

CACNews



The President's Desk

jamie
Lajoie



CAC President

**Seeing so many
people getting
the vaccine really
reassures me that
there is a good
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person meeting
this fall.**

The Challenges You Need

Well it's still early in 2021 yet it feels like so much has happened. I am already exhausted! I have had to respond to multiple crimes scenes, conducted lots of casework in the lab, attended virtual meetings, been to socially distanced baby showers, said some retirement goodbyes, and was able to get the COVID vaccine shots. Perhaps my busy 2021 is why I have writer's block as I am trying to concoct this message. I had some grand ideas for my final president's message, but I think I am going to leave this last entry a simple one.

While I am disappointed that I didn't get to interact with anyone in person (except my co-workers and those at LAPD) it has been an adventure speaking to you all virtually. While the CAC probably didn't have the best or fanciest online presence, we had a lot of heart and passion which I think is what makes our organization so wonderful. Our members gave the board and webmasters a lot of encouragement along the way in this pandemic which was much appreciated. We truly felt the support and knew we were all in this tough year together.

I am seeing a lot of our members posting online and texting me that you guys are getting vaccinated. Seeing so many people getting the vaccine really reassures me that there is a good chance we will be able to have an in person meeting this fall. I hope you all join me in crossing your fingers and toes so that this becomes a reality.

Speaking of meetings, the board has decided to move forward with a vote on the bylaws that would move the association to one meeting per year. This vote will take place this upcoming spring at the next business meeting, which will be held in a virtual setting. I encourage all the members to attend and to take part in this historic vote.

It has been a true honor and pleasure to be such a unique president. My husband said I should get a do over but I am a believer in the idea that you get the challenges you need, not always the ones you want. So I wouldn't change this experience because it definitely taught me a lot.

I hope to see all of y'all in person real soon and maybe then I will get an opportunity to tell my funny Longhetti stories.

Until then, Catherine I will put the coconut in the mail for you!

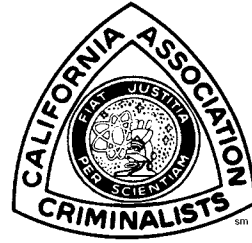
As always stay safe,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jamie".

SECOND QUARTER 2021

The CACNews

www.cacnews.org



Editor Jonathan Charron
editor@cacnews.org

Art Direction John Houde / Janna Cieslak

Webmasters Mike Fish
Bonnie Cheng
Regina Davidson
webmaster@cacnews.org

Advertising Contact the Editor

Social Media Kathe "KC" Canlas
Contact the Editor



On the cover:

Our cover evokes the CAC Distinguished Member Award. Do you know someone who is a "standout" scientist?

The *CACNews*, ISSN 1525-3090, is published quarterly (January, April, July, and October) by the California Association of Criminalists (CAC).

The CAC is a private foundation dedicated to the furtherance of forensic science in both the public and private sectors.

Please direct editorial correspondence and requests for reprints to the editorial secretary.

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Submissions should be made in the form of Windows compatible files on CD or by e-mail. Alternatively, text files may be saved as plain ASCII files without formatting codes, e.g. bold, italic, etc. Graphics, sketches, photographs, etc. may also be placed into articles. Please contact the editorial secretary for details.

The deadlines for submissions are: December 1, March 1, June 1 and September 1.

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jonathan
Charron



CAC Editorial Secretary

Change is something that comes, whether we want it to or not, and I am proud to be part of an organization that is ready to take these changes and their associated challenges head on.

The Longest Year

In preparing for this editorial, I toyed with the idea of skipping over writing about the one-year anniversary of California's first lockdown. I thought about if it was important for yet another person to acknowledge how challenging the past year has been for many of us, and what good it would do to think back over the past twelve months. I, obviously, have decided a nod to this milestone was warranted for a few reasons. I have written about some aspect of the pandemic in many of my editorials and the reason I am writing about it one more time is that I am finally optimistic that it may soon be a time when COVID-19 is not the first and most prominent thing on everyone's mind.

From a year ago, the world has gone from knowing very little about this virus to having multiple vaccines available, including the use of a newer vaccine technology. We went from locking down much of the world to a more focused approach on restrictions based on location. Perhaps the most notable change from a year ago is how seeing someone with a mask on was an uncommon sight. Now many of us have a drawer dedicated to them and must decide which mask goes best with the outfit we have on for the day, not to mention that masks are now part of my mental inventory check prior to leaving the house somewhere between "phone in right front pocket" and "wallet in right back pocket."

Along with the change of needing a mask everywhere you go, we have seen all sorts of other changes and a seemingly endless stream of information to process over the last year, even here with the CAC. Without having had an in-person event in over a year, I felt some of you may appreciate a brief overview of some of these changes as well as some new things that are on the horizon.

Conferences

The upcoming conference that was scheduled for the Lake Natoma Inn in Folsom has been cancelled. This conference was being planned by the Sacramento County District Attorney's Laboratory of Forensic Services for the end of April. Due to the current restrictions within Sacramento County and the rest of the state, the board decided that this was the best decision and to instead put our efforts into the Fall 2021 seminar.

The Fall 2021 seminar is currently a joint effort of BFS Central Coast DOJ labs and is scheduled to be held in Santa Cruz for October 17-23, 2021. At this point, there has not been a decision on a further postponement or cancelation. Please keep an eye on the next issue of the CACNews and our website for any updates and details about this conference!

The Spring 2022 seminar is planned to be held in Long Beach and hosted by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Crime Laboratory for April 10-16, 2022. This seminar is in the beginning stages of planning (or replanning), so again please keep posted.

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office is planning on hosting a seminar in either Fall of 2022 or Spring of 2023. If your laboratory is interested in hosting a seminar in the future, please reach out the Sheltri Gresham who is the Seminar Planning Committee Chairperson and has been doing an amazing job of adapting to the constant changes, cancellations, and rescheduling we have had to do.

Digital Conversion

As you are reading these words, you are more than likely reading them from the glowing screen of your computer. That is because the CACNews has gone to a digital only format. I am exploring some options on different applications that we can publish through to make reading easier on your mobile devices as the CAC moves to a completely digital format, so please keep posted on this. With the digital conversion, we have also moved most of our forms to a digital version. We would normally include a printed copy of the salary survey with this issue of the CACNews. In line with our digital push, this will not be sent out to the membership in physical form but will be available on the website soon for you all to download at your convenience. Another goal of ours is to have the entire membership signed up on the website for digital communication only so

that everyone can handle dues, voting by proxy, membership updates etc. electronically. You can verify your current settings by going into your CAC account and going to the "Edit Profile" section to update this preference.

Awards

We have had a long history of many different awards to honor those in our membership who are going above and beyond. The board and awards committee are currently in the process of drafting two more awards! While they are not ready to be announced quite yet, I know that the awards committee, Danielle Baute and Rosary Marcelo-Li, are going to continue to do an amazing job at getting these awards to the winners! With these two new awards in the works, I wanted to remind you all to take the time to nominate a deserving person during the appropriate nomination period. The awards committee is currently accepting nominations for the Anthony Longhetti Distinguished Member Award. The deadline to nominate someone for this award is June 30th, 2021. All of the information can be found on our website under the awards section.

Business Meeting

With the upcoming seminar cancelled, we will once again be holding a virtual business meeting. This will be scheduled for sometime in May. As Jamie mentions in her President's Message, there will be a vote to change some of our bylaws, and we want to encourage as many of our members as possible to attend.

Webmasters and Art Director Addition

We have added another webmaster to our roster of talent! Mike Fish will be joining Regina Davidson and Bonnie Cheng as our current webmasters. The work that our webmasters have accomplished over the last two years has been nothing short of impressive and the organization would not have made the needed changes we have without all of their and Stephen Lu's work. In addition to gaining another webmaster, we are adding Janna Cieslak as our new art director. She is currently working with John Houde to get her ready for this incredibly challenging task and I know that she will do great things!

This past year has been one of the longest years I've lived through, but still feels like a blur at the same time. While the summary above is not all of the amazing things that have happened in our organization over the past year or all of the amazing things to come, I hope that it provided you with a refresher on where we stand and where we are headed. Change is something that comes, whether we want it to or not, and I am proud to be part of an organization that is ready to take these changes and their associated challenges head on.

Stay safe out there!



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Register today for McCrone Research Institute's new 2021 online and in-person courses. Select the course title to read the full course description and register securely online:

Advanced Indoor Air Quality: Advanced Fungal Spore Identification (1635V)

ONLINE: April 5-9, 2021

Participants will learn fungal spore identification by employing the most commonly requested fungal analyses in the indoor air quality industry: fungal spore identification in the air and direct microscopical examination (DME) of tapes, bulks, and swabs on surfaces. This course is designed for working laboratory analysts with moderate knowledge and experience in fungal identification based on spore and actual growth.

Indoor Air Quality: Fungal Spore Identification (1630V)

ONLINE: May 3-7, 2021

Attendees will learn how to place virtually all visible particles into meaningful categories and also to relate those particles to problems in buildings and to human health. Emphasis is on *Aspergillus* samples like those from the *Air-O-Cell* and *Burkard* and also on *tape pull* samples, and viable sampling will be discussed.

Asbestos Fiber Counting [NIOSH 582] (1616)

IN-PERSON: May 17-21, 2021

The NIOSH 7400 method uses phase contrast microscopy (PCM), QA/QC procedures, statistics, and sampling-related mathematics. Students will learn how to properly calibrate and use the sampling equipment, align and calibrate the microscope and apply the NIOSH 7400 protocols, prepare samples for analysis, and apply the procedures for collection and quantitation of ambient dust samples.

Microscopical Identification of Asbestos (1608A)

IN-PERSON: June 7-11, 2021

Using polarized light microscopy (PLM), students study crystallographic and optical properties of asbestos minerals, the various substances likely to occur (and often confused) with asbestos and the procedures for sample preparation and fiber identification. Serpentine (chrysotile) and amphibole (amosite, crocidolite, tremolite, actinolite, and anthophyllite) asbestos varieties are included.

McCrone Research Institute
A Not-for-Profit Corporation
2820 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60616-3230
Phone: 312-842-7100 Fax: 312-842-1078
www.mccroneinstitute.org



John Houde Steps Down as Art Director

Long-time CACNews Art Director John Houde (*above*) announced he will be stepping down at the end of this year.

"After thirty years of designing the CACNews I think it's time for some new blood," Houde said.

Houde was appointed in 1991 by then CAC President Carol Sidebotham to redesign the newsletter which up to that point was a single-stapled word-processor document.

"I wanted to learn desktop publishing and had just gotten hold of a copy of Adobe Pagemaker. It seemed like a perfect fit for me and the CAC," he said.

Janna Cieslak will be taking the reins following Houde's retirement. She was named art director at the recent board of directors meeting. Mike Fish was also named as new webmaster to succeed Stephen Lu.

"I can't believe it'll be thirty years—one hundred twenty issues. I'll always be grateful for the experience and opportunity to contribute to the success of the organization and for the support of my editors and, most importantly, for the many original papers and columns submitted by the members over the years," Houde said.

When asked to name a favorite issue of the newsletter, Houde said, "They are all my babies, but the [First Quarter, 2000](#), issue has to be in the top ten. That's the one where we asked a number of prominent scientists to each write an essay describing what they imagined forensic science would look like in the new millennium. People should check it out."

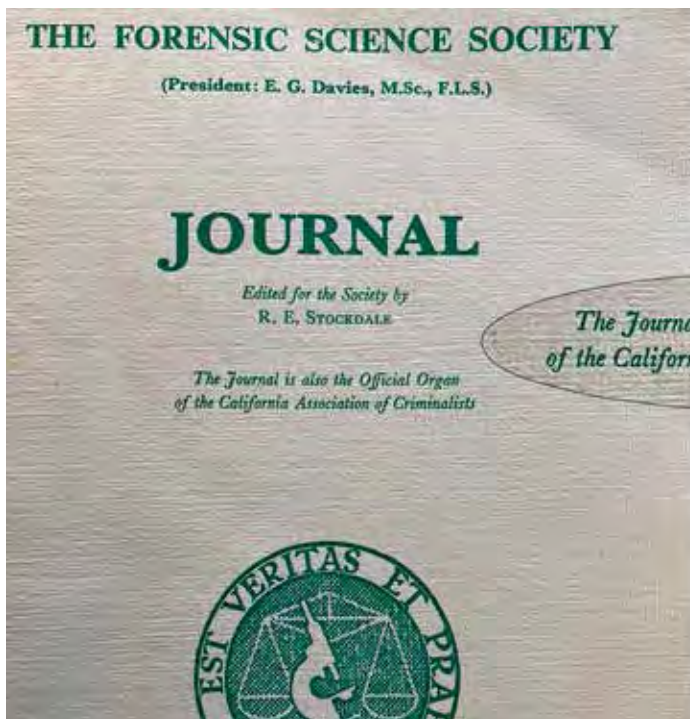
Janna Cieslak began her career as a criminalist in 2019 with the LAPD Narcotics Analysis Unit.

"I hope to learn a lot from the legacy of John Houde's work and continue to provide high quality art direction for the CAC. I am honored to contribute to our collective storytelling as we move forward in this great profession," she said.

Houde added, "I wish Janna, Jonathan, and all the members of the Publications Committee 'fair winds and following seas' and I am excited to see what the new team will be bringing to the newsletter in the coming years."



to be
continued...



"Your work isn't about the past or the present. It's for the future. So that the next generations can know where they came from. The line that joins them to their forebears."

—*"The Dig"*

The Journal is also the Official Organ of the California Association of Criminalists

realm there is no reason that a given individual who has general scientific knowledge and would qualify as a generalist cannot also possess in-depth specialist knowledge in a specific specialty area. A working group of generalist-scientists with complementary specialties would form a particularly attractive and effective problem-solving team for dealing with criminalistic casework in complex case situations.

When John Houde and I discussed the possibility of publishing Pierre Margot's essay on Harry Söderman, the goal was to attempt to reacquaint CAC members with the nature and principles of the generalist-scientist approach to physical evidence investigations. Until quite recently Professor Margot, headed the criminalistics program at the University of Lausanne in Lausanne, Switzerland. He is now retired in accordance with a common European practice of mandatory retirement at age 65. The academic program dealing with forensic science issues at the University of Lausanne has a long and distinguished history dating from the late 19th century. It is clearly the most highly respected academic program in forensic science in Europe. Its reputation and leadership role was greatly enhanced under Dr. Margot's leadership.

The piece that professor Margot wrote on Harry Söderman was done at the request of the national forensic science laboratory in Sweden on the occasion of the 100th birthday of Harry Söderman, the founder of Sweden's national forensic science laboratory.

*Dr. Peter R. De Forest
Professor Emeritus of Criminalistics
John Jay College / CUNY*

A Legacy Lost?

What are the legacies of the founders of the CAC? Can Association members articulate one or more?

California and the CAC have a long history of leadership in forensic science. In the early 1960s, California had as many forensic science or criminalistics laboratories within its borders as did the rest of the United States. The CAC was established decades in advance of any of the other regional associations of criminalists across the United States. It had established a cooperative relationship with the *Journal of the Forensic Science Society* of Great Britain (which became *Science and Justice*) to the extent that a section of the journal was set aside as the "Official Organ of the CAC". In addition the CAC pioneered certification of criminalists and ultimately sold a collection of examination questions to the nascent American Board of Criminalistics. These formed the core of what became the ABC General Knowledge Exam known as the GKE.

Early in its history the CAC was known to espouse the value of generalist-scientists as criminalists. At the time the Association defined criminalistics as follows: ... *that profession and scientific discipline directed to the recognition, identification, individualization and reconstruction of physical evidence in law-science matters.* This or a similar definition is hard to find today on the CAC website. What happened?

It may be necessary to explain what was meant by the term generalist. It was never meant that the generalist was an expert in everything. The generalist was seen as something like a maestro in a symphony orchestra. The maestro may not have any particular competency with respect to any individual musical instruments in the symphony. Whereas, the orchestra may include members who are world-class musicians, and may be widely recognized as such. Rather, the maestro has oversight of the individual contributions and coordinates them to generate a performance as a whole. In the scientific

Coming in June

Traces: Interpretation of Deposition and Distribution

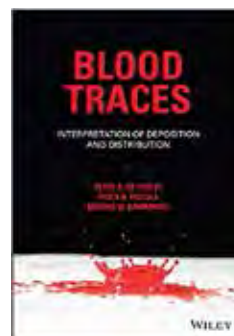
by Peter R. De Forest, Peter A.

Pizzola, et al.

ISBN-13: 978-1119764533

\$100.00

"To provide fundamental principles for the scientific examination and understanding of blood trace deposits and configurations, within the framework of a holistic crime scene investigation, to dispel commonly accepted misinformation about blood traces, and to provide valuable illustrative case examples which will aid in demonstrating concepts discussed throughout the book."



Harry Söderman— A Great Pan-European Criminalist, 1902 - 1956

Pierre A. Margot, PhD*

Introduction

HARRY SÖDERMAN is a name that I first heard when I was a student of forensic science in Lausanne some 25 years after his death. It did not come up attached to a specific field like Bertillon (anthropometry), Galton (dactyloscopy), Goddard (firearms), Osborn (Questioned documents), but more like the name of his master Edmond Locard, a generalist, a criminalist in its pure dimension looking at evidence not only as a means of proving in court, but also as lead-giving in the investigation. This is also probably why he became known in circles where forensic scientists are rarely known : in police circles. This, in my mind, is an indication that he had a clear, modern and forward looking vision of the role of forensic science ; a vision that many forensic scientists still lack today ensconced in their specialist's views of « their » science for the law, rather than science in its broadest sense as a process useful in determining truth (identity, cause, circumstances) as much as possible for the judiciary. This needs polyvalence, observation capabilities, intelligence, to transform data into meaningful information. Curiosity and the development of a multilingual culture helped make Harry Söderman one of the foremost mind in forensic science.

Not knowing him directly, it is by researching through archives that I started to understand the importance of his contribution and to regret his early disappearance. Forensic scientists of today should be aware of a rich contribution whose validity is still evident some 50 years later!

My contribution here is minimal, but shows through anecdotes, notes, contributions by his peers (which do not appear in most published material I have seen in English) how highly regarded Harry Söderman was and how innovative he could be, facing pragmatic problems.

Relation to Locard

It is obvious, throughout his writing, that Harry Söderman had an admiration for Edmond Locard, his thesis director, mentor, colleague, friend. This relation and admiration can be felt while reading the first 190 pages of the book *Police-man's Lot* (Söderman 1956). What is less obvious and less well known is that this admiration was reciprocal, arose from the time Harry Söderman was a student of Locard in Lyon, and remained after the dreadful tragedy that split Europeans in WWII. There are two "preface" written by Locard in 1928 (Söderman 1928) and in 1956 (Söderman 1956) that never appear in English editions or versions, but that are telling witnesses

of this close relationship. It is perhaps better to start with the preface written in 1956, when Locard learns of the death of his friend. I freely translate the whole preface which I will try to relate to other documents later in this presentation.

"At the very moment I was going to write this preface, I learn with such a deep sorrow, the death of my dear friend Harry Söderman, who disappeared, still very young, when he was going to be able to take, finally, such a well deserved rest.

"What a magnificent life he has had, or better, what a story! Harry Söderman, traveller without rest, has not only gone round the vast world, but has explored all the fields of knowledge. I feel honoured to have had him as a student, the most brilliant of all my students. But this great criminalist has learnt many other things than the art of detecting and confounding criminals. Chemist, graphologist, prodigiously polyglot, enriched by an immense reading, he had accumulated in his unique brain what would have been the richness of twenty elite's intelligences.

"Moreover he was a producer/a doer. He had the art of drawing from what he knew for the better good of his friends and others. During the many years he spent near me what I have got to do due to his initiatives! I should say his darings. It is him who, literally, made me create the *Revue Internationale de Criminalistique*. Beside me, he has pushed to create the International Academy that Van ledden Hülsebosch, Popp, Türkel and Bischoff could perhaps not have managed to organise, nor to maintain without him. And how to forget that, when I was backing from the terrifying enterprise of composing the seven volumes of the *Traité de Criminalistique*, it is him who decided a careless editor, my friend Joannès Desvignes, to risk the dangerous adventure "PM addition (Locard 1931)!"

"Since then, Harry Söderman has played a historical role where his courage without capitulation joined his spirit of initiative. But at the heat of the action, he never ceased to be a very great criminalist. Secretary of the International Commission of Criminal Police, he insured the liaison between countries. Locally, he has founded for the Scandinavian countries this journal where so many pertinent articles have appeared, among which the bests carried his signature. With this, always wandering. His letters would enrich a stamp collection: and I was not more surprised to see on his letters the stamp of Tanger rather than that from New York or Stockholm.

"Harry Söderman has had the wisest idea when he started to write his memories, as if he had been foreseeing that his days, so full, were counted. I am glad to vouch here that nothing that came out from his pen should be neglected by men who wish to know what can the alloy of such an intelligence combined to such a magnificent energy¹." Edmond Locard (Söderman 1956) (pages 11-12).

¹PREFACE

Au moment où j'allais écrire cette préface, j'apprends, avec quelle peine profonde, la mort de mon cher ami *Harry Soderman*, disparu, bien jeune encore, alors qu'il allait pouvoir prendre, enfin, un repos si rudement gagné.

Quelle vie magnifique il avait mené, ou plutôt quel roman! Harry Soderman, voyageur sans repos n'a pas seulement parcouru la vaste Terre, il a exploré tous les domaines de la connaissance. Je m'honore de l'avoir eu comme élève, le plus brillant de tous mes élèves. Mais ce grand criminaliste avait appris bien d'autres choses que l'art de détecter les malfaiteurs et de les confondre. Chimiste, graphologue, prodigieusement polyglotte, enrichi d'une immense lecture, il avait accumulé dans son cerveau unique ce qui eut fait la richesse de vingt intelligences d'élite.

*Professor, Institut de police scientifique et de criminologie, Law Faculty, University of Lausanne.

First appeared in *Z Zagadnień Nauk Sądowych [Problems of Forensic Science]*, z. XLIX, 2002, 122–134. Reprinted by permission of author.

The second preface appears at the beginning of Harry Soderman's thesis and is telling, if not an early admiration of the master for the pupil, at least the clear vision that the pupil was destined for a great future. I leave in the beginning of the preface which demonstrates a facet of Locard's vision of science used in the judicial process.

"I don't know a more tragic image than that which represents Themis with her eyes covered. I understand well that the ancestors of classical Mediterranean, Greeks and Latins, have wanted to mean by that that Justice did not want to know the purpur of kings, nor the splendour of naked Phrynea. But how not to worry that this bandage, after having saved her from the prestiges that she would risk by imposing her the contemplation of the "greatness of the flesh", as would say Bossuet, would stop her distinguish the narrow road that would take her to the truth. And since, furthermore, she would risk to be deafened in temples where so many people make with their larynx formidable concerts, human Justice, that was already lame according to mythological traditions, would be the real figure of a cripple.

"Really, she is a dame that there is no charm to frequent. It is better to forget that one was given a leathering than ask her for any compensation or vengeance. This goddess without eyes and hearing, and limping, would certainly add more blows of her own. But if you are accused of having stolen the tower of Notre-Dame, and had not been able to flee prudently in due time, as was the counsel of this wisest amenable person, that Panurge was, one has to think to put ones affairs in order with her. When one has a pure heart, one would like her to see that, and that she took away for one moment her bandage in order to see that well.

"So has been created the recent myth of a Justice seeing clearly. What do I say, some daring people have dreamt to substitute an acute vision from eyes armed with magnifying glass and microscope to a legendary blindness. One would like a learned Themis who, after having gone through the faculties where one speaks, she had spent some time in those where we learn to observe. So the civil or criminal inquiry has become scientific. And the expert has collaborated with the judge, after helping the policeman.

"This co-operation has not always been received as enthusiastically as it was offered. One of the most distinguished magistrate who presided the debates with a praiseworthy effort in a difficult case, summarised experts' testimonies in these very careful terms: "when science goes one step forward, truth goes back two steps".

Surtout il fut un réalisateur. Il avait l'art de tirer parti de ce qu'il savait pour le plus grand bien de ses amis et des autres. Pendant les années qu'il a passées près de moi, que n'ai-je pas dû à ses initiatives ! Je devrais dire à ses audaces. C'est lui qui m'a, littéralement, obligé à fonder la Revue Internationale de Criminalistique. A côté de moi, il a poussé à la création de l'Académie Internationale que Van Ledden Hulsebosch, Popp, Turkel et Bischoff ne seraient peut-être pas parvenus à organiser, ni surtout à maintenir sans lui. Et comment oublier que, lorsque je reculai devant la terrifiante entreprise de composer les sept volumes du Traité de criminalistique, c'est lui qui décida un imprudent éditeur, mon ami Joannes Desvignes, à risquer la dangereuse aventure !

Depuis, Harry Soderman a joué un rôle historique où un courage sans capitulation se joignait à l'esprit d'initiative. Mais, au plus fort de l'action, il n'a pas cessé d'être un très grand criminaliste. Secrétaire de la Commission Internationale de Police Criminelle, il a assuré la liaison entre les Etats. Localement, il a fondé pour les

"Despite this pyrrhonian pessimism, techniques are created that not all magistrate turn up their nose to, nor all amenable persons. And even magistrates, such as Hans Gross and Robert Heindl, have collaborated to these developments. It is true that they are not from our country. And little by little, criminalistics has shown what could be expected from the study of marks, prints, stains, dust, written documents. Among all these problems, that of the identification of firearms is one where the results are the clearest and the most conclusive.

"Harry Söderman has arrived from Scandinavia to study criminalistics in a French laboratory. I have followed step by step this clear intelligence, helped by a tenacity without shortcomings and the very firm love of work. I believe in the success of only those who join the merit of the character to those of the mind. Harry Söderman is one of them. It is not indifferent that a young man who is dedicated to an intellectual life has started to cross the deserts of Central Asia and to hunt the tiger in the Mekong. Nothing mediocre to expect from him. It is very sweet to me to be the godfather of Harry Söderman at the beginnings of a life which I pretend will be prolific, and to present to the public this first scientific work of a man for whom my esteem equals my affection.

"This work is first a state of the art. One can find a clear and complete summary of what has been done on short firearms with the criminalistics point of view. It is also to a large extent, the presentation of original and very sound techniques. So this monograph is the most commendable work that exist today on a very important and difficult question. I can recommend it to technicians in conscience²." Locard p. V-VII in (Söderman 1928)"

Harry Söderman, the paradigm of a European student in Sweden, then Germany, his knowledge of languages extended to French (as evidenced by his thesis) and English (his activities with O'Connell in New York), a true polyglot he was able to communicate and publish proficiently in all these languages (Söderman 1928; Locard, Söderman et al. 1929; Söderman 1931; Söderman 1938; Söderman and O'Connell 1952), this led him to become one of the most sought after scientist and consultant in matters of forensic science and criminal investigation and one of the most active forensic scientist on the international scene. Made a member of the newly created International Academy of Criminalistics (seat Vienna) in Lausanne (1929) at the early age of 27 (wrong-

pays scandinaves cette Revue où tant d'articles pertinents ont paru, dont les meilleurs portent sa signature. Avec cela, toujours errant. Ses lettres enrichiraient une collection de timbre-poste : et je ne m'étonnais pas plus de voir sur ses lettres le timbre de Tanger que celui de New-York ou de Stockholm.

Harry Soderman a eu la plus sage des idées quand il a entrepris, comme s'il prévoyait que ses jours, si plains, étaient comptés, de rédiger ses souvenirs. Je suis heureux de témoigner ici que rien de ce qui est sorti de sa plume ne saurait être négligé des hommes désireux de connaître ce que peut produire l'alliage d'une telle intelligence avec une aussi magnifique énergie.

Docteur Edmond Locard
Directeur honoraire
du Laboratoire de Police technique de LYON

Harry Söderman, cont'd

ly called International Academy of Criminals Science from Vienna by Larson (Larson 1952)) he became a leading European figure with editorial responsibilities besides Locard in the official organ of the Academy "la Revue Internationale de Criminalistique" (1929 – 1939).



Founders of the Academy: Prof Marc-A. Bischoff, prof Siegfried Türkel, C.J. van Ledden Hülsebosch, Prof G. Popp and Dr Edmond Locard, in Lausanne, 1929.

The name of Söderman appears as a contributor to the second general assembly of the Academy in Vienna in 1930, and the typewritten summary appears on page 14 of the notes made by Bischoff. It appears just after a contribution by Heess (Stuttgart) (well known in the field of firearms identification with Mezger and Hasslacher) and before a contribution by Prof Popp (Frankfort a/M). His paper concerned methods applied to the identification of projectiles, cartridge cases and powders. He made the proposal that manufacturers of firearms develop specific signs that would be identifying marks on fired cartridge cases, and that the system should be compulsory and generalised! It is ironical that in 2001 this was (still?) debated at the UNO in New York in order to be able to trace firearms and their origin!

The last meeting of the Academy took place again in Lausanne in 1938 and Söderman appears in the official photograph.

²Préface

Je ne sais pas d'image plus tragique que celle qui représente Thémis les yeux bandés. J'entends bien que les ancêtres de la Méditerranée classique, grecque et latins ont voulu signifier par là que la Justice ne voulait connaître ni la pourpre des rois, ni la splendeur de Phryné dévêtue. Mais comment ne pas craindre que ce bandeau, après l'avoir sauvée des prestiges que risqueraient de lui imposer la contemplation des "grandeurs de chair", ainsi que parle Bossuet, ne l'empêche de distinguer l'étroit chemin qui la conduirait à la vérité. Et comme, de surcroît, elle risque fort d'être sourde en des temples où tant de gens font avec leur larynx des concerts redoutables, la Justice des hommes, que déjà les traditions mythologiques nous donnent pour boîteuse, fait vraiment figure de stropiat.

Au vrai, c'est une dame qu'il n'y a nul agrément à fréquenter. Mieux vaut oublier qu'on a reçu les écrivaines que de lui en demander compensation ou vengeance. Cette déesse sans yeux et sans ouïe, et qui claudique, vous en ajouterai plutôt quelques coups de son cru. Mais si l'on vous accuse d'avoir empêché la tour de Notre-Dame, et

6. Dr. Harry Södermann. Stockholm.

Des diverses méthodes applicables à l'identification des projectiles, des douilles et des poudres.

Le Dr. Harry Södermann préconise, dans tous les cas de meurtres commis à l'aide d'armes à feu, et tout spécialement lorsque le coupable est inconnu ou en fuite, de déterminer de manière aussi précise que possible le système, la marque et les caractéristiques de l'arme employée. Cette détermination, mieux ce "signallement" de l'arme, ~~doit~~ doit non seulement comprendre le système, la marque et le calibre, mais aussi le nombre des rayures, leur largeur, la largeur des champs, la marque de l'extracteur, celle du butoir, et toutes les autres marques, traces ou défauts caractéristiques. Il préconise également d'obliger les fabricants d'armes à employer un signe distinctif devant s'imprimer au moment du coup de feu sur le culot de la douille. Ce procédé, si on parvenait à l'introduire d'une manière généralisée, serait certainement de nature à rendre la détermination du système et de la marque presque instantanée.

Minutes of the Academy meeting taken by Bischoff, Vienna 1930.



que vous n'ayiez su prendre à temps une fuite prudente, ainsi que le conseillait ce plus sage des justiciables, qui fut Panurge, il faut bien songer à lui rendre des comptes. Et si l'on a le cœur pur, on aimerait qu'elle le vît, et que pour le bien voir, elle ôtât un instant son bandeau.

Ainsi s'est créé le mythe récent d'une justice qui y verrait clair. Que dis-je, certains audacieux ont rêvé de substituer à une cécité légendaire la vision aiguë d'yeux armés de la loupe ou du microscope. On voudrait une Thémis savante qui, après avoir passé par les Facultés où l'on parle, eût fait un stage dans celles où l'on apprend à regarder. Ainsi l'enquête civile ou criminelle est devenue scientifique. Et l'expert a collaboré avec le juge, après avoir été l'aide du policier.

Ce concours n'a pas toujours été accueilli avec le même zèle qu'il était offert. Un magistrat des plus distingués, et qui présidait avec un effort louable les débats d'une affaire difficile, résuma les dépositions des experts en ces termes pleins de prudence: "Quand la science avance d'un pas, la vérité recule de deux".

Malgré ce pessimisme pyrrhonien, des techniques se créent dont tous les juges ne font pas fi, ni tous les justiciables. Et des mag-

In the meantime he had founded, with others, the "Nordisk Kriminalteknisk Tidskrift" in 1931 (Söderman 1931) and become a professor of criminalistics at the University of Stockholm that same year, also publishing in Archiv für Kriminologie (founded by H. Gross) (Locard, Söderman et al. 1929). A prolific author he also travelled extensively and helped set up or reorganise police laboratories and organisations in many countries (see Larson (Larson 1952) besides his own. Connections with the International Criminal Police Commission before WWII, were revived in 1946 when he became Reporter General to the ICPC with President Louwage, Secretary General Ducloux and two other Reporter General Howe and Müller.



The Executive Committee of the ICPC with Ducloux, Harry Söderman, Nepote, Howe, Müller and Louwage in 1947 (above) and in Bern (General Assembly) in 1949 (with Müller and Louwage).



istrats même, tels Hans Gross et Robert Heindl, y ont collaboré. Il est vrai qu'ils ne sont pas de chez nous. Et peu à peu, la criminalistique a montré ce que l'on pouvait attendre de l'étude des empreintes, des traces, des taches, des poussières, des documents écrits. Parmi tous ces problèmes, celui de l'identification des armes est un de ceux où les résultats sont les plus nets et les plus concluants.

Harry Södermann est arrivé de Scandinavie pour étudier la criminalistique dans un laboratoire français. J'ai suivi pas à pas cette intelligence claire, servie par une ténacité sans défaillance et l'amour très ferme du travail. Je crois au succès de ceux-là seuls qui joignent aux mérites de l'esprit ceux du caractère. Harry Söderman est un de ceux-là. Il n'est pas indifférent qu'un jeune homme qui se consacre à une carrière intellectuelle ait commencé par traverser les déserts de l'Asie Centrale et chasser le tigre dans le Mékong. Rien de médiocre à attendre de lui. Il m'est très doux d'être le parrain de Harry Söderman aux débuts d'une vie dont j'affirme qu'elle sera féconde, et de présenter au public le premier ouvrage scientifique d'un homme pour qui mon estime égale mon affection.

A well respected figure, he appears in all major police ventures like the creation of the BKA in Germany and keeps a leading role in international police circles until his untimely death.

I have collected a few photographs and must thank Roger Sauvain, Swiss rep at Interpol for some pictures from archives where Harry Söderman even appears with the pope on the occasion of an Interpol General Assembly in Rome.



General Assembly of Interpol, Rome 1954 with Pope Pius XII.

He was still active with the ICPC and had a working meeting with the Directorate of the ICPC still one week before his untimely death.

Harry Söderman, the doer and craftsman

Locard mentions that Harry Söderman was capable of developing, from his ideas and those of others, tools and methods useful in criminalistics.

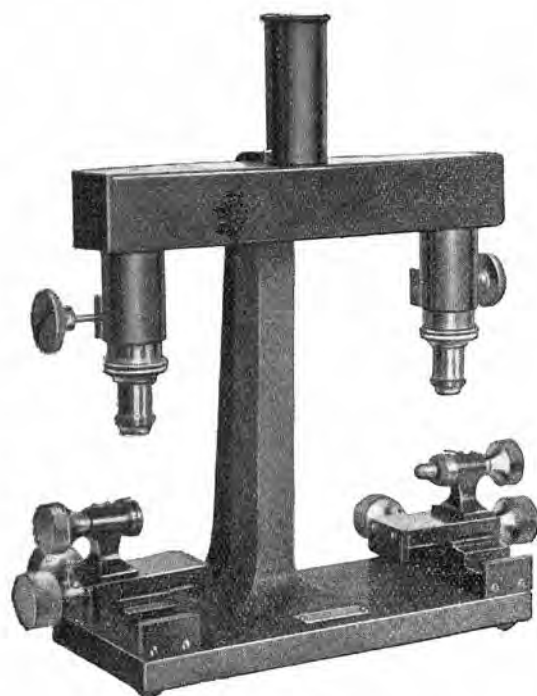
One such tool was the HASTOSCOPE, based on Goddard's ideas (comparison process in firearms identification, used in the Sacco and Vanzetti's case by Goddard and Waite).

It is an improved comparison microscope with a special sample holder designed to hold bullets horizontally and to turn them around their axis to observe and compare rifling marks. The origin of the name itself is mysterious but my hypothesis is that it came from a contraction of Ha(rry)S(öderman)toscope with the pun that it helps get results much quicker than before (as in haste).

Ce travail est d'abord une mise au point. On y trouvera le résumé clair et complet de ce qui a été fait, du point de vue criminalistique, sur les armes à feu courtes. C'est aussi, pour une part très large, l'exposé de techniques originales et très sûres. Ainsi cette monographie est l'ouvrage le plus recommandable qui existe aujourd'hui sur une question très importante et difficile. Je puis en conscience la recommander aux techniciens.

Edmond Locard

Directeur du Laboratoire de Police technique



L'Hastoscope

This became the basis of the development of comparison microscopy in the identification of firearms used in criminal activities (Locard 1929).

Another such development, was the creation of a dust collector connected to an Electrolux vacuum cleaner (Söderman 1931) called thereafter the "Söderman-Heuberger filter", its use was adopted by Locard in its extensive writings about dust (Locard, Söderman et al. 1929).

Harry Söderman, missions during the war

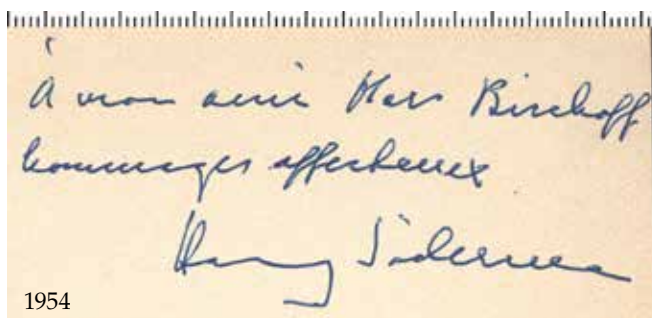
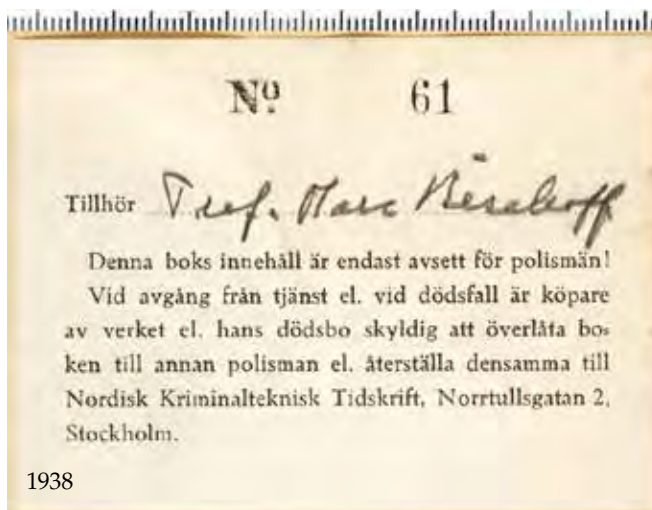
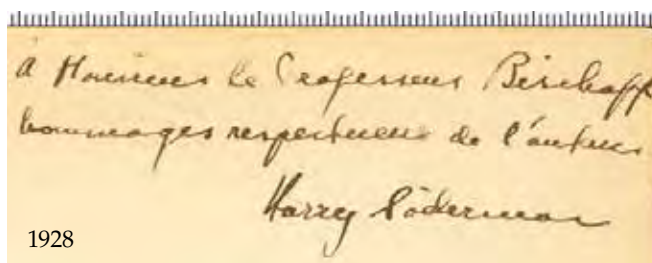
There is one specific indication that Harry Söderman had a mission from the Swedish government in 1942, when he was sent to Switzerland. There he spent (Feb 1942) a week with the chief of Intelligence in the Swiss army, Colonel Werner Müller (who was to become one of the members of the directorate of the ICPC too), before travelling to Geneva and France where he met, for the last time, his friend and master Locard (Söderman 1956; Söderman 1956) (p. 26). Inquiries in the Swiss National Archives about this specific mission are under way, and I hope to be able to uncover this at our meeting in May in Linköping.

Harry Söderman, regular contacts with Bischoff in Lausanne

Unfortunately, personal correspondence of Bischoff does not exist anymore at the IPSC. Bischoff himself cleared his archives when retiring in 1963, but I could find a few tokens showing contacts with Bischoff starting in 1928 and lasting until Harry Söderman death in 1956 as evidence by autographed books.

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Picture Credits

Lausanne Institute (International Academy of Criminalistics), and Interpol (via Secretariat in Lyon)

Get to Know Your Board:

Lauren Sautkulis

by Jonathan Charron

As part of an ongoing “Get to Know Your Board” series, I conducted an interview with Lauren Sautkulis who was the interim southern regional director over the past year and is now running for a new full term during the upcoming election.

Jonathan Charron (JC)

First off Lauren, thank you very much for taking the time to talk with me so the association can get to know you a little bit better! When did your journey into the field of forensics begin and did you always want to be in this field?

Lauren Sautkulis (LS)

I kind of fell into the field of forensics after graduating college. I took a job doing research and found out that the women I replaced left to work in forensics. I really didn't know what forensics was at the time, but eventually decided to go back to school and get my master's degree in forensic science. This was my first step to getting into this field.

JC *What disciplines have you worked in? Is there a discipline that you would cross train in if given the opportunity?*

LS I started in Forensic Alcohol for 3 years. I cross trained in latent print development and performed casework for several years in this area. I then became a DNA analyst in 2005 and started working crime scenes in 2007. After a few years on crime scenes, I trained in bloodstain pattern analysis and crime scene reconstruction. Honestly, I really have covered all the disciplines that I am interested in.

JC *What are some of the reasons you feel individuals should join the CAC?*

LS CAC is a great way to network, get training and exposure to current topics in forensics, and to share and learn from experiences with other forensic professionals. There is something for every discipline at the meetings. It is also a really great way to get involved in the future of forensics by joining a committee or the board.

JC *What are some things that the CAC has done in response to the pandemic that has helped keep our Membership engaged?*

LS We have really tried to use the online platform so our members can access workshops and meetings. This has allowed our members to stay connected and be active in our organization.



JC *What do feel are some of the bigger challenges to being an association that is not specific to a discipline, but rather a region? What about the benefits?*

LS I think staying innovative and not redundant to what other associations are offering is difficult. We want to provide trainings but we don't necessarily want to repeat what has already been done by another group. I think having one meeting a year will allow us to bring really great topics to the association and keep it fresh. We will get a larger turnout from all over the state and both the north and the south will get the opportunity to get to know one another.

JC *Any parting words of advice on how to stay safe and healthy both physically and mentally during these challenging times?*

LS My best advice is to stay active and connected to your friends and family. Both of these will keep you feeling your best.

CAC Board Nominations



Meiling Robinson for President Elect

It is an honor to be nominated for the CAC Board position of President-Elect. I joined CAC as a graduate student in 2009. From the very first moment I became a member, I knew there was truly something special about this organization and I wanted nothing more than to be an active participant. I started my CAC service on the Historical Committee as a member and then Chair. Eventually, the more I attended seminars and began to really get to know other members, I realized I wanted to be even more involved. So, I was excited to serve as Seminar Co-Chair when my laboratory hosted the CAC Seminar back in 2016. It is still one of my favorite CAC memories and achievements. Additionally, I have served on the CAC Board as the Editorial Secretary and Chair of the Publications Committee from 3rd quarter 2015 through 1st quarter 2019.

After taking a short break from the CAC Board to transition and develop in my new role at LAPD as a Supervising Criminalist, I am excited and grateful for the opportunity to serve the membership once again as President-Elect. Over the course of my membership, at every level I have participated in many CAC events and it truly has enriched my career and has significantly contributed to my growth as a Criminalist—in both my personal and professional development. While serving on the CAC Board in such a distinguished role, it is my sincere desire to continue our tradition of fostering scientific discourse, encouraging learning and developing camaraderie among forensic scientists in all different stages of their careers from different backgrounds and experiences. Thank you for your consideration and support.



Lauren Sautkulis for Regional Director South

I have been employee at San Diego County Sheriff's Regional Crime Laboratory for 19 years. I was lucky to have the opportunity to explore many different sections in the laboratory. I began my career in the Forensic Alcohol Section and transferred to the Forensic Biology Section after a few years while also learning and completing casework in latent print development. In 2007, I joined the Crime Scene Investigation team where I found my passion. It was an exciting time and lots of sleepless nights, but I would not have it any other way. For the last 8 years, I have been in the role of technical lead of our CSI team which has opened the door to many amazing opportunities. I joined the CAC in March 2003 after my first year as a Criminalist. I began attending seminars and study groups immediately. I helped plan and host one of the San Diego meetings and realized how much this organization does for our field as well as gained a tremendous appreciation for the association. Attending seminars, meeting new members, as well seeing old friends, was something I always looked forward to. I was asked to be the CSI Study Group Chair in 2020 and was able to host one meeting before becoming the interim Regional Director South. As a member of the board, I have learned a ton over these last few months and would love to continue to work at making this association the best it can be. With your support, I would love to be your Regional Director South.



Jonathan Charron for Editorial Secretary

It has been an honor to serve on the board as the Editorial Secretary during the last two years. The opportunity to serve has exposed me to interesting conversations, successful collaborations, and a burst of confidence about why I choose to be part of the California Association of Criminalists in the first place. While the last year has been challenging, I am proud of the work the board accomplished with the ever-changing regulations, restrictions, and roadblocks we all faced. It is also because of this that I am seeking to serve the membership for two more years. I am looking forward to continuing to adapt to a different world and want to continue sharing my thoughts, conversations, and updates with you, the membership. I have some new ideas about how our different publications and media types can serve the membership better, become easier to access, and hope that you will all allow me to see these ideas through by allowing me to serve for another two years as the Editorial Secretary.



Helena Wong for Treasurer

I am a criminalist at the Oakland Police Department. I began my career there in 2009 as an intern and then as a forensic technician. I continued to pursue my passion in forensics by joining professional organizations such as the CAC in 2009, by attending as many CAC seminars and various other professional meetings as I can, and by getting certified by the American Board of Criminalistics. I have had the privilege of serving the CAC as Treasurer for the past six years. During these years, I have learned to appreciate all the time and effort that our members dedicate to the CAC in making it a successful organization. I would be honored to continue to use my time and efforts in serving the CAC as Treasurer.



CCI is pushing through the pandemic! We have been working the past year on converting a number of our courses to a live virtual format. And with new COVID-19 safety protocols in place, we are going to be phasing back to small in person classes! New safety protocols include temperature screening and the requirement of a negative COVID-19 test prior to attendance of the class. For those of you who are not familiar with us, CCI is an institute that provides specialized training for forensic scientists and other law enforcement personnel. From the beginning in 1986, the California Criminalistics Institute's mission is to provide continuing education for local forensic scientists and law enforcement to stay current with discoveries and trends in the field of forensic science. CCI typically offers 50+ classes per year. We are centered in Rancho Cordova, but offer classes at other locations in California including Richmond, Fresno, Los Angeles, Riverside, and Orange County. CCI, under the umbrella of the California Department of Justice, Bureau of Forensic Services, is able to offer classes at no cost to those employed by government laboratories and law enforcement agencies in the state of California. For those employed in out-of-state or private laboratories the course tuition is \$120 per day. We offer an array of classes in many forensic disciplines including biology, DNA, chemistry, crime scene, firearms, impressions, latent prints, trace, toxicology, photography, and health & safety.

CCI has been working to move some of our classes online or develop new courses to continue to make training available during the COVID-19 pandemic. Currently, the following classes have been scheduled. However, new classes will continue to be added as they are made available.

Class	Number	Location	Dates
Journal Article Review: Wading Through the Waters	A410w	Online	3/17
FTIR Instrumentation and Sample Preparation	C132w	Online	4/1 - 4/2
Interpretation of Infrared Spectra	C131w	Online	4/14 - 4/16
Technical Writing for the Criminalist	A120w	Online	5/25 - 5/27
Basic Practical Microscopy	M101	Rancho Cordova	6/1 - 6/3
Journal Article Review: Wading Through the Waters	A410w	Online	6/8
Technical Writing for the Criminalist	A120w	Online	6/8 - 6/10
Biological Evidence Examination	R109	Rancho Cordova	6/14 - 6/18
Cognitive and Human Factors in Forensic Decision Making	A180	Richmond	6/24 - 6/25
Cognitive and Human Factors in Forensic Decision Making	A180	Los Angeles	6/28 - 6/29
Forensic Photography	S105	Rancho Cordova	7/12 - 7/16

Please check out our website for current course listings and put yourself on a wait list by registering with our system so we can gauge interest. If the class you are looking for is not offered, let us know. We are looking to expand our offerings and would love new ideas! Or if you are interested in becoming one of our instructors, please contact us. To start the process, all you need to do is go to our website and fill out our instructor form. We also have a large collection of paper and electronic resources in our Forensic Library. Contact our CCI Forensic Librarian if you are looking for forensic literature resources CCI.Library@doj.ca.gov. We are here as a local resource for you!

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What Do Those People Do, Anyway?

by Gunther Scharnhorst

Several months ago, Jonathan Charron, our editorial Secretary, asked me to write an article for the *CACNews* about the board of directors. It was an open ended request and I was happy to oblige. Naturally, I saw this as an opportunity to inform the membership of what the board does, why it matters, how members could get involved, and why they should be excited to do so.

How exactly did I find myself on the board of directors? By happy accident. I've been a member of the CAC since 2008 and a regular attendee at seminars and study groups. Then, one day in 2016, I received an email out of the blue from Michelle Halsing, the CAC membership secretary at the time. She was putting out feelers for the offices of membership secretary, recording secretary, and regional director north. (According to the bylaws, these three positions come up for election in even-numbered years.) In retrospect it should not have been much of a surprise. Michelle and I knew each other through work and she knew I was a regular at the seminars. I guess I had a target on my back and didn't know it. I warned her that I had actually never attended a single business meeting, felt unqualified, and had no idea what I was getting into. She allayed my fears and I agreed to have her forward my name to the nominating committee for the position of recording secretary. Flash forward to the 2016 spring business meeting where the outgoing recording secretary, Kirsten Correa, gave me a crash course in the job. After the business meeting concluded, I jumped right into recording the minutes of the transitional board of directors meeting. Several months later the board met for its next quarterly meeting. Up until this point, when I thought of the board of directors I had this visual of a group of highly respected criminalists who wore monocles, smoked cigars, and sat around a really, really big table. This turned out to be completely wrong. The table was of only moderate size.

I think that many members would be surprised to learn that the board looks at each member application individually.

So what are the quarterly board meetings about? The simplest explanation is that the nine-member board is responsible for making many of the day to day decisions that help run the CAC, kind of like the standing committee of a politburo, but with much less repression. As recording secretary one of my duties is documenting these deliberations. (You can find the minutes of past business and board meetings on the CAC website in the members only section.) The recording secretary also acts as a nexus between the board and various committees by collecting committee reports prior to each meeting and organizing them into an agenda. An example board meeting might involve the following topics: Discussing the upcoming calendar for workshops, study groups, and seminars • an update on the CAC's finances by the treasurer • discussion of individuals nominated for any awards • the implications of any suggested changes to the bylaws/dire warnings from Adam Dutra • receiving any complaints from the ethics committee • a review of each application for new members and current members looking to upgrade their status.



I think that many members would be surprised to learn that the board looks at each member application individually. We scrutinize each person's educational background and employment duties to be certain that they are right for our organization and our organization is right for them. Approval of applications is not a rubber stamp at all; from time to time we do need to reject an individual. Depending on the membership class being sought, a vote from the general membership may also be needed and any objections to an application can be registered at that time. This is why a list of names is provided to the membership at least 30 days before each business meeting. It is ultimately the members themselves who ensure the CAC maintains quality in its ranks because the board cannot do it alone.

With the assistance of the endowment committee, the board also approves or denies requests for research funding. As with membership applications, approval is not automatic. We work to ensure that CAC grant funds will be put to use in ways that benefit forensic science in general and members of the CAC specifically. Regrettably, there have been times when we had to deny funding.

Even administrative work has its tense moments and there are times when having a board of directors to act on behalf of the membership is critical when speed is essential. On March 12, 2020, near the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic,



the board held an emergency teleconference with members of the seminar planning committee. I remember this meeting well. There wasn't a single person in the meeting who was optimistic that the spring meeting could go forward, and even if it did, it could have been a disaster if members attended and became infected. Considering the exponential increase in COVID infections, I think it is safe to assume at least a few lives were protected by halting all seminar planning right there.

The work of the board of directors is something that can seem thankless, but this isn't so. Incentives are just part of the world we live in and there are fringe benefits to serving. Because each board member is generally expected to attend each seminar, the CAC's budget includes a stipend for each board member. This is used to reimburse them for the costs of hotel, travel, and a seminar's general registration (workshops are excluded). If you like to go to the seminars, are willing to put in a little work, and are fortunate enough to have an employer who will reimburse you for anything the CAC doesn't, then you can attend almost for free. The credit card rewards you earn along the way are a nice bonus.

But even if you don't see yourself becoming a member of the board of directors, the board meetings are still an opportunity for the membership to provide input or make suggestions. You don't need to wait for the business meeting to roll around! Just reach out to one of the CAC's committees or a board member directly. Email addresses for the committees and individual board members can be found under the "Contact" menu on cacnews.org. You can also easily reach out to the entire board at once through board@cacnews.org. Trust me when I tell you that these people don't bite, seven of them at least.

I am very happy that I lucked into this service opportunity, but don't be like me and wait for fate or for a coworker to smile upon you. Put your name in with the nominating committee so that if a board position opens up, you will be next up for consideration. I have really enjoyed my time on the board of directors thus far. If you don't believe me, I am in my third term as recording secretary and I haven't run away screaming...yet.

**CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF CRIMINALISTS
B O A R D O F D I R E C T O R S**

President:
Jamie Lajoie



president@cacnews.org

President-Elect:
Catherine Currier



president-elect@cacnews.org

Recording Secretary:
Gunther Scharnhorst



recordingsecretary@cacnews.org

Treasurer:
Helena Wong



treasurer@cacnews.org

Regional Director: (North)
Cindy Anzalone



northregion@cacnews.org

Regional Director: (South)
Lauren Sautkulis



southregion@cacnews.org

Membership Secretary:
Megan Caulder



membership@cacnews.org

Editorial Secretary:
Jonathan Charron

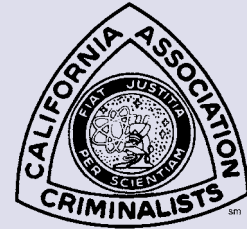


editor@cacnews.org

Immediate Past President:
Alice Hilker



past-president@cacnews.org



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