

August, 2007 - Monthly Update

FYI, this update is sent each month to all IAI board members, officers, committee chairs, regional representatives, division secretaries, certification board chairs and secretaries, division editors and IAI staff. This update contains information that is of particular interest to these groups. It is sent by e-mail to all those for whom I have an e-mail address and by regular mail to the rest. **If you receive this by regular mail but have an e-mail account**, please let me know and I will add your e-mail address to the distribution list. It is much more efficient and cost effective to send it that way.

Hello again from the IAI office.

San Diego Conference

It seems that I say this every year but based on the educational offerings in the form of workshops, lecture sessions and networking plus the many social events, the San Diego conference is at the top of what the IAI has ever offered. Thanks to the IAI's Educational Program Planner Jim Gettemy and his able assistants, attendees were treated to the highest quality and quantity of educational offerings in the history of the IAI. The program, comprised of over 101 hands-on workshops and 140 lecture sessions, covered contemporary topics in virtually every forensic discipline. Our congratulations and thanks to Jim and his staff.

Congratulations also to Conference Planner Candy Murray, Exhibit Coordinator Jim Murray and their able staffs in planning and executing the many enjoyable social experiences as well as logistics and planning for the conference venue, overflow hotels, transportation and the myriad of other tasks that go on behind the scenes to make the event a success.

Officers and Board Members

We congratulate Steve Johnson and Harold Ruslander who were elected to the Board of Directors. We also congratulate former board member Kevin Lawson who was elected to the position of Fourth Vice-President. Although Glen Calhoun did not seek re-election to the Board, he was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Kevin Lawson so Glen will again serve on the board during the upcoming year.

Our thanks to Steve Meagher who is retiring from the FBI later this year and chose to not run for re-election to the board and also to Joe Maberry, the outgoing Chair of the Board of Director. We wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

Complete minutes of both the Board of Director's Meeting and the Business Meeting will be published in future JFI's but several highlights are noted below:

- The Board approved the creation of an IAI newsletter to be published six times per year, likely in the months that the JFI is not published.

The JFI will become an entirely technical journal and all IAI business news that occupies the back section of the JFI will now appear in the newsletter.

Jon Stimac from Oregon has been appointed as editor and will begin to work on this project. The likely name of the newsletter will be *Identification News*, picking up the name of previous IAI newsletter that was discontinued in 1987 when the *Journal of Forensic Identification (JFI)* was created. It is ironic that it will be exactly 20 years since

the last *Identification News* was last published to the reincarnation of *Identification News* that will begin to again be published in January 2008. Among the items to be included in the newsletter will be information from the Board and President, IAI Scholarship Funds, my column, certification board news, committee and conference news, division and product news, book reviews, historical information and much more.

The board felt that the time has come for such a newsletter to provide a greater amount of information about the association to members. We're all very excited about the newsletter and more information will be provided, both in the *JFI* and the *Monthly Updates* as it becomes available.

- The Board of Directors approved the creation of a new division, the Central American Division of the IAI.
- Due to inactivity, the forensic discipline of Polygraph was removed as an IAI sub-committee discipline. The 25 members of that discipline will be notified and moved to the General Forensics discipline.
- In response to a request and after a good deal of discussion, a resolution was passed by the membership establishing Forensic Podiatry as a recognized forensic discipline within the IAI.
- Annual dues for both US and non-US members were increased by ten dollars USD effective for the 2008 membership year. It was noted that the last dues increase was nine years ago in 1998.
- The Dondero Award was presented to Stephen Meagher for his long and competent service and contributions to fingerprint identification. We offer our congratulations to Steve for both this award and on his upcoming retirement.
- Milwaukee, Wisconsin was chosen by the Board of Directors as the site for the 2011 conference and Phoenix, Arizona as the site for the 2012 conference.

Necrology

Many of you may remember Pierre Picard, the fellow who for many years was the Historian for the association. His son Peter called the office a few days ago to say that Pierre had died.

Following Pierre's term as Historian, his son Peter took on the role for several years. Over the years, Pierre's wife, Marilyn has also been very actively involved with the IAI. It is her father, John A. Dondero, for whom the Dondero Award is named.

Our condolences to the Picard family at this time of sadness.

SWGFAST – Standing Tenprint Committee

For the past year or so, the IAI has urged SWGFAST to consider the role of the tenprint fingerprint practitioner and integrate the needs of the tenprint community with those of the latent fingerprint community. This IAI request was strongly supported by the FBI's CJIS Division in Clarksburg, WV. I'm very pleased to report that SWGFAST has established a Standing Tenprint Committee and is currently seeking tenprint fingerprint practitioners to serve on that committee.

Below is a letter from Leonard Butt, Chair of SWGFAST that outlines the SWGFAST Tenprint Committee and the application process for those who might wish to serve.

The Scientific Working Group on Friction Ridge Analysis, Study and Technology (SWGFAST) was formed to establish consensus guidelines and standards for the forensic examination of friction ridge impressions. To date, that has been limited to the concerns of the latent print community. Although it has been realized that there are areas of common interest to other fingerprint applications (e.g., criminal history and biometrics), existing SWGFAST guidelines were not developed with the intention of being applied to non-latent print related matters.

Individuals from the IAI and FBI CJIS, having realized a need to provide similar guidelines for the Tenprint community, contacted SWGFAST for assistance. At their request, consideration was given to having SWGFAST expand its role to include this aspect of the profession. This resulted in the decision to implement a Standing Tenprint Committee within SWGFAST.

To address this need, individuals whose primary responsibility is in performing tenprint examinations and have positions requiring knowledge of end-to-end tenprint operations will be added to the SWGFAST membership. Individuals possessing these qualifications that are interested in serving on the Standing Tenprint Committee must submit their letter of interest to SWGFAST Executive Secretary, Maggie Black (mab@fss.ocgov.com). The letter of interest is to be included as an attachment, in Word format, to the cover email.

Each letter must include your qualifications, experience, professional affiliations, and what you bring to the group. Within the letter, or as an attachment, you must include confirmation of your agency's support for you to actively participate in this working group, along with their support for you to attend the meetings as scheduled (SWGFAST normally holds two one week meetings per year). Please note that the FBI sponsors SWGFAST and covers all permissible travel, lodging and meal expenses related to these meetings. They are prohibited from paying the expenses of other federal agency employees and for the travel cost of international members. Include in the email subject line and as a reference topic on the Letter of Interest: "**SWGFAST Tenprint Committee Membership Application - 2007**". All submissions should be received no later than August 31, 2007. The selection process is expected to be completed by late September.

Questions can be directed to SWGFAST chairperson, Leonard Butt, at lbutt@mdsp.org.

Best Regards,

Leonard Butt
Chairperson

As always, don't hesitate to contact the office if there is anything that Jennifer, Molly or myself can do to assist you.

Joe Polski