



# MAAFS

# NEWSLETTER

## VOLUME 9

## SEPTEMBER 1981

## NUMBER 3

The MAAFS Newsletter is the official publication of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientists, Inc., and is published at least twice each year. All communications regarding the MAAFS Newsletter should be sent to the Newsletter Editor, Dr. Edward Sykes Franzosa, at the DEA Special Testing and Research Laboratory, 7704 Old Springhouse Road, McLean, Virginia 22102.

## MAAFS 17th Meeting April 20, 1981

### Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Gerald Richards at 4:39 PM. President Richards announced that credit for attendance at a business meeting could only be given if the attendance sheet was signed. At the last meeting, several people that were in attendance did not sign up, and met with some problems with respect to their attendance. Sheets were passed out for people to sign.

President Richards thanked all speakers and meeting attendees for showing up, and remarked that he thought the meeting was well attended. President Richards announced that there would be a Hospitality Suite in Room 103 from 7 to 10 PM, with refreshments supplied by Hewlett-Packard. He also announced that tickets for luncheon tomorrow could be obtained from Rick Tontarski, and mentioned that the area around Charlottesville had many tourist attractions for the meeting attendees and their guests.

President Richards appointed Ed Franzosa as Parliamentarian for the meeting. The minutes of the last meeting were published in the last issue of the Newsletter, Volume 9, Number 1. It was moved and seconded that the minutes as published be accepted. President Richards called for the vote and the motion carried. President Richards called for the Secretary-Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer's Report was read, and it was moved and seconded that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as read. President Richards called for the vote and the motion carried. President Richards then called for the reports of the standing committees.

**AWARDS COMMITTEE:** Tim King gave the Awards Committee Report in the absence of Rose Lanzetta. Tim awarded Certificates to the Cochairmen of the Fall 1980 meeting, Carrie Parker and Richard Tontarski. Tim reminded the membership of the Forensic Scientist of the Year Award, and asked that nomin-

ations for this award be sent to Rose Lanzetta. President Richards presented the Scholarship Award and stipend of \$500 to Mark E. Fredenburg of The George Washington University.

**JOBS COMMITTEE:** Tony Cantu gave the report in the absence of Al Bober. Tony reported a Senior Criminalist and Trace Analyst position with the Connecticut State Police with a salary in the \$20-24,000 range. Call Tony Cantu for information if you are interested.

**DIRECTORY COMMITTEE:** Ed Franzosa reported he had all the information for the directory, but that some errors had to be corrected, then it had to be typed and sent to the printers.

**TEE-SHIRT COMMITTEE:** Ed Franzosa reported that no really good slogan had been proposed and further research would take place at the Hospitality Suite tonight.

President Richards called on Bob Campbell, Chairman of the Fall 1981 Meeting, to give a report. Bob reported that the meeting would be held at the Holiday Inn on the Ocean, Virginia Beach, Virginia, September 24 and 25, 1981. This is a Thursday and Friday meeting. Bob called for volunteers for Program Chairman. The Spring 1982 Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Pete Marone has contacted the people at the Pennsylvania State Police Laboratory, and it looks as if they will chair the meeting. Tony Cantu mentioned that an announcement in the Newsletter about having a Spring Meeting in Alexandria was canceled in light of the offer from Harrisburg. Tony also mentioned that there was some possibility of a joint meeting with FACSS in Philadelphia in the Fall of 1982. Tony is also organizing a Symposium at the FACSS Meeting this year and next year.

President Richards asked if everyone had signed the attendance sheet and reminded all attendees to sign in.

**OLD BUSINESS:** The proposed amendment to the By-Laws, which was published in the News-

## JOBS

*Al Bober is running an Employment Clearing House (under MAAFS auspices) for forensic scientists in the Mid-Atlantic area. He keeps resumes of MAAFS members who are looking for work for 90 days and provides the information to all potential employers who contact him. Al provides this service free of charge. All members interested in employment possibilities are asked to write to Al at the following address:*

*Al Bober  
8430 Allenswood Road  
Randallstown, MD 21133*

*If you should hear of a job opening or receive a notice of an employment opportunity, please send a copy of the notice to Al. Thank you for your cooperation.*

**Immediate and October 1981 Positions Open:** The Dade County Crime Laboratory has openings in Serology, Drugs, Trace evidence, Firearms evidence and Scanning Electron Microscopy as a Criminalist I at \$22,085 - \$27,674 per year and Criminalist II at \$25,750 - \$32,600 per year.

For further information call or write to:

Ed Whittaker  
Crime Lab Bureau Commander  
1320 NW 14th Street  
Miami, Florida 33125  
(305) 547-7368

## Minutes continued:

letter and discussed at previous meetings was brought up. The amendment reads as follows:

### ARTICLE II, Section 5. Dues

A. Dues in the amount of \$10.00 shall be paid by Charter, Regular, and Corresponding members to the Secretary-Treasurer at the beginning of each year.

President Richards called for a vote. The amendment passed with one negative vote. Therefore a quorum being present, the amendment passed by more than a 2/3 majority vote. **NEW BUSINESS:** President Richards reported that he and Mike McGee had attended a meeting of the Executive Officers of all seven regional Forensic Scientists Associations at the AAFS meeting held in Los Angeles in February. At this meeting it was proposed that a common newsletter be published for all seven groups, but after some discussion this idea was dropped. Two things were decided upon: (1) that each regional newsletter would be sent to the President and Newsletter Editor of all groups and (2) that Executive officers would meet every year at the AAFS meeting to discuss matters of common interest and propose projects of mutual interest. One matter of concern, especially among the groups in the western part of the country, is the establishment of Ethics Committees and Ethics Codes.

Nomination of members to Emeritus Status: there are several members who qualify for this status, but no one is nominating them. In the future there will be a form in each Newsletter for this purpose.

Tony Cantu handed out Membership Certificates to the new members that were present at the meeting and Mike McGee passed out membership cards to those members who had paid their 1981 dues.

No other new business was presented. It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael P. McGee  
Secretary-Treasurer

## Treasurer's Report

Balance in MAAFS Checking Account as of October 8, 1980 \$ 597.30

### DEPOSITS:

\$3264.00	16th Meeting, Fall 1980	
\$1115.00	17th Meeting, Spring 1981	
\$1042.50	Dues and Application Fees	
-----		
\$5421.50	Total Receipts	+5421.50
		-----
		\$6018.80

### EXPENSES:

\$2678.66	16th Meeting, Fall 1980	
\$ 364.46	17th Meeting, Spring 1981	
\$ 623.94	Newsletter Printing and Expenses	
\$ 33.00	Secretary-Treasurer's Postage	
\$ 54.35	Awards Committee Expenses	
\$ 8.00	Miscellaneous Expenses	
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\$3762.41	Total Disbursements	-3762.41

Balance in Checking Account as of April 16, 1981 \$2256.39

Balance in Certificate of Deposit as of April 31, 1981 \$5366.41

Balance in MAAFS Treasury as of April 16, 1981 \$7622.80

# MAAFS Executive

## Committee

### Past President:

Dr. Antonio A. Cantu  
BATF National Lab  
1401 Research Boulevard  
Rockville, MD 20850  
(301) 443-5213

### Immediate Past President:

Peter M. Marone  
Bureau of Forensic Science  
Box 999  
Richmond, VA 23208  
(804) 786-4706

### President:

Gerald B. Richards  
FBI Laboratory, Room 3218  
9th & Pennsylvania Ave, NW  
Washington, DC 20535  
(202) 324-4485

### President-Elect:

Delbert T. Agee  
Bureau of Forensic Science  
Box 999  
Richmond, VA 23208  
(804) 786-4706

### Secretary-Treasurer:

Michael P. McGee  
Bureau of Forensic Science  
Box 999  
Richmond, VA 23208  
(804) 786-4706

### Newsletter Editor:

Dr. Edward Sykes Franzosa  
DEA Special Testing & Research Lab  
7704 Old Springhouse Road  
McLean, VA 22102  
(703) 285-2583

### Member-at-Large:

Richard P. Gervasoni  
Montgomery County PD Crime Lab  
1451 Seven Locks Road  
Rockville, MD 20850  
(301) 279-1808

### Member-at-Large:

Richard E. Tontarski Jr.  
BATF National Lab  
1401 Research Boulevard  
Rockville, MD 20850  
(301) 443-5335

## In Answer to Your Query

We are sorry to inform you the item you ordered is no longer being produced. It has not gone out of style nor have people lost interest in it. In fact, it has become one of our most desired products. Its popularity is still growing. Orders for it come in at an ever increasing rate. However, a top-level decision has caused this product to be discontinued forever.

Instead of the item you ordered we are sending you something else. It is not the same thing, nor is it a reasonable facsimile. It is what we have in stock,

the very best we can offer.

If you are not happy with this substitution let us know as soon as possible. As you can imagine we already have quite an accumulation of letters such as the one you may or may not write. To be totally fair we respond to these complaints as they come in. Yours will be filed accordingly, and answered in its turn.

By Naomi Lazard  
originally published in  
*The Ohio Review*

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# New Members

- 327 Warren G. Johnson  
Director, Bureau of Forensic Science  
Box 999  
Richmond, VA 23208-0999
- 328 Roger F. Covington  
302 Hardwicke Place  
Joppa, MD 21085
- 329 Chris Ann Houghton  
Bureau of Forensic Science  
920 South Jefferson Street  
Roanoke, VA 24016
- 330 Mark Edward Fredenburg  
Department of Forensic Sciences  
The George Washington University  
2036 H Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20052
- 331 Dr. K. G. Rao  
8 Iron Bolt Court  
Catonsville, MD 21228
- 332 Anthony A. Burke  
Bureau of Forensic Science  
Box 999  
Richmond, VA 23208-0999
- 333 Howard L. Schlesinger  
DEA Special Testing & Research Lab  
7704 Old Springhouse Road  
McLean, VA 22102
- 334 M. Zamir Haq, PhD  
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner  
200 South Adams Street  
Wilmington, DE 19801
- 335 Stephen Cain  
107 Nina Cove  
Aquia Harbor  
Stafford, VA 22554
- 336 Carol T. Schreiber  
12813 Hathaway Drive  
Wheaton, MD 20906
- 337 Joseph H. Guth, PhD  
Interscience Research Inc  
2614 Wyoming Avenue  
Norfolk, VA 23503

## "The Expert"

"An expert is a person who passes as an exacting authority on the basis of being able to turn out with prolific fortitude infinite strings of incomprehensible formulae calculated with micrometric precision from vague assumptions which are based on debatable figures taken from inconclusive experiments carried out with instruments of problematical accuracy by persons of doubtful reliability and questionable mentality."

—Metropolitan Toronto Police  
Association News & Views

# Letters to the Editor:

July 17, 1981

Editor,

The August 1980 and June 1981 issues of the *MAAFS Newsletter* contain articles authored by the Editor, Dr. Edward Sykes Franzosa, titled "Having It Rammed Down Our Throats!" and "Who's Competent?" The first presents itself as a "personal opinion" opposing continuing efforts of the CCSC to establish a certification program for criminalists and the second is an "editorial opinion" which comments about the Congressional testimony of Walter McCrone on the poor qualifications of forensic scientists.

I respect the right of Dr. Franzosa to oppose certification for criminalists and I appreciate the Editor informing me of Dr. McCrone's testimony. I understand that there is little requirement for an editorial or a personal opinion to be comprehensive, objective, methodical or anything other than opinionated. I must, however, object to the language and manner of presentation used in these commentaries.

Both articles were clearly intended to be inflammatory. They contain exaggeration (e.g., "... has decided on the basis of inadequate knowledge, blind prejudice and colossal arrogance...") They contain inappropriate analogies (e.g., "... appointed himself 'god and all-wise father'...") They are excessive in their use of capitalization, italic, boldface, and dramatic punctuation as a method of applying special meaning or inference to phrases which are otherwise quite understandable.

The resulting tone of these articles is inappropriate to a publication which is intended to inform. The articles are

hostile and make derogatory statements about individuals who have contributed to the forensic sciences. Even if we were all agreed that the individuals mentioned in the articles have engaged in inappropriate activities, these articles are not the way professionals address themselves to their problems.

I gather from the articles that the Editor feels very strongly about the issues. I appreciate the disclaimer included in both articles that they are not viewpoints of MAAFS. I appreciate that the Editor printed the "... Rammed..." opinion at his own expense. I recognise the good work the Editor has done in compiling the *MAAFS Newsletter* issue after issue I submit, however, that the Editor has failed in an important function of his position, the responsibility to exclude material which is inappropriate to a publication for forensic science professionals. I request that the Editor consider whether he has become too close to such issues to objectively evaluate the merits of the articles he is preparing for publication.

—Marvin G. Rennert

Mr. Rennert,

*Thank you for your sincere and interesting letter.*

*I do try to be objective, etc., in my opinions. But, to me, an Editor has a responsibility to publish both facts and opinions. Hiding nonprofessional conduct, such as shown in the two instances you mentioned, goes against my grain. And if we cannot discuss or even argue our problems in our own newsletter, then where shall we do it?*

—The Editor

## FALL MEETINGS

### SAFS

The Fall 1981 Symposium of the Southern Association of Forensic Scientists will be held September 25 and 26 at the Holiday Inn Downtown-Medical Center, Birmingham, Alabama.

To preregister for this meeting write to:

James M. Buttram, PhD  
Meeting Coordinator  
Alabama Dept of Forensic Sciences  
1001 13th Street South  
Birmingham, Alabama 35205

Registration fee for the meeting is \$40.00 and \$30.00 for the HPLC Workshop being held on September 24, 1981.

### MAFS

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of our October, 1981, Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientists meeting. It will be held October 14-17 on the Kansas side of the Kansas City Metroplex. The meeting will feature a Drug Quantitation Workshop, a Hair Analysis Seminar, a Serology Workshop, and talks by Mr. Clarence Kelley and Dr. William Eckert.

For additional information write to:

Bill Chapin  
Local Arrangements Chairman  
Johnson County Crime Lab  
6000 Lamar  
Mission, Kansas 66202  
(913) 384-1100 ext 206

The MAAFS By-Laws state the following with respect to Emeritus membership status.

C. Emeritus. Any Charter or Regular member may be proposed by the Membership Committee for Emeritus status if he has had twenty-five (25) years of service in the field of forensic sciences, or is at least sixty-five (65) years of age and has served a minimum of five (5) years as a Charter or Regular member of the Association. This classification must be confirmed by a three-fourths ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ) majority vote at the Fall business meeting.

If you know of any MAAFS member who meets these requirements, please forward this form with the necessary information to the Secretary-Treasurer so that the Membership Committee and then the Association as a whole may consider promoting deserving members to Emeritus status.

NAME:

ADDRESS (work):

TELEPHONE NUMBER (work):

Meets which requirement:

- ( ) 25 years of service in the field of forensic sciences
- ( ) 65 years of age or over, with at least 5 years membership in MAAFS

Submitted by:

Name:

Address:

Phone Number:

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Print in ink or type application; obtain signatures of two current MAAFS members and then mail this form to the Secretary-Treasurer (address below.) Application fee is \$2.50 (non-refundable) and must accompany this application form. Yearly dues are \$10.00. MAAFS By-Laws require an applicant to attend one MAAFS meeting before application can be accepted.

Name:

Occupation/Job Title:

Employer:

Business Address & Phone:

Home Address & Phone:

(Please circle or check your preferred mailing address.)

Education and Experience (include all past employment relating to the forensic sciences):

Circle MAAFS meetings that you have attended (By-Laws require attendance at one meeting before application for membership can be accepted):

Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall
1978	1978	1979	1979	1980	1980	1981	1981	1982	1982	1983	1983

Membership in Professional or Scientific organizations:

Signature of Applicant:

Date:

Proposed by (signature):

Seconded by (signature):

Print name:

Print name:

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Secretary-Treasurer:  
Michael P. McGee  
Bureau of Forensic Science  
Box 999  
Richmond, VA 23208  
(804) 786-4706

**FORENSIC SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR AWARD**

For the Forensic Scientist of the Year Award I hereby nominate:

Name:

Address:

Give a brief summary of the nominee's background and reasons for the nomination:

Submitted by Name:

Address:

Phone Number:

Nominations by ten (10) members will be required in support of each nominee for the award. All nominations will be submitted to the Awards Committee for authentication and review by two (2) month before the semi-annual Spring Meeting. The nominations will then be forwarded to the Executive Committee who determines a final choice of one or none before the Spring Meeting.

Submit this form to: Rose Marie Lanzetta  
Maryland State Police Headquarters  
Reisterstown Road  
Pikesville, Maryland 21208