NEAFS Newsletter

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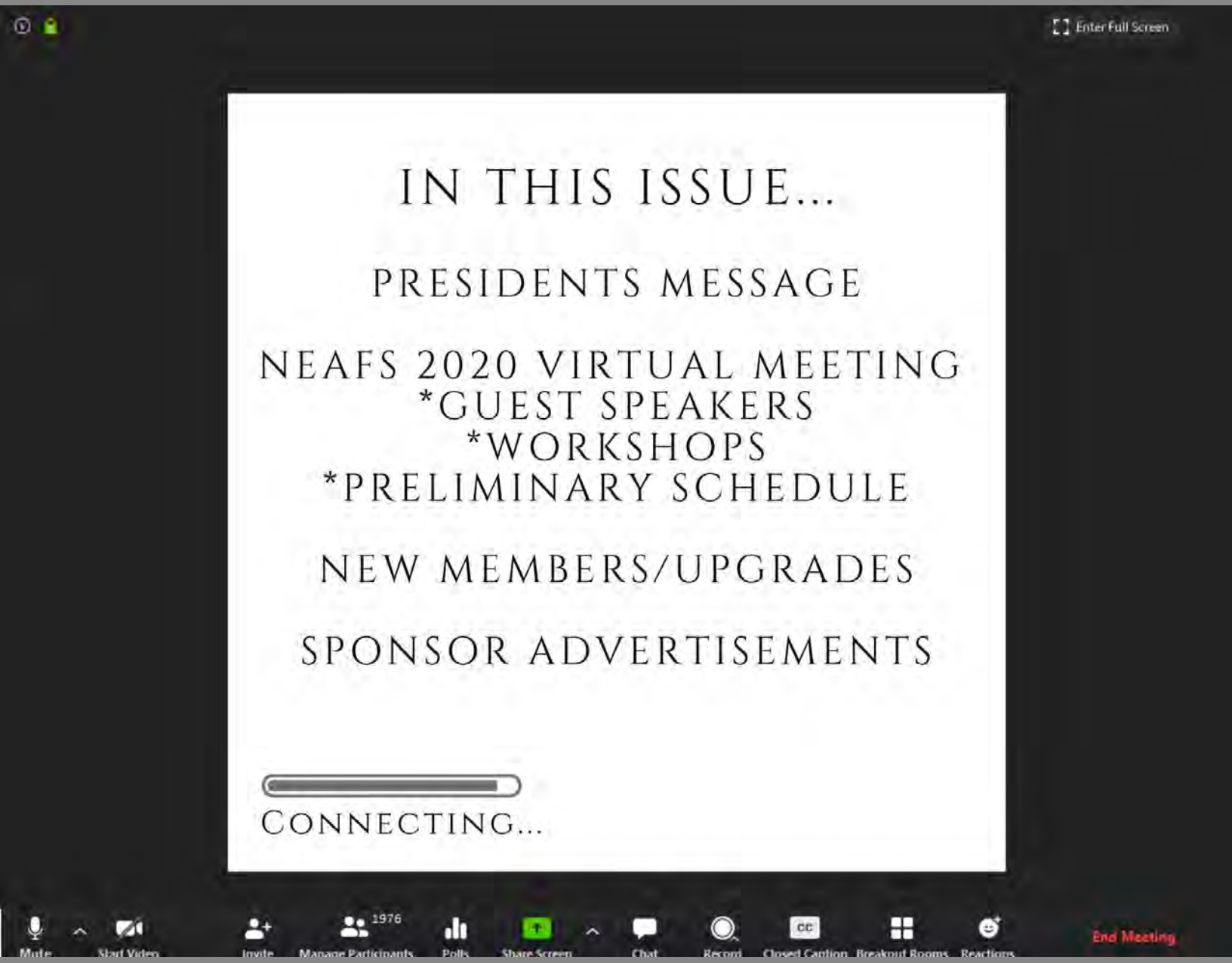
Fall 2020



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Find out more at
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MEET THE 2020 BOD

Maria Tsocanos - President
Westchester County Forensic Laboratory, NY
Forensic Scientist in the Forensic Biology section
BS in Forensic Science - John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Angela Violotti – President-Elect
Connecticut Forensic Lab, Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Scientific Services
Forensic Science Examiner 1 for approximately 4.5 years
BS in Biochemistry – Cedar Crest College
MS in Forensic Science – Cedar Crest College

Adam Hall Ph.D., D-ABC - Treasurer
Assistant Professor, Biomedical Forensic Sciences Program Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology Boston University School of Medicine
BA in Chemistry - Stonehill College
MS in Chemistry - Northeastern University
PhD in Analytical Chemistry - Northeastern University

Elizabeth Duval – Secretary
Massachusetts State Police Crime Laboratory
Forensic Scientist II, 2009-present
BS Genetics, Texas A&M University
BS in Forensic Science, University of New Haven

Stephanie Minero– Director
Nassau County Office of the Medical Examiner, Division of Forensic Services
Forensic Scientist in the Controlled Substance Analysis Section since 2008
BS in Forensic Science - Long Island University/CW Post
MS in Biology - Long Island University/CW Post

Alanna Laureano- Director
Westchester County Department of Labs & Research, Division of Forensic Sciences Since 2007
Forensic Science Specialist and Assistant DNA Technical Leader
BS in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry- University at Albany, SUNY
MS in Forensic Biology- University at Albany, SUNY

Matthew Marino - Director
New Jersey State Police Office of Forensic Sciences, East Regional Laboratory from November 2011 to present
Forensic Scientist 2 in the Drug Unit and Criminalistics Unit
Westchester County, NY Forensic Laboratory from July 2007 to September 2011
Forensic Technician
BS in Natural Sciences with a concentration in Chemistry-St. Thomas Aquinas College

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A Message from President Maria Tsocanos

It's hard to believe that we are approaching the end of 2020 and the NEAFS annual virtual meeting is quickly approaching on October 14th through 17th. President Elect Angela Vialotti and her team are hard at work planning and putting final touches on this year's program. Even though this year NEAFS is hosting a virtual meeting, it surely cannot be missed. There are some incredible speakers and workshops lined up that will be an incredible opportunity if you are able to attend. We are hoping that more practitioners will be able to attend because it will be accessible to all. Registration is now open with a minimal fee. Registration is FREE to any member or active applicant presenting a technical talk.

Please check out NEAFS.org with the latest updates for the annual meeting.

If you have not paid your dues yet, it's not too late! We have waived all Late Fees, click here to Pay NEAFS Dues

As my Presidency is quickly approaching its end, I would like to thank the Board and Staff for their continued dedication to this organization. It has been truly an incredible journey. I am grateful for the experience and for everything I learned being involved in this wonderful organization. In addition, I have met and developed friendships with some amazing individuals.

If you are looking to get more involved in the field, getting involved with NEAFS will not disappoint. There are numerous ways to become involved with the organization and we are always looking for dedicated individuals. Please do not hesitate to contact President Elect Angela Vialotti at presidentelect@neaf.org or myself at president@neafs.org with any questions and if you are looking for getting involved.

Our next Board of Directors meeting will be held on October 12th before the virtual meeting officially begins. If there are any questions or anything that is needed to be discussed, please do not hesitate to contact me directly. Looking forward to virtually seeing everyone very soon!

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2020 ANNUAL
NEAFS MEETING
Coming virtually
October 14th - 17th, 2020
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NITROGEN

Jayann Sepich
Solving Crime and Saving Lives,
A Mother's Mission to Expand the DNA Database
Thursday, October 15th 1:00pm-2:00pm

Jayann Sepich was born and raised in Carlsbad, New Mexico. Her father was an attorney and her mother was a schoolteacher. She has been married to her high school sweetheart Dave for 43 years.

On August 31, 2003, Jayann saw her life shatter when her firstborn, Katie, then a 22-year-old graduate student at New Mexico State University, was brutally raped and murdered. In the aftermath of that experience, Jayann and her family learned more than they ever wanted to know about our criminal justice system, and the laws that affect our lives.

Jayann along with her husband Dave, son AJ and daughter Caraline have made it their mission to see legislation passed in all 50 states to mandate taking DNA upon felony arrest. In New Mexico "Katie's Law" passed in in 2006 and was implemented in New Mexico January 1, 2007. Since then New Mexico has had over 2050 crimes matched to their arrestee database. The Sepich family has continued to advocate for arrestee DNA testing programs. Jayann has testified more than fifty times before state legislative committees across the country, and has also testified twice before the United States Senate Judiciary Committee. She has also advocated for the expansion of DNA databases in Thailand, Brazil, Argentina and Chile. Thirty-one states now have arrestee DNA testing legislation. In 2008, the Sepich family began working on federal legislation that would provide grants to help states implement arrestee DNA programs. In December of 2012 the United States Congress passed "the Katie Sepich DNA Expansion Act". President Obama signed the federal Katie's Law on January 10, 2013.

In December of 2008, the Sepich family established DNA Saves, a non-profit organization dedicated to the passage of arrestee testing laws. DNA Saves has submitted amicus briefs in four court cases challenging arrestee DNA laws, including Maryland v. King. On June 3, 2013, the United States Supreme Court ruled in Maryland v King that taking DNA upon arrest for serious crimes is constitutional.

Katie's story, along with the Sepich family's fight for "Katie's Law" has been chronicled on Anderson Cooper on CNN, NBC Dateline, America's Most Wanted as well on the Discovery channel and other national television networks. As a result of Jayann's work to see DNA legislation passed, she has been honored by USA Today as a "Outstanding Woman of the Century", and by the Governor of New Mexico as an Outstanding New Mexico Woman, and was inducted into the New Mexico Women's Hall of Fame. She was also honored by Redbook Magazine with their "Strength and Spirit Award".

On August 31st, the Sepich family will commemorate the 17th anniversary of Katie's murder. Although they will always miss Katie and abhor the violence that took her from them, the Sepich family is proud of her legacy.

Jayann says that she is an ordinary woman placed in an extraordinary circumstance. She believes that through DNA testing of arrestees, lives will be saved and crimes prevented, and families will be spared the pain of burying a much-loved child.

DR. MARY CURTIS, MR. BARRY BAKER AND DR. EDGARD ESPINOZA

Wildlife Forensic Sciences: Morphology, Genetics and Chemistry

Thursday, October 15th 3:00pm-4:00pm

Mary Burnham-Curtis, Ph.D. is the Genetics Team Leader for the US Fish and Wildlife Service, OLE-National Fish and Wildlife Forensic Laboratory (NFWFL) in Ashland, OR. Mary has worked for the Department of the Interior for over 32 years, with the last 19 years at NFWFL as a Senior Forensic Scientist. She and her team conduct genetic analyses to determine species, population, and individual source for pieces, parts, and products of a diverse array of fish, mammals, birds, and invertebrates using traditional Sanger sequencing and microsatellite DNA techniques, as well as next generation sequencing technologies.

Dr. Burnham-Curtis has been active 8 years as a former Board Member and Chair of the Proficiency Testing Board for the Society for Wildlife Forensic Science (SWFS) and 7 years as a member and affiliate of the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) Biology/DNA-Wildlife Forensic Subcommittee. Mary participated on the Scientific Working Group for Wildlife Forensic Science (SWGWILD) with early efforts to establish best practices standards and guidelines for wildlife forensic laboratories in the US. She is currently a member of the Technical Working Group of SWFS, assisting with efforts to establish ISO 17025 compliant standards and guidelines for non-US wildlife forensic laboratories.

Mary received her BA in Zoology from DePauw University in Greencastle, IN, and her MS and Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of Michigan – Ann Arbor.

Barry W. Baker is a Senior Forensic Scientist at the U.S. National Fish & Wildlife Forensic Laboratory, where he also supervises the Morphology Section. His work centers on species identification of wildlife parts and products submitted as forensic evidence from criminal investigations targeting the illegal international wildlife trade. His background includes anthropology, zooarcheology and vertebrate morphology. As a certified wildlife forensic scientist (CWFS) and registered professional archaeologist (RPA), his forensic work focuses primarily on reptiles, mammalian osteology, and ivory identification.

Dr. Edgard Espinoza is the Deputy Director of the National Fish and Wildlife Forensic Laboratory, located in Ashland, Oregon. In 1991 Ed was a co-author of the ivory identification book and to date he has analyzed thousands of ivory objects. For the last 30 years Ed has been involved in the application of chemistry to wildlife forensic questions and this work has resulted in over 60 peer reviewed publications. Since 2010 Ed has been focusing on the analysis of illegal timber products using DART TOFMS (Direct Analysis in Real Time, Time_of_Flight Mass Spectrometry). Ed and DeeDee Hawk are co-founders of the Society for Wildlife Forensic Sciences (SWFS) and with SWFS membership (Technical Working Groups) assisted in the development of the proficiency program, best practices guidelines for wildlife forensic scientists and SWFS Certification. Ed received his Ph.D. in Forensic Chemistry from the University of California, Berkeley. He is fluent in Castilian Spanish (Google Scholar: Edgard Espinoza; ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2844-6840).

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Susan Cooper LICSW
Coping with Stress, Cultivating Resiliency and Learning to Relax
Friday, October 16th 9:30am-11:30am

I am a trainer, keynote speaker and clinician with a passion for self-care and assisting others in finding and living their most authentic selves.

For the past 25 years, I have provided management consultations, conducted management/supervisor and wellness seminars, led grief groups and conducted critical incident debriefings for the Commonwealth of Ma/Group Insurance Commission Employee Assistance Program(EAP). I was employed by the three companies that were awarded the contract.

I have led grief groups for a Hospice, conducted psycho-social assessments for a Psych/Detox Hospital and have an ongoing private practice.

Throughout these 25 years I designed and facilitated a variety of training programs. They included stress management, emotional fitness, cultivating resiliency, compassion fatigue, and balancing work/family. I teach Meditation and relaxation techniques. I am comfortable training small and large groups of people I use humor, compassion and at times my own personal journeys to engage audiences.

My goal is to inspire people to be thoughtful, find clarity and be open to change which will lead to living a more joyful and peaceful life.

I have taught 1-2 hour workshops, half and full day seminars. I also have taught on Substance Abuse and Dealing with Violence in the workplace. I have worked for three prior EAP's providing short term counseling. I have experience being an onsite EAP counselor and conducting Debriefings after Hurricane Sandy and the recent flooding in Texas.

I was the Key Note speaker for the Youth at Risk conference(800 participants) and The NE Chapter of the International Association of Forensic Nurses. The topics were Self Care for Caregivers and Cultivating motional Fitness. I conducted two workshops on Compassion Fatigue and Supporting Patients through Their Grief Journey at Brigham and Women's Hospital.

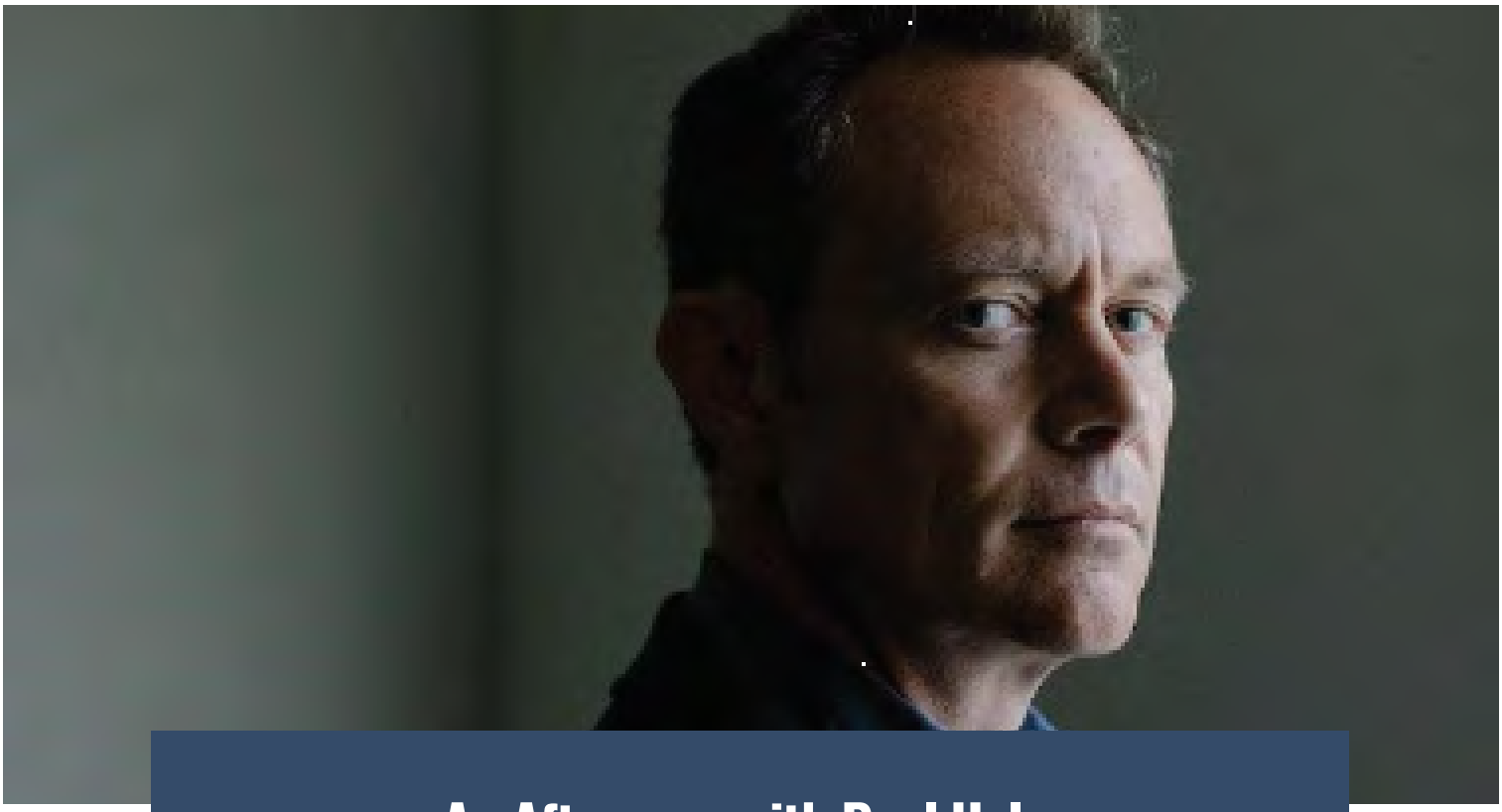
I hold a Master's Degree in Social Work from Boston University.

I am an LICSW /Comm of MA.

My BA in Public Justice is from SUNY at Oswego NY.

Certifications:

- Assessment and Treatment of Psychological Trauma-BU School of Social Work
- Direct Service Volunteer Training Program- Wayside Hospice/Parmenter VNA
- Second-Degree Reiki Therapist- Arlington Reiki Associates
- Group Crisis Intervention- MA Firefighting Academy



An Afternoon with Paul Holes

Lead Investigator, "Golden State Killer" Case

October 16th, 2020
Presentation: 2:30 - 4:30
Moderated Q&A: 4:30 - 5:00

Paul Holes is a retired investigator from the Contra Costa County District Attorney's Office. He was the Lead Cold Case Investigator for the infamous Golden State Killer Case. Holes worked in the East Bay for more than 27 years, with roles in the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office crime lab and the DA's office. His tenure in East Bay law enforcement coincides with the evolution of the use of DNA technology as a law enforcement tool. He became a sworn criminalist in 1994, the same year the sheriff's lab invested in a DNA program. Paul came up with the idea of using DNA from a crime scene to build a fake genetic profile on GEDmatch, a genealogy site, which lead to distant relatives. A team of investigators then spent months combing through public records to piece together potential family trees. All that hard work eventually lead to the arrest of Joseph DeAngelo, 72, on April 25. It also made Holes a bonafide hero in the true crime community.

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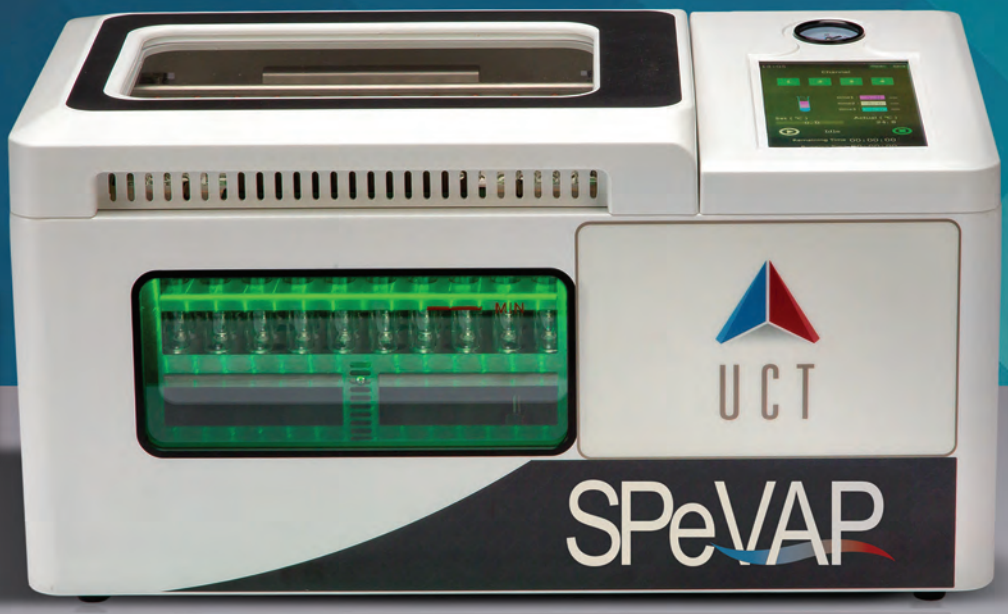

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Morning Workshops

Wednesday, October 14th: 9:30 - 12:00

Public Speaking for Criminal Justice Professionals
Members/ASTEE Members $20
Non-members $40

“Most people would generally agree that a great deal — probably most — of the presentations we have to sit through in the business world are awful. They are all too often passionless, boring,and dense with unreadable PowerPoint slides.”

Whether you speak to one or one-thousand; are comfortable or terrified with public speaking; whether you have been speaking for many years or just a beginner; "Public Speaking for Criminal Justice Professionals"; will improve your presentation skills through strategic planning, preparation, and performance. Techniques for speaking in all settings with confidence, choosing the right audio-visual technologies, and dealing with questions from an audience, are explained clearly to help the participant develop their presentation skills. 55 proven effective presentation tools will be presented, demonstrated, and provided to each participant who attends this workshop. Knowing your subject does NOT guarantee a successful presentation. Aristotle, who many recognize as the Father of Public Speaking and Forensic Debate said, “It is not enough to know what to say, one must know how to say it.” This short four hour workshop focuses on technique and the recognition that “a speech is composed of three factors — the speaker, the subject and the listener — and it is to the last of these that its purpose is related.”

Tom Mauriello created and has presented this workshop to thousands of criminal justice and counterintelligence professionals throughout the world. Tom is also the host of the webcast, ForensicWeek.com Show. He recently authored the book published by CRC Press, with the same title as this workshop, “Public Speaking for Criminal Justice Professionals – A Manner of Speaking”.

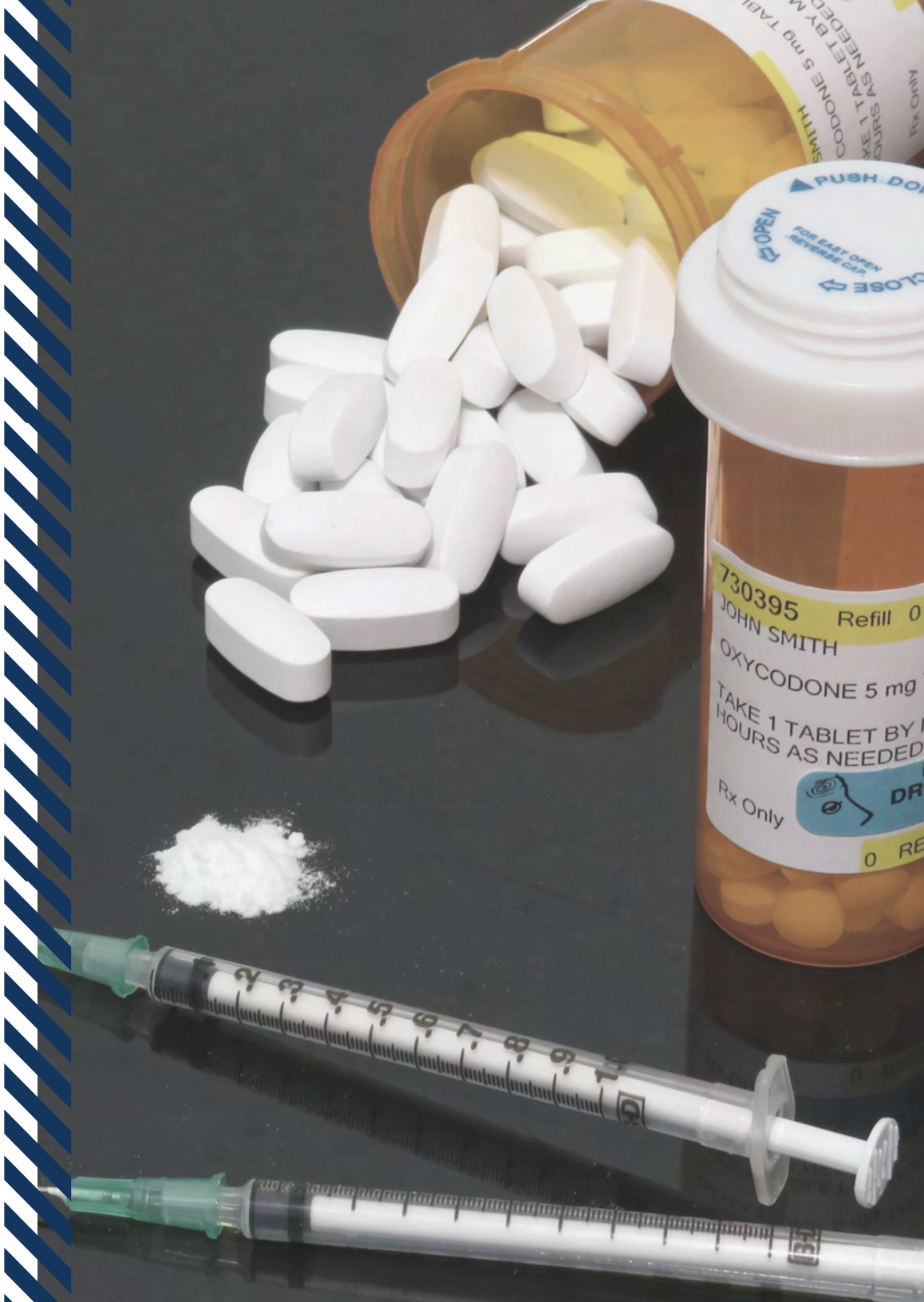
So reduce the fear, embarrassment and agony of public speaking; or increase your repertoire of oral communications skills in the classroom, courtroom or conference room. This training experience guarantees that you will gain a wealth of knowledge that will “make a difference.”

Morning Workshops

Wednesday, October 14th: 9:30 - 12:00

Analytical Considerations, Requirements and Methodologies
for the Opioid Crisis (Waters)
Members/ASTEE Members $20
Non-members $40
This is a pre-recorded training event

There is an increasing need for toxicologists to have awareness of and access to the most appropriate analytical tools to assist with the numerous challenges and complexities relative to the opioid crisis/epidemic. This workshop will provide attendees with a review of the many challenges associated with opioid toxicological investigations in biological samples and will describe potential solutions to these challenges using liquid chromatography [LC] and various hyphenated mass spectrometry [MS] techniques. Adjacent technologies for the identification of opioids and other drug substances in non-biological matrices will also be discussed. The workshop content will include LC-MS applications using accurate mass detection for the identification of novel drug compounds and metabolites, comprehensive quantitation of an extended opioid panel, confirmation of fentanyl analog drugs within blood, 'designer' opioid confirmation, and the use and optimization of mass spectrometry to enhance specificity and speed to enable the identification of an unknown chemical substance in powders and pills.



Afternoon Workshops

Wednesday, October 14th: 1:30 - 4:00

Forensic Drug Chemistry and the Challenges it Poses: NMS Labs' Multi-Faceted Approach to Maintain Productivity, Efficiency, and Quality

Members/ASTEE Members $20

Non-members $40

This is a pre-recorded training event

The world of forensic drug chemistry is ever changing and always challenging. Each year sees a proliferation of new, more complex compounds, sample types and changes to legislation. It is the challenge to keep up with these changes that all labs face. Productivity and profitability are important factors in any business, but can a lab maintain efficiency and more importantly, quality while meeting these metrics? This workshop is designed to present the multiple approaches NMS labs has adopted to facilitate an efficient means of lab management, sample analysis and reporting in order to provide quality results to clients. Challenges such as sample preparation, data analysis, turn-around-time and managing a multi-site network of labs will be discussed.

Afternoon Workshops

Wednesday, October 14th: 1:30 - 4:00

Future Trends in Forensic DNA Technology (Thermo)
Members/ASTEE Members $20
Non-members $40
This is a pre-recorded training event

A “Uninhibited” video featuring Peterjon McAnany and Nick Andrews

RapidHIT ID Victim Advocate - Ashley Spence

RapidHIT ID presentation – Jon Lucyshyn entitled “Rapid DNA Updates & Case Studies”

A “Uninhibited” video featuring Peterjon McAnany and Nick Andrews

HID Seq Studio presentation- Laura Ascroft entitled “Applied Biosystems™ SeqStudio™ Genetic Analyzer for Human Identification: Evolution of the CE System to Match Your Evolving Needs”

With the proliferation of so many novel psychoactive substances (NPS) and complexity of sample components in seized drug samples, the analysis of these samples requires an innovative approach to incorporate the use of advanced analytical tools, more intense training, and a much greater understanding of the regional legislation.

This workshop is designed to present the approach NMS labs has chosen to facilitate an efficient means of sample analysis that provides clients a complete report in a relatively short period of time. Maintaining quality and efficiency at multiple sites is a challenge that will be discussed.

NEAFS 2020 Annual Meeting

Preliminary Schedule

(subject to change)

Wednesday, October 14th - Friday, October 16th

Available on Demand
Scientific Sessions
Toxicology
Criminalistics/CSU & Digital Evidence
Biology/DNA
Chemistry
Trace/Arson & Explosives
Poster Session

Wednesday, October 14th

9:30am - 4:00pm
Workshops

Thursday, October 15th

1:00pm - 2:00pm

Jayann Sepich: Solving Crime and Saving Lives, A Mother's Mission to Expand the DNA Database

3:00pm - 4:00pm

Wildlife Forensic Sciences: Morphology, Genetics and Chemistry

Friday, October 16th

9:30am - 11:30am

Susan Cooper; Coping with Stress, Cultivating Resiliency and Learning to Relax

Presentation: 2:30 - 4:30
Moderated Q&A: 4:30 - 5:00
An Afternoon with Paul Holes: Lead Investigator, "Golden State Killer" Case

Saturday, October 17th

9:00am - 12:00pm
Student Forum
Educator Forum

1:00pm - 3:00pm
Annual Business Meeting/Awards

Attention Members

NEAFS Annual Business Meeting/Awards Saturday, October 17 from 1:00 - 3:00

You don't need to register for the conference to attend the business meeting - since it's virtual we're making it available to all members for free.

If you already registered for the meeting you STILL NEED a separate link because the conference link doesn't include access to the annual business meeting - the link is for the business meeting only.

You will be able to use the link 15 minutes before the meeting starts to get into the room.

You can use the chat feature to submit questions which the board will address at the end of the meeting.

Regular members can vote through the zoom platform. Only regular status members can vote. Please make sure to check your status.

The link will be sent to the NEAFS membership by the membership chairperson. Please make sure to look out for the email.

Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists
Membership Committee
Anisha Paul, *Chair*

NEW MEMBER APPLICANTS*

STATUS	FULL NAME	AFFILIATION
Associate	Ashley Mascaro	Suffolk County Crime Laboratory
Regular	Megan Foley	CFSRE
Regular	Jennifer Crosbie-Loo	New Jersey State Police of Forensic Science
Regular	Davilenys Tahan	New York City Police Dept. Police Lab
Regular	Matthew Wood	Oceans County Sheriff's Office
Regular	Brittany Antonucci	NYSP Forensic Investigation Center
Associate	Mandy Pascu	State of Connecticut-DESPP-Scientific Services
Regular	Carol Miller	NYSP Forensic Investigation Center
Regular	Katie O' Connor	Hofstra University
Regular	Branden Brunner	NMS Labs
Associate	Jordan Caruso	NYSP
Associate	Matthew Quinn	PA State Police-Greensbury Regional Lab
Associate	Madeline Richardson	MA State Police Crime Lab
Regular	Betsy Rabel	MA State Police Crime Lab
Regular	Denise Gemmellaro	Kean University
Associate	Monica Ventura	University of Albany-SUNY
Associate	Ayse Keles	NYSP Forensic Investigation Center

UPGRADES*

UPGRADE TO	MEMBER #	FULL NAME	AFFILIATION
Regular	1769	Jeffery Suckow	NYPD POlice Laboratory
Regular	1746	Gonul Kamfoi	NJ State Police
Emeritus	1038	Ellen-Joan Wagner	Retired
Emeritus	552	Daniel Burhans	Retired
Emeritus	590	Cathryn Levine	DCJS - Office of Forensic Services

***subject to change**

ATTENTION STUDENTS:

Are you a current full-time undergraduate student in your junior or senior year, or are you either a part-time or full-time graduate student completing his or her degree in a forensic program at a regionally accredited institution located in the Northeastern U.S. (Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania)?

Then you are eligible to apply for:

George W. Neighbor Jr. Memorial Scholarship (undergraduate) - Award is $1750
George W. Neighbor Jr. Memorial Scholarship (graduate) - Award is $1750
George W. Chin Memorial Scholarship – Award is $2000

Carol De Forest Forensic Science Research Grants - Award is $2500
***Note** – eligibility is for both full-time undergraduate and graduate students

** **Note –** Two Research Grants will be Awarded.

All submission materials for either the scholarships or the research grants must be completed, and electronically submitted by April 30th. The 2021 Awards recipients will be notified no later than September1st.

For more information and Scholarship/Research Grant forms please go to http://www.neafs.org/

Questions or comments? Please email Awards@NEAFS.org

THE GEORGE W. CHIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Are you a current full-time undergraduate student in your junior or senior year, or are you either a part-time or full-time graduate student or in your first two years of your Ph.D. Forensic Science program? Do you attend a college or university within the area from which NEAFS draws it members (CT, NY, NJ, PA, VT, NH, ME, RI, MA)? Do you demonstrate excellence in your academic program?

If Yes, you are eligible to apply for the George W. Chin Memorial Scholarship!

The award is $2000.00 as well as Associate membership for one year in the NEAFS organization. Membership will be granted to a current member or active applicant as well as a non-member (the application fee will also be included).

All submission materials for the Memorial Scholarship must be completed and electronically submitted by April 30. The award recipients will be notified no later than September 1.

For more information and to obtain the application forms, go to http://www.neafs.org

If you have any questions please email: awards@neafs.org

Meghan Appley

SIX MONTH UPDATE: Development of Forensic Methods for the Detection and Identification of Illegally-traded Endangered Species of Wood Using Mass Spectral Techniques

Research Overview:

The purpose of this research project is to investigate the use of mass spectrometric analysis of headspace volatiles in combination with multivariate statistical analysis to detect and identify illegally-traded endangered species of wood. The hypothesis is that each wood species has a consistent and unique headspace chemical profile that can be used as a fingerprint signature for the detection and identification of wood species. This project is being conducted to develop a means by which to rapidly and accurately identify wood species in the field, in order to facilitate border patrol and other government agencies in combatting illegal trade in endangered species, an activity which is a major financier of illegal activities including global terrorism. It will be accomplished through pursuit of the following four specific aims:

- Specific Aim I: Demonstration that the headspace of illegally-traded endangered species of wood exhibit unique diagnostic chemical fingerprints.
- Specific Aim II: Development of a statistical analysis approach to the processing of the mass spectral data generated in Specific Aim I, to enable species identification based on chemical fingerprints.
- Specific Aim III: Identification of the species-specific biomarkers that enable accomplishment of Specific Aim II, for use in the rapid forensic presumptive field identification of species.
- Specific Aim IV: Creation of an endangered species chemical fingerprint database against which headspace profiles of woods can be screened in order to identify illegally-traded endangered species in the field.

Progress to Date:

Samples were received from the US Fish and Wildlife Forensic Laboratory in Ashland, Oregon. A total of 496 samples were acquired. Table 1 displays the samples obtained along with the number of replicates for each. The samples were first systematically catalogued. They were photographed: (1) in the bags in which they were acquired; (2) as species groups; and then finally (3) as separate samples. This is illustrated in Figure 1.

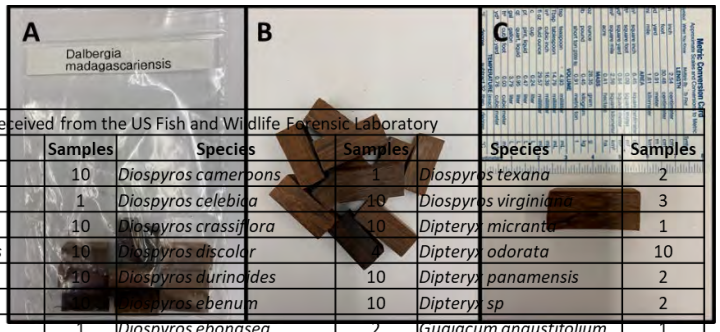


Figure 1. **A**: *Dalbergia madagascariensis* samples as received; **B**: *Dalbergia madagascariensis* samples; **C**: Individual *Dalbergia madagascariensis* sample illustrating size.

Table 1. List of species and samples received from the US Fish and Wildlife Forensic Laboratory

Species	Samples	Species	Samples	Species	Samples	Species	Samples
Araucaria angustifola	8	*Dalbergia decipularis*	10	*Diospyros cameroons*	1	*Diospyros texana*	2
Araucaria araucaria	3	*Dalbergia granadillo*	1	*Diospyros celebica*	10	*Diospyros virginiana*	3
Araucaria bidwillii	5	*Dalbergia latifolia*	10	*Diospyros crassiflora*	10	*Dipteryx micrantha*	1
Araucaria columnaris	2	*Dalbergia madagascariensis*	10	*Diospyros discolor*	1	*Dipteryx odorata*	10
Araucaria cunninghamii	8	*Dalbergia maritima*	10	*Diospyros durinoides*	10	*Dipteryx panamensis*	2
Araucaria heterphylla	10	*Dalbergia melanoxylon*	10	*Diospyros ebenum*	10	*Dipteryx sp*	2
Araucaria huntsteinii	2	*Dalbergia miscolobium*	1	*Diospyros ebonasea*	2	*Guaiacum angustifolium*	1
Caesalpinia echinata	10	*Dalbergia monticola*	1	*Diospyros ferrea*	1	*Guaiacum officinale*	2
Caesalpinia platybola	10	*Dalbergia nigra*	10	*Diospyros ferrea*	1	*Guaiacum officinale*	10
Cedrela fissilis	4	*Dalbergia normandii*	11	*Diospyros ferrea v humilis*	1	*Guaiacum sanctum*	1
Cedrela fissilis v liloi	2	*Dalbergia occulta*	3	*Diospyros sylvatica*	3	*Guaiacum sp*	10
Cedrela huberi	8	*Dalbergia oliveri*	3	*Diospyros kaki*	2	*Pericopsis elata*	10
Cedrela odorata	10	*Dalbergia pervillei/chlorocarpa*	1	*Diospyros lyciodes*	1	*Pericopsis mooniana*	2
Cedrela sinensis	3	*Dalbergia purprascens*	3	*Diospyros macassar*	1	*Pterocarpus angolensis*	3
Cedrela sp	2	*Dalbergia retusa*	10	*Diospyros melanoxylon*	10	*Pterocarpus indicus*	10
Cedrela tonduzii	5	*Dalbergia sp*	10	*Diospyros mesipiliformis*	4	*Pterocarpus santalinus*	7
Cedrela toona	10	*Dalbergia spruceana*	11	*Diospyros mollis*	2	*Pterocarpus soyauxii*	10
Cedrela toona ciliata	2	*Dalbergia stevensonii*	10	*Diospyros mun*	3	*Swietenia humilis*	7
Dalbergia baronii	9	*Dalbergia tucurensis*	10	*Diospyros pentamera*	2	*Swietenia macrophylla*	10
Dalbergia cearensis	11	*Diospyris grisebachii*	1	*Diospyros perrieri*	5	*Swietenia mahagoni*	11
Dalbergia cochinchinensis	10	*Diospyros blancoi*	1	*Diospyros sp*	10	*Swietenia sp*	3

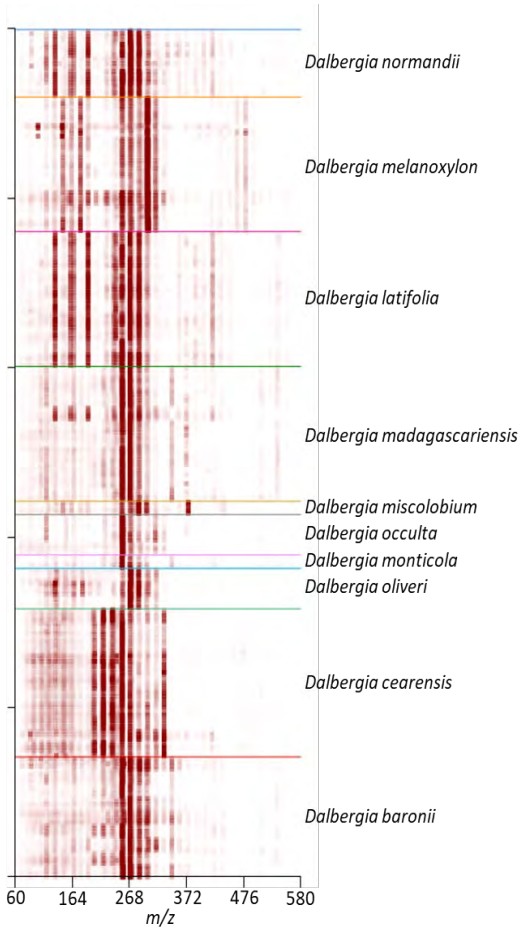


Figure 2. Heat map renderings of wood samples analyzed directly using DART-HRMS analysis.

The best sample analysis approach was then investigated, and it was found that meticulous splintering of the wood using a knife, hammer and clippers, generated samples which were of a form that could readily be stored in a 20 mL scintillation vial for later interrogation. Roughly 10 mg of sample was generated in each case, and the remainder of the wood was returned to the bag. To date, 300 of the 496 total samples have been prepared.

Prior to headspace analysis, it is essential that the spectral characteristics of the actual bulk samples be analyzed direct analysis in real time – high-resolution mass spectrometry, in order to create a database of directly analyzed wood samples that could be compared to the results of headspace analysis. Our instrument features a (DART)-SVP ion source from IonSense Inc. interfaced with a JEOL AccuTOF high-resolution mass spectrometer. The samples were analyzed in positive-ion mode with a helium gas stream

temperature of 350 °C, over a mass range *m/z* 60-1000. The DART ion source helium flow rate was 2.0 L/min. The mass spectrometer settings were: orifice 1 voltage, 20 V; orifice 2 voltage, 5 V; and the ion guide voltage, 600 V. By having the orifice 1 voltage set to 20 V, there was little to no fragmentation. Thus, the resulting spectrum was comprised of peaks representing the protonated forms of the detected molecules (thus revealing the chemical fingerprint of the sample). Polyethylene glycol (PEG 600) was used as a mass calibrant. TSSPro3 software was used to calibrate, background subtract, and perform peak centroiding, and Mass Mountaineer was used to perform mass spectral analysis. To date, 63 samples have been analyzed in replicates of five representing one genus and ten species. Heat map renderings for each of the samples analyzed are displayed in Figure 2. Along the x-axis are the *m/z* values while along the y-axis are the replicates. The color intensity of the bands reflects peak intensity at the indicated *m/z* value. Visual similarities within a given species and visual differences between species were readily apparent. Therefore, additional confirmatory analyses were completed to perform classification. It was gratifying to note that there are *m/z* values that are consistent between all samples, and which have potential to be used as biomarkers for Dalbergia samples in general.

The data were subjected to statistical analysis processing through kernel discriminant analysis (KDA). Figure 3 shows the KDA plot that was created. Each point represents an individual spectrum and the color and shape correspond to the species. Leave-one-out cross-validation was performed to test the model, and the results revealed that the samples were correctly identified 88.89% of the time.

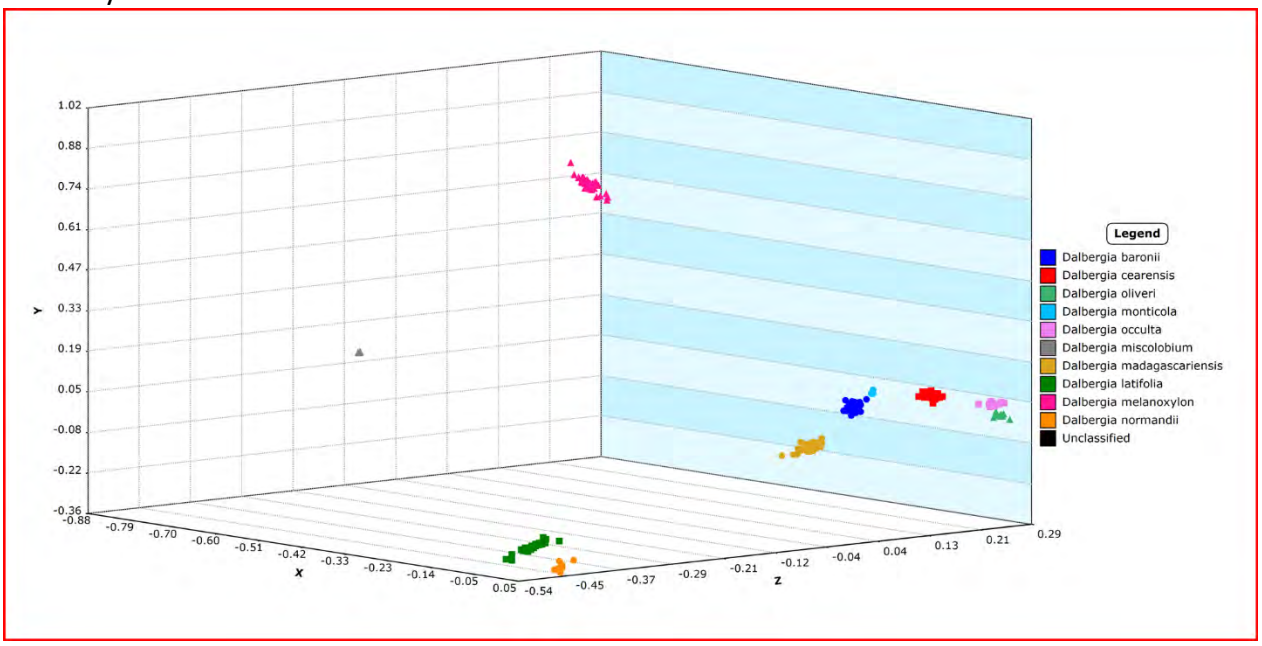


Figure 3. Kernel discriminant analysis plot utilizing the data generated from the direct analysis of wood samples. Leave-one-out cross-validation was 88.89%.

Future Work:

Future work on this project includes the continued preparation and method development for preparation of the wood samples. Continued work will also include ongoing direct analysis of the wood samples. These results will be compared to data collected from the

headspace analysis of the same samples. Statistical analysis optimization will be completed for both sets of data. Identification of diagnostic molecules through the use of gas chromatography–mass spectrometry (GC-MS) will be done for both the bulk wood material and the headspace. These experiments will lead to the creation of a field deployable technique for the detection and identification of endangered species of wood.

2020 Training Scholarship Fund

The Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists (NEAFS) is proud to offer its members a 2020 Training Scholarship Fund. Regular members, in good standing, are eligible to receive up to $400 towards training, workshop or non-NEAFS meeting registration expenses. Detailed instructions and application forms are available on the NEAFS website. Simply click the “Training” link at the top of the screen and scroll down to the “NEAFS Training Scholarship Forms”. The current application period is January 1st, 2020 to December 31st, 2020. Reimbursements will be issued on a first come, first serve basis and funding is limited. If you plan to attend a non-NEAFS meeting workshop, training or course during this application period and will not be funded by your agency or any other non-NEAFS related entity, we highly encourage your swift application for the 2020 Training Scholarship Fund. Please visit the NEAFS training website to take advantage of this great NEAFS opportunity and to view upcoming training opportunities!

Webinars

Verogen On-Demand Webinar
Forensic Genetic Genealogy: An Emerging Game Changer for Cold Case Resolution

Forensic genetic genealogy (FGG) is revolutionizing cold case investigations by producing previously unobtainable investigative leads. When traditional methods are inconclusive or all other options are exhausted, genealogy databases offer a new route to identifications. GEDmatch, one of the most widely known databases, has proven its effectiveness by helping law enforcement identify more than 70 previously unknown suspects.

If you are a forensic scientist, law enforcement professional or genealogist interested in learning more about FGG then register for this free educational webinar where experts will provide real-world insights regarding the impact of FGG from the complementary viewpoints of forensic scientists and law enforcement.

Register now to access the webinar on demand.

MAFS Online Training Opportunities

Good morning! We offered this to our MAFS Members, but thought we would open up the opportunity to all forensic scientists. If you are interested, feel free to pass along. The early webinars are 8-hours and the 2019 is a 4-hour session.

In an effort to offer some training opportunities, MAFS has made archived versions of the Leadership Symposium webinar available for you to view. Maybe you regretted missing the webinar the first time around? Now is your chance to revisit them and sharpen your saw! Unfortunately we cannot provide you a certificate for viewing the webinars, but we hope this can be helpful for those that may be missing training opportunities or for those that are working from home.

If you would like to view the webinars, this link will send you to the google drive where they are kept. You will find webinars on Transitioning to Leadership (2016), Communication (2017), Motivation (2018), and Leading Change (2019). Pdf's of the slides are available for the 2017 and 2019 webinars. A big thank you to Brian Hoey and Brooke Ehlers for making these webinars available!

The MAFS Training and Education Committee is diligently working to offer you more virtual training opportunities, so stay tuned! We hope everyone is staying safe and healthy!

Upcoming Training

December 2020

Introductory Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Workshop
Miami-Dade Public Safety Training Institute, 9601 NW 58th St., Doral, FL 33178
December 7-11, 2020

Violent crimes usually result in bloodshed. When physical forces act upon liquid blood, patterns will be deposited on the various items at the crime scene, as well as the clothing of the individuals present during the activity. These patterns can yield valuable information concerning the events that lead to their creation. The information can then be used for reconstruction of the incident, as well as to evaluate the statements of the witnesses and the crime participants. Bloodstain pattern evidence can be of value in the investigation of any violent crime in which bloodshed occurs.

Workshop objectives:
1) Teach the investigator how to identify bloodstain pattern evidence at the crime scene.
2) Teach the investigator how to properly document bloodstain pattern evidence.
3) Teach the investigator how to properly preserve the bloodstain pattern evidence.
4) Teach the investigator how to reconstruct bloodstain patterns at the crime scene.
5) Provide the foundation for teaching the investigator how to interpret bloodstain pattern evidence.
6) Teach the investigator the safety and health issues associated with bloodstain pattern evidence.

Workshop Goals:
1) To be able to recognize bloodstain pattern evidence at the crime scene.
2) To be able to properly document and preserve the bloodstain pattern evidence.
3) To be able to properly use bloodstain pattern terminology.
4) To be able to identify simple bloodstain pattern types.
5) To obtain basic bloodstain pattern analysis knowledge that will be the foundation for additional training culminating in being able to evaluate and interpret bloodstain pattern evidence and render an opinion concerning that interpretation.

The objectives and goals will be achieved through lecture, discussion, practical experiments with blood, and case studies.

Workshop Description: http://noslowforensic.com/new-page/

Instructor: Toby L. Wolson, M.S., F-ABC, Noslow Forensic Consultation, LLC, E-mail: Toby.Wolson@gmail.com

Further information about this workshop can be obtained at the following website: http://noslowforensic.com/new-page/ or by contacting Toby Wolson (Toby.Wolson@gmail.com).

Visit neafs.org under the merchandise tab!

GET YOUR NEAFS GEAR!

NORTHEASTERN ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC SCIENTISTS

2020 TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP FUND

OPEN APPLICATION PERIOD: JANUARY 1st, 2020- DECEMBER 31st, 2020

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

The Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists (NEAFS) is proud to offer its members a Training Scholarship Fund (TSF). Members in good standing are eligible to receive up to $400 towards training, workshop or non-NEAFS meeting registration and travel expenses. Individuals will only be allowed reimbursement once per application period. Any NEAFS Annual Meeting expenses are ineligible to receive funding. Reimbursement will occur upon receipt of a certificate showing successful attendance and completion of the course along with an article summarizing the course for the NEAFS newsletter.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applicants must submit a *Pre-Approval Application* prior to attending the training for which they wish to obtain funding. All applications must be complete with a brief course description, statement as to how the applicant will benefit from attending the training and justification for receiving funding (i.e. insufficient employer funding or continuing education requirements).

Notification will be given to each applicant upon receipt of the *Pre-Approval Application.* This notification lets the applicant know that their submission has been received by the Awards Chair at NEAFS and is being reviewed. Applicants can expect to be informed of the acceptance or rejection of their application within 60 days of receiving this *Pre-Approval Application* notification.

Upon successful attendance and completion of the training, all pre-approved applicants must submit a *Reimbursement Application* along with supporting documentation. Whenever possible, a certificate should be provided as proof of attendance and completion. If a certificate is not issued, or is unavailable, a letter from the organizer/ instructor verifying the applicant's successful attendance and completion shall suffice. Each Training Scholarship Fund recipient is required to contribute to NEAFS and its members by publishing a written article in the Newsletter. *Reimbursement Applications* will only be considered complete when accompanied by a 1000-word (minimum) course summary.

All application materials can be found on the NEAFS website. Please submit all inquiries, applications and supporting documentation to: awards@neafs.org.

NORTHEASTERN ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC SCIENTISTS

TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP FUND

PRE-APPROVAL APPLICATION

Instructions: To be completed prior to attending the workshop/meeting eligible for reimbursement.

Applicant Information

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Organization/Agency: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____

NEAFS Member Number: _____

ABC Status: Diplomate Fellow Board Member Affiliate Exam Committee

Training Information

Course Title: _____

Sponsor/Host Organization: _____

Meeting Dates & Times: _____

Location: _____ Travel Dates & Times: _____

Course Description: _____

_____

_____

Attendance Benefit to Applicant: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Expenses

Registration Cost: _____ Travel Cost: _____

Justification for Reimbursement:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Will you be reimbursed by your agency or any other non-NEAFS related entity for any expenses incurred as a result of attending the above training? Yes No

If "Yes", provide funding agency and amount: _____

Have you been funded to attend all or part of a workshop or training course this year? Yes No

If "Yes", provide cost of workshop(s)/training(s) attended and amount compensated: _____

_____

_____

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY: Reference #: _____ Date Received: _____ Initials: _____

NORTHEASTERN ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC SCIENTISTS

TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP FUND

REIMBURSEMENT APPLICATION

Instructions: To be completed upon successful completion of the workshop/meeting approved for reimbursement.

Applicant Information

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____
Organization/Agency: _____
Street: _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP Code: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____

Training Information

Course Title: _____
Sponsor/Host Organization: _____
Meeting Dates & Times: _____
Location: _____ Travel Dates & Times: _____
Instructor/Organizer: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____

*If applicable, provide proof of attendance and successful completion by attaching a certificate to this form.

NOTE: Each applicant must write a 1000-word (minimum) course summary to accompany this form. Applicants awarded full or partial workshop reimbursement will have their course summaries published in the NEAFS Newsletter. The preferred format is a Microsoft Word document. Reimbursement applications submitted without a course summary will be considered incomplete and ineligible for reimbursement.

Reimbursement Information

Expense(s) Incurred: _____

*Applicants must provide proof of payment for each expense listed on this application.

Will you be reimbursed by your agency or any other non-NEAFS related entity for any expenses incurred as a result of attending the above training? Yes No

If "Yes", provide funding agency and amount: _____

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY: Reference #: _____ Date Received: _____ Initials: _____

Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists

For questions, additional information or to volunteer please contact Adam Hall at: treasurer@neafs.org

2021 Annual Meeting

MARRIOTT

Newport Marriott

November 1st 2021 - November 5th, 2021

Certification Reimbursement

The NEAFS Board of Directors has voted to reimburse the American Board of Criminalistics and International Association for Identification exam sitting fees for five NEAFS members (regular or associate) in good standing who pass the ABC or IAI exam. This offer is for any exam completed in 2020. After passing the examination, please fill out the Certification Reimbursement Form (www.neafs.org) and email the completed form with proof of passing the exam to the NEAFS Certification Chair Peter Diaczuk at certification@neafs.org. The reimbursement is based on a first come first served basis. Remember you must pass the ABC or IAI exam to be considered for reimbursement.

TThe following are current examinations that are offered:
Comprehensive Criminalistics Examination (CCE)
Drug Analysis (DA)
Molecular Biology (MB)
Fire Debris Analysis (FD)
Hairs and Fibers (HF)
Paints and Polymers (PP)

For more information about the examination sitting, please contact Peter Diaczuk at certification@neafs.org.

For more information about the examination and the American Board of Criminalistics, please visit http://www.criminalistics.com.

Historical facts – NEAFS

- "NEAFS was founded in 1975 by a group of dedicated forensic scientists dedicated to improving the professional status and technical capabilities of individuals engaged in all phases of forensic science." "To accomplish its goals, NEAFS conducts continuing education seminars featuring workshops and special training sessions. The Annual Meeting…presents a contagious atmosphere of scientific exchange and social congeniality."Mark Lewis, President 1980
- The first Editor of the newsletter in 1976 was R.E. Gaensslen
- The first meeting of the Executive Board was on May 1, 1976 by President Angelo Fatta. Also in attendance were Vincent Crispino, R.E. Gaensslen, Thomas Kubic, Carl Moller and Alexander Stirton.
    - On this first meeting, it was stated that there were 211 members and this number included applicants. Six of those members were upgraded to Regular members.
    - The first annual meeting was being discussed. The annual meeting was to be a one day meeting on or about October 23, 1976. Tentative sites were John Jay College or C.W. Post College. The schedule was: 8am-12pm Coffee and Registration, business meeting and split sessions; Lunch; 1pm-5pm two general interest talks, split sessions, mixer and dinner. The split sessions included serology, microscopy, arson, toxicology and drug identification. The general interest talks would be short and would be concerning aspects of forensic science that would be unfamiliar or unusual to most members.
- NEAFS was incorporated by the State of Connecticut on May 12, 1976. Vincent Crispino, Thomas Kubic and Henry Lee were the Incorporators.
- The NEAFS newsletters were published by the Forensic Sciences Foundation which was located in Maryland.
- A joint meeting was held on April 15-16 with MAAFS in New Jersey as well as the Annual Meeting of NEAFS on October 29th in 1977.
- Dr. Peter De Forest chaired the Hairs and Fibers Session during the Second Annual Meeting. Alexander Stirton chaired the Serology Session and Dr. Jesse Bidanset chaired the Toxicology Session during the Second Annual Meeting.
- The newsletters included information from other regional organizations as well as NEAFS.
- In 1977, the BOD acted as an ad hoc Education Committee and set up two courses intitled: "Forensic Microscopy" and "Introduction to the Forensic Applications of Infrared Spectroscopy".
- A luncheon was held during the 3rd Annual meeting of NEAFS and consisted of salad, a choice of roast beef or filet of sole, dessert and a beverage for $6.00. Cocktails were $1.50 and beer and wine were $1.00.
- In 1978, the annual meeting was increased to a two day program instead of one day.
- George Neighbor volunteered to chair the Paint analysis program for the 1978 Annual Meeting.
- In 1978, NEAFS sponsored a training course entitled "Basic Bloodstain Analysis" and it was taught by Dr. Henry Lee, Dr. R.E. Gaensslen and Dr. Peter De Forest. This course was held at the University of New Haven.
- George W. Neighbor was the Secretary of NEAFS in 1978.
- Thomas A. Kubic was voted in as a Life Member of NEAFS while he was President in 1978.
- In 1979, Chris Chany was approved to become a Provisional member from a student member and Peter Diaczuk was approved to be a Corresponding member.
- George W. Neighbor was President-elect in 1980.
- Travel reimbursement for mileage was 17 cents/mile in 1980.
- NEAFS had 400 members in 1980.
- In May 1980 in Louisville Kentucky, NEAFS participated in the first multi-regional association meeting.
- George W. Neighbor had a BA degree in Chemistry from Rider College and a MS in Forensic Science from John Jay College. He worked as a Principal Forensic Chemist for the NJSP in the North Regional Laboratory in Little Falls, NJ where he supervises the trace evidence and bio-chemical units. Prior to working with the NJSP, He has

twenty years of industrial research experience in materials analysis. He served as Secretary for two terms (1978-79) and was a member of the AAFS and the Forensic Science Academy. George became President of NEAFS in 1981 – the 7th year in NEAFS history. George stated at the end of his President's message in the March 1981 newsletter "Now you can call me George, or you can call me G.W., or you can call me George W., or you can call me Hi Neighbor". In 1989, George presented "Trace Evidence Never Grows Old" during the Criminalistics Session.

- In 1997, the Scholarship award was renamed the George W. Neighbor Jr. Memorial Scholarship
- In 1980, the Annual Meeting budget was $2000.
- 1980 Goals of NEAFS
    - Exchange ideas and information among professionals in the field
    - Promote recognition of forensic science as an important part of the justice system
    - Sponsor and organize seminars, workshops, and special training sessions
    - Represent the membership on national issues affecting forensic science
    - Encourage research and development
    - Stimulate implementation of new methods and techniques
    - Establish professional standards
    - Provide advice on educational curricula, legislation and other matters affecting the profession
    - Arbitrate professional disputes
    - Foster friendship and collegiality among the forensic scientists of the Northeast
- For the 10th Annual Meeting, the room rate was $55 (single or double).
- The 12th annual meeting was the first meeting held in New England in Peabody, MA. A clam bake was scheduled.
- The door prizes that were given out at the 11th Annual Meeting were a Commador 64 Computer, Cannon AE1 Camera, Reflecting Telescope and an AM-FM radio.
- Our current method of visiting the exhibitor booths and obtaining confirmation of the visit goes back to at least the 9th Annual Meeting in 1983.
- The door prizes given out at the 14th Annual Meeting which was donated by Perkin-Elmer were a Video Cassette Recorder, Compact Disk Player, Scientific Programmable Calculator, Cordless Telephone and a Sony Walkman.