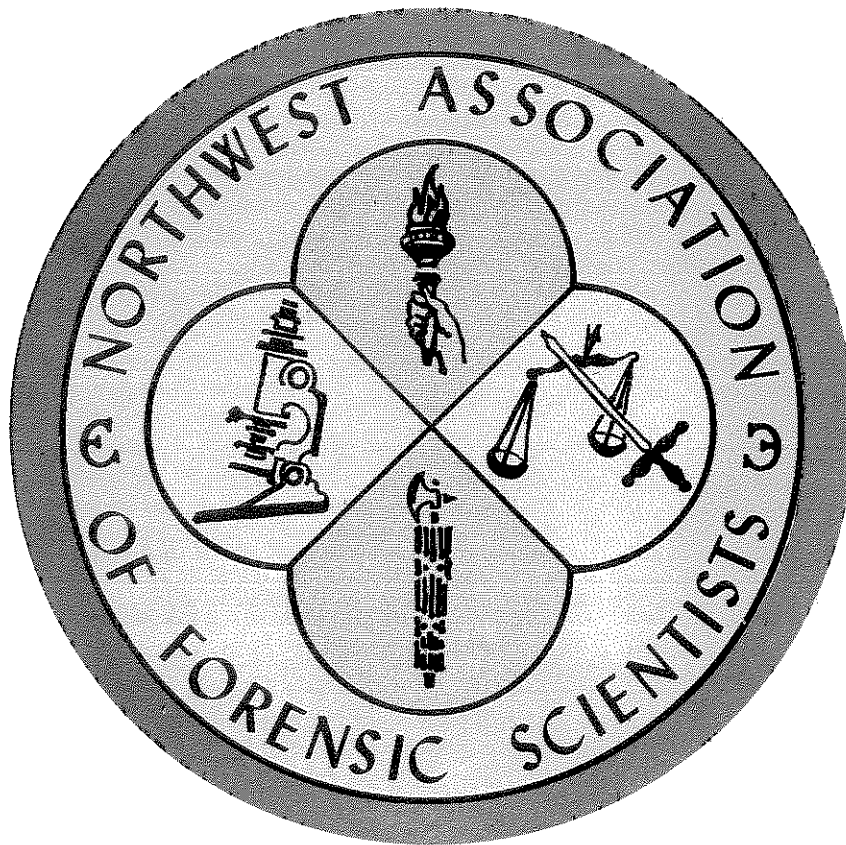


# THE NEWSLETTER of



SEPTEMBER 1990

VOL. XVI, NO. 3

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The crisis in the Persian Gulf touches almost all. Most noticeably is the price of gasoline spiraling upward. From newspapers to newscasts, the events are portrayed have resulted in bringing out battleships, carriers, troops and gas masks. A hell of a way to enter the '90s. Why, just two weeks ago there was peace. WAR? Wasn't this the era of peace dividend? Oil? Wasn't there a glut? Undoubtedly most of you know of someone, relation or friend, or friend of a friend who is in Saudi Arabia, is getting ready to be shipped out or even being called up as a member of the reserves, as I write this. Where will it all end? Is this the beginning of the Big One? Whatever happens, keep the faith.

Your job will undoubtedly be affected. Wyoming State officials are contemplating the added burden of the cost of gas on budgets already at the breaking point. State employees may be asked to drastically cut road trips, or at least car pool it. The effect of the this latest world crisis on our NWAFFS meetings remains to be seen! How many of you are willing to pay out of your pocket to attend the next meeting. Who would believe that world events affect our lives so much.

The bright side is to see how Forensic Sciences are used worldwide, and get the recognition. "Dutch Use 'Fingerprinting' To Spot Iraqi Oil," is a recent headline in our local tabloid. Because Rotterdam is Europe's largest oil port, gas chromatography is being used to check crude oil shipments arriving there. The identification process is based on differences in textures and chemical composition found in every oil field's deposits. A file of about 40 crude samples is used to compare with samples taken in Rotterdam. "If we're in a hurry, we can conduct an analysis in 24 hours," said an official (sound familiar?). "The procedure is 80% accurate, and we are refining the technique all the time. Even tampered or mixed crude can be detected." So we see the pattern that is so familiar to practicing forensic scientists, ie. here is a sample. Can you identify it? Does it match in any way a known source sample? Could the unknown have come from it? If we throw in the additional factors of "when, why, and how," then we have Forensics in a nutshell.

Elsewhere in this edition of the Newsletter, see the details of the Peer Group Award. No doubt, it will need refining but its time we give our own members some recognition for outstanding work in Forensics. Also, our hearts go out to Mrs. Dale Dykes and children. The loss of husband, father in the prime of life is devastating. The Forensic community will find it hard to replace the likes of Dale. His guidance and tutelage at the two serology workshops I had the privilege of attending, will never be forgotten.

Well, what has started out to be a good, quiet, normal summer, is now so messed up that we will have to hope the fall and winter holds some bright spot. That will be our November meeting in Seattle. Maybe a last fling for many of you. Let's make this meeting a memorable one! Be there!!

Here's hoping your car gets over 30 mpg!

Tommy D. Moore

## ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

**President:**  
Tommy D. Moore  
WY. Fish and Game Dept.  
Univ. Station, Box 3312  
Laramie, WY 82071  
(307) 766-5628

**President-Elect:**  
Gary Knowles  
OSP Crime Lab  
650 Royal Ave., Suite 11  
Medford, OR 97501  
(503) 776-6118

**Secretary-Treasurer:**  
Lionel Tucker  
DEA Western Lab  
390 Main, Room 700  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
(415) 744-7061

**Member At Large:**  
Michael Howard  
OSP Crime Lab  
63319 Highway 20 West  
Bend, OR 97701  
(503) 388-6150

**Past-President:**  
Dale Mann  
WSP Crime Lab  
2nd Floor  
Public Safety Building  
Seattle, WA 98104  
(206) 464-7074

## COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

**Membership:**  
Robert Sager  
DEA Western Lab  
390 Main, Room 700  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
(415) 744-7051

**Newsletter Editor:**  
Roger A. Ely  
DEA Western Lab  
390 Main, Room 700  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
(415) 744-7051  
(415) 744-7055 FAX

**Historical:**  
Brad Telyea  
OSP Crime Lab  
1111 2nd Ave.  
Portland, OR 97204  
(503) 229-5017

**Technical Advancement:**  
Robert Thompson  
OSP Crime Lab  
1111 2nd Ave.  
Portland, OR 97204  
(503) 229-5017

**Continuing Education:**  
Arnold Melnikoff  
WSP Crime Lab  
PO Box 888  
Kelso, WA 98626  
(206) 577-2087

## MEETING INFORMATION

### *SWAFS Announces Fall 1990 Meeting*

The Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists announces their Fall 1990 meeting will be held the week of October 23-27 at the Ramada Downtown in Tucson, Arizona. For more information, contact Registration Chair Nora E. Rankin, Tucson Police Department Crime Laboratory, PO Box 1071, Tucson, AZ 85702 (602) 791-4494.

### *Fall NWAFS Meeting Planned*

The fall meeting of the Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists is scheduled for the week of November 5-9 at the newly remodeled Edgewater Inn in Seattle, Washington. Two workshops are in the planning at this early date: one on the use of the FT-IR microscope and the other on bombs and booby traps in clandestine drug laboratories. Suggestions for other workshops and program items are being accepted. For more information, contact Kay Sweeney, WSP Crime Lab, 610 3rd Avenue, Public Safety Building, 2nd Floor, Seattle, WA 98104-1820 (206) 464-7038.

### *Advanced Photo / Video Seminar*

The Oregon Chapter, International Association of Arson Investigators, announces the Twelfth Annual Advanced Fire and Arson Investigator's Conference, to be presented on October 1-3 at the Monarch Motor Hotel in Clackamas, Oregon.

Instruction, centered on techniques to increase the effectiveness of still photography and videotape, will be presented by Experts from Eastman Kodak Company and the Sony Corporation. Classes will include a photo session in a fire scene as well as discussions on effective courtroom presentation of both medium. For more information, contact Det. Ken Janes at (503) 238-8440 or Brian Finn at (503) 635-9111

### *NEAFS Plans Fall Meeting*

The Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists announce their Fall 1990 meeting to be held the week of October 24-27 at the Biltmore Hotel in Providence, RI. NEAFS is planning a PCR-DNA Workshop; a clandestine laboratory symposium; a shoeprint and tire track symposium; and a forensic photography contest. For more information, contact Kirby Matir, Yonkers PD Crime Laboratory, Suite 605, 87 Nepperhan Avenue, Yonkers, New York 10701, (914) 964-3468.

## JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Criminalist** The Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department anticipates a vacancy July 1, 1990 for the position of Criminalist II in the Forensic Laboratory. Minimum qualifications are a bachelor's degree in criminalistics, forensic science, chemistry or a closely related field including a minimum of 24 semester units of chemistry and three years of forensic laboratory experience.

Salary: \$35,694 - 38,607 per year

For answers to technical inquiries, contact:

Carla Noziglia, Director  
Laboratory Services  
(702) 799-3932

For application materials, contact:

Katey Lavelle  
Las Vegas Metro Police Department  
Personnel Bureau  
400 East Stewart  
Las Vegas, NV 89101  
(702) 799-3979

**Criminalist III** The State of Alaska, Department of Public Safety, is recruiting for a vacant Criminalist III position in Anchorage, Alaska. This is the advanced level of the Criminalist series. Employees perform a broad range of scientific laboratory tests, procedures, and analysis, present authoritative findings and may serve as experts in a specialty area such as trace evidence, documents, tool marks, serology or toxicology. The current opening is for a Toxicologist. This position performs highly specialized analysis of body fluids and organs for the presence and identification of toxic substances in criminal cases. Previous experience in Toxicology is preferred. Minimum qualifications include a bachelor's degree in criminalistics, chemistry, biochemistry, biology or closely related natural or physical science; plus two years of professional laboratory experience as a criminalist.

Salary: \$3,478 - 3,855 per month

For more information, contact:

Department of Administration  
Division of Personnel  
PO Box C  
Juneau, AK 99811-0201  
(907) 465-4430

The Fall 1990 NWAFFS meeting is set for the week of November 5 - 9 at the Edgewater in Seattle. Room rates are \$77.00 single and \$93.00 double occupancy. Meeting registration will be \$95.00 and will include a banquet.

Two workshops are planned:

1. **Clandestine Laboratory Booby Traps.** Registration \$20.00 for member, \$25.00 for non-member.

The instructor for this workshop will be Victor Poison of the Riverside, California Police Department. Victor has 15 years experience with the Police department and 11 years experience in the bomb squad. He is a certified NATO instructor in explosive devices and works frequently with California's Department of Justice.

This workshop will be offered to law enforcement personnel on Monday afternoon, November 5, and to Forensic Scientists on Tuesday afternoon, November 6.

## FALL MEETING IN SEATTLE UPDATE

2. **FTIR Microscope workshop.** Registration \$35.00 for members, \$45.00 for non-members.

The instructor is Will Wihlborg of Spectra-Tech. Will has a BS in forensic science and a MS in Chemistry from John Jay College. This workshop will be offered on Tuesday, November 6 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM and will consist of approximately 1/3 lecture and 2/3 hands-on. Class size is limited to 20 participants and two instruments will be available.

Scientific presentations will begin on Wednesday, November 7 and end sometime Friday, November 9 in the morning. The Association's business meeting will be held at the completion of the scientific papers.

Several DNA related papers are planned along with general criminalistics, firearm and possibly document topics.

Registration packets will go out in early September.

For further information, contact:

Kay Sweeney  
WSP Crime Lab  
610 Third Ave.  
Seattle, WA 98104  
(206) 464-7074  
(206) 587-5023 FAX

## **SPRING 1991 MEETING IN ANCHORAGE TAKING SHAPE**

The Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists has selected Anchorage, Alaska for their meeting site during the week of May 14-17, 1991. NWAFS includes forensic personnel from the States of Washington, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Wyoming, California, Utah, Hawaii, Nevada, Colorado, British Columbia, New York, Nova Scotia, Arizona and Alaska. The Alaska Crime Laboratory in conjunction with the Alaska Peace Officers Association (APOA) are indeed delighted to be hosting the 20th Anniversary meeting of the NWAFS with a membership in excess of 240 forensic scientists.

Preliminary plans are to have footprint/tire track, DNA, and facial reconstruction workshops plus other presentations of interest into the year 2000. For evening activities, there will be a barbecue, a train ride along the Turnagain Arm and up into the breathtaking Chugach Mountains, in addition to a banquet. Some 25 to 30 exhibitors from companies manufacturing or serving forensic laboratories will be here to answer questions or show you the latest of wares. I'm sure you will want to make your reservations early as this is a first for Alaska.

For more information, contact:

George Taft, Laboratory Director  
Alaska Department of Public Safety  
Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory  
5500 E. Tudor Road  
Anchorage, AK 99507  
(907) 269-5740

At the Fall 1989 meeting of the NWAFFS in Concord, California a motion was passed by the membership in attendance to establish a \$250 award to be called the Peer Group Recognition Award. This award is to be presented to a Regular member (Provisional, Associate and Corresponding members are excluded) yearly, at the Fall meeting. Nominations are to be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer before the fall meeting and reviewed by a committee appointed by the President. Qualified nominees approved by the committee will then be voted on at the regular Fall meeting by the attending membership. The recipient will receive a check for \$250 and a plaque to recognize the outstanding work and service to their profession as a Forensic Scientist based on the following criteria:

1. Accomplishments in the field of expertise at the place of employment.
2. Dedication to the application of the sciences to the field of forensics.
3. Cooperation and assistance with fellow employees.
4. Promotion of innovative ideas to stimulate research and develop new techniques.
5. Good cooperation and rapport with legal, judicial and enforcement personnel.

On the last page of this Newsletter is a nomination form for your use. Take a few moments and nominate someone you feel is deserving this new award.

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*Open Letter To Forensic Newsletter Editors*

Dear Fellow Newsletter Editors:

I've run into some problems recently concerning the use and reprinting of material printed in the NWAFFS Newsletter. We are all on each others mailing lists, and I confess I look forward to receiving your publications to determine if it contains any material that would benefit the members of the Association I serve. I do use such material, with proper attribution.

I am more than pleased to share any information I have with any of you. I only ask that you attribute it correctly as coming from the NWAFFS Newsletter and, if listed, the specific person contributing the information. Clearly, this allows one of your readers with high level of interest to contact the individual directly to share more information.

In the future, if you are interested, abstracts of technical papers presented at our Spring and Fall meetings will be available on IBM computer disk, in a variety of disk formats and format flavors, for your use and printing.

Also, if you happen to use a section of an editorial I have created, please attribute it to me as "Editor, NWAFFS" and not by my employment affiliation. I have grown weary of the paperwork necessary to convince some individuals that I do have a life outside my job and that I am allowed to think and have my own opinions in that life. This would go a long way to decrease the paper shuffle in explaining and re-explaining the differences.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

**NWAFFS PEER  
GROUP  
RECOGNITION  
AWARD**

**THE WAY I SEE IT**

*Roger A. Ely  
Editor*

### *The Craziess Continues*

Despite the fact "ICE" methamphetamine has not caught on here in mainland USA hasn't thwarted Congress's attempts to increase the criminal penalties for its distribution, importation or manufacturing.

According to the *Drug Enforcement Report, The Washington Letter on Narcotics, Dangerous Drugs and Marijuana Control* (a Pace Publication), Volume 6, Number 19, July 9, 1990, page 3, our Senate has "... adopted an amendment that would stiffen penalties for the sale, distribution and manufacture of 'ICE,' a smokeable form of methamphetamine. The amendment would provide prison terms of 10 years to life for violations involving 25 grams or more of ice. For crimes involving two grams or more the penalty would be from 5 to 40 years."

The report continues, "The amendment would also extend the list of regulated precursor chemicals to include those used in the manufacture of 'ICE'."

Remember, there currently is not a scientific method or procedure to distinguish "ICE" from any other form of methamphetamine.

*Clearly, science is not directing the decision making processes of these individuals ...*

No definition of "ICE" seems to be provided in this legislation to describe how such a distinction might be made. Some have offered that a distinction should be made base on crystal size, perhaps using a sieving method. Another suggestion, incredibly, proposes any methamphetamine with a purity over 80% would be called "ICE." Clearly, science is not directing the decision

making processes of these individuals, yet it is the forensic scientist who will ultimately have to render the scientific opinion.

The portion of the amendment regulating the precursors used to manufacture "ICE" is an excellent example of the lack of understanding our lawmakers have on this topic. Let's see, to make "ICE" we need d-methamphetamine HCl and water. Well, d-methamphetamine is already a controlled substance, so no problem there. But, wait!! Water?!? They want to regulate water as a precursor to "ICE"? Someone must have slept through the briefing session ...

With legislative examples such as these, it makes you wonder how badly other legislation is bungled as it becomes law. Scary, eh?

### *End of the Summer*

It seems as though it was only yesterday that visions of warm weather, picnics, lounging around soaking up some much needed sunlight and many of the other past times of summer were dancing in our heads as June approached. And now look where we are - past Labor Day and into September. The kids are back in school and work has been restored to its furious pace.

Hope you summer expectations were met, and hope you plan to joins us in Seattle for what appears to be a great meeting.



On 10 July 1990 Dale D. Dykes died at University Hospital in Denver, Colorado after suffering a heart attack on 2 July 1990. Dale never regained consciousness, and as far as can be told was never in any pain.

Dale Dykes was born in San Diego, California on 22 September 1945. He grew up in Minneapolis, Minnesota where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Zoology in 1968. After serving in the United States Army at Fitzsimmons Army Medical Center, he went to the War Memorial Blood Center (Memorial Blood Center) of Minneapolis, where he spent 18 years as a research associate. Dale became world famous while at Memorial Blood Center because of his work on developing electrophoresis systems ultimately used in parentage testing and forensics. While in Minneapolis Dale published 46 peer reviewed articles on serum proteins and red blood cell enzymes and their application to parentage testing or populations. He also contributed nine book chapters and 20 abstracts to the scientific literature.

Dale developed isoelectric focusing systems for PGM1, GC, TF, and EsD, many of which are in use in forensic laboratories in the United States. In the last several years Dale spent his research developing non-isotopic RFLP typing systems for DNA testing, which are in use in paternity testing laboratories throughout the world. It was Dale's hope that non-isotopic procedures would be possible on forensic samples. He was working on this project at the time of death.

Dale is probably best known for his teaching of electrophoresis and DNA procedures, as well as the assistance he provided to scientists from all over the world. Dale taught courses all over the United States, Canada, Germany, Australia and China.

Dale is also to be remembered for the setting up of the Paternity Sample Program (PSP) while on the AABB committee on Parentage Testing. Though this program was set up for laboratories doing paternity testing, approximately 40% of the subscribers are forensic laboratories. In the last year Analytical Genetic Testing Center (AGTC) was awarded the contract for this program, under Dale's guidance. AGTC will continue the PSP program in Dale's memory.

In the spring of 1989 Dale left Memorial Blood Center to start Alpha-Probe with his long-time laboratory colleague Shirley Miller. In June of 1989 Alpha-Probe was merged with Allo-Type Genetic Testing, Inc. of Denver to become Analytical Genetic Testing Center of Denver. At AGTC Dale continued working on electrophoresis systems, new developments in non-isotopic DNA technology, and teaching courses to forensic scientists and attorneys.

Dale was a member of the American Academy of Forensic Science, International Society of Forensic Haemogenetics, Electrophoresis Society, American Society of Human Genetics, Human Biology Council, American Association of Physical Anthropologists, American Association of Medical Anthropology and American Association of Blood Banks.

Dale is survived by his wife, Therese and his sons Benjamin (18) and Adam (13) of Denver; his father John Dykes, a brother Douglas Dykes and a sister Patricia Senyich, all of Minneapolis.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Dale Dykes Memorial Fund (an educational fund for his sons), c/o Frontier Bank, attention: Gail Gomez, 6565 E. Evans Ave., Denver, CO 80224; or the Forensic Science Foundation, Endowment Fund, c/o American Academy of Forensic Science, PO Box 669, Colorado Springs, CO 80903.

## IN MEMORIAM OF DAVID DALE DYKES

by  
*Moses S. Schanfield, Ph.D.*  
*Laboratory Director*  
*Analytical Genetic Testing*  
*Center, Inc.*  
*Denver, CO*

## **FIREARMS SAFETY COURSE TO BE HELD**

The California Criminalistics Institute announces the offering of two firearms safety course. These two and one-half day (20 hour) course will provide students with knowledge of basic firearms terminology, construction, and operation as well as first hand experience in safely loading, test-firing, and unloading a variety of weapons. The weapons included are the ones commonly found in criminal cases: revolvers, pistols, rifles, shotguns, and automatic weapons. The primary focus is safe operation and handling of weapons during laboratory examination (not firearms identification).

This course is intended for laboratory technicians, latent print examiners, criminalists, or crime scene specialists from law enforcement agencies who must handle evidence firearms in the course of their duties.

Each class is limited to 20 students and is California POST reimbursable. The first class will be held September 12-14 at the Orange County Sheriff's Department in Santa Ana, California; and the second will be held October 10-12 at the Concord Police Association Facility in Concord, California.

For more information, contact:

Torrey D. Johnson  
California Criminalistics Institute  
4949 Broadway, Room A-104  
Sacramento, CA 95820  
(916) 739-4380

## **IDAHO CRIME LAB RESPONDS TO DNA COURT RULING**

*Richard D. Groff  
Deputy Bureau Chief  
Bureau of Forensic Services  
Boise, Idaho*

In reading your short remarks on the case involving DNA in Idaho, I thought a few comments would make the situation clearer. The Idaho Criminal Rules contain specific standards for admitting hearsay evidence into preliminary hearings. Rule 5.1 says:

"... hearsay in form of testimony, or affidavits, may be admitted to show the existence or nonexistence of business or medical facts and records, judgments and convictions of courts, ownership of real or personal property and reports of scientific examinations of evidence by state or federal agencies or officials, provided the magistrate determines the source of said evidence to be credible."

The prosecutor in the case had the DNA evidence admitted as a medical fact without the presence of an expert from Lifecodes in the preliminary hearing. In other words, the evidence was admitted as hearsay evidence. The State Supreme Court ruled that the test was a scientific examination, not a medical fact. The rules do not make any allowance for the introduction of scientific tests in a preliminary hearing as hearsay except for reports of state or federal agencies as 5.1 above states. Therefore, the State Supreme Court had little choice but to rule against the state in the case once the court decided DNA testing was a scientific examination and not medical fact.

It is important to note that the decision had nothing to do with the scientific merits of DNA testing. The decision was based solely on legal requirements for the presentation of evidence in preliminary hearings.

The Oregon Health Division is using new laws and rules to facilitate the clean-up and "re-usability" of property which has been involved in the illegal manufacture of drugs. On October 1 and 2, 1990 the Division will be offering the initial required training for Drug Laboratory Decontamination Contractors at Mt. Hood Community College Centennial Center, Lynch Park Room #5, 14750 SE Clinton, Portland, Oregon. The training, which supplements State and Federal OSHA required hazardous materials training, consists of two days of formal and practical instruction, followed by a comprehensive examination. Contractors whose employees participate in the training and receive the official identification may apply for the Health Division license for Drug Laboratory Decontamination Contractors. Students successfully completing the training by passing the examination will receive official Health Division Drug Laboratory Decontamination Contractor Identification cards. These must be worn at all times while working at former illegal drug laboratory sites.

Fees for training and licensing are \$250 and \$1000, respectively and must be received by the Division, along with the complete application form, before the close of business on September 21, 1990. Application forms and information may be obtained by contacting:

Steven P. Van Ootegham  
Drug Lab Specialist  
Oregon Health Division  
1400 SW 5th Avenue, Room 205  
Portland, OR 97201  
(503) 229-5022

DNA testing, a way to identify people or parentage using the body's genetic code, is reliable courtroom evidence, but national standards are needed, the Office of Technology Assessment said Saturday.

The OTA, which evaluates technical subjects for Congress, said DNA testing first was introduced into the courtroom in 1986 and already has been used in more than 2,000 criminal investigations in 49 states and presented as evidence in more than 185 cases.

Law enforcement agencies, particularly the FBI, want to establish a data bank of DNA markers, similar to the national files of fingerprints, to help in the investigation of crimes. But the OTA said that such files could pose a threat to basic civil liberties.

In a report, the OTA said the principles of DNA identification "are solid" and that "forensic uses of DNA tests are both reliable and valid when properly performed and analyzed by skilled personnel."

Validity of DNA testing has become so widely accepted, the OTA said, that "no state court has found that DNA testing per se fails to meet established tests for admissibility" although some courts have limited or barred its use in specific cases.

The OTA said the major difficulty with DNA identification is the assurance that uniform standards are followed in conducting the tricky laboratory procedures in conducting the tests.

"Instituting quality assurance mechanisms should proceed without delay," the OTA said. It called for a standardization that would assure tests are conducted and interpreted the same way in each jurisdiction.

## OREGON HEALTH DIVISION TO WORK ON CLANDESTINE LAB CLEAN-UP

## DNA EVIDENCE CALLED 'VALID', STANDARDS URGED

*Associated Press*  
*Sunday, August 5, 1990*

## ASTM SEEKS PARTICIPANTS FOR NEW SUBCOMMITTEE

ASTM standards-writing Committee E-30 on Forensic Sciences seek participants for its newly-forming subcommittee on jurisprudence, odontology and physical anthropology. In addition, Subcommittee E-30.03 on Pathology/Biology seeks a new chairman.

Individuals interested in participating in the new subcommittees or in acting as the subcommittee chairman may contact Gloria Collins, ASTM, 1916 Race St., Philadelphia, PA 19104, (215) 299-5510. The next standards development meetings of Committee E-30 will be held February 17-18, 1991 in Anaheim, California in conjunction with the meetings of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

Committee E-30 is one of the 134 ASTM technical standards-writing committees. Organized in 1898, ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) is one of the largest voluntary standards development systems in the world.

## IMPROPERLY LABELED SPECTRA FOUND

*Jonathan G. Spilker  
Criminalist  
OSP Crime Lab, Pendleton*

An examination of the widely used Georgia State Crime Lab drug Library file on our Analect FTIR were found to be the same. However, the drugs are very different from each other.

The two spectra are listed in the Library as cis-Thiothixene (#289) and Naproxen (#287). From the examination of standards materials, it is found that the library spectra for Naproxen is actually the spectra for cis-Thiothixene.

Users of the Georgia State Crime Laboratory's computer-based drug library for FTIR are cautioned to check their own libraries for this error.

## DEA SEEKS HELP IN PRECURSOR REPORTING

In the last issue of the Newsletter, Tom Abercrombie reported the increase in the use of tableted ephedrine as precursor material for clandestine laboratories. Shortly after the Newsletter went to press, the California DOJ Crime Lab in Chico assisted in the seizure of a red phosphorus / hydriodic acid lab where the operators were using small, unscored white tablets containing ephedrine. An examination of those tablets found them to have an average weight of 23 milligrams and were found to hold together very poorly, indicating little or no binding materials in the tablets. A quantitative analysis of the tablets found them to be nearly (98%+) pure *l*-ephedrine HCl.

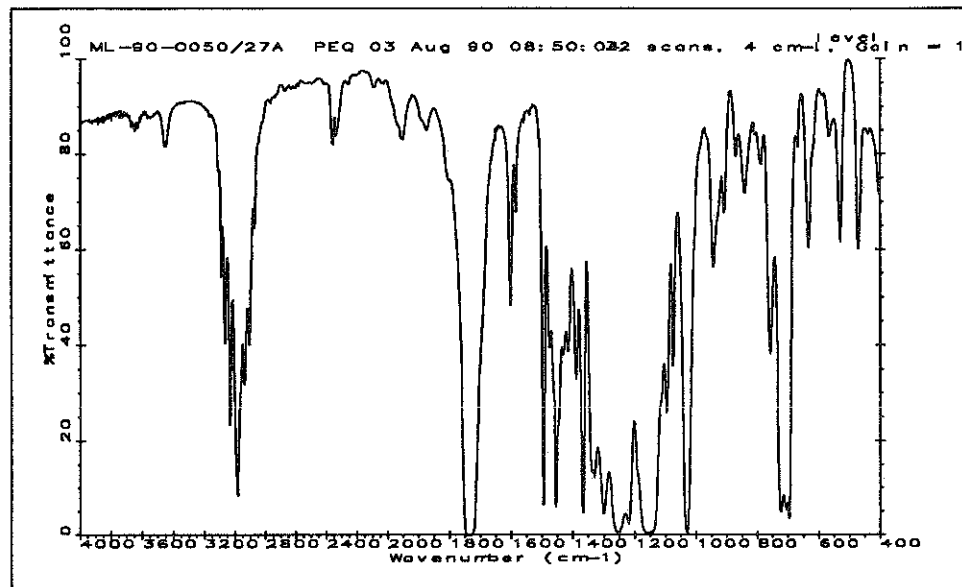
Tableted ephedrine HCl falls through a crack in the Federal Chemical Trafficking and Diversion Law of 1988 due to the restrictions on the tablets being regulated by the Food and Drug Administration. The sale of ephedrine HCl in tablet form is not prohibited, or is a prescription or other controls necessary as long as the quantity of ephedrine HCl is no greater than 25 milligrams per tablet.

The Drug Enforcement Administration is interested in hearing from any agency or crime laboratory that has seized a clandestine laboratory in the past six months using tableted ephedrine as a source of precursor ephedrine. If you have been involved in the seizure of such a laboratory in the past six months, please contact Special Agent James Bradley at (202) 307-8349.

In the last issue of the Newsletter, we reported the finding of ethyl ester of phenylacetic acid in a clandestine laboratory seizure near Springfield, Oregon.

Recently, a clandestine laboratory seized in Salt Lake City, Utah was also found to be converting ethylphenylacetate to phenylacetic acid to usurp the reporting and purchase controls.

A copy of the infrared spectrum of ethylphenylacetate is printed below. The liquid was placed between KBr plates for examination.



It seems like only yesterday this notice went out for the Association's Roster for 1990, and yet, here we are again approaching the end of another year.

And since it is near the end of the year, the Association's membership roster will be prepared and mailed during the month of December. Please take a moment to look at your address label to see if your mailing address is correct.

Secondly, take a moment and check the 1990 Membership Roster to see if we have a correct telephone number for you. Some of you don't even have a telephone number on file, and seem to refuse to give us one ... don't make us hunt you down.

Finally, as everybody starts to enter the age of the 90's, I thought it would be nice to have a listing of FAX numbers for those members that have access to one. The FAX is a wonderful invention ... it has helped the Newsletter go together by allowing procrastinating contributors to wait to the last possible moment to submit their stuff. Anyhow, if you have a FAX in your lab send me the phone number and I'll create a FAX directory.

## PHENYLACETIC ACID PRECURSOR ENCOUNTERED

## ROSTER UPDATES DUE

## TECHNICAL PAPER ABSTRACTS

Roster corrections and FAX numbers can be mailed to:

Roger A. Ely, Editor  
%DEA Laboratory  
390 Main Street, Room 700  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Or, be trendy and FAX it to me!

(415) 744-7055

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The following papers are abstracted and cited for the benefit of the members of the Association, and reflect topics of general interest to the forensic field. If you have come across a worthwhile technical reference paper or book, please send a copy of the paper with the citation, or an abstract and citation, to the Editor.

**"Stereoselective Synthesis of Ephedrine and Related 2-Aminoalcohols of High Optical Purity from Protected Cyanohydrins"**

Jackson, W.R., Jacobs, H.A., Matthews, B.R., and Jayatilake, G.S., *Tetrahedron Letters*, Volume 31, Number 10, 1990, pp. 1447-1450

Ephedrine and related optically active  $\beta$ -aminoalcohols can be prepared by zinc borohydride reduction of aryl O-protected magnesium imines and aryl  $\alpha$ -hydroxyimines which in turn are readily available from optically active cyanohydrins.

**"DNA Amplification by the Polymerase Chain Reaction"**

Gibbs, R.A., *Analytical Chemistry*, Volume 62, 1990, pp. 1202-1214

The polymerase chain reaction (PCR) is a technique involving enzymatic amplification of nucleic acid sequences via repeated cycles of denaturation, oligonucleotide annealing, and DNA polymerase extension. PCR has revolutionized the practice of DNA technology as it allows virtually any nucleic acid sequence to be readily generated in vitro in relatively great abundance, so that subsequent analyses are not confounded by the presence of other DNA fragments or a lack of material with which to work. PCR also enables the sequence of individual DNA fragments to be altered. The method has advantages over conventional procedures for DNA cloning and analysis in many circumstances because it is faster, simpler, and more flexible. The total range and number of applications that have evolved in the short time since the first report of PCR are enormous. This review describes some of the history of PCR, the principle of the method, practical considerations for performing PCR, and a variety of applications.

## ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

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*The Newsletter is printed at Rizor Printing in Longview, Washington.*

# **NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC SCIENTISTS**

## **Nomination Form for Peer Group Recognition Award**

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_ Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Nominee must be a Regular members)

Work Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Comment and cite specific examples of outstanding service in the following areas:

A. Accomplishments in the field of expertise at the place of employment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

B. Dedication to the application of the sciences to the field of Forensics.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

C. Cooperation and assistance with fellow employees.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

D. Promotion of innovative ideas to stimulate research and develop new techniques.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E. Good cooperation and rapport with legal, judicial and enforcement personnel.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_

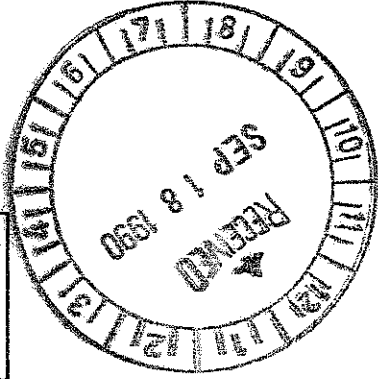
Return this form to:

Lionel Tucker, Jr.  
DEA Western Laboratory  
390 Main Street, Room 700  
San Francisco, CA 94105

***Return by October 1, 1990***

*Please check your address label to confirm that it is correct*

ALICE AMMEN  
DIV. OF FORENSIC SCIENCES  
554 W. BROADWAY, 6TH FLOOR  
MISSOULA, MT 59802  
USA



Roger A. Ely, Editor  
Northwest Association Of Forensic Scientists  
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## *In This Issue of the Newsletter ...*

- NWAFS Peer Group Recognition Award Nomination Open
- Details on the Fall Meeting in Seattle
- Error in Georgia State FT-IR Library identified
- Phenylacetic acid precursor encountered in Utah