



CRIMSCENE

****Newsletter of the Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists****

WINTER 2003

VOLUME 29 ISSUE 1



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**NWAFS & CAC
Joint Spring Seminar**

**LMG Blood Detection on
Lead Residue Overlays**

CAPTION THIS!

**NWAFS Free
Registration Award**

...and MORE!!!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

T O M B A R N E S

I sit here on the eve of the week that will shape forensic services for the state of Oregon for the next several years. This state like many others is in severe financial trouble. The state legislature after 5 special sessions proposed an income tax surcharge that will be voted on this coming Tuesday. If the measure fails, the Forensic Services Division will probably be required to lay off more than 60% of our staff on February 1. The State Police will be required to lay-off 322 employees. How do you plan for the elimination of more than half the scientists in your lab? What cases do you continue to work? Do we continue to maintain all sections? What are our priorities? It's very tough. It's been hard on our employees and on our users.

Forensics has become so important that the loss of these services will have a devastating effect on the criminal justice system.

How could this happen? Aren't the services we provide of value? Of course they are, but politics does not always make sense. Forensics has become so important that the loss of these services will have a devastating effect on the criminal justice system. During this time of looming devastation I have gained a greater appreciation for those around me. I have seen nothing but cooperation and respect from our users. They depend on the services we provide. They have assisted us as we aggressively reduced the amount of evidence that they can submit to the laboratory. They are actively campaigning to save us from these cuts. All the while they too are facing cuts. If the tax measure fails and the legislature steps in to reduce the cuts it will be

because of the effort they put forth.

I have also been very impressed by some of my co-workers. "When the going gets tough the tough get going"; so very true. Most of them continue to take pride in their job knowing that very soon their job may be gone. It is amazing to see how different individuals react to stressful situations. Many have stepped up to help those who will remain with training and planning for the future. I consider myself very lucky to be working with these great individuals.

So wish us luck, if the measure fails the legislature will only have 3 days to save us from these cuts. Considering they had 5 special sessions last year, I am a bit concerned. As of last week the polls showed a 50-50 split on the tax measure.

On to a better topic, I want to thank Josh for doing an exceptional job with his first newsletter. Great job. I would also like to thank Suzanne Harmon and all of the Reno crew for putting together a great program for the joint CAC/NWAFS Spring meeting. I hope to see many of you there. I know that training funds are hard to come by these days and that is why it is critical that the association continues to provide high quality cost effective training for our members. Come take advantage of this opportunity.

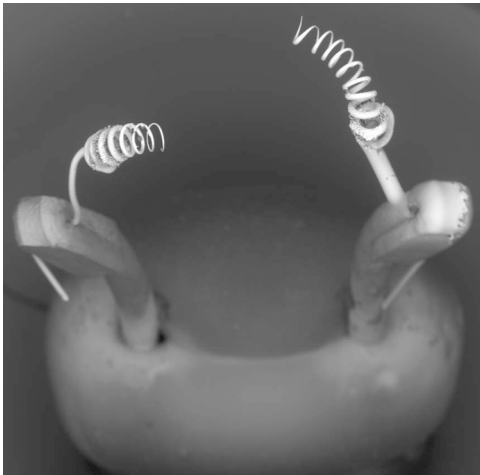
See you in Reno.

-Tom Barnes

C O N T E N T S

C R I M E S C E N E

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 0 3



On The Cover...

Closeup of the above car lamp filament, using a scanning electron microscope with backscatter imaging at different magnifications. Note the dark glass beads on the filament seen on the cover, which shows that it was hot at the time of impact.



CRIMESCENE is the official publication of the Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists. It is published four times a year in the months of February, May, August, and November. The Newsletter welcomes submissions from its membership, such as: technical tips, case studies, literature compilations, workshop or training notifications, reference citations, commentary, historical accounts, and other topics of interest to the membership. While not currently required, please submit material for publication in Microsoft Word for Windows format as an e-mail attachment or on a 3.5" floppy disk. For more information regarding the Newsletter or to make a submission please contact editorial secretary-elect, Joshua S. Spatola at the California Department of Justice, Central Valley Crime Laboratory, 1306 Hughes Lane, Ripon, CA, 95366 (phone: 209.599.1418 / fax: 209.599.1240 / email: josh.spatola@doj.ca.gov).

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EDITOR'S SECTION

JOSH SPATOLA

The Devastating Effects of a Criminalistic Coffers Crisis

While slipping in and out of consciousness during my morning commute, I found my mind wandering to the massive budget problems plaguing our country and ultimately our respective workplace environments. This led me to the question: "Is forensic science a necessity or a luxury in the criminal justice system?"

If one were to strictly examine government budgets devoted to the application of science to law, then clearly forensics is purely a luxury item. When the budget allows, a few dollars will be tossed into the criminalistic coffers – but when the treasury is thin then those dollars are immediately swiped for more pressing matters. However, an examination of the court system shows that forensics is closer to necessity than luxury. Attorneys and judges rely on expert examination, interpretation, and testimony in a good percentage of cases in order to better understand the nature of scientific evidence and its role in a particular situation. Presently, due to mass media influence, juries expect to see scientific evidence presented - even in cases where such evidence is not applicable.

Regardless of whether forensic science is a luxury or necessity it seems most of us are facing similar budget problems to varying degrees. Cuts will be made, whether minor or major. Funds for forensics are in short supply no matter where you look. Does this mean that we are expendable and unnecessary? Clearly the answer is "no," but looking at budgetary decisions being made by some agencies, the message being sent is noticeably the opposite. Those that control the

law enforcement dollar must be confident the criminal justice system will work with the diminished capacity - or, in extreme cases, the absence - of forensic science.

This is definitely a frustrating turn of events for the entire law enforcement community. Local law enforcement cannot identify those precious "unknown, off-white powders" that constantly clutter our evidence storage areas. Alone, they are unable to determine alcohol concentrations in blood and then interpret those results from the exorbitant amount of suspected DUI samples. Police, property controllers, and community service officers lack the technical capabilities involved with identifying and then appropriately



... those that control the law enforcement dollar must be confident the criminal justice system will work with the diminished capacity - or, in extreme cases, the absence - of forensic science . . .

analyzing biological specimens – including the complexities involved with DNA analysis and interpretation. Judges and attorneys are unable to perform firearm and toolmark identifications or to perform characterization and comparison of trace evidence. Fire investigators usually lack the technology to identify and interpret suspected ignitable liquids contained within fire debris evidence.

Who then will perform these duties if forensic science is so expendable? I'm not looking forward to the answer, but I

guess we'll find out.

I wish everyone the best with the upcoming budget issues facing all of you. As some may point out, "everything happens for a reason." I hope this proves to be true.

- Josh Spatola

Josh.Spatola@doj.ca.gov

THE NEWSWORTHY

DALLAS, TX - A hero cockatoo slain trying to protect its master from knife-wielding assailants proved the star witness in the trial of one of its owner's killers.

Daniel Torres was found guilty on Tuesday of murdering Kevin Butler. Prosecutors have said DNA evidence extracted from the bird's beak as well as blood trails caused when the bird violently pecked the assailants were key pieces of evidence that led to the conviction.

According to evidence presented in court, Torres and another suspect, who has yet to stand trial, broke into Butler's home. During a struggle in Butler's living room, the white-crested cockatoo named Bird after basketball great Larry Bird, swooped down on the attackers, clawed at their skin and pecked at their heads, said prosecutor George West.

West has said blood found in Bird's beak and at the scene of the crime linked Torres to the murder. Bird may have wounded Torres, but the protective parrot-relative paid the price for trying to take on two armed foes. Bird had its leg cut off and was found dead in the kitchen of Butler's home — apparently stabbed to death by a fork in the back.

It took a Dallas jury less than an hour to find Torres guilty. He was sentenced to life in prison. A white-crested cockatoo stands about 18 inches to 20 inches (46 cm to 51 cm) tall and has a beak powerful enough to snap thin tree branches, according to pet dealers.

-Reuters

PORT ROYAL, VA - Edward Blaine, 61, who served 20 years in prison for a 1963 bank robbery, apparently is becoming even less competent with age, as he was arrested in January and charged with robbing the Union Bank & Trust branch in Port Royal, Va.

Police said Blaine fled with the stash while \$100 bills were falling out of his pockets, and then he realized as he arrived at his getaway car that he had locked the keys inside. He grabbed a log to smash the window but tossed it away in frustration, only to have it hit Emmett Lowe's truck, thus angering Lowe, who grabbed a gun and chased Blaine for 150 yards.

In a struggle, Blaine shot at Lowe but hit himself in the leg, just before Lowe shot Blaine in the same leg.

-Washington Times

MIAMI, FL - Two flea market jewelers were arrested on charges of practicing dentistry without a license after an undercover investigation found they were gluing gold inlays to people's teeth from the back of their 10-year-old Honda.

Word-of-mouth marketing drew several customers a day who flipped through a photo album of styles before bargaining over the cost of the cosmetic procedure that could range from \$150 to \$1,000, investigators said.

"They could give you a whole rack of gold, or just cover a few teeth. They even had gold vampire fangs, if that's what you wanted," said Jim Lejedal, a spokesman for the Broward Sheriff's Department.

Investigators said Island Gold Enterprises Inc. was operating from the Swap Shop flea market in Fort Lauderdale for more than a year before police were tipped off by an unhappy customer whose teeth were damaged.



"We found Superglue-like adhesives in the suspects' car and extremely unsanitary conditions," said Enrique Torres, chief investigator for the Florida Department of Health's criminal investigation unit in Broward County.

When the inlays are not properly applied, food can become trapped underneath, causing infection, bone stress and deterioration and disease, he said.

"The idea is to have a beautiful smile, not to lose your teeth. This is not the way to do it," said Torres.

The health department's criminal investigation unit estimates that 300 to 400 people practice dentistry without proper licenses in southeast Florida, most in the Miami area. Since 1998, officials made 54 arrests for illegal dentistry.

- Reuters

Presumptive Blood Detection with Leucomalachite Green on Lead Residue Overlays

Sara M. Day

California Department of Justice
Redding Criminalistics Laboratory
11745 Old Oregon Trail
Redding, CA 96003

ABSTRACT

In a homicide case that I analyzed, a black t-shirt was found on a bloody floor. I wanted to document the bloodstain pattern on the t-shirt. Visible and laser light were unsuccessful in discerning the pattern of the stains. I decided that an overlay with the Leucomalachite Green (LMG) presumptive blood test would be used in an attempt to visualize the bloodstain pattern on the black t-shirt. An overlay procedure used to detect lead residues was already performed on the t-shirt.

When an overlay is done, the actual stains and residues will transfer to a filter paper, so there is a potential of not detecting the stain or residue on the subsequent overlays. I wanted to determine if an overlay procedure would be helpful in discerning the bloodstain pattern and if the same overlay that was used to detect lead residue could be used to presumptively detect blood with the LMG test. It was discovered that an overlay was helpful in discerning the bloodstain pattern and that the chemicals and the heat used to detect lead residues did not affect the LMG test.

EXPERIMENTAL

Various dilutions of blood drops and blood smears were placed on a dark colored cloth (Concentrations ranged from straight blood to 1:500 dilutions). Four separate pieces of filter paper (overlays) were used on the same blood stained dark colored cloth. The LMG overlay procedure (*Procedure #1*) was done on the first two overlays to determine if the blood patterns could be detected at the various dilutions and at different transfer times [**Overlay #1** (transfer time of 1.5 hours) and **Overlay #2** (transfer time of 5 minutes)]. Next, the lead residue overlay procedure (*Procedure #2*) was completed on the third overlay (**Overlay #3**). Then, the LMG test on the lead residue overlay (*Procedure #3*) was completed on the same overlay (**Overlay #3**). A final LMG overlay procedure (*Procedure #1*) was completed on the fourth overlay (**Overlay #4**) to see if the blood patterns could still be transferred to the filter paper after the lead residue procedure had been completed on the cloth.

Procedure #1

The following LMG overlay procedure was used:

1. A piece of filter paper dampened with deionized water was sandwiched between the sample cloth and some weight for a period of time.
2. The filter paper was then removed, hung in a hood, and sprayed with LMG (0.5 g LMG, 50 ml glacial acetic acid, 75 ml deionized water, and 2.5 g zinc dust). Color changes and patterns were observed.
3. The paper was then sprayed with 3% hydrogen peroxide. Color changes and patterns were observed.

(Known blood: No color change observed with LMG and a blue-green color change observed after adding the 3% hydrogen peroxide.)

Procedure #2

The following lead residue overlay procedure was used:

1. The sample cloth was covered with a piece of filter paper dampened with a 10% glacial acetic acid solution and pressure was applied with a hot iron until the paper was almost dry.
2. The filter paper was then removed, hung in a hood, and sprayed with rhodizonate solution (5 mg of Sodium Rhodizonate in 10 ml of deionized water). Color changes and patterns were observed.
3. The paper was then sprayed with a dilute hydrochloric acid solution (1 ml of concentrated hydrochloric acid diluted to 100 ml with deionized water). Color changes and patterns were observed.

Procedure #3

The following LMG test on the lead residue overlay was used:

1. The filter paper that was used for the lead residue test was hung in a hood and sprayed with Leucomalachite Green solution. Color changes and patterns were observed.
2. The filter paper was sprayed with 3% hydrogen peroxide. Color changes and patterns were observed.

RESULTS**Table 1: Overlay Results**

BLOOD STAINS	OVERLAY #1	OVERLAY #2	OVERLAY #3	OVERLAY #4
Straight Drop	pos, clear	pos, clear	pos, clear	pos, clear
Straight Drop	pos, clear	pos, clear	pos, clear	neg
1:4 Drop	pos, clear	pos, clear	pos, clear	neg
1:4 Smear	pos, clear	pos, clear	pos, clear	neg
1:16 Drop	pos, clear	pos, clear	pos, unclear	neg
1:16 Smear	pos, clear	pos, clear	pos, clear	neg
1:32 Drop	pos, clear	pos, clear	neg	neg
1:32 Smear	pos, clear	pos, clear	pos, unclear	neg
1:100 Drop	pos, clear	pos, clear	pos, unclear	neg
1:100 Smear	pos, clear	pos, clear	neg	neg
1:500 Drop	pos, clear	neg	neg	neg

pos, clear = blue-green color change in the area of the stain, clear pattern.

pos, unclear = blue-green color change in the area of the stain, unclear pattern.

neg = no color change in the area of the stain.

CONCLUSIONS

The LMG overlay procedure was helpful discerning the bloodstain pattern on the cloth. A transfer time of 30 minutes would probably be sufficient enough to allow the stains to transfer to the filter paper. Although, one has to take into consideration that the LMG overlay might visualize a pattern that the analyst might not normally see because of the sensitivity of the LMG test.

The chemicals and the heat used for the lead residue overlays did not seem to interfere with the LMG test. I feel that more blue-green patterns would have been observed on **Overlay #3** if it would have been the first overlay in contact with the cloth. More experimentation would have to be done in order to determine if the lack of blue-green patterns on **Overlay #4** was due to the lead residue overlay procedure or if it was because it was the fourth overlay in contact with the same cloth.

Procedure #3 was completed on the lead residue overlays that were used on the black t-shirt in the case example and clear patterns were observed.



California Association of Criminalists Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists



JOINT SPRING MEETING

RENO, NEVADA

APRIL 7-11, 2003

CAC/NWAFS Members:

January 8, 2003

Seminar/Hotel Coordinator
Suzanne Harmon

Vendor Coordinators
Rich Berger
Suzanne Harmon

Program Coordinators
Marcy Margritier, Chair
Evelyn Taylor
Kathie Merola
Beverly Wood

Publicity Coordinator
Diane Machen

Registration Coordinators
Rich Bell, Chair
Marcy Margritier
Joan Booth

Hospitality Coordinators
Jeffrey Riolo
Jeffrey Rolands

Workshop Coordinators
Rich Berger
Maria Fassett
Kevin Lattyak
Jeffrey Riolo

Meeting hosted by:
**Washoe County Sheriff's
Office and Crime Lab**
911 Parr Blvd
Reno, NV 89512
775.328.2811



www.cacnews.org
www.nwafs.org

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office and Forensic Laboratory cordially invites you to a special joint Spring Meeting. The CAC/NWAFS Seminar will take place April 7 through April 11, 2003 at the El Dorado Hotel and Casino in the heart of downtown Reno. This special meeting is one you won't want to miss.

The theme for the meeting is **ANTE UP FOR HIGH STAKES FORENSICS**. The general session will focus on **cases where the only "card on the table" was forensic evidence**. Desired presentations will include **cases where forensic analysis was the "ace" and so successful prosecution of the case was no longer a "gamble."** We look forward to your abstracts.

We have several excellent workshops for you to choose from beginning Monday, April 7 with *DNA Audit Workshop*, *Infrared Interpretation*, *Ricochet Workshop*, and *Forensic Approaches to Mass Disasters*. On Tuesday, April 8 we will offer *Hewlett-Packard GC/MS Maintenance and Troubleshooting*, *Colt 1911 Style Pistol Armorer's Course*, and a *DNA Workshop*.

The general session will begin first thing Wednesday, April 9th and will end midday April 11th. Hotel space has been set aside for Executive Board meetings on Sunday, April 6 and for ABC Examinations on Friday afternoon.

The El Dorado Hotel and Casino is known by the locals for its fine dining. The hotel offers free parking and free shuttle service every half hour to and from the Reno/Tahoe Airport, which is located just a few short minutes away. The snow pack is in great shape so far this year and the ski resorts are just a short drive away as is beautiful Lake Tahoe.

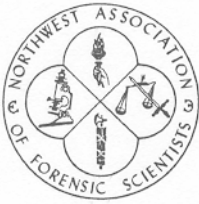
The El Dorado has offered an exceptional room rate of just **\$60** per night for deluxe accommodations Sunday through Thursday and **\$89** per night for Friday and Saturday. These prices are for single or double occupancy and there is a 13.5% room tax. The cutoff date for space and this price is **March 6, 2003**. Reservations can be made by calling **800-648-5966** or **775-348-9266** and be sure to mention **CAC/NWAFS Conference** to ensure this special rate.

Wednesday evening we will offer a special off-site evening reception at the Harrah's National Automobile Museum. The Museum lets you travel through time like few other places can. You'll walk down streets of the past. Its cars, sights, sounds, and places are yours to explore. Beyond the streets, you'll discover a century of automobiles: more than 220 antique, vintage, classic, special interest and one-of-a-kind wonders. The cars of the stars'll dazzle you.

Thursday night's banquet will be a special event as well. Don't miss this exciting event. See you in Reno! Feel free to contact me should you have additional questions at 775-328-2811 or at sharmon@mail.co.washoe.nv.us.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Harmon, Criminalist
Seminar Coordinator



**California Association of Criminalists
Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists
JOINT SPRING MEETING REGISTRATION FORM
RENO, NEVADA APRIL 7-11, 2003**



Please complete this form and return it with a check (payable to *CAC Seminar*) or provide your credit card information (VISA or MasterCard only) to:

**Suzanne Harmon – WCSO Crime Lab, 911 Parr Blvd, Reno, NV 89512
Tel: (775) 328-2811 Fax: (775) 328-2831 EMAIL: sharmon@mail.co.washoe.nv.us**

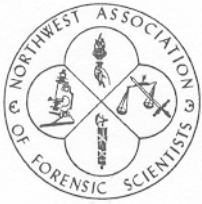
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 TEL: _____ FAX: _____ EMAIL: _____
 Credit Card Option: VISA MasterCard
 CREDIT CARD #: _____ Exp: _____
 NAME ON CARD (print): _____
 SIGNATURE: _____ **Total Amount Enclosed: \$** _____

Full registration includes:

- Wednesday registration: General session, lunch, and ticket to the evening reception at National Automobile Museum.
- Thursday registration: General session, lunch and ticket to the Thursday night Banquet and Show.
- Friday registration: General session.

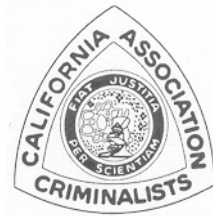
Vegetarian options are provided at all lunches and banquet. **Vegetarian** yes

	CAC/NW Members	Non- Members	Student Members	Student Non-Members
Full pre-registration (before Mar 15th)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Full late registration (after Mar 15th)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$125
On-site full registration	\$250	\$300	\$125	\$150
Daily pre-registration (before Mar 15th)				
Wednesday	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75
Thursday	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Friday	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40	<input type="checkbox"/> \$55	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50
Daily late registration (after Mar 15th)				
Wednesday	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$125	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Thursday	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$125
Friday	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$65
On-site daily registration	There will be an extra fee of 30% for on site registration.			
Workshop registration (*Includes Lunch)				
DNA Audit-2 day (Mon*, Tues*)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$120	<input type="checkbox"/> \$160	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
IR Interpretation-2 day (Mon*, Tues*)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$125
Projectile Ricochet-1 day (Mon*)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75
Forensic App. Mass Disaster-1 day (Mon*)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$85	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75
HP GC/MS Maint/Troubleshooting-1 day (Tues*)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75
Colt 1911 Style Pistol Armorer-1 day (Tues*)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75
DNA Updates/Case Studies-1 day (Tues*)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50
On-site workshop registration	There will be an extra fee of 30% for on site registration.			
Extra lunch ticket	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25
Extra Auto Museum reception ticket	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25
Extra banquet/show ticket	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$65



California Association of Criminalists Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists

JOINT SPRING MEETING
RENO, NEVADA APRIL 7-11, 2003



WORKSHOPS

The workshops will be held on either Monday or Tuesday or both days, April 7 and 8 and will begin each morning at 8:00 AM. The workshops will be held at the El Dorado Hotel and Casino with the exception of the Ricochet Workshop (see notes).

DNA Audit Workshop

(Mon, Tues, Full Days, Minimum 20 and Maximum 50)

Mr. Richard Guerrieri, DNA Analysis Unit I
Ms. Anja Koczinski, Quality Assurance and Safety Unit
FBI Laboratory, Washington, DC

The DNA Audit Workshop provides current and previously qualified DNA examiners with a comprehensive review and interpretation of the DNA Audit Document [October 2000]. In order to comply with future NDIS/CODIS audit requirements, affected DNA laboratories will be required to have personnel trained on this document. ASCLD/LAB DNA Inspectors are required to receive this training in order to continue performing inspections. It is strongly recommended that participants be familiar with the DNA Audit Document prior to attending the workshop [which can be found in Forensic Science Communications January 2001 issue]. This course has been previously offered at CODIS conferences and regional FS meetings with high demand.

Interpretation of Infrared Spectra

(Mon, Tues, Full Days, Minimum 15)

Robert L. Julian, Ph.D.
University of Wisconsin Synchrotron Radiation Center

This workshop is based on the ever-popular California Criminalistics Institute's three-day class. Trace analysts utilizing IR for paint and fiber examinations as well as drug chemists will benefit from this intensive exposure to the theory, comparison, identification and interpretation of the infrared spectra of organic compounds. Knowledge of infrared spectroscopy and chemical nomenclature for organic functional groups is a prerequisite.

Ricochet Workshop

(Mon, Full Day, Maximum 30)

Lucien C. Haag

This workshop will provide the participant with various definitions associated with ricocheted and deflected projectiles as well as some general expectations for the behavior of projectiles upon impact with a variety of surface types such as water, soil, concrete, asphalt, sheet metal, wood, and wallboard. The resultant effects of a ricochet event on the projectiles in the form of damage and trace evidence exchanges as well as post-impact exterior ballistic performance will be covered and demonstrated in the live-fire portion of this workshop. The nature and properties of forensic interest associated with the impact sites will be integrated with the impactive damage sustained by the responsible bullets. Chemical testing methods for verifying impact sites as bullet-caused will be demonstrated.

Methods for the empirical testing and measurement of projectile behavior before and after impact with a selected surface or material will also be illustrated in this workshop. This 8-hour course will include classroom and live-fire demonstrations, handout materials and hands-on experience with ricocheted projectiles and impacted surfaces.

Questions addressed and answered include:

- Where do ricochet projectiles go after impact and how far do they travel?
- What are their post-impact flight characteristics?
- What are the important factors controlling the departure angles of ricocheted projectiles?
- What sort of damage do ricocheted projectiles sustain during impact?

Does the appearance and nature of this damage have forensic value?
What can be learned from the impact site?

Participants are encouraged to bring still or video cameras in the event they wish to make their own record of the various demonstrations during the live-fire portion of this workshop. Participants should check in at conference registration between 0700 and 0730 on April 7. Workshop is off-site and transportation is provided.

Forensic Approaches to Mass Disasters: Current Perspectives, Protocols and Technologies

(Mon, Full Day)

California State Department of Justice, Bureau of Forensic Services

Laboratory managers, supervisors and anyone who is interested in planning and training laboratory staff for implementing mass disaster training and preparedness will want to attend this workshop. A detailed overview of the forensic methodologies, personnel and technologies that have been employed in recent mass disasters in the United States and abroad will be presented. Future trends for the investigation of mass disasters in terms of training of personnel and organizational preparedness will be explored. Efforts toward the establishment of universal standards for the application of the forensic sciences to mass disasters and international human rights investigations will be discussed since both share in the demand for utilizing forensic approaches in the identification of human remains.

Maintenance and Troubleshooting of Hewlett-Packard GC/MS Systems

(Tues, Full Day)

Hewlett-Packard Service Engineer

This workshop is a daylong-condensed version of the company's training class for users of recent model Hewlett-Packard GC/MSD's. A practical rather than theory-based presentation intended to minimize downtime and service calls.

Functional and Forensic Aspects of the Colt 1911 Family Pistols

(Tues, Full Day)

Robert Caunt
Vancouver Police Department
Forensic Firearms Unit

This course will investigate the Colt 1911 family of pistols and is directed toward both the armorer and the forensic examiner. Topics covered will include plenty of hands-on instruction for disassembly and assembly, design and function, diagnosis of common problems and an overview of the most encountered custom modifications to this popular pistol.

DNA Updates and Case Studies

(Tues, Full Day)

Jeffrey Riolo
Washoe County Sheriff's Office
DNA Analyst/CODIS Manager

The DNA Workshop will cover current issues in forensic DNA analysis. These include the following:

- 1) New Technology – Making things faster and better
- 2) Mixed Profile Statistical Interpretation
- 3) Y-STR's
- 4) "Doing More with Less" – Automation, increasing efficiency, budgeting time
- 5) Mass disaster – Preparation for, cases
- 6) Unusual and challenging cases

If you wish to present at the workshop or to suggest additional topics, please contact Jeff Riolo at 775-328-2851 or by email at jriolo@mail.co.washoe.nv.us.

CAPTION THIS!

CURRENT



Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the always popular “CAPTION THIS!,” the captioning game that is sweeping the nation. The power to deliver a witty slogan, subtitle, or description is finally in your hands.

The best caption submitted for the photo presented above will win a STARBUCK’S Coffee Gift Card.

Decision of the editor is final. Bribery may not be tolerated.

Email: Josh.Spatola@doj.ca.gov

W I N N E R

C A P T I O N T H I S !

WE HAVE A WINNER!!!



“The new and improved Zippo lighter produces superior vaporization for that smooth Crack taste! It keeps Rosie the Rivetor alert for those long shifts on the factory floor ‘cause she won’t use that Nazi Meth!”

—Aaron, David, Eric, James, and Lori; Ingrid’s crew of backlog assassins at Washington State Patrol!

Congrats! Your STARBUCK’S coffee is on its way!

Honorable Mentions...

Since no one else **Captioned That!**, I have no choice but to submit one from the notorious Philip Morris, Inc - *Virginia Slim’s* advertising campaign:

“You’ve come a long way, baby!”

Original Caption...

Light is normally to be expected from electric lamps, but not the type of light being obtained by Cleveland’s Sharon Lee Brumley. She is using General Electric’s revolutionary new infrared lamp for lighting her cigarette. Radically different in appearance from infrared lamps in the past, the new unit takes the form of a quartz tube rather than a glass bulb. The ruggedness, high efficiency and versatility of the new lamp are expected to find it wanted for scores of heating, cooking, baking and drying applications. Original Caption by Science Service® General Electric Company

UPCOMING MEETINGS

NWAFS Fall 2003 October 13-17, 2003 * Portland, Oregon

Our committee is already hard at work arranging workshops, vendors, and an all around good time for our members. Please join us and make this meeting a success. Watch your mail and check our new website at <http://www.nwafs.org/> for the latest information as the meeting plans progress.

Dates: October 13-17, 2003

Location: Embassy Suites Downtown
Portland, Oregon
Reservations: 503-279-9000

The Embassy Suites is a beautifully refurbished historic hotel in the heart of downtown Portland. It's almost too classy for us. For a preview, visit the website at <http://embassysuites.citysearch.com/>

A limited number of small suites each night are available at the government per diem rate of \$91/night double occupancy. The remaining larger suites are available at the special conference rate of \$109/night double occupancy. Each room has a small kitchen and dining area. The room rate includes a full made to order breakfast and a manager's reception with free appetizers and drinks from 5-7p.m. nightly (A warm-up for the hospitality suite?) The larger suites are ideal for those who wish to share rooms.

Anticipated Workshops:

Crime Scene Perspectives from NYC Crime Scene Unit
Wound Identification in Assaults and Homicides
GC/MS Spectral Interpretation
Chemstation Macro Programming
Drug Lab Recognition
FEI SEM Workshop at Manufacturing Site
Sexual Assault Examination and Kit Collection for Nurses
Digital Imaging or Video Processing
DAB Audit Course (minimum of 20 registrants required)

Questions

Or ideas: Rhonda Banks
Oregon State Police Forensic Laboratory
503-229-5017
rhonda.banks@state.or.us

2003 MAAFS Annual Meeting MAY 5-9, 2003 * Annapolis, Maryland

The Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientists (MAAFS) will be holding their 2003 Annual Meeting during May 5-9, 2003, at the Sheraton Barcelo' in Annapolis, MD. The meeting website, which provides more detailed information is: <http://www.maafs.org/annualmeeting.htm>

Proposed workshops include: *Managing the Chemical Analysis Support Laboratory; A Little Daubert'll Do Ya (Questioned Documents); GC/MSD Troubleshooting and Preventative Maintenance Workshop; ABC Exam Prep Session; Explosives, Explosive Effects, and Improvised Explosive Devices; DNA Legal Issues and Statistics.*

2002 - 2003

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nwafs free registration award



congratulations!

Chesterine Cwiklik of *Cwiklik & Associates* was selected by the Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists Board of Directors to receive free registration to an upcoming NWAFFS conference.

This award is in recognition of her numerous outstanding submissions to **CRIME SCENE: The Newsletter of the Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists**. Chesterine, the Association thanks you for your many contributions to the newsletter.

If you enjoy free-stuff (and, honestly, who doesn't?) you may want to begin sending numerous outstanding submissions to **CRIME SCENE** also.

It's easy to do. Here's how:

1. Write a technical tip, case study, literature compilation, workshop or training critique, reference citation, commentary, historical account, or any other topic of interest to the NWAFFS.
2. Format it in Microsoft Word for Windows.
3. Save it on a 3.5 inch floppy disk or CD and send to the editorial secretary - elect, or email it to the following...

Joshua S. Spatola
California Department of Justice
Central Valley Crime Lab
1306 Hughes Lane
Ripon, CA 95366
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Thanks in advance for your support!