

# MAAFS NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientists

Editors: Dr. Donald R. Lundy  
Dr. Antonio A. Cantu

Vol. 1 No. 1  
Summer 1973

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members:

Only a short year ago our Association met formally for the first time. Since that time the growth of the Association has more than justified the hopes and optimism of that meeting. The very successful Spring meeting at Williamsburg last March gave abundant evidence that our infant organization of last summer has survived its first year and is showing healthy growth. Of course this is no accident, but is due to the enthusiastic cooperation of many members who have contributed most generously of their talents and time to bring it all about. In particular we must acknowledge the outstanding work of our first President, Adam Sobotka, and that of Dr. Charles O'Rear who organized the Williamsburg meeting. They set a high standard of performance and bring to mind the saying of vaudeville "not an easy act to follow."

This first issue of our Newsletter introduces to our members the Association's publication which is planned as a regular release, either bimonthly or quarterly. The frequency of publication will depend largely on the response to the Editor's appeal for material of interest to our various members. It is our intention that the Newsletter will reflect the professional and other noteworthy interests of the membership. As indicated elsewhere in this issue, your Editors earnestly solicit the full assistance of the members in making it a success.

Finally, I am most grateful to each and every one of you for your generous cooperation in making our first year such a great success.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH L. GORMLEY  
President

Addendum: On June 29, 1973 I retired from the FBI after thirty-five years of service. I shall, however, continue as President of the MAAFS. By early July, I will assume the Directorship of the State Crime Laboratory of the Department of Public Safety in Augusta, Maine.

Mr. Joseph L. Gormley  
Director  
Maine State Police Crime Laboratory  
Department of Public Safety  
36 Hospital Street  
Augusta, Maine 04330  
(207) 289-2296

Since our constitution permits the inclusion of other states besides the Mid-Atlantic states to our Association, I feel justified in retaining the Presidency of the MAAFS and look forward to continued work with all of you who have made our organization possible.

## LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Dear Members:

It gives us great pleasure to bring to you the first issue of the MAAFS Newsletter. We hope that this and subsequent publications will enhance communication between all the members of our Association. To this end, the content and frequency of the Newsletter will strongly depend on the interest and participation of the members. Consequently, membership cooperation is encouraged.

In the forthcoming issues we intend to include:

- A message from the President to keep the members aware of the activities of the Association.

- Briefs on new or innovative methods or procedures in forensic science. For example, members may wish to exchange ideas on the applications of flameless Atomic Absorption techniques to the analysis of physical evidence, the use of radioimmunological methods for drug detection, the role of computers in forensic science, etc. Hopefully, this will result in the dissemination of proven techniques which might not be widely known.

- Notes or synopses of interesting cases encountered. This would include not only member's accounts of how their role in forensic science aided in the investigation of a criminal case, but also any legal questions which may affect evidentiary material.

- Items of general interest to forensic scientists. This could include, for example, members' discussions of new programs in drug control or other law enforcement efforts to reduce crime, laboratory organizational and management programs of interest, ideas on the role of forensic science in the criminal justice system, and perhaps news from abroad.

- List of pertinent meetings in the area.

- Review papers.

- Relevant literature reviews.

As you can see, the Newsletter can provide a wealth of information provided we get the cooperation from the members. We therefore invite you to submit articles which you feel might be relevant to any of the items mentioned. We hope to publish the Newsletter bimonthly or quarterly.

It is our intention to provide you with an informative and stimulating Newsletter which reflects the interests and activities of the members. We gladly welcome and honor your cooperation and the opportunity to work with you.

Sincerely,

Antonio A. Cantu  
Donald R. Lundy  
Editors

## PUBLICATION OF ARTICLES

Papers submitted for publication in the Newsletter should be in the form of a note. It is desirable that these notes be brief and of general interest. Please refer to the items in the Letter From the Editors for suggested topics.

The notes should be submitted in triplicate, typewritten and double spaced. Please send to:

Dr. D.R. Lundy

or

Dr. A.A. Cantu

U.S. Department of Treasury  
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms  
1111 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Room 6617  
Washington, D.C. 20226  
(202) 964-6677 (AAC)  
6277 (DRL)

The editors will be in contact with the author upon receipt of the notes.

### FALL MEETING

The 1973 Fall meeting of the MAAFS will be held October 18-19, noon to noon, at the Tamiment Resort and Country Club, Tamiment, Pennsylvania, in the Poconos. The registration fee is ~~\$5.00~~ for members, paid in advance, ~~\$7.50~~ at the door; for non-members, \$10.00 and \$17.50, respectively. There is no charge for wives in either case. For registration fee, send a check made out to Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientists along with a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

Joseph J. Gorski  
Crime Laboratory  
Pennsylvania State Police  
975 Wyoming Avenue  
Wyoming, Pennsylvania 18644

Room registration should be made directly with the Tamiment Resort and Country Club. Room rates are \$28.00 per person based on double occupancy. This includes room, lunch, dinner meeting, breakfast, lunch and gratuities. The form for this registration will be sent to you in the self-addressed stamped envelope.

### CALL FOR PAPERS

Papers on relevant topics for the Fall meeting should be submitted no later than August 31 to:

Walter S. Hrynkiw  
Pennsylvania State Police Crime Laboratory  
975 Wyoming Avenue  
Wyoming, Pennsylvania 18644

### THE MID-WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC SCIENTISTS PROPOSES A JOINT MEETING

Mr. Tom A. Easterling, from the Kentucky State Police Laboratory, Frankfort, Kentucky, has approached us through Howard L. Dobres, of the D.C. Regional BNDD Laboratory, with a proposal to hold a joint meeting of the Mid-Western Association with MAAFS in mid-May, 1974. Louisville, Kentucky is the proposed meeting place.

We will present this proposal to the membership for consideration and vote at the October, 1973 meeting in the Poconos. Your comments will be welcomed.

### THE MAAFS - A BRIEF HISTORY

On July 22, 1972, Adam Sobodka, who at that time was with the D.C. regional BNDD Laboratory, organized the first business meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientists (MAAFS). He delineated the need for such an Association and instilled the initial spark of enthusiasm into the organization. In that meeting:

1. the officers were elected. Adam Sobodka as President, Joe Gormley, then with the FBI, as President-Elect and Jay Tobin, from the Maryland State Police Laboratory in Tykesville, Maryland as Secretary-Treasurer.
2. Dr. Charles O'Rear, from the Food and Drug Laboratory, Richmond, Virginia was voted as head of the By-Laws and Constitution Committee; he also volunteered to organize the first (successful) meeting we had in Williamsburg, Va.
3. Joe Koles, from the BNDD Special Test and Research Laboratory, McLean, Va., was chosen to assume responsibilities as head of the Membership Committee, and
4. Ben Perillo, from the D.C. regional BNDD Laboratory, was elected to head the Nominating Committee.

The next business meeting of members was held after the Forensic Science Symposium of the AOAC meeting on October 12, 1972. Here Dr. O'Rear presented his intense work on the By-Laws and Constitution. The members helped in adding some small final touches to his work. More of Dr. O'Rear's fine work came at the Williamsburg meeting.

On March 5, 1973, Adam Sobodka accepted a position with the regional BNDD Laboratory in Dallas, Texas. Joe Gormley then assumed the position of President. At the Williamsburg meeting last March, Adam honored us with his presence. He was then, and still is, considered as a principal person responsible for the birth of our organization.

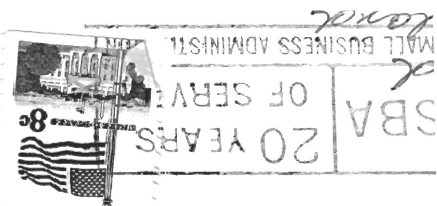
Joe Gormley's enthusiasm about the organization is of an outstanding nature also. Though he is not in the Washington area any more, his liaison with his officers, editors, and members is strong and invigorating.

As most of us know, the strength of our organization was shown at the successful Williamsburg meeting. We are planning to have an even better meeting this Fall. Let's work toward this goal!

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE TOBINS

On Monday, July 23, 1973, Jay Tobin, our Secretary-Treasurer, became a proud father to a baby girl. Both Mrs. Tobin and daughter are in excellent conditions. This is their first child by birth; last December they adopted a young Korean girl.

We might add that the happy event occurred during the final touches to this Newsletter. Despite following the usual busy life of a forensic scientist and being in the process of becoming a father, Jay played a major role in processing this Newsletter by supplying the Editors with the membership list of addresses. We thank you Jay and express our congratulations on your new addition to your family!



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