



# MISCELLANEOUS

# California Association of Criminalists

# NEWSLETTER

December, 1978

## NEWS AND COMMENT

### 1. President's Message

The impact of Proposition 13 on Criminalistics was not as serious at the San Mateo Seminar as expected. The attendance was only slightly less than normal. There were fewer exhibitors present, probably due to the anticipated lack of attendance. Therefore there was less income to support the Association activities.

One of the highlights of the Seminar was the panel discussion/group session on Certification. Everyone present learned what is going on, both locally and nationally. Then everyone participated in trying to "establish criteria for qualification IF certification is approved" in the four groups. The peer group leaders; our Certification Chairman, Bob Ogle; our National Representative, Jan Bashinski; the National Firearms Peer Group Chairman, Al Biasotti; and the National Chairman, Jack Cadman all expressed gratification for the cooperative spirit exhibited at the meeting on this crucial issue.

I attended, in mid-November, the Certification Study Group Meeting in Emeryville. There is a great respect for the CAC in that group. This respect has been built by the efforts of Jan, Jack, and all of you. This group has overcome the "specialist vs generalist" barrier to communication that, unfortunately, comes between the Western and Eastern forensic scientists. I hope the membership of CAC continues in the spirit of cooperation, giving advice and guidance to our representatives and peer group members. Remember, the feasibility of Certification is being examined not instituted.

News, good or bad, travels fast in the forensic community in California. Therefore, it is probably no surprise to most of you that our President-Elect Bob Ekhaml, has submitted his resignation from that office. Bob has changed professions, he is now working for the telephone company. While we wish him luck, we regret that we have lost a valuable, productive forensic scientist. The respect the Association had for him is expressed in his appointment to the Ethics Committee and his election to the first three year term as President-Elect. Hopefully, Bob will maintain contact with the CAC and his many friends.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 1. Glass and Paint Manuals

The DOJ glass manual and paint manual have been made available to the CAC member labs through the auspices of the Training and Resource Committee. An order form (pink sheet) to send to Jim White is enclosed.

### 2. Comparison Microscope

The city of Fairfield has a comparison microscope (Nikon E.P.O.I. with a Model EFM photomicrographic attachment) which is for sale. The city would also consider an exchange for electronic equipment suitable to their needs. Interested parties should contact Captain Wayne W. Paul, Services Division Commander, City Hall, 1000 Webster St., Fairfield, 94533; phone (707) 425-1031 ext 294.

### 2. Postal Rates and Other Cost Cutting

As of mid-January, the CAC qualified for nonprofit bulk mail privileges; that is one reason this Newsletter is late. CAC mailings of more than 200 items can be sent out at the bulk rate so we should effect substantial savings on our mass mailings. You will also note that most of the material in this mailing has been reduced to half-size; this cuts printing costs as well as reduces mailing weight. Please comment if you approve or disapprove of this format change.

### 3. Bylaws Enclosure

The updated bylaws sent out with the September Newsletter contained an error in section 4. Enclosed in this mailing is a corrected page to replace the page with the error.

### 4. Reference Collection Survey

The reference collection survey is enclosed in this mailing. This survey was initiated in Fall 1976. Credit should go to John DeHaan and Steve Ojena who collected much of the information and to Jim White who prepared the final product.

### 5. People Moving

John DeHaan will become Applications Coordinator for the DOJ system on Feb. 13. He replaces Lou Maucieri who will be taking over as manager of the Sacramento Regional Lab.

Ken Goddard is leaving Huntington Beach to join the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service in Washington, D.C. He is charged with the setting up of an analytical laboratory and may soon be looking for qualified people in the area of sercology.

Bob Ekhaml is resigning from San Diego SO to go to work for the phone company (president's message above).

## TECHNICAL NOTE

### 1. Recovering Images from Polaroid Negative Sheets

Polaroid technical applications bulletin # 71-6B describes a procedure for the recovery of images from Polaroid negatives. Polaroid also gives a technical assistance toll free number (800) 225-1618.

CERTIFICATION UPDATE

1. AFTE National Peer Group on Certification  
(from Al Biasotti)

The results of the Second meeting of the AFTE NATIONAL PEER GROUP ON CERTIFICATION (10/7-9, 1978) was presented to the members, followed by a workshop on FIREARMS AND TOOLMARK, attended by about 10 interested persons. A draft proposal for "QUALIFICATION and REQUIREMENTS for CERTIFICATION in FORENSIC FIREARMS and TOOLMARK EXAMINATION", prepared by the AFTE PEER GROUP on October 9, was briefly reviewed. This work product was well received with the realization that this is only the first draft and that much more work needs to be done to put it in final form. Much misunderstanding and fear generated by the generalist versus specialist role appears to have been resolved by this draft document.

Copies of the full AFTE PEER GROUP report with attachments have been given to each FIREARMS and TOOLMARK Sub-Committee member with the charge of: 1) disseminating this information to all interested CAC members; 2) summarizing all comments and feedback they each receive; and 3) obtaining as many exam questions as possible.

This feedback must reach Biasotti by January 15, 1979, to be effectively integrated with the AFTE PEER GROUP'S input and be considered at the Third PEER GROUP meeting scheduled for March 3 and 4, 1979.

2. Criminalistics Certification Subcommittee  
(from Jan Bashinski)

In addition to the regular members of the CCSC who attended this meeting, CAC members Jerry Chisum, Bob Ogle, Pat Zajac, and Joan Provost were also present. As a part of the meeting, most CCSC members toured the SERI facility in Emeryville and also attended the Northern Section CAC meeting, held at Spenger's, Friday November 3.

Joe Peterson discussed potential funding problems which may occur next year because of cuts in John Sullivan's budget at LEAA and indicated that the Committee's work should be concluded by the end of 1979. This time frame seemed reasonable to the CCSC members -- i.e., we expect to have a proposal re certification ready to present to the field for ratification by the end of 1979. Peterson also announced that funding had been approved for an 18 month methods of analysis study in which a seven member advisory committee will conduct a literature review of methods, develop mechanisms for evaluating methods, and try the mechanism out on several candidate methods.

The various regional representatives reported on feedback they had received from their respective organizations on the subject of certification. I described the half day session held at our Fall Seminar in San Mateo, indicating that I had sensed a very positive attitude in the CAC and a willingness to become involved in the peer group process. The other regional representatives reported that they had not as yet had as much opportunity for their members to become involved in discussions, but that they sensed either a favorable or a non-committal "wait and see" attitude in their members. The principal concerns voiced in all the regions related to the potential cost of the program.

Dick Janelli presented the second report of the AFTE firearms peer group which is pilot group for the national peer group process. As reported by Al Biasotti in San Mateo, the firearms peer group has made considerable progress toward establishing minimum qualifications, types of evidence examinations to be certified, and types of tests to be conducted. They plan to have their final recommendations ready to submit to the AFTE general membership meeting next spring.

Tom Kubic presented a draft of possible By-Laws for a Certification Board which he and Joe Peterson had prepared at the direction of the CCSC. This draft will be given a final check by an attorney and will be presented to our next meeting for approval.

Joe Peterson presented a draft of a proposed questionnaire on drug identification and toxicology which the CCSC intends to send out to survey the professional community in the same manner as was previously done for serology and hairs and fibers. A final draft of this questionnaire, incorporating suggestions from the CCSC members will be ready to be mailed to the regional organizations' members in December and will be tabulated before our next meeting.

The hair and fibers questionnaires have been tabulated, but the raw data was difficult to interpret. Dr. McCrone will attempt to present an evaluation at the next meeting. The serology questionnaires had also been tabulated and each regional rep was provided with totals plus the responses from his particular region. I agreed to attempt to write a synopsis and evaluation of this data for the next meeting. All the questionnaire results will be provided to the national peer groups for their information in designing possible certification tests.

The suggestion was made that a panel discussion on certification such as that held by the CAC would help get people in the various regions involved, and several of the regional reps indicated they had plans for such a presentation at their regional meetings.

The regional representatives then described the progress each had made in selecting nominees for the national peer groups. The CAC was the only organization which had already selected nominees, but several others had been collecting resumes and would be in a position to make nominations soon. All groups were requested to submit their nominees (with resumes) to the CCSC by January 1979. Because of the complexity of the "trace" category, a total of four nominations (one for arson and explosives, one for hairs and fibers, and two for other areas, e.g., glass, paint, soil, GSR on hands) should be submitted for that peer group. The suggestion was made that the trace peer group might construct one exam covering basic instrumentation and other techniques but containing additional specific questions for the specific evidence types being considered. It now appears likely that at least one nominee from each region will serve on each peer group committee.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to establishing a timetable for next year's activities, designed to culminate with the presentation of a "package" of recommendations to the criminalistics community for ratification before the end of the year. The next CCSC meeting will be held in Atlanta on Feb 10-12 just prior to the American Academy meeting. At this time, the members of the national peer groups will be selected from the nominees of the regional groups and guidelines for their work will be adopted. I have been appointed to head a CCSC sub-committee charged with drafting these guidelines for the next CCSC meeting.

The peer groups will then hold two meetings between March and June and prepare a package of recommendations for the CCSC to consider in early August. The CCSC will then meet in August for discussion of these recommendations and will prepare a final package for presentation to the regional associations at their Fall membership meetings for discussion. This package will include proposed By-Laws for a Certification Board, peer group recommendations for minimum qualifications, types of tests, probable cost estimates, and proposed mechanisms for implementation of the program. The proposal will be submitted to a mail vote after its presentation at the regional meetings.

I was pleased to see that our basic pattern for involving the membership in the process and selecting nominees appeared to have set the pace for the other groups. I urge the CAC peer group sub-committees to continue working on the various charges before them to produce their final products by March 1. This will insure that the CAC representatives to the national peer groups will arrive at their first meetings in March with a considerable head start and will be in a good position to maximize the CAC's input into the national committees.

ANNOUNCEMENTDOJ Training Bulletins

John DeHaan writes to inform us that the training bulletins prepared by the DOJ are now available to CAC member labs. Below is a listing of the bulletins produced to date.

- 1/77 Urine as a Sample for Alcohol Determination
- 2/77 Uniform Standards for Withdrawal, Handling, and Preservation of Blood Samples for Forensic Alcohol Analysis
- 3/77 Automobile Lights
- 4/77 Sample Collection of Blood for Blood Typing
- 5/77 Collection of Paint Fragments
- 6/77 Collection of Hair Samples
- 7/77 Guidelines for Physical Evidence in Sexual Assault Investigations
- 8/77 Drug Analysis in Driving Under the Influence Cases
- 9/77 Collection of Glass Fragments
- 10/77 Collection of Volatile Flammables
- 11/77 Collection of Fiber Evidence
- 12/77 Firearms Evidence Collection Procedures
- 13/77 Collection of Soil Samples

- 14/77 Trace Metal Detection Technique (TMDT)
- 15/77 Gunshot Residue Collection
- 16/77 Submission of Inked Fingerprints of Identified Subjects
- 17/77 Latent Print Section
- 18/77 Procedures in Submitting Voice Identification Cases (service no longer available)
- 19/77 Submission of Evidence to the Questioned Documents Section
- 20/77 Exemplars of Mechanical Reproductions, Serrations and Tears for Questioned Document Examination
- 21/77 Court Decisions Regarding Exemplar Material for Questioned Documents
- 23/78 Casting of Impressions
- 24/77 Polygraph Examination Procedure
- 25/77A Controlled Substances
- 26/77 Clandestine Laboratories
- 27/78 New-- Toolmarks

If any CAC member lab wishes to obtain a set of these bulletins, they should contact John DeHaan, Applications and Training Office, DOJ, Sacramento. According to John, agencies are free to edit the bulletins to suit their own needs and may circulate them under their own masthead.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS1. 53rd Semi-Annual Seminar

The Spring Seminar is scheduled for May 10, 11, and 12 in San Diego. The call for papers has gone out; abstracts are due April 2. Contact Brandon Armstrong for further information.

2. Scanning Electron Microscopy Workshop

"SEM AND THE LAW - 1979" will be the subject of an up to two and one-half day workshop on April 18-20, 1979, at Washington D.C. during the Scanning Electron Microscopy/1979 meetings sponsored by Scanning Electron Microscopy, Inc.

This workshop will emphasize applications of the Scanning Electron Microscope, associated X-ray analyzers and related techniques, which forensic scientists have found useful. Topics to be covered include the individualization and identification of materials (paints, glass, explosives and gunshot residues, smears, poisons, etc.); comparisons (hairs, fibers, inks, dyes, surfaces, etc.); preparation of forensic specimens for SEM analysis (coating, ashing, filtering, etc.); method of analysis; forensic pathology, etc. A discussion period will also be planned where X-ray excited X-ray fluorescence and other quantitative techniques will be compared to electron excited X-ray fluorescence.

Ronald L. Taylor, Los Angeles County - Coroner's Office, Los Angeles, California; Robin Keeley, Metropolitan Police Lab, London, United Kingdom; and Victor R. Matricardi, FBI Labs, Washington, D.C., are the organizers of this workshop.

Scanning Electron Microscopy/1979 meetings consisting of several tutorials, annual SEM Symposium, and workshops (on e.g., analytical electron microscopy/STEM; stereo techniques; particulate matter; sediments including coal; failure analysis; semiconductor applications; material characterization; archeology and art history; teaching of SEM; plants and animals; and biomedical applications), and an equipment exhibition will take place from April 16-20, 1979, at the Sheraton-Park Hotel, in Washington D.C., U.S.A.

For more information on all items related to above contact Om Johari, P.O. Box 66507, AMF O'Hare, IL 60666. Phone: (312) 843-0862.

3. Forensic Serology Workshops

The Forensic Sciences Foundation will hold a series of training workshops designed to instruct crime laboratory personnel in the latest techniques of bloodstain analysis. These methods allow the simultaneous determination of eight (8) forensically important genetic markers found in blood through use of a recently developed electrophoretic bloodstain analysis system.

The principal instructor will be Mr. Brian Wraxall who performed the research for the development of the multi-system analysis methodology. The site of the training workshops will be the Serological Research Institute (SERI) located in Emeryville, California, near Berkeley.

Those applicants with no previous experience in electrophoretic methods will be trained for three (3) weeks; those currently using three (3) or more polymorphic enzymes and proteins phenotyped by electrophoresis will be trained for two (2) weeks. Student enrollment is limited to one hundred (100) participants who will be chosen with regard to the geographic location of their home laboratories in order that the methodologies be spread uniformly throughout the country. Laboratories must also meet equipment requirements.

The schedule for the workshops is as follows:

Workshop I	Experienced Students	Nov. 6-17
Workshop II	Inexperienced Students	Jan. 8-26
Workshop III	Experienced Students	Feb. 26-Mar. 9
Workshop IV	Inexperienced Students	Mar. 19-Apr. 6
Workshop V	Experienced Students	Apr. 23-May 4
Workshop VI	Inexperienced Students	June 4-22
Workshop VII	Inexperienced Students	July 9-27

This grant, sponsored by NILECJ/LEAA, covers all tuition and eighty percent of student transportation and lodging expenses. Students are required to pay for their own meals.

For additional information, please contact either Brian Wraxall, Serological Research Institute, 1450 53rd Street, Emeryville, California 94608, Telephone: (415) 654-4003, or Ira Silvergleit, Forensic Sciences Foundation, Inc., 11400 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, Telephone: (301) 770-2723.

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION1. Positions Open. Idaho - Pocatello Lab and Coeur d'Alene Lab

Job Description: General physical evidence analysis.  
 Title: Criminalist I, \$1,065 - \$1,295/month.  
 Qualifications: Degree in criminalistics, pharmacy, chemistry, or a related laboratory science, and two years of professional laboratory experience, one year of which must have included the analysis of controlled substances in a forensic laboratory.

Inquire: Idaho Personnel Commission  
 700 West State Street  
 Boise, Idaho 93720  
 (208) 384-2263

2. Position Open. Huntington Beach

Job Description: functional supervision of the HEPD Scientific Investigation Bureau, direct supervision of the crime lab functions, analysis of controlled substances, and examination of miscellaneous categories of physical evidence.

Title: Chief Criminalist  
 Qualifications: bachelors degree in Criminalistics or a related physical science, and four years' work experience in a crime laboratory. Supervisory and training experience preferred.

Inquire: Personnel Department  
 City of Huntington Beach  
 2000 Main Street  
 Huntington Beach, Calif. 92648

3. Position Open. Reno

Title: Criminalist, \$17,815.20 - \$27,461.20  
 Qualifications: Degree and four years experience in forensics lab. Must have court qualifications in one or more related areas.

Inquire: Reno Civil Service Commission  
 Post Office Box 1900  
 Reno, Nevada 89505  
 (702) 785-2222

4. Position Open. Orange County Sheriff's Office

Job Description: general physical evidence analyst  
 Title: Criminalist, salary commensurate with experience and training.  
 Qualifications: either journeymen or entrance level candidates acceptable; candidates must possess at least a B.S. degree in a natural, biological, or forensic science.

Inquire: J. L. Ragle, Director  
 Sheriff-Coroner Dept., Orange County Forensic Sciences Services  
 P. O. Box 449  
 Santa Ana, Calif. 92702

5. Positions Open. Wisconsin Dept. of Justice

Job Description: chemical and trace analysis  
 Title: Crime Laboratory Analyst 3  
 salary - \$1,304 up/month  
 Qualifications: degree in physical or forensic science.  
 Inquire: Richard Brainerd  
 Wisconsin Dept. of Justice  
 Room 415  
 123 West Washington Avenue  
 Madison, WI 53702  
 (608) 266-0461

## Job Description: toxicology

Title: Crime Laboratory Analyst 4  
 salary - \$1,415 up/month  
 Qualifications: degree in physical or forensic science.

Inquire: Richard Brainerd  
 Wisconsin Dept. of Justice  
 Room 415  
 123 West Washington Avenue  
 Madison, WI 53702  
 (608) 266-0461

## Job Description: documents

Title: Crime Laboratory Analyst 4  
 salary - \$1,415 up/month

Qualifications: degree in physical or forensic science; four years experience in document examinations.

Inquire: Richard Brainerd  
 Wisconsin Dept. of Justice  
 Room 415  
 123 West Washington Avenue  
 Madison, WI 53702  
 (608) 266-0461

6. Position Open. Louisiana Dept. of Public Safety

## Job Description: documents

Title: Document Examiner II, \$10,452-\$16,020  
 Qualifications: bachelor's degree and 1 year paid, full-time experience in examination of documents and handwriting (or 1 yr training/ 2 years college may be substituted).

Inquire: Captain James Mitchell, Supervisor  
 Louisiana State Police Crime Lab  
 P.O. Box 66614  
 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70896  
 (504) 925-6216

7. Position Open. Weber State College

Title: Criminalist I, \$13,000/year

Qualifications: B.S.in Criminalistics or related sciences. Courtroom testimony experience. Qualified in firearms identification and seriology.

Inquire: Personnel Office  
 Weber State College  
 Ogden, Utah 84408  
 or call James Gaskill  
 (801) 626-6147