

February, 2008 - 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.

Mid-Year Board of Director's Meeting

The IAI's Board of Directors

The IAI's Board of Directors held its mid-year meeting in Orlando on January 24th and 25th. Below are several highlights of that meeting.

- Approved the Distinguished Membership application for Darryl Klasey
- Approved an expense reimbursement policy for all IAI employees, contractors and others who are reimbursed for travel expenses
- Provided input and heard a report regarding the proposal to consolidate the two IAI foundations
- Approved a motion requesting all certification boards to develop a plan to allow students to take the knowledge portion (if any) of their certification test before being eligible for full certification; this follows the model in place for the Crime Scene Certification Program
- Approved several changes to the Certification Policy Manual including a revamping of the Forensic Art Certification Program
- Approved a policy to prohibit recording of lecture sessions or workshops during IAI conferences
- Approved a resolution to hold the 2015 Annual International Educational Conference in California. 2015 will be the 100th anniversary of the founding of the IAI in California

2008 IAI Membership Directory

The 2008 Membership Directory was sent to all members about a week ago.

Identification News

The first issue of *Identification News* has been published and sent to all members. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate *Identification News* Editor Jon Stimac for the fantastic job he did in getting this new publication off the ground. As you know, all association business and other "newsy" articles will now appear in the newsletter, not the JFI. The JFI has become an entirely technical publication. If anyone has news of interest to IAI members, including division news, feel free to forward that information to Jon for possible inclusion in the newsletter.

2008 IAI Annual International Educational Conference

It's not too early to begin thinking about this summer's conference in Louisville, Kentucky. The dates are Sunday, August 17th through Friday evening, August 22nd. Please visit the conference page of the IAI's website (<http://www.theiai.org/conference/2008/index.php>) for complete conference and hotel information. I would encourage anyone who plans to attend to make hotel reservations early as the room blocks often fill up as the conference draws near. Educational Program Coordinator Jim Gettemy notes that he has received over 120 workshop submissions and applications to present workshops are now closed. He is still in need of lecture submissions however so anyone interested in presenting a lecture at the Louisville Conference is encouraged to submit an abstract to him using the submission form found on the IAI's website at:

<http://www.theiai.org/conference/presentations/callforpapers.php>

Recent conferences have been absolutely outstanding and this one promises to continue that tradition of excellence.

American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) Meeting

The week of February 18th, President Ken Martin and I will travel to Washington, DC to attend the annual AAFS meeting and represent the IAI at that event. As usual, we will have a place to erect the IAI's pop-up display, hand out IAI literature and promote our association. In addition, that event is a great opportunity to network with others in the forensics business as well as establish and reinvigorate relationships with other organizations and their leaders. The Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations (CFSO) will hold its annual business meeting during the AAFS Meeting as well.

In future columns or updates I'll provide an overview of major events at the AAFS Meeting.

ATTENTION: IAI Divisions

From time to time this office sends checks to the various divisions for their share of certification and recertification fees. Those checks are typically for \$50 for each individual certification or recertification. We find that some divisions do not cash those checks. When your division secretary receives those checks, please ensure that they are cashed as soon as possible. We do not reissue those checks except in very unusual circumstances.

Thanks for your assistance.

2008 Membership Dues

A number of members have not yet paid membership dues for 2008. Second dues invoices will be sent next week to those who have not yet paid. Please note that you can pay dues either by mailing the dues form to the IAI office or through the IAI's website using any major credit card.

Thanks for your timely attention to 2008 dues.

Joe Paliski