



MAAFS

NEWSLETTER

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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 Newsletter should be sent to the Editor, Dr. Edward Sykes Franzosa, at the DEA Special Testing & Research Lab, 7704 Old Springhouse Road, McLean, Virginia 22101.

President's Letter to the MAAFS Membership

Dear Members:

Several factors promise to make my tenure in a MAAFS office this year considerably more enjoyable than in the past. A major factor is this Newsletter itself. As you can see from its new appearance, our Newsletter has a new editor, Ed Franzosa. As I or any other past editor can attest, it is a tough job just getting out two issues a year. Ed promises to double these past efforts. We can all help Ed by providing suggestions for articles, features or any input which we feel will benefit the newsletter readers.

Another big plus has been the efforts volunteered by Pauline Wagner/Alice Krugel and Peter Marone to organize the Spring and Fall meetings, respectively. This issue of the Newsletter includes a call for papers for the Spring meeting and the next issue, soon to follow, will include the full program with abstracts of the papers to be presented.

Speaking of this program, Past-President Tony Cantu has agreed to update the membership at the Spring meeting of the progress made by the Criminalistics Certification Study Committee. This committee has met twice since our Fall '77 meeting; in Chicago in September and most recently in Miami in December. You will find reprinted in this issue of the MAAFS Newsletter a letter from Jack Cadman, Chairman of this committee, summarizing the Chicago meeting. Subsequent Newsletters will include such sum-

maries of the Miami and forthcoming New Orleans meeting in March, 1978. In an effort to keep the membership informed and current of any developments in this most important issue, I have asked Tony Cantu to briefly summarize, in the last presentation before the Spring Business meeting, his impressions of these meetings and to field any and all questions from the membership.

Food for thought: Representatives of the Northeast, Southern and Midwestern Regional Groups decided at the last ASCLD Meeting to have a combined meeting in April, 1980, at Louisville, Kentucky and have asked if we would like to participate. The Southern and Midwestern Groups will be co-hosts. Tom Easterling will be the local arrangements Chairman and Harold Alfultis will be the Program Chairman. They plan on a two or two-and-a-half day meeting with sections being held on the various disciplines. The papers will not be formal but primarily bench-type topics of short duration. I will contact these chairmen for additional information as to the logistical details and present this proposal for discussion at the next business meeting. In the meantime, please be thinking about it. Best Wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Sincerely,
Paul B. Ferrara
President

CERTIFICATION

The following is a letter from W. J. Cadman, reporting on the September meeting of the Criminalistics Certification Study Committee.

The third meeting of this committee was held in Chicago during September 30-October 1, 1977. Representatives of the major professional organizations and the private sector were present and participated actively in the discussions. Also present and contributing to the deliberations were representatives of the ATF, DEA, FBI, and academe.

The results of surveys conducted by the regional groups and AFTE were compared and compiled in an interim report of the study group (also included in this Newsletter-editor). This interim report will be widely distributed soon through the professional organizations represented. Very briefly it was found that of the over 600 persons who responded 78% agreed with the concept of national, voluntary peer group certification. The overwhelming majority (88%) felt that the study group should continue to study the feasibility and desirability of certification. All associations polled on the question of continued representation on the Certification Study Committee favored having a representative of that association continue on the Certification Study Committee. Those associations indicated they would provide travel funds for the representative to attend meetings if it became necessary due to lack of funding from LEAA.

Data from the questionnaires indicated there was no possible agreement on how to group types of physical evidence examinations by disciplines, therefore the most practical approach at this time is not to group by specialities. The group decided it would be much more practical to utilize the types of physical evidence examinations. It was also agreed that all examiners should possess the same minimum qualifications for each type of physical evidence examination.

Based on the data and discussions the group agreed that "grandparenting" using some combination of experience, education, publi-

cations, reputation, and contributions to forensic sciences would be necessary to initiate a certification program. Those persons certified by grandparenting would be required to pass the same examination as non-grandparented individuals by a specified date (three years).

The committee supports and wishes to maintain liaison with the voluntary peer group accreditation study of laboratories being conducted by the Laboratory Evaluation and Standards Committee of ASCLD. It is considered that both efforts are complimentary and probably desirable in the public interest, if found to be feasible and acceptable.

Gauging by the results of the regional association questionnaires, the study committee determined that it was not necessary at this time to issue a national questionnaire. In the interest of avoiding repetitive, time consuming (for those answering) questionnaires, it was decided the committee had gathered sufficient information for this stage of the study. All committee members plan to meet with their respective memberships in internal committees both to inform them of progress made by the study committee and to solicit additional study input (see below).

The matter of drafting a possible set of By-Laws was considered (By-Laws responsive to the needs of the entire criminalistics community, if certification is eventually recommended as desirable and feasible). The study committee decided such By-Laws would be premature to attempt until more fundamental policy matters are resolved.

The Forensic Sciences Foundation has been funded by LEAA for at least three additional meetings through June 1978. The next meeting will be in Miami, Florida, on December 9-10, 1977. The committee also selected tentative dates for the additional meetings (March 31-April 1, 1978 and June 23-24, 1978), with those sites to be selected later.

In preparation for the next meeting the committee identified four areas in which more study is needed. Sub-committees were formed to undertake these task areas for the consideration of the full committee in December. These task areas and the volunteers accepting the responsibility for setting up "straw men" are as follows:

1. (A List of) The Types of Physical Evidence Examinations to be Certified

Chairperson: Antonio A. Cantu, Bureau of
ATF, Washington, DC
Donald A. Flynt, OK Bureau of Invest.,
Oklahoma City, OK
James E. Halligan, FL Dept. of Crim.
Law Enf., Tallahassee, FL
Francis D. Silas, FBI Lab., Washington,
DC

2. Standards for Grandparenting Each Type of
Physical Evidence Examiner

Chairperson: Thomas A. Kubic, Nassau County
PD, Mineola, NY

Richard Janelli, Nassau County PD,
Mineola, NY

3. Certification Testing Procedures for Each
Type of Physical Evidence Examiner

a. Procedures for Selection of "Peer Groups"
to Design Test

b. Development of Types of Tests to be Used

c. Mechanism for Administering Tests

Chairperson: Jan Bashinski, Oakland PD,
Oakland, CA

Robert A. Boese, Chicago PD,
Chicago, IL

Richard Janelli, Nassau County PD,

Walter C. McCrone, McCrone Research
Inst., Chicago, IL

Willard C. Stuver, Dade County Crime
Lab., Miami, FL

K. M. Sweeney, W. Washington State
Crime Lab., Seattle, WA

4. The Feasibility and Cost of Certification

Chairperson: Joseph L. Peterson, FSF,
Rockville, MD

W. J. Cadman, CA State University at
Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

There is an obvious need for the four sub-committees to have a continuing interchange of information during this relatively brief period before the work products of these task areas are presented to the entire Certification Study Committee in December. It is not so obvious that each sub-committee needs input from as many peers as possible in order to obtain those work products which are responsive to the needs of the entire nationwide criminalistics community. It would be appreciated if you could get the information out in the next issue of the MAAFS Newsletter. Special mention should also be made to the need for information from all peer

persons whether they are members of any associations or not.

Please be assured that the committee does not want to move any faster or further than the peer groups feel we should go.

In Memoriam

Joseph M. English, Jr., 61, a retired FBI agent who was director of the Forensic Sciences Laboratory Inc., a non-profit corporation for examining documents such as wills and checks for forgeries, died Friday, October 28, 1977, at Washington Hospital Center, after a heart attack. He lived on Eastmoor Drive in Silver Spring. Mr. English became a member of MAAFS in September 1977.

NOTICE

Robert N. Conner, Chief Document Examiner, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, Headquarters Identification Laboratory, Washington, D. C., announces his retirement from the Federal Government effective December 31, 1977.

Mr. Conner intends to extend his professional career into the private practice of questioned document examination, and will accept work in the Washington, DC, northern Virginia area and southward to include the Tidewater area (Norfolk, Portsmouth, Newport, Williamsburg). Therefore, anyone desiring the services of a private examiner of questioned documents or a consultant may write Mr. Conner at 2395 Yarmouth Court, Woodbridge, Virginia, 22192.

An Explosive Thought

If you are having problems with your boss yelling to you about the size of your sample backlog then we just might have the publication you need. Joseph Vorozilchak of the Philadelphia Police Crime Laboratory passes along this interesting tidbit. We also will admit the information has other uses too!!!

In the past few months, a new monthly newspaper has begun. It is entitled "The Poor Man's Armorer".

In issues #1 and 3 the following topics were discussed:

Improvised hand grenade fuses—including plans
and diagrams

The Handy No-Impact-Required Firebomb

"Walking Stick" improvised shotgun

"Velex" exploding bullets

Mine detonators

plans and diagrams for a silencer for the AR-7

booby traps & improvised weapons

instructions for the operation of a bazooka

"Hit Man's" silenced .22 weapon

hand grenades

electric release pull switch for booby traps

The newspaper can be subscribed to for
\$10 for 12 issues (\$13 if you prefer 1st class mail
rather than bulk mail). Write to:

ATLAN'S PMA

Post Office Box 586

Eureka, California 95501

NOTE: The editor states that he will not
accept orders from any law enforcement person-
nel. Thus if you want to subscribe to this won-
derful (sic) publication do so without referring
to your position or employer. About a third of
the stuff in this newspaper is harmless, but the
remainder can be dangerous in the wrong hands.

(Please no letter bombs to the MAAFS
Newsletter editor - practice on someone else
Thank you.)



*"Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth,
and nothing but the truth, as you see it?"*

Fall 1977 Meeting - Evening Cruise Buffet



MAAFS wishes to thank the chairpersons
for the Fall 1977 Meeting, Dr. Dan
Garner and Miss Jeane Hostetler, for
their excellent work.
IT WAS A JOB WELL DONE!!



MAAFS
MID-ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION
of FORENSIC SCIENTISTS

SPRING 1978 MAAFS MEETING

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Spring 1978 MAAFS meeting will be held April 14 and 15, 1978, at the Holiday Inn, Old Town Alexandria, Virginia. The program will consist of general papers on Friday and a symposium on Saturday. The business meeting will be held late Friday afternoon. Social plans include a luncheon and buffet dinner followed by dancing with a band and open bar on Friday.

Papers from all areas of forensic science will be presented on Friday, April 14. If you are interested in presenting a paper at this time please submit a typed abstract (100-200 words) by March 1 to one of the program chairpersons listed below. The time required for the presentation and audiovisual equipment needed (other than a 35mm or overhead projector) should be specified.

Plans are being made to present a Clandestine Manufacturing Symposium on Saturday morning, April 15. This will include presentations from invited speakers on topics such as counterfeiting, explosives manufacture and illicit drug laboratories.

PROGRAM CHAIRPERSONS

Alice V. Kruegel
DEA Special Testing and Research Lab
7704 Old Springhouse Road
McLean, Virginia 22101
(703) 557-1495

and

Pauline M. Wagner
Virginia Bureau of Forensic Science
Post Office Box 486
Merrifield, Virginia 22116
(703) 573-8636

Minutes of 10th Meeting - Sept. 23, 1977

The meeting was called to order by the President, Antonio Cantu, on September 23, 1977, at the Hilton Hotel, Annapolis, Maryland.

The minutes of the 9th meeting, held at Mount Laurel, New Jersey were accepted as published in the MAAFS Newsletter, Volume 5, Number 2, July 1977.

The Treasurer's report, effective September 20, 1977, was read and accepted and reported a balance in the treasury of \$6749.23.

The following Standing Committees reported:

(1) Budget Committee - The Treasurer, Jean Ann Grandinetti proposed an operating budget of \$1100.00 for 1978. The motion that \$2000.00 be removed from the checking account to be deposited in the savings account to earn more interest was carried.

(2) Awards Committee

(A) Rose Marie Lanzetta, Chairman, presented all past officers and meeting chairpersons with framed certificates of appreciation.

(B) It was moved that a recognition award of either a plaque or a certificate be given to an outstanding member of MAAFS who has contributed to the excellence of MAAFS and/or forensic science. Nomination forms with room for a brief history of the nominee will be supplied with dues notices or in the Newsletter. A petition of ten (10) members is needed to support a nomination. All nominations are to be sent to the Awards Committee for screening and review by a specified date. The nominations acceptable to the Awards Committee will be forwarded to the Executive Committee who decides the final choice of one or none by a specified date. This motion was carried.

(C) It was moved that the following motion be tabled and represented with specific details at the Spring, 1978, meeting. This detailed motion is to be published in the Newsletter preceding the meeting. The motion was that the mechanism, amount of scholarship and other details involved in awarding an academic scholarship to a student of forensic science, are to be decided by the Awards Committee. The scholarship money is to be drawn from the interest of the MAAFS savings account. The motion was carried.

(D) It was decided that expenses for a meeting keynote speaker are the responsibilities of the program chairmen, i.e. they must get enough instrument companies, etc. to exhibit to cover this amount.

(E) It was noted that according to our By-Laws expenditures over \$100.00 require approval by the Executive Committee and do not need to be brought to the membership for a vote.

The following Special Committees reported:

(1) IRS - The appropriate forms have been filed by the Secretary-Treasurer and we are waiting for notification of our tax-exempt status.

(2) Employment Clearing House - Since May, Al Bober has received nine resumes and has had four employers contact him. He keeps resumes for 90 days and provides this service free-of-charge. He will continue to ask forensic organizations to publicize our clearing house in their newsletters. All members interested in employment possibilities are asked to contact Al Bober, U. S. Customs, Baltimore, MD, at 301-962-2920.

The President announced a job opening for a person with a Ph. D. in Analytical Chemistry with a forensic science background to help set up a Forensic Program at Mercy College in Detroit, Michigan. This job announcement was submitted by Tim King.

(3) By-Laws - The By-Laws revisions as published in the July, 1977, Newsletter were accepted.

There was no unfinished business.

The President then proceeded to New Business

(1) Elections - The slate of candidates was presented:

(A) For President-Elect: Dr. Jew-Ming Chao
Mr. Michael Horvath

(B) For Member-at-Large: Mr. Joseph Vorozilchak
Mr. Joseph Koles

There were no nominations from the floor. Mr. Michael Horvath was elected President-Elect and Mr. Joseph Koles Member-at-Large.

(2) By-Laws

(A) It was decided to keep the requirement that a potential member attend a meeting before joining and a new application form will be made which will include the meeting date of attendance.

(B) The President announced that a roster to be signed by those present will be passed at each business meeting since the By-Laws require attendance of a business meeting by a member once every three years unless excused by the Executive Committee.

(3) Student Affiliates - The President appointed Dr. Charles O'Rear as Chairman of a committee to study student affiliated membership. This would not require a By-Laws change since by our present description they would qualify as "regular" members.

(4) Certification of Criminalists - It was decided that Tony Cantu would remain MAAFS's representative to the Criminalistics Certification Study Committee meetings, continuing to report to the MAAFS Executive Committee after each meeting. It was the decision of the membership that no new MAAFS Criminalistics Study Committee should be formed.

(5) The President presented new member certificates to those members #196 through #202 who are listed in the July 1977 Newsletter.

(6) The President announced the resignation of Mr. Leonard Sideman.

(7) The President appointed Dr. Edward Franzosa as the new MAAFS Newsletter editor.

(8) The MAAFS meetings for 1978 were announced as follows:

(A) SPRING - Historic Olde Towne Alexandria, VA Holiday Inn on April 14 and 15. Pauline Wagner and Alice Krugel organizers.

(B) FALL - Pittsburgh, PA. Peter Marone of the Allegheny County Crime Lab and the Chairman of the Chemistry Department of the University of Pittsburgh organizers.

(C) The President noted that the spring meeting could be in the D. C. area now since the high fall attendance required for proper voting is not necessary since voting will now be done by mail-in ballots. The President made the following announcements:

(1) Three forensic meetings in early 1978:

(A) American Academy of Forensic Sciences on February 20-24, 1978, at St. Louis, MO.

(B) 8th International Meeting of Forensic Sciences on May 22-26, 1978, at Wichita, KN.

(C) International Symposium on Instrumental Applications in Forensic Drug Chemistry on May 29-30, 1978, Washington, D. C. Sponsored by DEA.

(2) Dr. Paul Ferrara has been asked to be the liaison between MAAFS and the American Academy.

(3) The Harbor Cruise with Buffet dinner starts promptly at 7:30 PM.

There were no objections and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Ann Grandinetti
Secretary-Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Print in ink or type application; obtain signatures of two current MAAFS members and then mail form to Secretary-Treasurer. Application fee is \$2.50 (non-refundable) and must accompany this application. Yearly dues of \$7.50 are payable on January 1st of each year.

Name:

Occupation/Job Title:

Employer:

Business Address & Phone:

Home Address & Phone:

(Check preferred mailing address)

Education and Experience (include all past employment relating to the Forensic Sciences):

Circle MAAFS Meetings you have attended:

Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall
1975	1975	1976	1976	1977	1977	1978	1978	1979	1979	1980	1980

Membership in Professional or Scientific Organizations:

Signature of Applicant:

Date:

Proposed by:

Seconded by:

Past President:

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