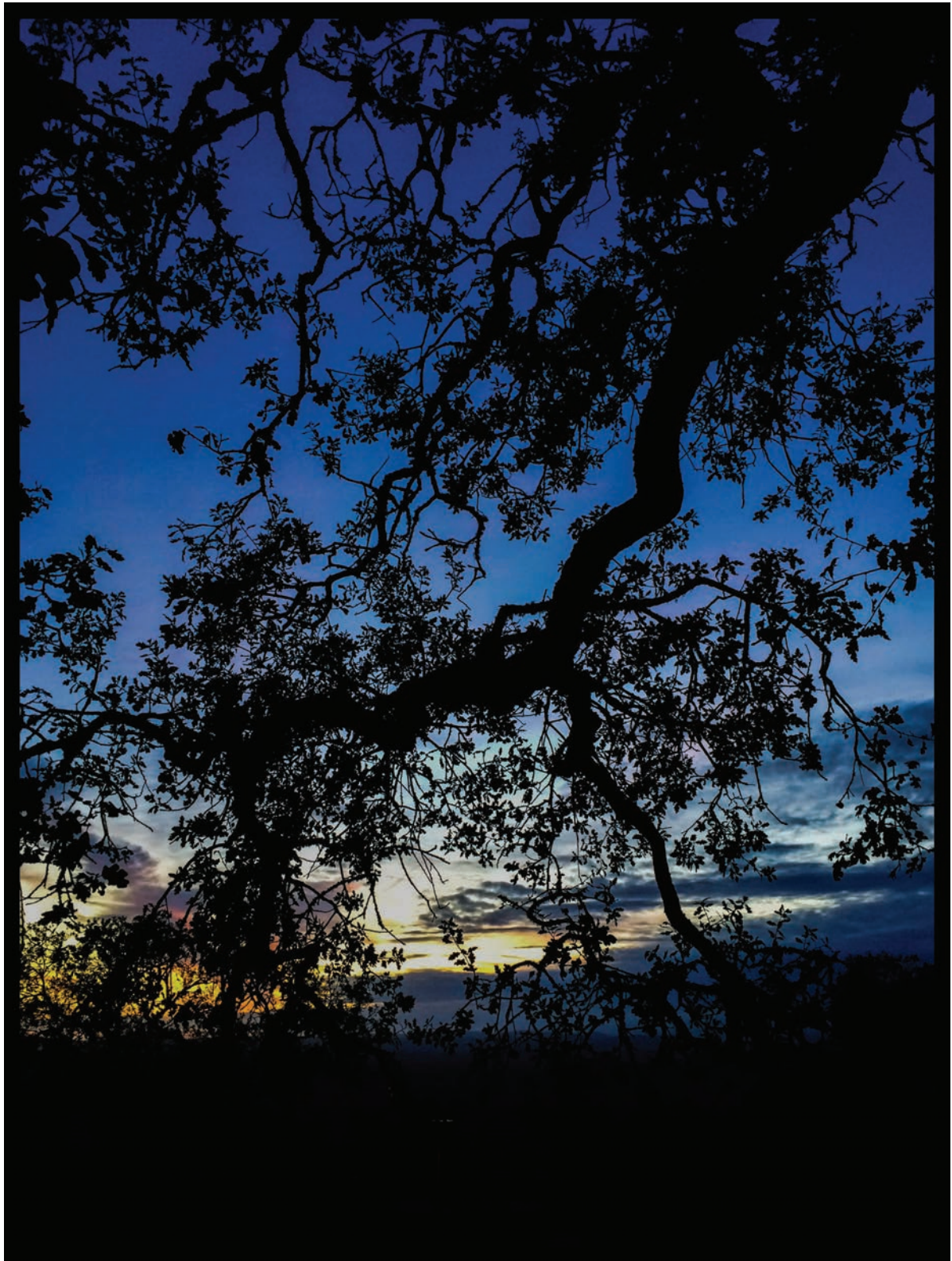




# Crime Scene

Summer 2015

Volume 41, Issue 1



August 2015

NWAFS NEWSLETTER

## Editor's Message

*Oh my, this year has certainly flown by!* I must start off by apologizing to our membership for taking so long in getting this newsletter out to you. It seemed to be an issue of either not having enough time or a lack of ideas. Ironically, this section, the "Editor's Message" has been the last hang-up for getting this newsletter out as I have so much to say but nothing seems to make sense coming from my keyboard. I will offer no more excuses but I will try and get another issue with technical submissions out this fall.

Amazingly the fall meeting will be happening in a couple of weeks! Trevor is getting the finishing touches on the program and venue and it's looking to be a solid meeting. I plan on mentoring a special research topic, helping instruct a workshop and presenting a technical paper. Although this may seem to be a lot (which it probably is) I always look forward to this meeting as I get so much more out of participating and interacting with those in attendance. I hope to see you there.

Once again, I am assembling the next newsletter and I hope to get the next issue out in September. Thanks for reading!

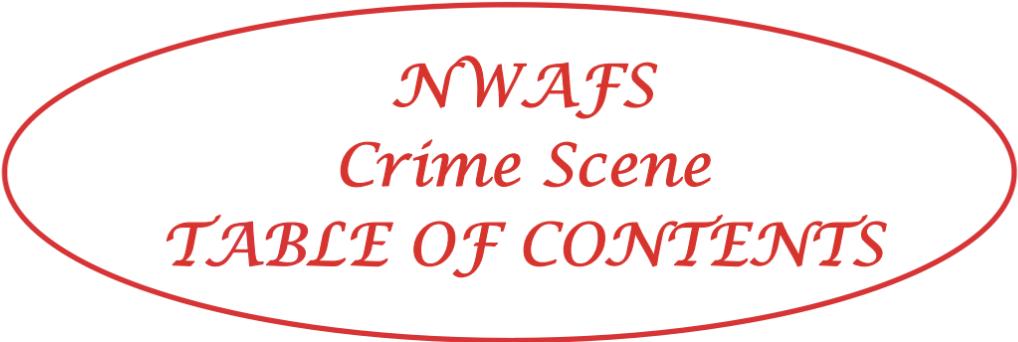
*Jeff Jagmin*

### About the Newsletter...

*Crime Scene* is the official publication of the Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists. It is published 4 times a year in the months of January, April, July, and October. The Newsletter welcomes submissions from its membership such as technical tips, case studies, literature compilations, workshop or training notifications, reference citations, commentary, historical accounts, and other topics of interest to the membership. The views expressed in articles contained in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the Northwest Association of Forensic Scientists. The Association neither guarantees, warrants, nor endorses these views or techniques but offers these articles as information to the membership.

Please submit material for publication in Microsoft Word for Windows format as an e-mail attachment or on compact disk (CD). All technical material will be subject to peer review by NWAFS members. Requests for permission of any material contained in this newsletter may be addressed to the editor. Requests, or questions, of technical submissions will be directed to the originating author. For more information regarding the Newsletter contact:

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*NWAFS  
Crime Scene  
TABLE OF CONTENTS*

<i>President's Message</i>	<b>5</b>
<i>Devon Sommer, NWAFS President</i>	
<i>2014 NWAFS Board Meeting Minutes</i>	<b>6</b>
<i>Helped Wanted - NWAFS Open Board Positions</i>	<b>21</b>
<i>Meet the New Membership Secretary - Erica Graham</i>	<b>22</b>
<i>Meet the New Member-at-Large - Brian Medlock</i>	<b>23</b>
<i>Best Independent NWAFS Newsletter Submission Winner</i>	<b>24</b>
<i>2014 NWAFS Business Meeting Minutes</i>	<b>25</b>
<i>Caption This!</i>	<b>30</b>

## NWAFS OFFICERS for 2015 - 2016

### Executive Committee

President	Devon Sommer Oregon State Police <a href="mailto:Devon.Sommer@state.or.us">Devon.Sommer@state.or.us</a>
Vice-President	Jennifer Malone Wyoming State Crime Laboratory <a href="mailto:Jennifer.Malone@wyo.gov">Jennifer.Malone@wyo.gov</a>
Member-at-Large	Brian Medlock Oregon State Police <a href="mailto:Brian.Medlock@state.or.us">Brian.Medlock@state.or.us</a>

### Secretaries

Membership	Erica Graham Washington State Patrol <a href="mailto:Erica.graham@wsp.wa.gov">Erica.graham@wsp.wa.gov</a>
Secretary-Treasurer	Heather Campbell Idaho State Police <a href="mailto:Heather.Campbell@isp.idaho.gov">Heather.Campbell@isp.idaho.gov</a>
Technical	Trevor Allen Washington State Patrol <a href="mailto:Trevor.Allen@wsp.wa.gov">Trevor.Allen@wsp.wa.gov</a>
Editorial	Jeff Jagmin Washington State Patrol <a href="mailto:Jeff.Jagmin@wsp.wa.gov">Jeff.Jagmin@wsp.wa.gov</a>

## *PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE*

I would like to take a moment to thank the outgoing President, Kathy Davis (Kittel), for her hard work and dedication this past year. I would also like to thank the outgoing membership secretary, Corinna Oswley, for her work over the past six years. Thank you both. And, on the same note, I would like to welcome the new Member-at-Large, Brian Medlock and membership secretary, Erica Graham. I look forward to working with the two of them, and the rest of the board in the coming year.

The fall meeting is set for September 14 – 18 in Spokane at the Red Lion. Planning is in full swing, so if you have any ideas for workshops please send them to Trevor Allen (Trevor.Allen@wsp.wa.gov). As with most of our meetings, I am sure it will be a great time and a chance to reconnect with friends/colleagues and maybe even learn a thing or two.

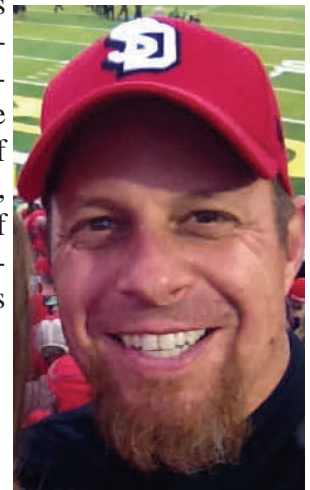
A couple of things to keep on your radar as we move towards the meeting:

- Have some research or an interesting case you'd like to present? Think about presenting.
- Because we are affiliated with ABC, we are allotted one free test slot. If you need/want to take the test please review the testing information at: [http://www.criminalistics.com/WebPages.cfm?action=viewCat&BIZ\\_UNL\\_id=3787](http://www.criminalistics.com/WebPages.cfm?action=viewCat&BIZ_UNL_id=3787) and submit an application to the NWAFS Board, through me, and a candidate will be selected. The Association will reimburse any application fee. But, please be aware if your agency reimburses the testing fee you will not be considered.
- The board decided to hold off and award the Emerging Scientist and Senior Scientist awards until this fall. Be thinking of who might be deserving of each award and send nominations to me.
- Know anyone who might be deserving of becoming a Life Member? Nominate them.

In closing I would like to leave you with an observation I had recently. As one of our scientists had his last day recently he sent a message to our staff thanking everyone for the last 11 years. One thing he mentioned struck a chord with me. More than anything else he would miss the people. We all work in laboratories with a fascinating mix of people. People from all walks of life, with varying backgrounds, personalities, ideas, talents, etc. That is what makes our jobs so great. It's the people we have worked with over the years and gotten to know, maybe spent time outside of work with. It's those same people who help make the Association so strong, that foster the purpose of the Association: to encourage the dissemination of information within the field of forensic science. I encourage you to keep fostering those relationships with your co-workers and maybe create new ones this year.

Until next time, enjoy!

**Devon Sommer, NWAFS President**  
[devon.sommer@state.or.us](mailto:devon.sommer@state.or.us)



2014 NWAFS Board Meeting  
Double Tree, Rohnert Park, CA  
Oct 22, 2014

Meeting called to order at 6:15 PM  
Minutes by Heather Campbell

In attendance:

- President Kathy Kittell
- Member-At-Large Jennifer Malone
- Technical Resource Secretary Trevor Allen
- Membership Secretary Corinna Owsley
- Secretary/Treasurer Heather Campbell
  
- Acknowledgements and Thank You's
  - ◊ Thanks to all board members who made it, unfortunately all board couldn't be here
  - ◊ Spring board meeting, was it useful?
    - Group agreed to continue having these
  
- Preparation for the meeting
  - ◊ Attended the 2014 Spring CAC Meeting in San Diego and planning conference via phone
  - ◊ Designed and formatted program, certificates, name badges
  - ◊ USB flash drives-purchased for registration bags
    - great pricing, great communication (talked to actual person)
    - uploaded most current newsletter and abstracts from current meeting on drives
    - put NWAFS and CAC logo on them
  - ◊ Future gifts for registration bags
    - Power banks
  - ◊ Vendors
  
- Positives/Negatives of a joint meeting
  - ◊ Registration stats
  - ◊ Money issue with CAC, split?
    - Came to split agreement on last group conference call attended by Trevor and Jennifer
    - Will review the agreement
  - ◊ Pro-big numbers, organized board (not much work to be done on Sunday)
  - ◊ Con-remote location, taxi costs

- House-keeping issues for meeting
  - ◊ Provide info on break times, travel, etc. early on in the week
  - ◊ Conference meeting actually starts on Wednesday
  - ◊ Provide policy statement for cutoff time or circumstances beyond our control if have to cancel workshop(s)
  - ◊ Certificates will be emailed
- Stand-alone training event – DNA course tentatively scheduled for Spring 2015 to replace Ballantyne’s class that was scheduled for Vancouver, WA
  - ◊ Talking with DNA technical leads from OSP and WSP
  - ◊ Marshall University, best class taken recently, statistics/interpretation class
- Future meetings
  - ◊ Locations, dates, events
    - 2015: Spokane
    - 2016: Boise
    - 2017: Bend?
    - 2018: Missoula?
- BOD decided to wait to present awards until next year due to the low number of NWAFS member attendance
  - ◊ Emerging Scientist Award
  - ◊ Senior Scientist Award
  - ◊ ABC Exam Award
    - No one applied for award this year, it is self-nomination
  - ◊ Life Member
    - Requires 3 letters of recommendation and membership committee’s approval
    - No nominations last couple of years, anyone have any suggestions?
  - ◊ Awards Committee
    - Current members: Devon Sommer, Celeste Grover, Cathy Dunn
  - ◊ Do we want to add any other awards/recognition?
- American Board of Criminalists (ABC)
  - ◊ ABC Exam Award (Ed Rhodes Scholarship)
    - Documents were created
    - Exam application waived by NWAFS
  - ◊ ABC Representatives’ Reports
    - Chris Hamburg (Membership Director)
    - Erica Graham (At-Large Director)
    - Judi Hoffman (Exam Committee)

- Past-President position
  - ◊ Discussed this last year
  - ◊ Many other organizations do this
  - ◊ CAC has President Elect, President, Past President
  - ◊ Kathy willing to step into this position, will need a constitution change
- Future board position vacancies
  - ◊ 2014 Member at Large
    - Alice Ammen (Montana)
    - Brian Medlock (OSP)
  - ◊ 2015 Member at Large
    - Brian Robertson (OSP) – just applied in 2014, would be eligible in 2015 if he meets elevation requirements
- Letter head and envelopes
  - ◊ Send out thank you letters to speaker's and instructor's (started this last year)
- Google drive
  - ◊ Kathy will be putting any useful stuff in there and organizing it
  - ◊ Has added CAC meeting programs, our programs and forms
- Historian project (asked Jennifer to do this, will be Member-At-Large job)
  - ◊ Keep stats from each meeting
    - Location, registration #'s, final cost, # vendors, what worked/didn't work, transportation, off-site lunches, off-site events, theme, any unique items
- Discussed Jeff Teitelbaum's membership (NWAFS librarian)
  - ◊ Board agreed to pay his annual membership fee (2011 Business meeting)
  - ◊ Next step, mark inactive in Quickbooks and explanation why
- If we don't meet quorum at Business meeting, what is first step?
- Will provide Sign-in sheets at business meetings
- How to encourage new/young members for board and committees
  - ◊ List committees with current members on website – incentives, discount?
- Online voting/poll to gauge interest for future meeting locations and workshops
- Helms Briscoe – able to help us out more? (printing projects and entertainment search)
  - ◊ Trevor asked Lisa-too much money for extra help
- Visiting scientist program (MAFS does this)? Are we interested in this?
  - ◊ To encourage exchange of ideas
  - ◊ Association pays for travel, lodging, per diem

- Additional announcements
  - ◊ Discussed raising our vendor price (CAC charges ~double what we do)
    - Will help cover costs of providing Internet access to vendors if we decide to offer this
  - ◊ Visiting Scientist Program
  - ◊ CAC Bylaws regarding quorums for

**SECTION 3:** Notice of the regular meeting of the membership shall be given by the Secretary in writing to the members entitled to vote by sending a copy of the notice through the mail, charges prepaid, to the address of each member as the same appears on the records of the Corporation, or as supplied by a member for the purpose of notice or by electronic transmission by the Corporation in accordance with the provisions of Section 20 of the California Corporations Code, not less than 30 days before such meeting. The notice shall include the following information:

A. The date, time and place of the meeting.

B. The names of proposed new members and names of members being proposed for elevation to the class of Full Member or Life Member.

C. The agenda of the meeting specifying any items of business to be conducted which will require a vote of the general membership of the Corporation.

**SECTION 7: Quorum.**

A. A quorum at any regular meeting of the membership shall be equal to the number of members present.

B. A quorum at any special meeting of the membership shall be equal to one-third of the number of Full Member and Life Members of the Corporation, represented either in person or by proxy.

**SECTION 13:** At any meeting at which the number of voting members present, in person or by proxy, is less than one third of the number of voting members of the Corporation (all Life, Full, and Associate Members present in person), no matters requiring a general membership of the corporation can be voted upon, unless such matters were specifically contained in the Agenda of the meeting sent to the membership pursuant to Article III, Section 3 (B) and 3 (C).

**Registration as of 10/14/14**

Full Registrations = 108

CAC Full members: 64

CAC Student members: 8

CAC Retired members: 1

CAC Life members: 3

NWAFS members: 10

NWAFS board members (1/2 price): 6

Non-members: 13

Non-member students: 3

**Single-Day Registrations = 14**

CAC members: 3

CAC student members: 1

CAC Retired members: 2

CAC Life members: 0

NWAFS members: 0

NWAFS board members: 0

Non-members: 3

Non-member students: 5

**WORKSHOPS:**

DNA: 55

Lean Six Sigma: 12

Fire Debris: 10

Firearms: 15

UV, Visible (Foster & Freeman): 25

DNA Trends (Thermo Fisher): 21

\*\*\* WORKSHOP ONLY REGISTRATIONS = 43 \*\*\*

**Previous Workshop Ideas**

Wood ID, fire debris, Firearms\*, Advanced Spectra Interpretation

New marijuana laws: issues, how law is written

Cradle to grave for synthetic drugs, Molly

Omni-car with vendors, used Foster and Freeman sidelight, helped WSP purchase one

Hand held XRF, Compare different vendors IR's in a workshop

Testimony – statistics

Special research topics\*

Round table discussions (discipline specifics), Workshops in combination with vendors

Switching from Hydrogen to Helium in GC/MS

Drinking labs, DRE, Drug trends: new drugs, transportation/concealment methods, educate law enforcement

Partner with local law enforcement agencies, legal, schools, nurses – training for them?

\*Need for local amenities like a lab, instruments, supplies, shooting range, transportation, off-site lunch

## Meeting Locations

Year	City	State
2010	Portland	Oregon / Washington
2011	Tacoma	Washington
2012	Missoula	Montana
2013	Vancouver	Washington / Oregon
2014	Rohnert Park (Joint w/CAC)	California
2015	Spokane	Washington
2016	Boise?	Idaho
2017	Bend?	Oregon
2018	Missoula?	Montana

**Member-at-Large Report**

Jennifer L. Malone

- Attended the spring NWAFS board meeting in Boise, ID.
  - ◊ We discussed rescheduling a make-up Y-STR class.
  - ◊ Adding NWAFS contacts to Google drive, membership totals and ethics violations
  - ◊ Member-at-large position will serve as a historian for NWAFS and keep a log of meeting highlights, number attendees, type of workshops, etc. Position will also maintain and update Facebook page.
- Attended the spring CAC/NWAFS joint online conference planning meeting.
  - ◊ Composed an overview of meeting and submitted to board.
- Volunteered to serve on NWAFS Membership Selection Committee headed by Corinna Owsley. I reviewed applications and made recommendations regarding membership.
- Served as a General Session Co-Chair for the upcoming CAC/NWAFS joint meeting to be held October 20-24, 2014. Helped plan General Session by assisting in selecting speakers and schedule determination.
- Volunteered to serve as a moderator for the General Session at the 2014 joint CAC/NWAFS joint meeting.

## Technical Resource Secretary Report

Trevor Allen

- **Website Re-Design**

- ◇ MH1 Studios was contacted to design a new web layout for the NWAFFS after approval at the 2013 meeting in Vancouver. I met with the graphics designer and the person that would do the coding for the website to go over what we wanted. We were quoted a rate of \$2,250 for a complete re-design. A down payment of \$1,000 was issued to the company in April 2014 and they began building a test website.
- ◇ The company was given a rough outline in order to establish the web layout. The next phase is adding NWAFFS-specific content. I have put together an e-mail of content we would like to have displayed. Some things can be translated directly from the current site, but others will need to be added manually. Adding this content manually has proven difficult. The password restrictions on the current site have delayed the progress of the new site considerably.
- ◇ **The board viewed the website and discussed putting the history of the association under the About tab**

- **Technical Corner**

- ◇ No requests for articles were received. No journals or textbooks in the NWAFFS library were loaned out. Jeff Teitelbaum continues to maintain our library in the WSP-Seattle Crime Lab. If you would like to request any material from the NWAFFS Library feel free to contact either Jeff Teitelbaum at Jeff.Teitelbaum@wsp.wa.gov or Trevor Allen at Trevor.Allen@wsp.wa.gov
- ◇ Discussed adding a list of available resources for NWAFFS to website and/or newsletter

- **2015 Meeting**

- ◇ We have decided on Spokane for the site of the 2015 meeting during the dates of September 21-25. I have contacted Lisa from HelmsBriscoe and have site visits arranged for two hotels in November. We are waiting to hear back from a third hotel for their available dates. Here are the three options so far:
  - [Red Lion Inn – Downtown Spokane](#)
    - Pros
      - Willing to give government per diem
      - Close to downtown Spokane
      - Airport shuttle available
      - 30 minutes from Spokane crime lab
      - 40 minutes from Coeur d'Alene crime lab
    - Cons
      - None yet

### Northern Quest Casino – Airway Heights

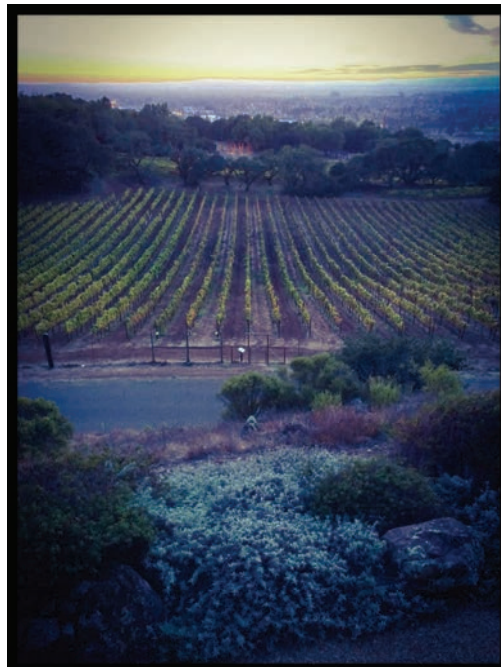
- Pros    Close to the airport (free shuttle)  
           Multiple restaurants on site  
           20 minutes to Spokane Crime Lab for off-site workshops  
           Government per diem rate
- Cons    Remote location (Not much to do in Airway Heights)  
           60 minutes to Coeur d'Alene crime lab

### Mirabeau Park Hotel – Spokane Valley

- Pros    New hotel  
           Close to restaurants (a little far to walk)
- Cons    Somewhat remote location  
           40 minutes to Spokane Crime Lab  
           Not sure if there is a hotel shuttle from the airport

List of possible workshops/banquet venue for future meetings  
 SANE workshops  
 Class with prosecutors, judges, and police  
 Firearms fabrication  
 Rent dueling piano bar?  
 New brewery, sponsor hospitality suite?

Trevor choice is the Red Lion, Board is in agreement



NWAFS 2014 Editor's Report  
Jeff Jagmin

3 newsletters issued during this year

1 technical article submitted, accepted and successfully underwent our peer review process

***Rubberized Sealants – An Analysis***, Steven Stone, Washington State Patrol Crime Laboratory

2 Validation studies

***The Effects of Phenolphthalein Reagents on the Hematrace® Test Assay***, Megan Inslee, Washington State Patrol Crime Laboratory

***SICAR – A Validation Study***, Jeff Jagmin, Washington State Patrol Crime Laboratory

1 technical/informational article

***The Oregon 5K***, Daniel Peterson, Oregon State Police Laboratory

3 articles from Jeff Teitelbaum – Washington State Patrol Librarian

1 book review – ***Math on Trial***, reviewed by Jeremy Sanderson, Washington State Patrol Crime Laboratory

Caption this winners each receiving a \$25 gift card:

Winter 2014 – Melissa Simons, Oregon State Police

Spring 2014 – Nici Vance, Oregon State Police

Summer 2014 – Odessa Siegel, Oregon State Police

Current Publication committee members include:

Megan Ashton, Montana Forensic Science Division

Amy Jagmin, Washington State Patrol Crime Laboratory

Steven Stone, Washington State Patrol Crime Laboratory

Best Independent Newsletter Submission Contest Winner – ***The Oregon 5K***, Daniel Peterson, Oregon State Police Laboratory

**Propose** that the NWAFS support funding for a *visiting forensic scientists* program. There have been several examples of scientists from an agency from one lab to go and learn from scientists from other crime lab. This program would further support these interactions with financial support from the NWAFS organization. These interactions would happen more frequently and in more regions, which would ultimately help with a scientist's development and establish greater communication.

**Kathy brought this up earlier in the meeting**

## 2014 Membership Secretary Report

### Applicants for Provisional Regular Membership:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>
Jodie Carney	ISP Forensic Services, Meridian, ID
Jamie Daily	WSP Crime Lab, Tulalip, WA
Jamie Femreite	ISP Forensic Services, Meridian, ID
Eric Halsing	Cal DOJ, Richmond, CA
Kristopher Kern	WSP Crime Lab, Seattle, WA
Heather Mills	Utah Bureau of Forensics, Taylorsville, UT
Amberlee Neibaur	Utah BFS, Salt Lake City, UT
Tomasine Quinney	ISP Forensic Services, Meridian, ID
Brian Robertson	OSP Crime Lab, Springfield, OR
Mike Saunders	Utah BFS, Taylorsville, UT
Elizabeth Shattuck	WSP Crime Lab, Tulalip, WA
Natasha Wheatley	ISP Forensic Services, Meridian, ID
Kelly Whittle	Utah BFS, Salt Lake City, UT
Stacey Wilson	Montana Forensics, Missoula, MT
Christine Wright	Montana Forensics, Missoula, MT

### Reclassification from Associate to Regular Member

John Gerlits	Utah BFS, Salt Lake City, UT
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### Elevation in Membership Status

The following provisional regular members have attended at least one meeting or participated on a committee and have been members for at least one year.

### Provisional Regular to Regular (voting) Member:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>
Gretchen Anderson	OSP Crime Lab, Clackamas, OR
Kelsey Brand	OSP Crime Lab, Clackamas, OR
Heather Feaman	OSP Crime Lab, Clackamas, OR
Janelle Moore	OSP Crime Lab, Clackamas, OR
Heather Pyles	WSP Crime Lab, Vancouver, WA
Andrea Ricci	WSP Crime Lab, Kennewick, WA

Life Member Nominations  
No nominations for 2014

**New Board Position Openings:**

The following positions are open for nominations and will be filled at the Fall 2014 meeting:

Membership Secretary  
Member-At-Large  
Vice President  
President

**Current NWAFS Membership:**

Regular Members	202
Provisional Regular Members	21
Associate Members	31
Provisional Associate Members	0
Life Members	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>265</b>

**Resigned members**

Pam Bordner (5/27/14)  
Emma Dutton (4/7/14)  
Pia Ely (3/9/14)  
Jillian Lottridge (4/7/14)  
Marci Merritt (4/4/14)  
Anne Nord (effective 2015)

**Terminated for nonpayment**

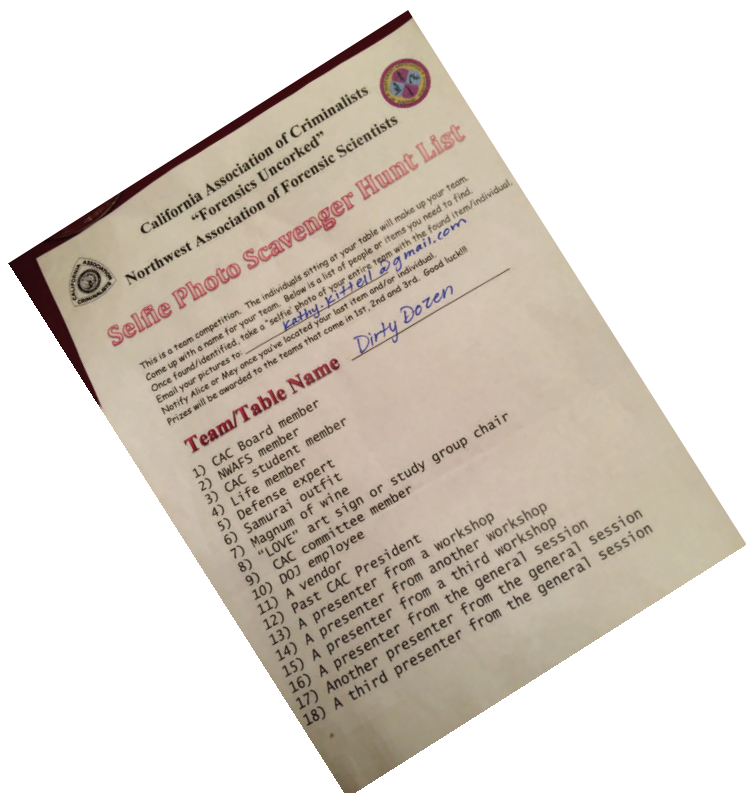
John Elsoff  
Michael Frost  
Leah Innocci  
John Jaynes  
Lamora Lewis  
Michael John Odom  
Larry A Pederson  
Christine Reitsma  
Susan Williamson

**No Contact (missing)**

Frank Boshears (Left WSP 2012- 2013)  
Michael Croteau (left WSP between 2011 and 2012)  
Kevin Fortney (Left WSP 2012- 2013)  
Lynn McIntyre (retired WSP between 2011 and 2012)  
Charles Solomon (left WSP between 2011 and 2012)  
Ronald Wojciechowski (Left WSP 2012- 2013)

Has one potential candidate Erica Graham (GET BIOS)

Termination for cause? Possibly revise our Code of Ethics?



2014 Secretary/Treasurer Report  
By Heather Campbell

### Old Business

#### Dreyfus account

Currently have the Dreyfus Liquid Assets-Class 1 account. This is a very conservative account. In the past 4 years, we have made \$0.07 in interest. I would like to transfer some of this money into the Dreyfus Conservation Allocation Fund. It is a very diversified account with ~60% Bonds (conservative) and ~40% investment stock. It requires a minimum investment of \$2500.00, with no fees. I am not looking to make money on this move. We currently have ~\$25000.00 just sitting in this account. I would like to see any interest made go toward scholarships or the awards we presented last year.

**Board in agreement to move funds**

At the 2013 annual meeting in Vancouver, Washington, we implemented awards for a Senior Scientist and Emerging Scientist in our association. These awards were presented to Corinna Owsley, ISP and Steven Stone, WSP, respectively. Both recipients received a Free Registration to an annual meeting that must be used within 3 years of receipt.

**This will be reinstated at the 2015 meeting**

### New Business

Account Balances	September 2014	September 2013	Difference
Chase Savings	\$49077.78	\$49018.44	\$59.34
Chase Checking	\$17285.59	\$27034.21	<b>\$9748.62</b>
Dreyfus	\$25765.90	\$25765.83	\$0.07
PayPal	<u>\$3153.60</u>	<u>\$17381.78</u>	<b><u>\$14228.18</u></b>
Total	\$95282.87	\$119200.26	<b>\$21937.39</b>

2013 Vancouver Meeting **\$8,885.81** loss Dues \$6,985.00

2012 Missoula Meeting **\$3,571.28** loss Dues \$7,025.00

Hired MH1 to update new website. Paid \$1000. Still owe \$1250.

Taxes - Filed e-postcard 990-N on 3/13/14

February 14-16, 2014 - Chris Hamburg, Judi Hoffman and Erica Graham all attended the ABC Board of Director's Meeting in Seattle, Washington.

May 28, 2014 - Board Meeting at BOI, Boise Airport Conference Room. Meeting minutes will be posted in a Crime Scene newsletter shortly.

May 2014 - Pres. Kathy Kittell attended CAC's Spring meeting in San Diego, California.

Purchased external hard drive for Membership Secretary files.

## 2014 Year-to-date Expenses

“Caption This”	\$80.95
YMLP	\$108.00
Postage	\$51.67
Office kit	\$91.12
Office supplies (binders, page protectors, printer cartridges)	\$44.18
Website update	\$1000.00
Peak Internet	\$124.96
ABC annual dues	\$500.00
Kittell May CAC trip (registration, hotel, airline fee)	\$611.26
May Board meeting, BOI	\$911.00*
Flights \$738.00	
Room \$100.00	
Parking/Taxi \$73.00	

\*Catering-still haven’t received bill, no one returns emails or phone messages

## 2013 SRT Color Test

Decision to attempt to repeat color tests

Want to ensure results are accurate before putting them in a paper

Received standards from Portland Lab, hoping Corinna and I can find time to repeat tests

**ABC Report by Erica Graham**

Chris’s covers most of it. In addition, I have worked on writing a compliant testing disability policy for the ABC. I am doing some additional work with the recertification committee to include drafting a policy on granting continuing education credits for webinar and online training.

The recertification committee is also in preliminary discussions of moving toward electronic recertification packets in the future (very exciting!)

I will also be lending assistance to Chris on his work with the training spreadsheet.

### **ABC Report by Judi Hoffman**

#### **General discussion about exams**

The ABC exam is populated by questions based on the Knowledge, Skills and Abilities (KSA's) and Frequency and Importance (F&I), which is a weighting factor.

KSA's are created after job descriptions; these KSA's define the study guides.

Exam Committee members evaluated the KSA 1-9 general knowledge questions for difficulty using a 0-3 scale. The concept is that by each question having a rating, equivalent questions can be swapped in and out of exams but maintain the difficulty level.

After individually rating the questions, committee members continue to work on generating a composite score for each question.

#### **Database Manager**

Dave Stockwell will become the paid database manager. The specific position related tasks will be in the contract; he gave a proposal that included reporting structure and security of database.

#### **Forms**

A form was developed to be used as the ABC Proctor Security Agreement, and the instruction form for HOSTING AND OFFERING CERTIFICATION EXAMINATIONS FOR THE AMERICAN BOARD OF CRIMINALISTICS was updated.

Additionally, a Request for Proposal is being developed for the sensitivity and bias evaluation of some 600 possible new exam questions.

### **ABC Report by Chris Hamburg**

My specific duties this year have revolved mostly around meeting planning. I work directly with HelmsBrisco to secure meeting sites. Erica and I have been working on a marketing pamphlet to use as handouts at regional forensic meetings. I am also involved in compiling a training spreadsheet for our recertification committee to use as a reference when awarding points.

#### **ABC Overview**

The ABC is composed of regional and national organizations which represent forensic scientists. Each organization is entitled to one member on the ABC Board of Directors and one member on the ABC Examination Committee. Additionally, there are three At-Large Director positions and one public member.

The ABC currently offers certification in the following areas: Drug Analysis, Fire Debris Analysis, Molecular Biology, Comprehensive Criminalistics, Hairs and Fibers, and Paints and Polymers. There are currently 1025 certified individuals. From January-July 2014 there were 85 tests administered with more to come later in the year.

The ABC is looking to expand to other sub-disciplines. Explosives may be one of these areas if enough interest is generated.

**ABC Updates**

The ABC has been re-accredited by the FSAB (Forensic Specialties Accreditation Board) for another 5 years. The ABC is currently in the process of moving toward accreditation by the ISO 17024 standard. To this end, the ABC has purchased a web-based document control system and is looking to hire a Quality Assurance Manager as an independent contractor. There is no projected time frame at this point for ISO accreditation.

The AAFS Director spot is open; if you are a member of the Criminalistics Section of the AAFS and are interested in being their representative to the ABC please contact the Criminalistics chair, Larry Quarino.

**Recertification Points**

Please use the recertification form for the current year that is available on the ABC website, [www.criminalistics.com](http://www.criminalistics.com). After ISO accreditation old forms cannot be accepted.

The ABC will now grant 5 points for a graduate thesis review that is related to forensic science. A copy of the sign-off page is required for documentation.

Fellows need to use the new form ABC701 for Proficiency Test submissions.

For those that passed a certification test initially and were granted Diplomate status, if you are now taking proficiency tests in those subject matters you may be eligible for advancement to Fellow status. Submit an application and a \$50 review fee.

All of the forms can be found on the public side of [www.criminalistics.com](http://www.criminalistics.com)

**Scholarship**

Please submit for the Ed Rhodes Scholarship. The NWAFS can select one person each year to sit for testing for free. The person may also be retroactively reimbursed if the NWAFS selects them after they have already paid.

**Meeting Costs**

Until the Portland meeting, some Directors were spending their own money to attend the meetings because some groups (AAFS, ASTM, ASCLD) did not reimburse beyond the stipend which has been continuously raised over the past year. Thank you NWAFS for not being included in this group! Since I was local to the Portland meeting, the NWAFS did not incur any cost for my attendance because the actual expenses were less than the stipend. My meeting costs for Seattle were \$84.06 after the \$800 stipend was applied. The ABC is striving to take all financial responsibility for meeting costs away from member organizations. Hopefully in the future, the Member Organization year dues (\$500) will also be eliminated.

**Next Meeting**

We will be meeting again at the AAFS meeting in Orlando in February, 2015. The test offerings will be Wednesday of that week.

# NWAFS OPEN BOARD POSITIONS



The following positions will be open:

**Technical Resources Secretary**

**Editorial Secretary**

It would be desirable to potentially fill these positions now so that any one who might be interested can work with the current secretary to help in their transition to these positions.

If interested in a position please contact:

**Trevor Allen - [Trevor.Allen@wsp.wa.gov](mailto:Trevor.Allen@wsp.wa.gov)**

**Jeff Jagmin - [Jeff.Jagmin@wsp.wa.gov](mailto:Jeff.Jagmin@wsp.wa.gov)**

# Erica Graham

Forensic Scientist Technical Lead  
Washington State Patrol - Vancouver

I grew up in the valley (Mat-Su Valley in Alaska) in a small town called Wasilla that was ran by a mayor named Palin. Not sure what happened to her, but I graduated in 2001 with a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Texas A&M University (Go Aggies! – Fun fact: Four former Aggies currently play for the Seahawks. Go Hawks!). Part of my time at A&M I lived on luxurious Galveston Island in the Gulf of Mexico while I studied marine biology. Deciding that the field of marine biology paid too well, I switched to the forensics field with some guidance from a retired Alaska State Troopers Captain (aka Dad). I graduated from the University of New Haven in 2004 with a Master of Science in Forensic Science. I couldn't find a bartender in the north-east who knew how to mix a proper margarita so it was back to Texas. I started my forensics career at the Bexar County Criminal Investigation Lab in San Antonio in the DNA unit. I worked there for three great years. In 2006, I attended a joint meeting of the NWAFFS/SWAFFS in Colorado Springs. The NWAFFS people were so much fun, I had to get back to the northwest! In the spring of 2007 I applied for a DNA analyst job with the Washington State Patrol Vancouver Crime Lab. I somehow managed to make it through interview, polygraph, and background investigation in only a few months. The beagle and I hit the road and I've been with the WSP ever since. I perform serology screening and autosomal and Y-STR DNA analysis. I also am currently serving on the Board of Directors for the American Board of Criminalistics as a member at large. I enjoy traveling to see friends, hiking, kayaking, reading, the beach, and trying new restaurants and wineries.



# Brian Medlock

Laboratory Director  
Oregon State Police Bend Forensic Laboratory

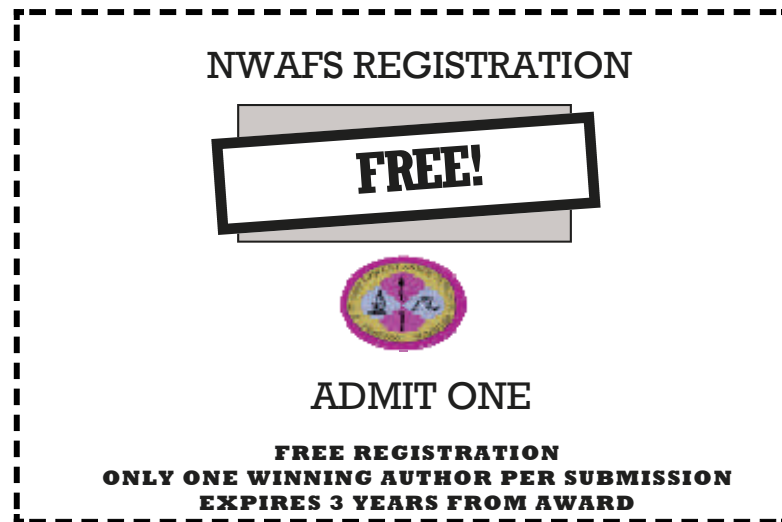
Brian Medlock was born and raised on a small cattle ranch outside of Sweet Home, Oregon. After graduating from Whitman College with a Chemistry / Biology combined degree, he moved to the Washington DC Metro area. He worked as a Forensic Chemist for the DEA Mid-Atlantic Laboratory for seven years before making his way back to Oregon. From 2005 until 2015, he worked as a Forensic Scientist in the Oregon State Police Bend Laboratory. In early 2015, he was promoted to Laboratory Director. Brian has worked in the drug chemistry, trace processing, biology processing and field investigation sections within the Oregon State Police. He has been married to his wife (Lavon) since 2003 and has two young children (Sahalie and Edison). In his free time, he plays trombone in the local symphonic band, rides his motorcycle and participates in century (100 mile) road bike events.



# Winner of the 2014 NWAFS “Best Independent Newsletter Submission”!

## Daniel Peterson

Washington State Patrol Crime Laboratory



Congratulations Daniel! Check out his paper, *The Oregon 5K* in *Crime Scene*, Spring 2014. Daniel, you are awarded free registration for one meeting which can be used for either the 2015, '16 or '17 NWAFS meeting!

### 2013 Winner!

Steven Stone

Washington State Patrol Crime Laboratory

He is still eligible for the 2015 or '16 NWAFS Meeting!

### 2012 Winner!

Kris Gates

Oregon State Police Forensic Laboratory

She is still eligible for the 2015 NWAFS Meeting!

# 42nd NWAFS Business Meeting

## Double Tree Hotel - Rohnert Park, CA

### October 22, 2014

### Minutes by Secretary-Treasurer Campbell

Meeting called to order at 8:11 AM

BOD Members in Attendance: President Kathy Kittell, Member-at-Large Jennifer Malone, Technical Secretary Trevor Allen, Membership Secretary Corinna Owsley, Secretary-Treasurer Heather Campbell

Quorum met, confirmed by Corinna. 15 people

#### **Report from President Kathy Kittell**

- Acknowledgements and Thank You's
  - ◊ How could we have generated more interest?
    - WSP management set a deadline which was the week the workshop info came out
    - WSP had budget issue
    - OSP let employees request top 2 meeting choices, some denied per discipline
    - Date of meeting, close proximity to Promega is an issue
    - Geography/distance
    - Budget cycle for grants is October
- Preparation for the meeting
  - ◊ Attended 2014 Spring CAC meeting in San Diego
    - Met Board and Committee
    - Learned how they do things
  - ◊ Designed and formatted program, certification, name badges
    - Certificates will be emailed
  - ◊ USB flash drives
    - In registration backs
    - Both CAC and NWAFS newsletters
    - Abstracts from meetings
  - ◊ Vendors
- Positives/Negatives of a joint meeting
  - ◊ Pros-we learned a lot
  - ◊ Not sure how we helped them out, hope it was a positive experience
  - ◊ Negatives-Registration stats
    - NWAFS-10 members/6 board members
    - CAC-64 members

- Future meetings
  - ◊ Locations, dates, events
    - 2015 Spokane
    - 2016 Boise
- Stuart Jacobson made a motion to accept Spokane and Boise for the locations for 2015 and 2016 meeting
  - ◊ Seconded by: Trevor Allen
  - ◊ Unanimous decision
- BOD decided to wait to present awards until next year due to the low number of NWAFS member attendance
  - ◊ Emerging Scientist Award
  - ◊ Senior Scientist Award
  - ◊ ABC Exam Award
  - ◊ Life Member
    - Need 3 Regular members in good standing to put forth letters of recommendation
    - Voted on by membership committee
- American Board of Criminalistics
  - ◊ ABC Exam Award (Ed Rhodes Scholarship)
    - Documents created
    - Reports from ABC members (See Board meeting minutes)
- Stand-alone training event-DNA course tentatively scheduled for Spring 2015
  - ◊ Working with WSP and OSP to find good workshop that will benefit DNA to replace class we had to cancel at Vancouver meeting
- Additional announcements
  - ◊ Visiting Scientist Program (like MAFS, see Jagmin's report in Board meeting minutes)
    - NW would front money to have someone that needs training go to another lab to receive training
    - Chris knows of partnerships with ISP/OSP and OSP/WSP
  - ◊ Past President Position
    - Kathy offered to fill this position if created
- If we don't meet quorum at Business meeting, what is first step?
  - ◊ CAC Bylaws regarding quorums (See Kittell's report in Board meeting minutes)
  - ◊ CAC says the members that are in attendance
  - ◊ Current constitution needs 7% of membership
  - ◊ Use technology-Skype, Facetime?
  - ◊ Provide the agenda so they know what will be discussed
  - ◊ Have Proxy option
  - ◊ Provide all the reports, members who are applying, can still do business that comes up, will need 7%

**Report from Member-At-Large Jennifer Malone** (See Board meeting minutes)

- Attended Spring Board meeting in Boise
- General Session Co-Chair
- Membership Selection Committee
- Moderator at this meeting
- Discussed that constitution does not having a lot of info on duties of Member-At-Large
  - ◊ Kathy asked her to be historian

**Report from Editor Jeff Jagmin** (See Board meeting minutes)

- Per last meeting, newsletter is now open to everyone on website

**Report from Membership Secretary Corinna Owsley** (See Board meeting minutes)**Report from Technical Resource Secretary Trevor Allen** (See Board meeting minutes)

- Website
  - ◊ Rotate northwest background banner
  - ◊ Need to provide content
  - ◊ Forum tab to get feedback, interest in upcoming workshops
  - ◊ Download meeting minutes, newsletters
  - ◊ Facebook active
  - ◊ Scrolling vendors
  - ◊ Website so old, trying to find out old passwords to keep [www.nwafs.org](http://www.nwafs.org) domain, taking so long to get up and going, need financial figured out
- No request for articles were received by Jeff Teitelbaum- NW librarian
  - ◊ What do we have in our library?
  - ◊ Put together a list and put on website
- Dates of 2015 Spokane may change, conflicts with MAFS (Sept 21-25)
  - ◊ Site visit with Red Lion, maybe Northern Quest Casino in November
  - ◊ Moved to Sept 14-18, 2015 (Red Lion available)

**Report from Secretary-Treasurer Heather Campbell** (See Board meeting minutes)

- Board agreed to move money from Dreyfus Liquid Assets-Class 1 fund to Dreyfus Conservation Allocation Fund
  - ◊ Plan is to use any interest made on this money for scholarships or toward Wild apricot (CAC uses this) or similar program that will enable the Board an efficient way to track money, registration and records

- 2013 meeting loss
  - ◇ More money spent on special research topic workshops (ie. Controlled substances)
  - ◇ Additional charge for audio in workshops and internet for vendors
  - ◇ ABC membership \$500
  - ◇ ABC travel costs (this is going down, ABC raised their stipend, meetings closer)
- 2013 SRT Color Tests
  - ◇ Currently have drug standards in Meridian Lab
  - ◇ Plan is to redo color test to ensure accurate results prior to publishing paper
  - ◇ All workshop attendees are welcome to come to lab to participate

### **More from President Kathy Kittell**

- New Board Position Openings
  - ◇ Membership Secretary applicant: Erica Graham
    - Erica works for WSP in the Cheney Lab. She has been a member since 2008, served on several membership committee reviews and currently represents NWAFS as an at-large BOD member
- Open floor to nominations, closed
- Stuart Jacobson made a motion to accept Erica Graham
  - ◇ Seconded by: Kerry Russell
  - ◇ Unanimous decision
- Member-At-Large applications: Alice Ammen and Brian Medlock
  - ◇ Alice works for Montana and works in Controlled Substances and Trace
  - ◇ Brian works for OSP and does biology processing, controlled substances and crime scenes
- Open floor to nominations, closed
- Kathy Kittell made a motion to vote on 2 nominations by show of hands
  - ◇ Seconded by Trevor Allen
  - ◇ 3 for Alice, 10 for Brian
- President nomination, Kathy Kittell nominated Devon Sommer
  - ◇ Open to nominations, none
  - ◇ Vote to accept Devon Sommer as President
  - ◇ Unanimous decision
- Vice President nomination, Kathy Kittell nominated Jennifer Malone
  - ◇ Open to nominations, none
  - ◇ Vote to accept Jennifer Malone as Vice President
  - ◇ Unanimous decision

- Caron Pruiett made a motion to accept the 15 new applicants for Provisional Regular Membership, promote the 6 Provisional Regular Members to Regular Members and reclassify 1 from Associate to Regular Member
  - ◊ Seconded by: Corinna Owsley
  - ◊ Unanimous decision
- Corinna Owsley moved to close business meeting
  - ◊ Seconded by: Kathy Kittell
  - ◊ Unanimous decision
- Meeting closed at 9:36AM



# CAPTION THIS!



The best caption submitted for this photo will win a  
\$25 gift card of your choice!

[editor@nwafs.org](mailto:editor@nwafs.org)

# CAPTION THIS WINNER!

**Congratulations to:  
Aaron Brudenell  
AZ DPS Southern Regional Crime Laboratory**

James Jason (JJ) Stuckey invented the "confidence box" for shy men of short stature to practice approaching taller women to offer them a light. The device included adjustable heights from "bold" to "out of your league", a voice activated speaker with random responses to social questions, and was classified as a safety training aid by Underwriter's Laboratories when the highly flammable wig and scarf accessories were attached.



**Runner up goes to:**

**Melissa Simons  
Oregon State Police**

**“Marijuana for Dummies: A Beginner’s Guide to Smoking Marijuana”**

# FREE REGISTRATION!

Got an interesting technical note, informative article  
or research project?

Make a submission to the NWAFS newsletter, and you could win **FREE  
REGISTRATION** to an upcoming NWAFS meeting!

The officers vote for the “Best Independent Newsletter Submission” once  
per year and award a **FREE REGISTRATION** to the winner.



Help keep the NWAFS newsletter interesting and informative by  
sending your submissions to:

Jeff Jagmin, NWAFS Editor  
[Jeff.Jagmin@wsp.wa.gov](mailto:Jeff.Jagmin@wsp.wa.gov)  
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Seattle, WA 98134  
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