

# September, 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.

## *IAI Newsletter – Identification News*

As noted in last month's column, during the San Diego Conference, the Board of Directors approved the establishment of an IAI newsletter to be known as *Identification News*. This newsletter will contain general information about the association, certification programs, new members, perhaps columns by the president, board of director's information, science and practice committee information, certification board activities and news, scholarship fund information, division information and a great deal of "newsy" articles about the association. Jon Stimac from Oregon has been appointed as the editor of *Identification News*. For those of you who have been around the IAI for a number of years, you will remember the "old" *Identification News*, the official publication of the IAI from 1951 until 1987 when the *Journal of Forensic Identification* was created. It was thought fitting that the name *Identification News* be used for this newsletter, continuing the tradition of that name from the past.

*Identification News* will be published in the "off months" from the *JFI* so it is anticipated it will be published and mailed in February, April, June, August, October and December. The first issue is set to be prepared and mailed in February 2008.

Below is a commentary from Jon Stimac, the newly appointed editor of *Identification News*. At the end of Jon's commentary are two e-mail addresses where he can be reached. If any of you have information you would like published in *Identification News*, please contact Jon directly.

I am both excited and honored to take on the duties of Editor for the IAI's *Identification News*. Since 2001, I have published my own non-affiliated electronic newsletter, *DactyloGram*, pertaining to friction ridge individualization, but now my new responsibilities with the IAI will be even more challenging!

Although there are several intuitive purposes for this new bi-monthly IAI publication – such as providing articles of interest to members, communicating IAI committee information, certification news and routine messages from the president, the board chair, etc. – one pertinent addition will provide the opportunity for each Division/Regional chapter to share with the IAI membership their significant news, awards, events, achievements, presentations and/or bylaws additions. For example, the Pacific Northwest Division recently presented its first "Outstanding Achievement Award" to a respected member, while an additional example could be how the Arizona, Nevada and Utah Divisional chapters have united once again for their 2nd Annual "Tri-Division Conference". (Accompanied this time by the Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists).

It's this type of Divisional information that we would like to share with all IAI members via the Identification News. So, please don't be modest or bashful – start promoting your Division by sending me the happenings occurring within your IAI Chapter!

And finally, during the 2008 IAI Educational Conference in Kentucky, I plan to coordinate a discussion group with those of you in attendance so that we may further explore and incorporate IAI Division/Region information within this new IAI parent-body publication. Look for more information on this topic as we advance closer to August 2008!

Jon T. Stimac

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### ***2007 San Diego Conference***

The San Diego Conference is now history but I would be remiss if I did not thank the person who is responsible for the registration of each and every attendee at the Conference, Roy Reed. Roy works tirelessly getting his computer systems ready to accept information from the registrants and is a “behind the scenes” guy who just keeps plugging along to ensure that each conference registration is correctly handled, that requested workshops are properly assigned and that the numerous problems that occur with registrations are handled with professionalism and efficiency. Thanks Roy for a job very well done!!!

### ***2008 IAI Membership Dues***

In October, invoices for 2008 IAI membership dues will be mailed to all IAI members. Please note that the Board of Director's requested, and the membership approved, a dues increase for 2008. Dues for all IAI members will be increased by \$10 USD. This is the first dues increase since 1998 and is necessary to continue to fund the programs and activities sponsored by the association. Dues for US members will now be \$70 per year; dues for non-US members will be \$60 USD per year and dues for US student members will be \$35 per year while dues for students outside the US will be \$60 USD per year.

Please note this new dues amount when you receive your invoice in October. It will not be possible to renew membership at the old rate of \$60 USD per year.

### ***2008 Membership Directory***

It hardly seems possible but 2008 is not far off. We have begun preparation for the 2008 Membership Directory and in that regard, if any members have a change of information such as title, address, phone or fax numbers, e-mail address etc., please submit those changes to this office as soon as possible. During the next month we will begin to compile the data lists for the directory. All directory information will be submitted to the printer around the first of November so any changes received after that date will not be reflected in the 2008 Directory.

Thanks for your assistance.

### ***Website Information***

There are a number of websites “out there” that showcase IAI information, especially certification programs. This issue was brought to the IAI’s Board of Directors during the San Diego Conference and after a good deal of discussion, the Board passed the following resolution:

***Motion by Steve Meagher, seconded by Debbie Leben, that the only official posting location for IAI programs is [www.theiai.org](http://www.theiai.org). Further, any other website postings are “unofficial” and should be relied upon only at the viewer’s risk; passed unanimously.***

Please keep in mind that information obtained from any website other than the IAI’s site should not be taken as the IAI’s official position. That is especially true with respect to any forms that may be obsolete on the “unofficial” sites.

As always, don’t hesitate to contact this office if there is anything that Jennifer, Molly or I can do to assist you.

*Joe Polski*