

International Association for Identification



August, 2010 – IAI 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 also available on the “Members’ Area” of the IAI’s website. Please see the last page of *Identification News* for login and password information.

Hello again from the IAI office.

Crime Scene Certification Board Seeks Applicants

Any Certified Senior Crime Scene Analyst interested in being considered for appointment to the Crime Scene Certification Board please submit a letter and resume to the Chairperson of the Crime Scene Certification Board, Domingo Villarreal at

dvillarreal@humblepolice.com

Thanks

Domingo Villarreal
Chair, Crime Scene Certification Board

Spokane Conference

The 2010 Spokane Conference is now history and, once again, it was a fantastic event. Attendance topped 900, a pleasant surprise given the state of the economy and budgets these days. We thank the sponsors and exhibitors who so generously give of their resources to support that event and without which it would not be the exciting, fun and educational event we’ve come to expect every year. We also thank all those who make the conference a success including the conference staff, the educational program staff, the volunteers and the presenters.

Several changes in IAI leadership occurred during the conference. We thank outgoing Chair of the Board of Directors, Bob Garrett for his longstanding service to the association. We also thank the two members who left the board, Kathy Hentges and Ken Smith, for the dedication to service as board members.

Congratulations to the new Fourth Vice-President, Steve Johnson and new board members, Cedric Neumann as well as Steve Meagher who was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Steve Johnson.

Several items of note from the Board of Director's meeting:

- The board chose RS&A as the IAI's official training partner for the next three years. Several other respondents to the RFP were evaluated but the board felt the RS&A proposal best served IAI members.
- Awarded Distinguished Membership to Ken Martin and Wade Knaap
- Awarded the Good of the Association Award to Dennis Honeycutt
- Created a committee to explore the creation of a competency test for latent fingerprint examiners. This is not the same as certification.
- Several significant changes were made to the Student Knowledge Testing Program offered by the Crime Scene Certification Board. More information about that will be available in the next few months.

Necrology

A short time ago, Peter Picard notified me that his mother, Marilyn Picard passed away. You might remember that Marilyn Picard is the daughter of John Dondero for which the Dondero Award is named. John Dondero was a founder of Faurot, a longtime vendor of equipment and supplies to the fingerprint community and Marilyn's husband, Pierre, was a former International Representative for the IAI. She attended the conference several years ago, I believe it was 2006, where she gave an eloquent speech about her father, John Dondero, and presented the Dondero Award to Bill Bodziak. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Picard family.

IAI Office

Please note that Sandy Slick is no longer employed by the IAI. We are in the process of seeking a replacement for her position. There may be some minor delays, especially in the processing of Crime Scene Certification matters while we hire and train a new person.

Pattern Evidence Symposium

The recently completed Pattern Evidence Symposium in Clearwater, Florida was a rousing success. Approximately 360 people attended this event that was sponsored by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and brought together pattern evidence practitioners, critics, academics, prosecuting and defense attorneys, jurists and other stakeholders in the pattern evidence community. I was honored by be invited to make a few closing remarks at the conference. This symposium followed the model of several previous in bringing together not only practitioners but other diverse stakeholders to network, and share knowledge and viewpoints. Although there will be disagreements, it is evident that this model does lead to a better understanding of diverse viewpoints although that doesn't mean all agree.

As always, don't hesitate to contact the IAI office if there is anything we can do to assist you.

Joe Polski