forward to seeing you all this February in Denver!

Amanda Frohwein
YFSF President

AAFS at a Glance: Experience the Forensic Sciences

Hello, to all the Young Forensic Scientists out there. We are excited to announce our final line up of speakers for the 2009 Special Session! This year’s title is “AAFS at a Glance.” Throughout our day of lectures you will become acquainted with most of the sections represented in the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. We hope that giving you a broad point of view will peak your interest in unfamiliar fields. Our Special Session Speakers are as follows:

- Heidi D. Nawrocki, Emerging Forensic Scientist Award, Discrimination of Glass by Cathodoluminescence, Color Analysis, and Chemometrics
- Jane A. Lewis, Ten Cool Things about Forensic Document Examiners
- Douglas H. Ubelaker, Forensic Anthropology: An Overview
- John E. Gerns, Forensic Science: The Road to Resolution
- Karen B. Rosenbaum, The Underbelly of the Bronx: Diversion or Incarceration?
- Barry Lipton, An Overview of Forensic Odontology
- Vincent J. Desiderio Jr., Extraordinary Journey through the Ordinary Analysis of Trace Evidence
- Vicky Watts, Forensic Toxicology
- Vernon J. Geberth, An Introduction to Practical Homicide Investigation
- Andrew M. Baker, Pathology/Biology Section Overview
- Whitney Hill, MS, Emerging Forensic Scientist Award, Forensic Applications of the Electron Microscope
- Rhesa G. Gilliland, Digital and Multimedia Sciences
- Laura L. Liptai, Engineering Sciences

As you can see, the depth and breadth of our presenters is extensive. They are all eager to share with you what they love about forensic science and how you can become a part of it. Register for the YFSF Special Session and please note that admission includes one free lunch, one free Breakfast Session, a Poster Session, and a Bring
Your Own Slides event! We are excited to see all of you at the February event!

Arliss I. Dudley-Cash, BA
YFSF Program Chair

2009 YFSF Sponsorship
Every year the YFSF relies on the support and sponsorship of the forensic community to make our Special Session a success. The events held at each meeting include a day long scientific session, a working breakfast session, a poster presentation, and a “Bring Your Own Slides” presentation. The goal of the YFSF is to assist these scientists in establishing a solid foundation in their field; these sessions are critical in the professional development of our audience.

At previous annual meetings we have received donations, both monetary and educational materials (i.e., books), from various forensic science vendors. We would like to take a moment to thank our current sponsors for the 2009 YFSF Special Session:

- **Nikon** for support of the session luncheon.
- **Virginia Commonwealth University** for support of the breakfast session.
- **Bone Clones** for support of the breakfast session.
- **AAFS Criminalistics Section** for a donation to the general YFSF fund.

If you or your group is interested in supporting the newest generation of forensic scientists by providing sponsorship for the 2009 YFSF special session please feel free to contact one of the Sponsorship Chairs, Robin Bowen at Robin.Bowen@mail.wvu.edu or Samantha Huffman Neal at Samantha.Huffman@mail.wvu.edu for more information.

Samantha H. Neal
YFSF Sponsorship Co-Chair

2009 YFSF Poster Session
Are you working on an interesting research project or case?

When an application asks for publication or presentation experience, do you wish you could fill in that space?

As an undergrad, graduate student, or new forensic professional are you interested in presenting at the 2009 AAFS conference in Denver?

If the answers to the above questions are yes, the YFSF Poster Session is the perfect opportunity! Set on a smaller scale than the larger AAFS poster sessions, it provides a great way to get your feet wet in presenting research to your professional peers. The poster topics can range from research in any of the forensic disciplines to interesting casework - but all research topics are welcome! With 39 posters presented at the last meeting, we are hoping to get even more topics from more institutions at this year’s event.

In order to register for the YFSF Poster Session, please submit your curriculum vitae and a 1-2 page abstract by January 1, 2009, to YFSF Poster Chair, Anthony Sutter at yfsfposter@gmail.com. Should you have any questions, feel free to e-mail them as well. We’re looking forward to a great poster session in Denver!

Anthony Sutter
YFSF Poster Session Chair

2009 YFSF Bring Your Own Slides
We are looking for fabulous presenters for the YFSF Bring Your Own Slides! YFSF BYOS is a wonderful opportunity to share any interesting cases, and research you may have worked on. The presentations are short and casual and are a great way to build your resumes and your communication skills. If you are interested in presenting, please contact Tanisha Henson at t.v.henson@hotmail.com or Rachael Lehr rachael.lehr@gmail.com. See you in Denver, CO!

Tanisha Henson, BS
YFSF Bring Your Own Slides Chair

2009 YFSF Breakfast Session
This year’s Breakfast Session has switched gears from professionalism to research techniques and tools. For many of our attendees, theses or dissertations may be on the forefront of the brain. We have excellent speakers lined up to provide information to facilitate keeping current on the latest research techniques and the technological tools available to do so with the help of the internet.

Jay Siegel, Chair of the Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology and Director of the Forensic and Investigative Sciences Program at Indiana University Purdue University, Indianapolis will be speaking about the needs of the forensic science community among other topics.

We have three speakers from The National Clearinghouse for Science, Technology, and the Law (NCSTL): Cynthia Holt, Catherine Bailey, and Diana Botluk. They will discuss the resources available from the National Clearinghouse for Science, Technology and the Law at Stetson University, College of Law to keep us abreast of the latest issues on scientific evidence. They will discuss resources that are available in regards to evidence submission and admissibility such as Daubert Tracker, CLP News and Yahoo Groups along with other sources that are available to remain up-to-date on forensic issues and concerns and the latest developments. Demonstrations on how to utilize various databases and online resources such as the NCSTL database, Cold Case Toolkit, Education Center, RSS feeds, micro-social networks, and more will be given as well.

Jenna Oakes-Smith and I are very excited about all of the presentations this year. We believe they will be informative and extremely beneficial. We will also have a resume panel this year. If you would like to have your resume reviewed, please bring it with you to this year’s AAFS meeting! If you have any questions, please contact either Jenna (jloakes-smith@SLMPD.ORG) or me (msmith@ocme.nyc.gov). Thank you for all of your comments and suggestions on issues to be addressed on professionalism. They were all great and will be used next year. See you all in Denver!

Melissa E. Smith
YFSF Breakfast Session Co-chair
Meetings and Conferences

DECEMBER 2008

1-5
Basic Bloodstain Analysis Workshop - Presented by the Specialized Training Unit at the Metropolitan Police Institute of the Miami-Dade Police Department in Doral, FL.
CONTACT:
Toby L. Wolson
Miami-Dade Police Department
9105 NW 25th Street
Doral, FL 33172
(305) 471-3041
Fax: (305) 471-2052
twolson@mdpd.com

7-12
The Robert F. Borkenstein Course on Alcohol and Highway Safety: Testing, Research, and Litigation - To be held in the Indiana Memorial Union at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN.
CONTACT:
Suz Frederickson
Program Coordinator
slfreder@indiana.edu
www.borkensteincourse.org

JANUARY 2009

5-7
Medicolegal Investigation of Death - Sponsored by Wayne State University School of Medicine. To be held at The Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino in Las Vegas, NV.
CONTACT:
Continuing Medical Education
Wayne State University School of Medicine
101 E. Alexandrine
Detroit, MI 48201
(313) 577-1180
Fax: (313) 577-7554

5-9
Medicolegal Death Investigator Training Course - Sponsored by Saint Louis University School of Medicine, Division of Forensic Pathology, St. Louis, MO.
CONTACT:
Mary Fran Ernst or Julie Howe
Saint Louis University, School of Medicine
1402 S Grand Blvd., R312
St Louis, MO 63104
(314) 977-5970
Fax: (314) 977-5695
mldi@slu.edu
http://medschool.slu.edu/mldi

FEBRUARY 2009

24
Math and Physics for Bloodstain Pattern Analysts - Presented by the Specialized Training Unit at the Metropolitan Police Institute of the Miami-Dade Police Department, Doral, FL.
CONTACT:
Officer Phil Sanfilippo
Miami-Dade Police Department
9601 NW 58th Street
Doral, FL 33178
(305) 715-5028
Fax: (305) 715-5107
phil@mdpd.com

MARCH 2009

24
Advanced Crime Scene Reconstruction - Presented by the Eugene Police Department. To be held in Eugene, OR.
CONTACT:
Lisa Pope
(541) 682-2802
Lisa.m.pope@ci.eugene.or.us
16-20
Basic Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Workshop - Presented by the Specialized Training Unit at the Metropolitan Police Institute of the Miami-Dade Police Department, Doral, FL.
CONTACT:
Toby L. Watson, M.S., F-ABC
Miami-Dade Police Department
9105 N.W. 25th Street
Doral, FL 33172
(305) 471-3041
Fax: 305-471-2052
Twolson@mdpd.com

16-20
Basic Facial Reconstruction Sculpture Workshop
To be held at the University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK.
CONTACT:
Betty Pat. Gatilff
1026 Leslie Lane
Norman, OK 73069-4501
(404) 321-8706
www.skullpturelab.com

17-21
The Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA) 69th Annual Meeting - To be held at the La Fonda Hotel, Santa Fe, NM.
CONTACT:
SfAA
(405) 843-5113
Fax: (405) 843-8553
info@sfaa.net
www.sfaa.net/sfaa2009.html

23-24
Fire Dynamics Demonstration Course - Sponsored by the National Center for Forensic Sciences (NCF). Online component begins January/February 2009. To be held at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center, Orlando, FL.
CONTACT:
NCF
PO Box 162367
Orlando, FL 32816-2367
Fax: (407) 823-3162
www.ncfs.org/training.html

23-24
Post-Blast Investigation Demonstration Course - Sponsored by the National Center for Forensic Sciences (NCF). Online component begins January/February 2009. Symposium and face-to-face workshop to be held at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center, Orlando, FL.
CONTACT:
NCF
PO Box 162367
Orlando, FL 32816-2367
Fax: (407) 823-3162
www.ncfs.org/training.html

23-27
Advanced Facial Reconstruction Sculpture Workshop - To be held at the University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK.
CONTACT:
Betty Pat. Gatilff
1026 Leslie Lane
Norman, OK 73069-4501
(404) 321-8706
www.skullpturelab.com

23-27
Detection, Recovery and Examination of Footwear Impression Evidence - To be held at the Ramada Mandarin Inn, Jacksonville, FL.
CONTACT:
Bill Bodziak
38 Sabal Bend
Palm Coast, FL 32137
(386) 447-3367
(386) 447-3368
wbodziak@earthlink.net
www.bodziak.com

23-27
Explosives Debris Analysis Demonstration Course - Sponsored by the National Center for Forensic Sciences (NCF). Online component begins January/February 2009. To be held at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center, Orlando, FL.
CONTACT:
NCF
PO Box 162367
Orlando, FL 32816-2367
Fax: (407) 823-3162
www.ncfs.org/training.html

23-27
Fire Debris Analysis Demonstration Course - Sponsored by the National Center for Forensic Sciences (NCF). Online component begins January/February 2009. To be held at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center, Orlando, FL.
CONTACT:
NCF
PO Box 162367
Orlando, FL 32816-2367
Fax: (407) 823-3162
www.ncfs.org/training.html

30-Apr 3
Basic Bloodstain Pattern Analysis - Hosted by the Canyon County Sheriff’s Office, Nampa, ID.
CONTACT:
Dan Christman
Bothell (WA) Police Department
PO Box 823
Bothell, WA 98041-0823
(206) 919-8392
Dan@ChristmanForensics.com
www.ChristmanForensics.com

APRIL 2009
9-10
Toxicology and Therapeutic Drug Monitoring Conference - To be held at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN.
CONTACT:
CME Registrar
Mayo School of Continuing Medical Education
Fax: (507) 284-0532
cme@mayo.edu
www.mayo.edu/cme/apr2009.html

19-24
Forensic Management Academy - A partnership between the National Institute of Justice & West Virginia University, College of Business and Economics. To be held in Morgantown, WV.
CONTACT:
Lisa Poling
lmpoling@mail.wvu.edu
www.be.wvu.edu/execed/fma.htm

20-24
Medicolegal Death Investigator Training Course - Sponsored by Saint Louis University School of Medicine, Division of Forensic Pathology, St. Louis, MO
CONTACT:
Contact: Mary Fran Ernst or Julie Howe
Saint Louis University
School of Medicine
1402 S Grand Blvd R512
St Louis, MO 63104
(314) 977-3970
Fax: (314) 977-5695
mldi@slu.edu
http://medschool.slu.edu/mldi
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Your name: _____________________________________________________________

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Phone: (719) 636-1100
Fax: (719) 636-1993

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