

TOX TALK

Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc.

1013 THREE MILE DRIVE • GROSSE POINTE PARK • MICHIGAN 48230-1412



VOLUME 12, No. 1

MARCH 1988

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK. . . Joseph R. Monforte, Ph.D.

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1988 MEETING HOST

Jane H. Speaker, Ph. D.
Toxicology Services, Inc.
2112 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 563-9779

I am pleased to be part of the ToxTalk team, hoping to bring new and interesting articles and events to your attention. My immediate objectives include presenting more technical information on a routine basis and incorporating an entirely new section - "Literature Review Highlights;" some of these will appear in the June issue.

ToxTalk will continue to be published quarterly - March, June, September and December. The deadline for submitting material will be one month before the publication month. The deadline will be compromised when necessary to bring important information to the membership on a timely basis. The deadline for this issue was extended to allow information from the meetings held in conjunction with the AAFS meeting in February.

All members are encouraged to submit material for publication consideration. ToxTalk can best serve our needs if we have contributions from many --- share your insights, experiences, interesting cases, technical knowledge, management techniques, etc. We would appreciate receiving your contribution soon so that we can accumulate materials for future issues.

I look forward to hearing from you.

*Joseph R. Monforte, Ph.D., has recently been appointed co-editor of ToxTalk. His experiences in toxicology include SOFT past-president and 1983 meeting host, former chairman of the Toxicology Section of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, a current director of the American Board of Forensic Toxicology, and a member of numerous scientific organizations and committees. For more than fifteen years, Dr. Monforte has been directing the laboratory at the Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office, one of the most active forensic laboratories in the nation.

**** SUBMIT YOUR MATERIAL FOR FUTURE ToxTalk ISSUES NOW ****

IN THIS ISSUE . . .

>REGULAR FEATURES

Career Opportunities + Professional Calendar + New Members

>OF SPECIAL INTEREST

1988 SOFT Committees + Summary of SOFT Board Meeting
AAFS Meeting Review + Highlights of ABFT Board Meeting
JAT Call For Papers

>INSERTS

1988 SOFT Meeting Call For Papers and Information
1988 SOFT Membership Directory & Additional Insert

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ToxTalk is mailed quarterly to members of the Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc. For membership information contact: Richard D. Pinder, Ph.D., SOFT Secretary, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, 11 Shuttle Road, Farmington, CT 06032 (telephone: (203) 679-3980.

All members and others are invited to contribute to ToxTalk. Submit all materials (original plus 3 copies, if possible) for publication consideration to: ToxTalk, 1013 Three Mile Drive, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230-1412. Deadlines: February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1.

PRESIDENT MCGEE APPOINTS

COMMITTEES FOR 1988

MEMBERSHIP: Dick Pinder, Chair
Craig Sutherland, 3-year term
Wickie Watts, 2-year term
Richard Cohn, 1-yr (completes Pinder's term)

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TOX-TALK: Yale Caplan and Joseph Monforte,
Co-editors

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Al Poklis, Mike Schaffer, Mike Evans

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Randy Baselt, Fred Rieders, Dick Prouty

NOMINATING: Horton McCurdy, Chair
Marina Stajic, Bob Osiewicz

BYLAWS: Kurt Dubowski, Chair
Dennis Crouch, Ed Briglia

DUID: Everett Solomons, Chair
John Holbrook, Mark Pevey, Lisa Callahan

HEALTH AND SAFETY (former Right-To-Know):
To be appointed.

The President is an ex-officio member of all committees, and the Vice-President is the overseer of all committee activities.

* * * * *

HIGHLIGHTS: A.A.F.S. MEETING

FEBRUARY 15 - 20, 1988
PHILADELPHIA, PA

The Toxicology Section of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences again enjoyed a very professionally rewarding meeting. The current impact of drug abuse testing was evident from the Opening Session/Keynote Address, "Forensic Science and Society: The Drug Abuse Phenomenon." Interesting workshops included "Drug Use Testing: Forensic Science and Legal Issues," "State of the Art Analytical Techniques," and "Patterns and Trends In Drug Abuse."

A total of 66 platform and posters were presented some of which evaluated the stability of agents such as ethanol, THC, THC-carboxylic acid, cocaine and benzoyl ecgonine in biological specimens. Other presentations discussed deaths involving a combination of sulfentanel plus medazolan, and chloroquinine plus bromocriptine. Deaths involving only single agents included thiamylol, arsenic, fluoride and ethchlorvynol. Several presentations considered either the quality control or quality assurance aspects of forensic toxicological testing.

The informal evening session presented various viewpoints relative to the application of the NIDA guidelines for urine drug testing to postmortem forensic toxicology.

A.B.F.T.

BOARD MEETS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

February 16, 1988
Philadelphia, PA

1) Election of officers/ board of directors.
New officers:

Yale Caplan, President
Jack Wallace, Vice President
Joseph R. Monforte, Secretary/Treasurer

The following board members were elected for an additional term:

Kurt Dubowski
Dick Shaw
George Cimbara

2) A mechanism for reinstatement of certification which has lapsed was proposed and adopted.

3) The board agreed in principle to create a new and additional program with education completed at the bachelors and masters levels.

4) The following fee increases, effective March 1, 1988, were approved:

Certification	\$300
Requalification	\$200
Reinstatement of Certification	\$250

NEW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

The 1988 SOFT Membership Directory is enclosed with this edition of ToxTalk. Special thanks to Dr. C. Nicholas Hodnett for providing the data and Dr. C. Neal Reading for preparing the print-out for the new directory.

All known additions and corrections have been printed on the Directory Update sheet which is also enclosed. Place the Directory Update in your 1988 Directory for future reference.

Future additions/changes will be published in ToxTalk and supplemental Directory Update sheets will be provided periodically.

Is your address correct? Are you moving? ToxTalk is mailed bulk rate which IS NOT FORWARDED. Be sure to send with any corrections to:

Richard D. Pinder, Ph.D.
SOFT Secretary
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
11 Shuttle Road
Farmington, CT 06032

(203) 679-3980

REMINDER: Membership Directory information is not for general distribution or unauthorized use. See page 1 of the 1988 SOFT Membership Directory for more information.

SUMMARY OF S.O.F.T. BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

The Officers and Board of Directors of SOFT met on February 16, 1988, in Philadelphia, PA., during the annual AAFS Meeting. The SOFT Board Meeting was called to order by President Michael McGee.

The members in attendance agreed that the 1987 SOFT Annual Meeting in Key Biscayne, FL, was an exceptional success both professionally and financially. A well deserved expression of appreciation was given Leonard Bednarczyk for his efforts. Future meeting hosts would benefit by contacting Dr. Bednarczyk for advice on site arrangements and recruitment of exhibitors and corporate sponsors.

Dr. Jane Speaker reported that the arrangements for the 1988 SOFT Annual Meeting are on schedule. The meeting will be held from Wednesday, September 28th, to Saturday, October 1st, at the Hershey Hotel in Philadelphia, PA. A Call-For-Papers is inserted in this issue of ToxTalk. Dr. Michael Schaffer will host the 1989 annual meeting in Chicago, IL.

A report concerning the SOFT Position Statement on the NIDA/HHS Guidelines was given by Richard Prouty. The question of whether or not SOFT should support the proposed Position Statement had been presented to the membership by ballot. Two hundred ballots were mailed to full members; 130 ballots were returned:

117 in agreement; 11 in disagreement;
1 abstention; and 1 "confused"

The SOFT Position Statement on the NIDA/HHS Guidelines is accepted. A motion suggesting that President McGee submit the Position Statement for publication in one or more refereed journals was passed.

The Board of Directors voted to elect Dr. William Anderson to serve on the SOFT Executive Committee.

Treasurer James Valentour reported that the net income, to date, for the 1987-88 fiscal year is \$15,037.49. Of that amount, \$12,158.61 was derived from the Key Biscayne meeting profits. The current balance in the SOFT treasury is \$24,470.24. Total ERA Fund allocation to date is \$11,314.50.

COMMITTEE NEWS:

- Committee appointments were announced by President McGee and are published elsewhere in ToxTalk.

- The Meeting Site Committee and the Meeting Policy Committee are now combined in the Meeting Advisory Committee.

- A new committee to address SOFT QA/QC Guidelines and regulatory actions is being formed with Dr. Michael Peat as chairperson.

- The Board moved to increase this year's ERA Award to \$750.00. There currently are three applicants for this year's awards. A subcommittee to develop guidelines for determining the amount of future ERA Awards was formed by President McGee.

(continued - next column)

There once was a fellow named Len
Who to host a SOFT meeting did yen;
He worked like a dog
So the SOFT E.R.A. log
Adds more than a thousand times ten!

NEW BUSINESS included:

- A discussion of ways SOFT may be effective in mediating individual employer/employee conflicts, particularly where unethical conduct is concerned.

- A motion passed to increase the funding limit for the SOFT Executive Coordinator to \$1,500.

- A motion to simplify record keeping and billing procedures by obtaining telephone credit cards for SOFT Executive Committee members and Coordinator was passed.

- Currently, there are openings on the SOFT Health and Safety Committee (formerly the "Right to Know Committee"). This is your opportunity to pitch-in and contribute to SOFT on a committee with a very important mission. Contact President McGee for more information.

Submitted by: Richard D. Pinder, Ph.D.
SOFT Secretary

* * * * *

Mark your calendar NOW!

	W	Th	F	Sa	
SEPT	28	29	30	01	OCT

1988 SOFT ANNUAL MEETING

J.A.T. SPECIAL ISSUE

CALL - FOR - PAPERS

The September/October 1988 issue of the Journal of Analytical Toxicology will once again be dedicated to the Society of Forensic Toxicologists Special Issue. The 1988 Special Issue Editor is Robert O. Bost.

To meet the September/October publication date, the publisher has set the following deadlines:

- APRIL 15 Manuscripts received by Guest Editor. Earlier submission of title, author(s), and abstract accepted.
- MAY 11 Manuscripts back from reviewers
- JUNE 13 Revised manuscripts submitted to publisher.
- AUGUST 15 Galley proofs sent to authors.
- AUGUST 24 Corrected galley proofs returned to publisher.
- SEPTEMBER 15 Publication.

Titles, abstracts, manuscripts (original plus four copies), and any correspondence should be forwarded to:

Dr. Robert O. Bost
Southwestern Inst. of Forensic Sciences
5230 Medical Center Drive
Post Office Box 35728
Dallas, TX 75235
(214) 920-5960*

*New telephone number, different from SOFT or AAFS Directories.

>THIN-LAYER CHROMATOGRAPHIC R VALUES OF TOXICOLOGICAL RELEVANT SUBSTANCES ON STANDARDIZED SYSTEMS, a new publication prepared under the auspices of the Committee for Systematic Toxicological Analysis of TIAFT is not generally available in the U.S., but committee member Bryan Finkle has offered to make this book available. SOFT members may send a check for \$23.00 to:

Dr. Bryan S. Finkle
Genentech, Inc.
460 Point San Bruno Boulevard
South San Francisco, CA 94080
(415) 266-1000

>EQUIPMENT PARTS NEEDED for Perkin Elmer AS-41 solid injector; Perkin Elmer PEP data reduction system; Perkin Elmer F-40 head space analyzer; and Perkin Elmer MS-41 solid injector. If you have any parts or are aware of any source for parts for this equipment, please contact:

Joseph R. Monforte, Ph.D.
Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office
400 East Lafayette
Detroit, MI 48226
telephone: (313) 224-5626

>CONGRATULATIONS, JANE SPEAKER, who was presented with the Alexander O. Gettler Award at the A.A.F.S. meeting in February. Dr. Speaker's accomplishments include founding member and past president of SOFT as well as 1988 meeting host.

* * * * *

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Sr. scientist in Department of Special Chemistry/ Toxicology to manage a newly consolidated department devoted exclusively to Drugs of Abuse testing; qualifications include Ph.D. in toxicology or organic chemistry with 3-5 years clinical or industrial experience in forensic toxicology including GC/MS analysis. Send C.V., salary history, and 3 professional references to:

David W. Walters, Ph.D.
Manager, Special Chemistry/Toxicology
METPATH, Laboratories, Inc.
One Malcolm Avenue
Teterboro, NJ 07608

Do you have a position available that may be of interest to SOFT members? Please submit the information to ToxTalk. There is no fee for this service.

* * * * *

SOFT WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

- BONI, JOSEPH P. (Student)
- CODY, JOHN T., Ph.D. (Full Member)
- DALRYMPLE, ROBERT W., B.A. (Associate)
- ELSOHLY, MAHMOUD AL, Ph.D. (Full Member)
- FITZGERALD, ROBERT (Student)
- HEATH, LEAH C., Ph.D. (Full Member)
- KATZ, MICHAEL J., M.S. (Full Member)
- KUCHARIK, RONALD W., B.A. (Full Member)
- LEAL, MARIAN, M.S. (Associate Member)
- LEE, GEORGE H., Ph.D. (Associate)
- RETZ, JEFFREY P., B.S. (Full Member)
- SERRANO, LEO, B.S. (Full Member)
- SMITH, MICHAEL L., Ph.D. (Full Member)
- SMITH, ROY K., M.S. (Full Member)
- TAYLOR, JIM, B.S. (Full Member)
- VALLON-FRANK, ANTONIETTA S., Ph.D. (Associate)
- WAGNER, MICHAEL, B.S. (Associate)

The SOFT Board of Directors recently approved the first three Educational Research Awards for 1988. The recipients are: Vickie W. Watts, Daniel S. Isenschmid and Anthony G. Constantino

Watts, who is with the Mesa Crime Laboratory (Arizona) and has been a regular contributor to ToxTalk, received this award for her research project entitled "The Evaluation of Analytical Methods for Fentanyl, the Fentanyl Derivatives and Their Normetabolites."

Isenschmid and Constantino are both previous ERA recipients. Isenschmid is working on "Interpretation of Cocaine, Benzoylcegonine and Ecgonine Methyl Ester Concentrations in Post Mortem Biological Fluids and Tissues," and Constantino's project is entitled "A Study of Factors Effecting the Disposition of Drugs in Human Cadavers."

All three projects significantly affect the needs and interest of forensic toxicologists and will be conducted, as part of the Graduate Program in Forensic Toxicology at the University of Maryland under the direction of Dr. Yale H. Caplan.

***** WANTED *****
Motivated and interested SOFT members to serve on the HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE (formerly SOFT's Right-To-Know Committee). Contact President Michael McGee for further information.

PROFESSIONAL CALENDAR

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF TOXICOLOGISTS 1988 quarterly meetings: May 7 - Orange County, CA; August 6 - Northern California; November 5 - Los Angeles. Contact: Paul Sedgwick, Orange County Sheriff-coroner, Forensic Science Services, P.O. Box 449, Santa Ana, CA 92702 telephone: (714) 647-7481.

June 27-30, 1988: THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC TOXICOLOGISTS, Groningen, The Netherlands. Scientific program includes a special one-day session on "Interpretation of Analytical Results." One day a parallel session is planned on mass spectrometry and mass selective detection together with the Department of Clinical Chemistry, Section Mass Spectrometry of the University Hospital Groningen. All other aspects of forensic toxicology will be covered in proffered papers and posters. On request round table conferences can be held. Contact: Dr. Donald R. A. Uges, Chairman, University Hospital Groningen, P.O. Box 30.001, NL-9700 RM Groningen The Netherlands; telephone: (0)50 61.4080; Telex: 53942 AZGN NL

September 28 - October 1, 1988: S.O.F.T. 1988 ANNUAL MEETING, Hershey Hotel, Philadelphia, contact Jane Speaker, Ph.D., 2112 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103. (215) 563-9779

October 21-22, 1988: 14th Annual Meeting of the NORTHEASTERN ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC SCIENTISTS, Mystic Hilton, Mystic, CT. Contact: Steve Sottolano, D.E.A. - Northeast Laboratory, 555 West 57th Street, Suite 1886, New York, NY 10019; telephone (212) 399-5137.

Fall 1989: S.O.F.T. ANNUAL MEETING, Chicago.

November 1989: PAN AMERICAN ASSOC. OF FORENSIC SCIENCES, Bogota, Colombia. Theme: "The Sciences and Justice." Contact: President Dr. Egon Lichtenberger, Carrera 11 A 96-26, Bogota, Colombia.

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTED PAPERS

1988 SOFT ANNUAL MEETING

Philadelphia, 28 September-1 October

The next annual meeting of the SOFT will be in Philadelphia, PA, 28 September-1 October at the Hershey Philadelphia Hotel; plan to attend. Information on program activities, housing and registration will appear in TOXTALK and directly mailed to all members. Contributed papers may be submitted until 30 June 1988 for either POSTER or SLIDE sessions; see instructions and abstract sample below. In a poster session each contributor will have a bulletin board on which to display text and graphics for about two hours so the work can be discussed with those interested. In a slide session each contributor will have 15 or 20 minutes to present his or her work and show 35 mm slides. The privilege of contributing a paper is extended only to SOFT members, but the member may merely endorse the contribution and need not be one of the authors.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONTRIBUTORS

Type here
Full name,
address and
telephone number
of person to be
contacted about
abstract.

Provide
Name and
signature
of SOFT member
submitting
abstract.

Indicate whether
SLIDE or
POSTER session
is preferred.

Indent Five Spaces and Type Title in Upper and Lower
Case Letters, AUTHOR'S NAME (Institution in parentheses)
SECOND AUTHOR (Institution).*

Skip a line and type text with new ribbon on ordinary 8.5x11 inch white bond paper. The full width of the column of typed material should be 5 inches and not extend beyond that lest it be trimmed in photocopying. The total length of the abstract should not exceed 6 inches. Longer typed copy is subject to arbitrary cutting. All special symbols should be rendered in black ink. Your original will serve as master copy for photocopying; type and letter neatly.

Send the original and three copies of the abstract to

CONTRIBUTED PAPERS - SOFT MEETING
c/o SPEAKER
2112 CHERRY STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

NOT LATER THAN 30 JUNE.

Do not fold the typed abstract. Use cardboard backing when mailing.

*Skip a space before beginning footnotes, if any.

