

Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc.

TOXTALK

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S.O.F.T. /C.A.T. JOINT MEETING

October 10-16, 1993
Phoenix, Arizona

Vickie W. Watts
Meeting Host
Mesa Police Crime Lab
130 N. Robson
Mesa, Arizona 85201
(602) 644-2077
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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK... Joseph R. Monforte, Ph.D., DABFT

One of the enclosures in this issue of ToxTalk is a survey form relative to medical examiner and coroner office resources. There has been membership interest in obtaining this information, so your prompt responses will be appreciated. Please respond to the questions carefully and completely by November 1, 1993.

I have had the privilege of serving on the Program Committee for the 1993 SOFT/CAT Joint Meeting. My expectation is that this will be an exciting meeting with great scientific and social programs. The persons responsible for the program have worked tirelessly, and they are to be congratulated.

Once again, I encourage members to submit items to ToxTalk for publication consideration. Send your case notes (no more than 1/2 page) and other items of interest to the Michigan address below. Please pay particular note to the publication deadline dates. ✂

IMPORTANT MEETING DEADLINES

| | |
|--------------|----------------------------------|
| September 10 | Pre-registration without penalty |
| September 21 | Hotel reservations |
| October 02 | Mail registration closed |

IN THIS ISSUE

REGULAR FEATURES:

Journal Club - Elmer Gordon Open Forum - Career Opportunities
President's Message - Professional Calendar - Communique

TECHNICAL NOTES:

Guidelines Committee report and recommendations

SPECIAL INTEREST:

1993 SOFT/CAT Meeting information - 1994 slate
Minutes of the 1992 Annual Business Meeting

INSERTS:

1994 DUES NOTICE

New 1993 SOFT/CAT Preliminary Program & registration form
The Buttes reservation envelope - Car rental information
Survey: MEO and Coroners Offices' Laboratory Resources

ToxTalk is mailed quarterly (bulk mail) to current members of the *Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc.* It is each member's responsibility to report changes of address to the SOFT Administrative Office. Non-members may now receive ToxTalk for \$15 per calendar year. Mail a check (payable to SOFT) to ToxTalk at the address below. All members and others are invited to contribute to ToxTalk. Contact the Administrative Office for membership applications.

DEADLINES: February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1. **NEXT DEADLINE: NOV. 1st**

S.O.F.T. ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE: 1013 THREE MILE DRIVE • GROSSE POINTE PARK • MICHIGAN 48230-1412
The S O F T Administrative Office will be relocating in 1993. If necessary, correspondence may be addressed to President Poklis.

1994 SLATE OFFERED TO S.O.F.T. MEMBERS

The Nominating Committee (Drs. Jeanne Beno - Chair, Robert Osiewicz and Nancy WuChen) chaired by immediate past-president Jeanne Beno, Ph.D., has prepared the following slate for consideration by the S.O.F.T. membership at the annual meeting in Phoenix. The president and vice president serve one-year terms. The offices of secretary and treasurer are two-year terms and voted in alternating years. Each director serves three years unless completing a term for a director who cannot fulfill the three-year term. Those persons completing their terms as of 12/31/93 are President Poklis, Vice President Lewis, Secretary Spiehler, and Director Watts. The nominees for 1994 are:

PRESIDENT: MARK LEWIS, B.S., DABFT

A Charter Member of S.O.F.T., Mr. Lewis received his B.S. in Medical Technology from the University of Buffalo and trained in forensic toxicology at the Erie County Medical Examiner's Office, Buffalo, NY. Since 1973, he has been the Chief Toxicologist for the New York State Police Laboratory in Albany. An active member of S.O.F.T., Mr. Lewis has served on the Membership Drive, Membership, and Meeting Site Selection (chairman) Committees, a member of the Board of Directors from 1986-89, and Treasurer for two terms (1989-1992). While serving as treasurer, he was acknowledged by the Board and general membership for his outstanding work. As 1993 Vice President, Mark's duties include facilitating all committee reports for the Board of Directors' and Annual Business Meetings and chairing the Meeting Resource Committee.

VICE PRESIDENT: VINA SPIEHLER, PH.D., DABFT

Dr. Spiehler holds a B.A. and M.A. in Analytical Chemistry from California State University at Fullerton and a Ph.D. in Pharmacology and Toxicology from the California College of Medicine at the University of California at Irvine. As a Fogherty Fellow she performed a postdoctoral study in pharmacokinetics with Lennart Paalzow in Solna, Sweden. After seven years with the Orange County Sheriff-Coroner Crime Laboratory, Vina received a Fulbright Fellowship at the Central Research Establishment of the Home Office Forensic Science Service at Aldermaston, UK, for research on the application of artificial intelligence programs to interpretation in forensic science. She has published more than sixty scientific papers. Dr. Spiehler served as a Director from 1990 to 1991 when she was elected as 1992-93 S.O.F.T. Secretary. She currently also serves as secretary of TIAFT.

SECRETARY: VICKIE W. WATTS, M.S. (TWO-YEAR TERM)

Ms. Watts is a Senior Criminalist in the Mesa Police Department Crime Laboratory (Arizona) and previously worked in the Arizona State Department of Public Safety and State of Montana crime laboratories. Vickie received her M.S. in Forensic Toxicology from the University of Maryland and has received career and research awards from S.O.F.T., A.A.F.S., C.A.T. and S.A.F.S. Ms. Watts has been very active in A.A.F.S. and C.A.T., currently serving as Chairman of the Toxicology Section of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and President of the California Association of Toxicologists. She has served on or chaired a variety of S.O.F.T. committees, is completing her 1991-93 term as Director, and is the 1993 S.O.F.T./C.A.T. meeting host.

DIRECTOR: MARILYN A. HUESTIS, Ph.D. (THREE-YEAR TERM, 1994-96)

Dr. Huestis received her B.S. in biochemistry and M.S. in clinical chemistry. She received a full research scholarship and her Ph.D. from the University of Maryland. Marilyn's more than twenty years in the fields of forensic and analytical toxicology include chief toxicologist of Nichols Institute's San Diego laboratory (1983-88), a research staff fellow award of the Addiction Research Center (NIDA), and her current work as an independent consultant with the National Laboratory Certification Program of the D.H.H.S., D.O.D., and other organizations. Dr. Huestis has published several papers, was awarded the 1992 Irving Sunshine Award (AAFS), and elected to the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. She chairs committees for both S.O.F.T. and A.A.F.S., is secretary of C.A.T. and participates in A.A.C.C. and T.I.A.F.T. Dr. Huestis has been appointed scientific program chairman for the 1994 SOFT/TIAFT meeting.

Members are reminded that *only FULL MEMBERS may vote* at the annual meeting which will be held on Saturday morning, October 16, 1993, during the Arizona meeting. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor, per Parliamentary Procedure. ♪

1994 SOFT/TIAFT JOINT MEETING
October 31 to November 4 Tampa, FL
(pre-and post-conference tours also offered 10/30 and 11/5-7)

1993 S.O.F.T./C.A.T. MEETING FAST APPROACHING

October 10 - 16

The Buttes Resort

Phoenix, AZ

What a program! Vickie Watts reports sixty-two papers will be presented at the upcoming SOFT/CAT meeting in Phoenix, October 10-16. Enclosed with this issue of **ToxTalk** is a detailed preliminary program listing the meeting events as well as paper titles. As you will see, the program is full but well-planned to make optimal use of your time. Some of the highlights include:

GRAND CANYON WORKSHOP: As of this printing, there were a few seats available on a first-come, first-serve basis. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity to hear Dr. Kunkel (whom, we have been told, is an excellent, entertaining speaker) and experience the splendor of the Grand Canyon, this is your chance. Luggage may be stored at The Buttes, so if you can arrange your flight to arrive before noon on Sunday, you will not need to pay for additional hotel nights.

WORKSHOPS I, II, and III: Response has been very favorable to all workshops. The topics are timely, and the costs are minimal.

WELCOME RECEPTION: As the official opening event for the general meeting, this reception will set the tone for this "learning can be fun" meeting. The scientific sessions are intense, so the meeting committee recognized the need to unwind and allow opportunity for informal dialogue among colleagues. Remember, this is an "Arizona Necktie Party" - if you wear a tie, a member of Vickie's "posse" will cut it off so we can all party on it!

HOTEL DEADLINE: Remember, to take advantage of the reduced hotel rate you must register by September 21st and identify yourself as a SOFT/CAT meeting participant. Call **THE BUTTES RESORT - 800-843-1986** and make your reservations **BEFORE SEPT. 21st** (Rates: \$105 single / \$115 double) or you may use the envelope in this issue of **ToxTalk**. (We did not receive an adequate number of envelopes from the hotel to include in the last issue.) The address for The Buttes is 2000 Westcourt Way, Tempe, AZ 85282.

COMPLIMENTARY AIRPORT SHUTTLE is provided by the hotel. Directions: After receiving your luggage, use the courtesy phone located on the hotel information display and press the button for the Buttes, or call 225-9000. You will be given instruction on where to meet the hotel van. *Tell the driver that you are attending the SOFT/CAT meeting and transportation charges will be waived.* If a large number of people arrive simultaneously, the van may be delayed. Please be patient.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS: The Buttes entrance (Westcourt Way) is located on 48th Street. **Eastbound I-10:** exit at 48th St and turn right (south); pass first light (Broadway Rd) and *drive until you see the Buttes sign and entrance on left (east) side of road. **Westbound on I-10:** exit at Broadway Rd and turn left (west). At 48th St. (first traffic light) turn left (south) and proceed from * above

DISCOUNT PRICE OPPORTUNITIES: As noted on the "activity sheet" included in June's **ToxTalk**, Vickie Watts has negotiated some very attractive discounted rates for airline reservations and car rental.

➔ **AIRLINE RESERVATIONS:** Call Lakeside Travel at 1-800-462-2289 weekdays 9 - 6 (EST) for 5% to 40% airfare discounts.

➔ **CAR RENTAL:** Call Budget at 1-800-227-3678, ID # 1971. Note whether you want to pick up your car at the airport or hotel.

GUEST EVENTS: As noted on the "activity sheet" last issue, there is much to do while in Arizona. The meeting committee will review the activity surveys returned and put together a definite optional program for guests. We will have "guest packets" available at the registration and plan to meet each morning in the hospitality suite to get acquainted and plan activities. For those bringing children, the hotel offers Camp Buttes for children 5 thru 12. Activity costs range from \$5-8 per child. Contact The Buttes directly for details.

CORPORATE SUPPORT: The vendors' response has been overwhelming. *There is no more exhibit space available.* The thirty-two exhibitors are: Abbott Diagnostics, Ansys Inc. (Toxi-Lab), Biochemical Diagnostics, Biosite Diagnostics, CMI/MPH, Diagnostic Products Corp., Diagnostic Reagents, Doxtech Inc., DynaGen Inc., Finnigan MAT, Fisons Inc., Hewlett-Packard Corp., Leap Technologies, Lynn-Peavey Corp., Microgenics, Miles Diagnostics, National Medical Services, Perkin-Elmer Corp., Pierce Chemical Co., Preston Publications, Radian Corp., Restek, Roche Diagnostis, Sigma Chemical Co., STC Diagnostics, Syva Corp., Teckmar, Tri-Tech, Utak Inc., Varian Instruments, Varian Sample Preparation, and Worldwide Monitoring.

A number of companies are also sponsoring special events. SOFT extends a special "thank you" to: Welcoming Reception sponsor - **SYVA**; workshop sponsors - **Osborn Labs, Hewlett-Packard, Biosite, and Ansys (Toxi-Lab)**; lunch sponsors - **Roche and Varian**; coffee break sponsors - **Microgenics, Abbott Diagnostics, Diagnostic Products Corp, Southwest Laboratory, and National Medical Services**; coffee break contributor - **Utak**; Hospitality Suite sponsors - **Radian and PharmChem**; and advertisers **DynaGen, DPC, Leap, Microgenics, Reagent Applications, Roche, Sigma, and Tekmar**.

We apologize to companies whom we could not accommodate. It is important to register early if you wish to exhibit at a SOFT meeting. Vendors interested in participating in the 1994 joint SOFT/TIAFT meeting should contact: Dr. W. Lee Hearn, 1994 Corporate Facilitator, at 305-545-2450. Information on the 1994 Tampa meeting will be made available to our exhibitors at the 1993 Phoenix meeting. ☺

For further information on the 1993 meeting contact: **Vickie Watts at 602-644-2077 (FAX 602-644-2478)**

SOFT/AAFS LABORATORY GUIDELINES COMMITTEE REPORTS

submitted by Graham Jones, Ph.D., DABFT, Joint Committee Chairman

The current membership of this committee includes: Dr. Graham Jones (Chair), Dr. Yale Caplan, Dr. W. Lee Hearn, Dr. Nicholas Hodnett, Dr. H. Horton McCurdy, Rod McCutcheon, Dr. Joseph Monforte, Dr. Michael Peat, Richard Shaw, and Dr. Mar... Stajic. Stajic and Hearn were appointed after Richard Prouty and Dr. Leo Dal Cortivo rotated off the committee after the AAFS meeting in Boston. On behalf of the committee members and the members of SOFT and AAFS,, I would like to sincerely thank both Dick and Leo for their contributions to the work of the committee since its formation in 1988. You may recall that Dick Prouty chaired the original ad hoc committee which resulted in the "SOFT Position Statement on HHS Guidelines for Forensic Toxicology Laboratory Analyses."

After publication of the "Forensic Toxicology Laboratory Guidelines" in 1991, the focus of the committee has shifted toward examining the feasibility of voluntary accreditation of laboratories using the "Guidelines" as a basis for setting criteria. A telephone poll of thirty-four laboratories conducted last winter indicated that the vast majority support the concept of forensic toxicology laboratory accreditation, although concerns were expressed about the potential cost and dwindling budgets! The American Board of Forensic Toxicology (ABFT) has agreed, in principle, to consider acting as the accrediting organization, if an acceptable process is established and sufficient professional and financial support exists for its implementation.

Consequently, our joint committee was given the task by SOFT and the AAFS Toxicology Section of drafting a process which would allow the accreditation of qualified forensic toxicology laboratories (i.e., those engaged in postmortem forensic toxicology and/or human performance forensic toxicology). To that end, three subcommittees were formed to examine the key components of Application/Evaluation, Proficiency Testing, and Inspections. It is the goal of the Guidelines Committee to have a draft process completed by the time of the joint SOFT/CAT meeting in Phoenix, with additional feedback and changes being considered prior to the AAFS meeting in San Antonio (February 1994).

If you have strong opinions on how such a program should operate, or the criteria that should be used, please forward your comments to the Chairman: Graham Jones, Ph.D., DABFT, Medical Examiner's Office, P.O. Box 2257, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 2P4 Canada. Telephone: 403-427-4987 FAX: 403-422-1265. ☺

✎ COMMUNIQUE . . . Patricia Mohn-Monforte, SOFT Executive Coordinator

The SOFT Administrative Office is still in Michigan and, due to the never-ending real estate situation, we may be here for a while yet. As stated on the back of your 1994 Dues Notice, an Arizona address has been established for mail reception. That address is:

SOFT Temporary Contact, 8503 North 104th Avenue, Peoria, AZ 85345

However, if you know I am still in Michigan, you may send any materials directly to: 1013 Three Mile, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230-1412. When in doubt, mail to Arizona.

The first 1994 dues notice is included with this issue of ToxTalk, and the deadline for payment without penalty is January 1, 1994. The process will be similar to last year: mid-January those who have paid will receive a receipt/membership card and those who have not will be sent an "overdue" notice. A second notice will be included in the December issue of ToxTalk, but since we utilize bulk mail we cannot guarantee you will receive the second notice in time to pay your dues before the 1/01/94 deadline. I am trying a new form which will require less effort on your part and make it easier for me to make database corrections. Please make corrections clearly. The 1994 Directory will be prepared in February and will list only those members who have paid their dues (per Board policy).

I'm looking forward to the upcoming 1993 SOFT/CAT meeting and hope you are as well. I am especially excited about meeting in my old/new home state. An incredible new preliminary program is included as in insert and more details are elsewhere in this issue. Be sure to read all the information made available to you so you do not miss out on any of the great opportunities offered at this meeting.

Recent conversations with Horton McCurdy have me thinking about the 1994 Joint SOFT/TIAFT meeting in Tampa. The meeting dates, per the flyer distributed at earlier meetings, are Monday, October 31, thru Friday, November 4, with optional tours offered on October 30th and November 5-7. The format for this particular meeting will be different as it represents a compromise with TIAFT's usual format. Every effort is being made to keep costs as reasonable as possible, a usual goal at SOFT meetings. For many of us, this represents a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience a TIAFT meeting. Look for further information at the 1993 SOFT meeting and in future issues of ToxTalk.

GROWING GROWING GROWING Since the last issue to ToxTalk was published and as of July 29, 1993, the membership has grown by 4 new Full Members: Christine Goodall, B.S., Laura Liddicoat, B.S., Carl Selavka, Ph.D., and R. Steven VanNus, B.A., and 1 new Associate Member: Richard Gustafson, M.S. SOFT member Kenneth Graham, Ph.D., has been promoted to Full Member.

When mailing to the SOFT Administrative Office, please do not require a signature upon delivery. An oversized mail chute has been installed in the steel front door which provides great security. If I am not here when an item requires a signature, it may be returned to the sender. Also, please avoid UPS if possible - their poor service to this address has caused problems.

I may be in Phoenix during most of October, but I will arrange for the mail and messages to be checked and information forwarded. If there is a serious problem, you may leave a message at: 602-974-1510. ☺

LAB GUIDELINES COMMITTEE PROPOSES CHANGES

Submitted by: Michael Peat, Ph.D., DABFT

TO: SOFT Members

FROM: Laboratory Guidelines Committee

RE: Proposed Changes to the Guidelines,
Appendix and Checklist

1. The following change is proposed to the Guidelines: paragraph 3, page 6 (91.1), changes to the original text have been **bolded** (it should be noted that some text has also been rearranged).

Each test procedure should be evaluated for specificity (the ability of an analytical procedure to discriminate an analyte or class of analytes from other substances), and for quantitative assays, linearity (the range over which a linear relationship exists between analyte concentration and assay response). In instances other than where the analyte concentration is within the established linear range, the assay should be evaluated for detection limit (the lowest concentration at which the laboratory, using its routine procedures, can reliably detect an analyte). Determination of detection limit is more important for methods and assays where the analyte is to be measured at concentrations which approach the detection limit. Such data should be documented in the SOP manual or, for infrequently performed assays, be retained as part of the analytical record or as an Appendix to the SOP.

2. Appendix: paragraph 1, page 8 (91.1) - changes to the text have been bolded.

For nonlinear assays; e.g. immunoassay, the laboratory must, at a minimum, be able to demonstrate that the value of the blank or negative calibratory plus two standard deviations does not overlap with the cutoff or the lowest positive calibrator. For linear assays; e.g. gas chromatography, the laboratory may identify the limit of detection (LOD) by determining the mean value for the blank and adding three standard deviations to this value ($LOD = X_m + 3SD$). However, it should be noted that the LOD may be higher than indicated by this formula if significant adsorption or other losses occur. An approach in chromatographic assays is to determine the smallest concentration of a drug needed to give a response at a predefined level (for example, a signal to noise ratio of greater than 3:1) above the background signal from a blank specimen of the same matrix. If the LOD is derived experimentally, it should be not less than the blank plus three standard deviations. In instances where the analyte concentration is within the established linear range, it is

(continued on next page ...)

unnecessary to determine the LOD of the assay.

3. Checklist : questions H-20, I-18 and K-20 -changes to the text have been **bolded**.

For assays (screening and confirmation) in which the analyte concentration is below the established linear range, does your laboratory evaluate the detection limit of the assay periodically?

4. Appendix: paragraph 3, page 8 (91.1) - changes to the text have been **bolded**.

"...at less than the lowest calibrator (as an alternative to the term "trace amount"), **provided it is greater than the limit of detection**.

5. Appendix: paragraph 2 (#3), page 2 (91.1) - changes to the text have been **bolded**.

"...the lowest point on a calibration curve or a designated cut-off, **provided it is greater than the limit of detection**. For immunoassays a substance can be regarded as presumptively positive if it is at or above a predesignated cut-off.

6. Appendix: paragraph 1, (#2), page 2 (91.1) - deletions to the text have been **bolded**.

"...such as the drugs included, **the limits of quantitation, cut-off concentrations...**

The membership is requested to review these changes and send any comments to:

Dr. Graham Jones
Chief Toxicologist
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
7007-116 Street, P.O. Box 2257
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5J 2P4

FAX # (403) 422-1265

It is anticipated that only changes to the Guidelines will be submitted to a vote in October 1993.

Editor's note: This item will be presented to the members at the

**1993 Annual Business Meeting
Saturday morning - October 16th**

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

OF THE

SOCIETY OF FORENSIC TOXICOLOGISTS, INC.

October 16, 1992

Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, Cromwell, CT

The Annual Business Meeting of the Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc., was held on October 16, 1992, at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center in Cromwell, Connecticut. President Jeanne Beno presided and established a quorum. President Beno advised the attendees to sign in and reminded members that only full members may vote. Upon motion duly made, seconded and passed, the Agenda was accepted.

By motion duly made, seconded and passed, the reading of the September 26, 1991, (Montreal) minutes was waived and the minutes were approved as published in ToxTalk.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Jeanne M. Beno, Ph.D.

President Beno recognized the exceptional efforts of committee chairpersons Chip Walls (Publications Committee - JAT), W. Lee Hearn (Advisory Committee on Hair Analysis), Robert Bost (Continuing Education) and Joseph Monforte (ToxTalk). Committees newly established in 1992 include the Advisory Committee on Hair Analysis, Continuing Education, and Compensation Review. The newest committee, established in 1992, is the Education and Career Opportunities Committee chaired by Jane Speaker. This committee is charged with providing guidance on professional careers in forensic toxicology.

The Compensation Review Committee reported to the Board at its February meeting that they could not arrive at a consensus regarding whether or not some form of compensation should be given to officers of SOFT. Beno described the Board's suggestion for limited lodging compensation subject to approval by the membership at this meeting. This item was tabled until the Compensation Committee report.

The Continuing Education and Training Committee was established to develop specific courses in the area of Forensic Toxicology. CAT has invited SOFT to participate in their established program by forming a joint committee which now also includes representatives from AAFS and AACC (Toxicology Section). SOFT will appoint three (3) representatives to serve on this joint committee.

The Board established a 1993 meeting profit-sharing policy with CAT based on a percentage of registrants from each organization.

The Board approved an exception to the present policy of not paying speakers who participate in SOFT meetings by approving the consultant speaker for the PC Workshop at the 1992 SOFT meeting.

In response to an inquiry on any potential SOFT policy regarding the DOT regulation, the Board determined SOFT would not be taking any action on this matter other than recognizing that issues on DOT alcohol testing were of interest to the SOFT membership. A workshop on the DOT regulations was offered at this meeting. Dr. Donna Smith from DOT and a key presenter of the workshop has agreed to provide, after publication, a summary of the regulation highlights for ToxTalk.

The Board has agreed to extend reciprocal courtesies to the Toxicologic Society of Belgium/Luxembourg.

As requested by President Beno, Joseph Saady has reviewed the qualifications for membership as written in the ByLaws and stated on application documents. His recommendations for consistency of terminology and a membership termination policy will be presented to the ByLaws Committee for review and any further action.

Other Board action included approving requests by two members for "retirement" status (Joan Vogel and Robert Cravey), increasing the duties of the Vice President by making him/her responsible for chairing the Meeting Advisory Committee, and voting to publish the SOFT Directory on an annual basis.

President Beno asked that the Minutes record her commendation of Mark Lewis for his outstanding service as SOFT Treasurer for the past four years. The members acknowledged Mr. Lewis's efforts by acclamation.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Alphonse Poklis, Ph.D.

Vice President Poklis reported that his main responsibility is to facilitate the committee reports, which have been received from each of the fifteen current SOFT committees.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

In Dr. Spiehler's absence, her written report was read by Vice President Poklis. The Minutes of the February 19, 1992, Board meeting were prepared and distributed in July and subsequently approved at this Board meeting. Forty letters of acceptance, rejection, and/or explanation were sent to the applicants for SOFT membership.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Mark B. Lewis, B.S.

Treasurer Lewis reports the centralization of dues account data, new member applications, and membership directory information has reduced inadvertent omissions and significantly streamlined the system. Treasurer Lewis acknowledged the efforts of Executive Coordinator Patricia Mohn-Monforte in performing these tasks and responsibly administering the needs of the Society, making his duties as treasurer less cumbersome.

As reported to the IRS, net assets for 1991 started at \$70,106 and were \$78,968 at the end of the year. The value of the General Operating Fund as of 10/9/92 was approximately \$23,750 (actual \$23,747.86); the ERA account was \$49,325.16. The interest accumulated on the ERA account, which determines the monies available for ERA awards for the coming year (1993), is approximately \$2,260. Members were encouraged to contact ERA Chairman, Barry Levine, with nominations for the ERA award.

As approved at the latest Board meeting, an Operating Reserve Account will be established to offset any negative cash flow. This will help protect SOFT from potential disaster, including future meeting negative cash flow in the event of a natural disaster, etc. The account will be established as a long-term investment with an initial amount of \$4,000, approximately 10-15% of the current budget for 1993.

The 1993 budget, which has been posted throughout the meeting, has projected revenue and expenses totalling \$34,200. A note on the budget stated the amount of the ERA awards available funds is based on the interest earned the previous year.

At the February, 1992, Board meeting, Treasurer Lewis reported an IRS inquiry regarding years 1985 through 1989. After review of correspondence, the IRS has advised that SOFT is not liable to file Form 990 for years 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, and 1989 and the IRS files have been closed out for those years.

Treasurer Lewis reminded the members that 1993 dues notices were included in the September issue of ToxTalk and will be sent again with the December issue. The deadline for dues payments is January 1, 1993.

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES The following committee reports were facilitated by Vice President Poklis.

MEMBERSHIP: (Chair Vina Spiehler, Robert Osiewicz, Teri Stockham, Timothy Rohrig) In the absence of Secretary Spiehler, Dr. Robert Osiewicz reported that the Membership Committee has reviewed 39 applications and accepted 24 Full, 7 Associate and 2 Student members totalling 33 new members. The new members were invited to stand and be recognized.

BY-LAWS: (Chair Kurt Dubowski) Poklis noted that as previously reported by Beno, the By-Laws Committee would review potential changes concerning membership and report to the members this coming year.

DRUGS AND DRIVING (DUID): (Chair Norman Wade, H. Chip Walls, Everett Solomons, James Valentour) Wade reports a 10% response to the questionnaire published in the June 1992 issue of ToxTalk and encouraged more members to respond. The committee is participating in a joint effort with AAFS and CAT to prepare a substantial DUI report. The committee is also preparing a DUI Toxicology Testimony Manual to be presented to the SOFT Board in December and finalized and published by the AAFS meeting in February.

BUDGET, FINANCE AND AUDIT: (Chair James Valentour, David Moody, Ronald Backer) Poklis read Valentour's written report stating that appropriate documents had been received from Treasurer Lewis and duly reviewed. The Committee deems they are proper and acceptable. Total income exceeded expenses by \$8,556.76 for 1991. As of 9/06/92, total income was

exceeding expenses by \$29,036.19, a figure which will decrease significantly as expenses occur within the year. The committee commended Treasurer Lewis and extended its appreciation to him for his outstanding efforts.

MEETING RESOURCE: (Chair H. Horton McCurdy, Vickie Watts, C. Neal Reading, Patricia Mohn-Monforte) Poklis read McCurdy's report stating future meetings are on track. We have received a total of \$3,000+ (U.S.) from the 1991 meeting in Montreal, but no further information has been made available by CSFS.

1994: TAMPA, FLORIDA October 31 - November 5, 1994 (SOFT Host H. Horton McCurdy / TIAFT Host Betty Buchan) McCurdy is attending the 1992 TIAFT meeting in Japan and promoting the 1994 SOFT/TIAFT joint meeting.

1992: (Host C. Neal Reading, Joel Milzoff, Linda Bachman, Patricia Prantis, Richard Pinder, Patricia Reading and Sanders Hawkins) Reading reported this meeting is a tremendous success with 217 registered attendees and 27 exhibitors. Some of the events that were handled differently at this meeting included the hotel preparing the hospitality suite and a paid professional presenting the PC Workshop. Actual expenses have been less than the projected figures. A profit of at least \$10,000 is anticipated. By acclamation, the members expressed their appreciation for all the fine work by Reading and his committee.

1993: PHOENIX, AZ SOFT/CAT October 11 - 16, 1993 (Host Vickie Watts, Patricia Mohn-Monforte, Tom Simonick, Joseph Monforte, Deb Rector, Vina Spiehler) Poklis commented on Watts' presentation and promotion during the meeting and reminded everyone to dress casually for the 1993 meeting.

1995: BALTIMORE, MARYLAND (Host Yale Caplan) Poklis noted this will be the 25th anniversary meeting for SOFT.

Polkis reported that future SOFT meetings will probably not be projected more than two or three years into the future.

EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AWARDS: (Chair Robert Bost, Barry Levine, Joseph Saady) Two applications have been processed and approved:

William Bruce Walker, B.Sc., \$800 awarded 5/18/92 for his research project, "Matrix effects in forensic samples affecting the analysis of psychotropic agents"

Philip Kemp, M.S., \$1,000 awarded 9/08/92 for his research project, "Differentiating usage patterns of marijuana utilizing gas chromatography/mass spectrometry"

Both of the above presented some of their work during this meeting. Bost reminded the members that monies are available for ERA grants and encouraged applications.

HEALTH AND SAFETY: (Chair Daniel McCoy, Chip Walls, Gene Rugotzke) McCoy reports a summary of the new OSHA rules on bloodborne pathogens was published in the March, 1992, issue of ToxTalk.

FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY GUIDELINES (Chair Michael Peat) Committee member Graham Jones reported anticipated changes will be published in ToxTalk as well as News and Views and comments will be invited. Proposed changes will be presented at the next SOFT business meeting.

About 50 laboratories in North America are currently being surveyed regarding any interest in seeking laboratory accreditation if offered through the American Board of Forensic Toxicology. If there is sufficient interest, the committee will investigate further.

The committee is also drafting the outline for the process of potential laboratory accreditation which would become a framework if the laboratory accreditation concept is acceptable.

PUBLICATIONS / JAT: (Chair H Chip Walls) Walls reports the SOFT issue of the Journal of Analytical Toxicology was made available by Preston Publications at this meeting. Thirty-one abstracts and a subsequent twenty-three manuscripts were received for consideration; a

limit of fifteen could be accepted. Fifty-one reviewers participated. Additional printing pages were authorized to accommodate the papers accepted, resulting in the largest JAT SOFT Special Issue to date. Walls thanked all those who submitted and reviewed papers.

TOXTALK: (Editor Joseph Monforte, Publication Editor Patricia Mohn-Monforte, Editorial Staff H. Chip Walls, Vickie Watts, Bradford Hepler) Monforte recognized the efforts of the editorial staff, particularly Chip Walls and his continued article, Journal Club.

ToxTalk circulation is nearly 400, mostly distributed by bulk mail which significantly reduces postage costs. Members were encouraged to submit material for ToxTalk. Members who had not yet responded to the Salary Survey were encouraged to do so. The results will be published in the December issue of ToxTalk. Members may receive an advance copy as soon as the data is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Administrative Office. Additional survey forms were available at the meeting.

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING: (Chair Robert Bost, Chip Walls, Vickie Watts, Norm Wade, Betty Buchan, Barry Levine, Craig Sutheimer) The committee's responsibility was the development of a program or plan for continuing education workshops for forensic toxicologists, interface with existing programs, and implement the plans.

Bost reported CAT has presented a Toxicology Training Colloquium, a Training and Professional Development in Toxicology Workshop was presented during this SOFT Annual Meeting, and a Back to Basics Workshop is being planned for the February AAFS meeting. Since CAT, SOFT, and AAFS as well as AACC are all working in this area, SOFT agreed with CAT's suggestion that a joint coordinating committee be formed by these four groups. President Beno has appointed Bost, Watts and Walls to represent SOFT on that committee which met yesterday morning. SOFT members are invited to submit ideas for training workshops, but more particularly to participate with preparation of presentations.

A list of persons who attended the Training Workshop is available from Bost for those who wish to network. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Bost.

EDUCATION AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES (Chair Jane Speaker, Edward Cone, Peggy Kelly, Barry Levine, Teri Stockham) The Committee was charged with developing a directory of resources for students seeking education and/or careers in forensic toxicology. A questionnaire is being developed for SOFT members which will help provide practical information for students.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HAIR ANALYSIS: (Chair W Lee Hearn, Brian Donnelly, Marilyn Huestis, Bruce Goldberger, Jane Speaker) Hearn reports the Committee's task was reviewing the 1990 SOFT consensus opinion on the applicability of hair testing in workplace drug testing and make recommendations for warranted changes in SOFT's official position.

The committee's draft report was distributed in the September issue of ToxTalk. After this draft report was reviewed and discussed at length during a platform session yesterday, the committee met and produced a revised draft of the committee report which was reproduced today and circulated at the luncheon; additional copies are also available at this business meeting.

COMPENSATION REVIEW: (Chair William H. Anderson, James Valentour, and Thomas Manning) At the meeting of the Board of Directors this past February, it was agreed that some compensation for the meeting expenses of officers is in order but that this should be subject to general membership approval. The following resolution appeared in the June 1992 Issue of ToxTalk and will be voted upon under "New Business." "Lodging for elected officers will be provided by SOFT, from the general funds, for four (4) nights at the annual SOFT meeting BEGINNING IN 1993 and for one (1) night preceding the SOFT Board meeting at the AAFS Annual Meetings, on approval by the membership at the 1992 business meeting."

NOMINATION: (Chair William H. Anderson, Paula Childs, Norman Wade) Anderson reports the slate was duly published in the September issue of ToxTalk as directed by the By-Laws. The nominees are: President - Dr. Alphonse Poklis; Vice president - Mark Lewis; Treasurer - Dr. Joseph Saady; and additional Directors - Drs. Barry Levine and W Lee Hearn.

If Dr. Saady is elected as Treasurer, Dr. Ronald Backer is nominated to complete the remaining two years of his term. Dr. Backer is currently serving a one-year term as Director replacing Dr. Spiehler who was elected 1992 Secretary.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COORDINATOR - Patricia Mohn-Monforte

An official single database has been established at the Administrative Office and has numerous applications. Membership applications are now processed through the Administrative Office which has streamlined the procedure significantly allowing 43 members to be accepted since the last meeting. As of 10/6/92, the membership was officially 378. Dues are now all processed through the Admin Office with notices included in the September and December issues of ToxTalk. As of 10/6/92, 71 members paid their 1993 dues. Historically, dues payments had been paid haphazardly and months or years late; the new system encourages timely payments. Dues confirmations, including membership cards, or final notice of unpaid dues will be mailed mid-January. The 1992 Directory was published and distributed, and a new directory will be prepared next year. All mailing labels are prepared through the Admin Office.

Mohn-Monfortes continues to respond to the many requests for information from students, potential employers, etc.

Copies of the Forensic Toxicology Laboratory Guidelines are available by sending \$25 (\$35 outside the U.S.) to the Admin Office. In addition to the complimentary copies of the Guidelines which were provided to members of SOFT and AAFS at that time, 62 copies of the Guidelines have been distributed worldwide.

Mohn-Monforte reminded members that she and the Administrative Office will relocate to Arizona sometime in 1993. Since no definitive information can be given at this time, anyone who has difficulty locating Pat is advised to write: SOFT Temporary Contact, 8503 N 104th Ave, Peoria, AZ 85345.

Actual membership files have been established for each past and current member of SOFT. Anyone who may have materials appropriate for the membership files or SOFT archives is encouraged to send them to Pat after she is established in Arizona.

Pat reported Radian, Corp. has committed to help support the President's Informal Information Exchange at future SOFT and/or AAFS meetings.

President Beno thanked Mohn-Monforte for her assistance.

OLD BUSINESS

SOFT POSITION ON HAIR ANALYSIS: The motion was made and seconded that SOFT adopt the report of the Advisory Committee on Hair Analysis as presented at this meeting as the official SOFT position. After discussion, the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

COMPENSATION FOR SOME OFFICER MEETING EXPENSES: Beno noted that officers would have an opportunity to not accept funding when they are otherwise funded and some contractual agreements with hotels provide rooms to some officers free or at reduced rates.

Upon motion duly made, seconded, and passed unanously: Lodging for elected officers will be provided by SOFT, from the general funds, for four (4) nights at the annual SOFT meeting BEGINNING IN 1993 and for one (1) night preceding the SOFT Board meeting at the AAFS Annual Meetings.

DOT REGULATION TERMINOLOGY: Tully Speaker presented the following motion which was seconded and passed: The membership of SOFT directs the officers through the agency of the president to comment on the proposed DOT regulations regarding alcohol workplace testing if the proposed regulations continue with the inappropriate use of the term "confirmation" to point out the inaccuracy of the term "confirmation" when "replication" is meant.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION: Beno restated the Nominating Committee's slate: Dr. Alphonse Poklis for President, Mark Lewis for Vice President, Dr. Joseph Saady for Treasurer, and Drs. Barry Levine and W. Lee Hearn for Directors. There were no responses for Beno's call for nominations from the floor for the offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer, or Directors. Upon motions duly made, seconded, and passed, the nominations were closed.

The motion was duly made and seconded that the Nominating Committee's slate of Officers and Directors be approved. The motion passed.

Beno explained that since Dr. Saady will be serving as Treasurer for 1993-94, his seat as a Director is now vacant. The Nominating Committee has presented Dr. Ronald

Backer to complete the remaining 2 years for his term of office. After no nominations were made from the floor, by motions duly made, seconded, and passed, nominations for the additional director were closed, and Dr. Backer was elected Director to fulfill the two-year vacant term.

ADJOURNMENT: President Beno adjourned the meeting. By acclamation, the membership expressed its appreciation to Dr. Beno for her fine leadership efforts.

Recorded by Patricia Mohn, Monforte
SOFT Executive Coordinator

Respectfully submitted by: Vina Spiehler, Ph.D.
SOFT Secretary

Members in attendance at the 1992 Annual Business Meeting, as indicated by their signatures on the sign-in sheet, were: **FULL MEMBERS:** W Anderson, P Brencher, J Beno, R Bost, E Cone, L DalCortivo, P Davis, W Dunn, A Ezell, L Farrell, P Field, C Fletterick, D Fuller, J Garriott, W L Hearn, B Hepler, C N Hodnett, M Huestiss, G Jones, S Jones, B Joynt, J Kuhlman, B Levine, M Lewis, R Lin, B Manno, A McBay, D McBoy, M McGee, J Milzoff, J Monforte, D Moody, B Nuernberger, R Osiewicz, A Poklis, C N Reading, M Rieders, J Saady, M Schaffer, P Singer, K Slattery, J Speaker, T Stockham, L Struempler, C Sutheimer, R Turk, N Wade, H Walls, S Watford, and N Wu Chen. **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:** G Kunsman, T Speaker and A Wu. **STUDENT MEMBER:** P Kemp. Applicant L Bachman was also present.

/pat

Items on pages 5 through 12 of this issue of ToxTalk will be discussed during the SOFT Annual Business Meeting on Saturday, October 16, 8:30-10:30 a.m.

You may wish to take this portion of ToxTalk to the meeting.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *Alphonse Poklis, Ph.D., DABFT

While preparing to saddle up and ride out to the big toxicology roundup in Phoenix, it has struck me like a bullet from a "Colt Peacemaker" that this will be the first time in seven years that SOFT has crossed the wide Missouri to meet in the "Great West". During that time, SOFT membership has nearly doubled, with many new members coming from Frontier Country. SOFT had often been perceived as an eastern organization, but, in fact, has steadily evolved into one of national scope and representation. It is my hope that the Phoenix meeting signals SOFT's commitment to regularly alternating meeting sites throughout all areas of the country: north, south, east, west, and mid-America. This would provide the opportunity for many more toxicologists and cowpokes to attend SOFT meetings and become interested in membership.

While attending the Phoenix meeting, I ask that society members lasso our CAT comrades in toxicology and encourage them to also become members of SOFT. Membership in both organizations offers unique and worthwhile professional benefits.

I also encourage SOFT members who wish to become more involved in society activities to make their desire to serve known to SOFT officers and committee chairpersons. The strength and success of any group is the sum of the commitment and contributions of its members. There is much work to be done by our committees which can benefit from the talents, abilities and creativity of all our members. So for those currently not involved, strap on your gun belt, saddle up, and join the posse. See ya in Phoenix, pardners.

INVITATION TO S.O.F.T. MEMBERS

Just as any student was taught "the whole is equal to the sum of the parts" (or something like that), so it is true of any organization. SOFT can be no greater than the effort put into it by its individual members. As a national group, even international, SOFT continues to influence our profession and set goals and standards which will impact each of us. This is done through the individual actions of each member who chooses to participate. How does one participate? Opportunities abound! Attending and taking an active part in SOFT annual meetings is an obvious forum. Funding realities may make that difficult, even impossible, for some members, but that does not mean anyone must limit his/her participation in other areas. Submitting case notes and material of interest to your colleagues to ToxTalk is another consideration. Committee work can often be done from your office desk or kitchen table.

If you have an interest in serving on any of the following committees, contact the SOFT Vice President, Mark Lewis, whose responsibilities include facilitating committees. Appointments will soon be considered for 1994, so do not delay. You may call Mark between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. (E.S.T.) at 518-457-1208. The current SOFT committees are:

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Membership | By-Laws | Budget, Finance and Audit |
| Publications/JAT | Laboratory Guidelines | Education and Career Opportunities |
| Meeting Resource | Health and Safety | Educational Research Award (ERA) |
| Nominating | Liabilities and Insurance | Continuing Education and Training |
| ToxTalk | D.U.I.D. | |



TENNIS, ANYONE?

JAT/SOFT OPEN DOUBLES TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Tuesday - Oct. 12: 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Wednesday, Oct. 13: 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. (if necessary)

This (hopefully) first annual event will take place at the Buttes Resort during the SOFT/CAT meeting. The intent is to have fun and relax. Rating is unimportant. "Couriers" and clutzes welcome! It will be *hot* (90 degrees +) so wear comfortable, cool clothing, including a hat. Trophies will be awarded.

For more information or to register, phone 708-965-0566, or FAX 708-965-7639 or write to:

Tinsley Preston, JAT/Preston Publications
P.O. Box 48312, Niles, IL 60714

**APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP, PROMOTION, AND RETIREMENT STATUS
ARE AVAILABLE AT THE S.O.F.T. ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**
1013 Three Mile Drive, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230-1412
Phone/FAX 313-884-4718 (until further notice)

BE SURE TO CHECK ALL THE INSERTS!

There are a lot of inserts in this issue of ToxTalk - make sure you do not miss any of them:

1994 DUES NOTICE: Your attention and early payment would be appreciated. Don't forget the back side of the sheet!

1993 MEETING INFORMATION: New Preliminary Program, registration form, hotel reservation envelope and car rental discount information.

SURVEY: Share information on available Medical Examiner of Coroner Offices' laboratory resources

JOURNAL CLUB

Submitted by: H. Chip Walls, Toxicology Lab, Rm 706, 600 South State St., Syracuse, NY 13202 (315-435-3802)

64. **FORMATION OF FORMALDEHYDE ADDUCTS FROM VARIOUS DRUGS BY THE USE OF METHANOL IN A TOXICOLOGICAL SCREENING PROCEDURE WITH GAS CHROMATOGRAPHY-MASS SPECTROMETRY.** J. Chromatogr. 563:73-81, 1991.
65. **FURTHER APPLICATIONS FOR CAPILLARY GAS CHROMATOGRAPHY IN ROUTINE QUANTITATIVE TOXICOLOGICAL ANALYSES.** Phillips, Logan, and Stafford. J. High Resolut. Chromatogr. 13:754-758, 1990.
66. **MEDICAL AND NEWS PERSPECTIVES.** JAMA 268(3):301-318, 1992.
67. **MARIJUANA TESTING IN URINE: USE OF A HEXADEUTERATED INTERNAL STANDARD FOR EXTENDED LINEARITY, AND ION TRAP VS MASS SELECTIVE DETECTOR GAS CHROMATOGRAPHY/MASS SPECTROMETER SYSTEMS.** Joern. Clin Chem 38(5):717-719, 1992
68. **MASSIVE STRYCHENINE INTOXICATION: SERIAL BLOOD LEVELS IN A FATAL CASE.** Heiser et al. Clinical Toxicology 30(2):269-283, 1992
69. **MECONIUM FOR DRUG TESTING.** Maynard et al. Substance Abuse 12:99, 1991
70. **META-ANALYSIS PART 1: AN ASSESSMENT OF ITS AIMS, VALIDITY, AND RELIABILITY.** Henry and Wilson. The Medical Journal of Australia 156:31-38, 1992
71. **METHODS FOR TESTING IMPAIRMENT OF DRIVING DUE TO DRUGS.** Irving and Jones. Eur J Clin Pharmacol 43:61-66, 1992
72. **METHODS FOR A MODEL BLIND PROFICIENCY TESTING SYSTEM.** Hofherr, Peddecord, et al. Clin Lab Sci 5: 160-164, 1992
73. **MORPHINE METABOLISM IN ACUTELY ILL PRETERM NEWBORN INFANTS.** Bhat et al. J Pediatr 120:795-9, 1992
74. **OPIATE RECEPTORS: OPIOID AGONIST-ANTAGONIST EFFECTS.** Goldstein and Meador-Woodruff. Pharmacotherapy 11(2):164-167, 1991
75. **PATIENT-CONTROLLED SPINAL OPIATE ANALGESIA IN TERMINAL CANCER. HAS THE TIME REALLY ARRIVED?** Chrubasik, Chrubasik, and Martin. Drugs 43(6): 799-804, 1992
76. **PET ANALYSIS OF ALCOHOL INTERACTION WITH THE BRAIN DISPOSITION OF [¹¹C]FLUMAZENIL.** Liljequist et al. Psychopharmacology 107:180-185, 1992
77. **PHARMACOKINETIC AND PHARMACODYNAMIC DATA COLLECTION IN CHILDREN AND NEONATES. A QUIET FRONTIER.** Gilman and Gal. Clin. Pharmacokinet. 23(1):1-9, 1992
78. **PHARMACOKINETIC STUDIES IN PAEDIATRIC PATIENTS CLINICAL AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS.** Kearns RE and Kearns GL. Clin. Pharmacokinet. 23(1):10-29, 1992.
79. **PHARMACOKINETIC-PHARMACODYNAMIC MODELING OF THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM EFFECTS OF MIDAZOLAM AND ITS MAIN METABOLITE α -HYDROXYMIDAZOLAM IN HEALTHY VOLUNTEERS.** Mandema et al. Clin Pharmacol Ther. 51:715-28, 1992
80. **PHARMACOKINETICS OF DIAZEPAM INTRAMUSCULARLY ADMINISTERED TO RHESUS MONKEYS.** Lukey et al. Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences 80(10):918-921, 1991
81. **POISONING DUE TO CALCIUM ANTAGONISTS. EXPERIENCE WITH VERAPAMIL, DILTIAZEM, AND NIFEDIPINE.** Pearigen and Benowitz. Drug Safety 6(6):408-430, 1991
82. **PREDICTING SEVERITY OF TRICYCLIC ANTIDEPRESSANT OVERDOSE.** Hultén et al. Clinical Toxicology 30(2):161-170, 1992
83. **PREEMPLOYMENT DRUG SCREENING THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL ISSUES.** Zwerling and Ryan. JOM 34(6): 1992
84. **PROSPECTIVE ANALYSIS OF MENTAL STATUS PROGRESSION IN ETHANOL-INTOXICATED PATIENTS.** Todd et al. Am J Emerg Med 10:271-273, 1992
85. **PSYCHOSIS WITH VICKS FORMULA 44-D ABUSE.** Craig. Canadian Medical Association Journal. 146(7):1199-1200, 1992
86. **RAPID DETERMINATION OF SUCCINYLCHOLINE IN HUMAN PLASMA BY HIGH-PERFORMANCE LIQUID CHROMATOGRAPHY WITH FLUORESCENCE DETECTION.** Lagerwerf et al. Journal of Chromatography 570:390-395, 1991
87. **RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF PARACETAMOL (ACETAMINOPHEN) POISONING.** Jones and Rutledge. Drug Safety 7(3):170-177, 1992
88. **RELATION BETWEEN AIRBORNE ARSENIC TRIOXIDE AND URINARY EXCRETION OF INORGANIC ARSENIC AND ITS METHYLATED METABOLITES.** Offergelt, Roels, et al. British Journal of Industrial Medicine 49:387-393, 1992
89. **RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH COCAINE USE DURING PREGNANCY.** Slutsker. Obstetrics & Gynecology 79:778-89, 1992
90. **SCREENING AND CONFIRMATION OF DRUGS IN URINE: INTERFERENCE OF BORDENINE WITH THE IMMUNOASSAYS AND THIN LAYER CHROMATOGRAPHY METHODS.** Singh et al. Forensic Science International 54:9-22, 1992
91. **SEVERE AMITRIPTYLINE OVERDOSE: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TOXICOKINETICS AND TOXICODYNAMICS.** Hultén et al. Clinical Toxicology 30(2):171-179, 1992
92. **STABILITY OF DILTIAZEM AND ITS METABOLITES IN PLASMA DURING STORAGE.** Yeung et al. Therapeutic Drug Monitoring 13:369-374, 1991
93. **STEREOCHEMICAL CONSIDERATIONS IN PHARMACODYNAMIC MODELING OF CHIRAL DRUGS.** Mehvar. Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences 81(2):199-200, 1992
94. **STEREOSELECTIVE PHARMACOKINETICS OF DOXEPIN ISOMERS.** Hubbard et al. Eur J Clin Pharmacol 42:539-544, 1992
95. **SUBSTANCE ABUSE: A COMPREHENSIVE TEXTBOOK: 2nd Edition.** Lowinson, Ruiz, et al. Williams & Wilkins 1992
96. **THE CASE CONFERENCE APPROACH TO TEACHING CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY.** Ingenito et al. J Clin Pharmacol 32:502-510, 1992
97. **THE MOLECULAR BIOLOGY OF ADDICTIVE DRUGS.** Mackler et al. Molecular Neurobiology 5:45-58, 1991
98. **THE USE OF SEDATIVE AGENTS IN CRITICALLY ILL PATIENTS.** Burns et al. Drugs 43(4):507-515, 1992
99. **THE USE OF CHROMATOGRAPHY IN FORENSIC SCIENCE.** Huball. Advances in Chromatography Vol 32.
100. **THE HUMAN HEPATIC CYTOCHROMES P450 INVOLVED IN DRUG METABOLISM.** Wrighton and Stevens. Critical Reviews in Toxicology 22(1):1-21, 1992

ELMER GORDON OPEN FORUM: AN OPPORTUNITY FOR INFORMAL DIALOGUE

Just who is Elmer Gordon? For many years, Elmer Gordon served as the Chief Toxicologist in Rochester, NY. In the "pre-SOFT" days, forensic toxicologists attended what was referred to as the "Interim Meeting." This was an informal gathering of professionals who met with no formal program - only a common interest in discussing mutual problems. Elmer was a consistent advocate of the informal forum, firmly believing that this was the most effective way to communicate and share information. Although he died a number of years ago, I like to believe his spirit is still with us. *Editor*

Congratulations to immediate past-president **Jeanne Beno** who gave birth to April Marie (6 lbs. 9 oz.) on June 21st..

The **American Board of Forensic Toxicology** has mailed its first **ABFT News**. If you are an ABFT certificant and have not yet received your copy, the ABFT Administrative Office does not have your correct address. Call 719-636-1100 or your information will be incorrect in the soon-to-be-published ABFT Directory. You may call the same number for information on ABFT or its Ph.D. or M.S. certification program.

In the tradition of Elmer Gordon, an integral part of SOFT meetings is the "**Elmer Gordon Open Forum**" which was first presented in 1983 at the Detroit meeting. The 10th annual forum is scheduled for Wednesday evening from 8 to 9 p.m. at the Phoenix meeting. The floor will be open to anyone who wants to discuss problems, potential solutions, and general comments. ☞

 next ToxTalk deadline: **NOVEMBER 1st**

NEW CERTIFICATION BOARD FORMED

The Forensic Toxicologists Certification Board, Inc., has been recently formed to offer an additional certification route for *forensic toxicologists* and *forensic alcohol chemists*, including those who may not meet ABFT certification requirements. For further information, contact:

Chairperson Everett T. Solomons Telephone: 404-244-2675 or -2765.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Positions available are listed for the consideration of SOFT members. There is no fee for this service. The information will be repeated in the next issue only if the information is confirmed by the person who submitted it. No confirmations of information which was printed in the June issue were received.

Chemistry laboratory supervisor: Ph.D. in tox or related field with 3 yrs tox supervisor experience to supervise criminalists and develop analytical methods in drug chemistry and toxicology, write opinions regarding impairing effects of alcohol and other drugs, provide expert testimony. Candidates will be investigated and may be subject to polygraph and drug testing. Salary \$47,000 to \$50,000 plus benefits. Contact: Lt. Blaine W. Keckley, Laboratory Administrator, Ohio State Highway Patrol Crime Lab, 660 E main St, Columbus, OH 43205 Phone 614-466-4790 or FAX 614-644-9749

FAIR WARNING: No mail registration will be accepted
for the 1993 SOFT/CAT MEETING after October 2, 1993
MAIL YOUR REGISTRATION SOON 

PROFESSIONAL CALENDAR

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF TOXICOLOGISTS (CAT) quarterly meetings and workshops. For information contact Vickie Watts at 602-831-8091, FAX 602-644-2478. Aug 7 Pharmacokinetics of Drugs of Abuse workshop, Aug 8 meeting, Oakland, CA; Oct 11-16, joint meeting with SOFT, Phoenix, AZ; Feb 1994 meeting and "New Analytical Technologies" miniworkshop, San Francisco area.

2nd NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DRUG ABUSE RESEARCH AND PRACTICE: AN ALLIANCE FOR THE 21st CENTURY - July 14-17, Washington, DC, sponsored by NIDA. Contact Basic Health Mgmt, Inc., 8403 Colesville Rd, Suite 805, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (Tel 301-565-2205)

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC TOXICOLOGISTS (TIAFT) Congress on Forensic Toxicology: August 15-20, 1993, Leipzig (Germany) Contact Dr. Vina Spiehler, TIAFT Secretary, DPC, 5700 W 96th St, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC SCIENCES: August 22-28, 1993, Dusseldorf. Contact Institut fur Rechtsmedizin, Congress Secretariat, Moorenstr. 5, d-4000 Dusseldorf, Germany

CANADIAN SOCIETY OF FORENSIC SCIENCE (CSFS) ANNUAL MEETING - Sept 8-12, Winnepeg, Manitoba. Contact Ron Hrynychuk, c/o Forensic Lab RCMP, 621 Academy Rd, Winnepeg, Manitoba R3N 0E7 Canada (Tel 204-983-7376)

C.A.T. COURSE - TOXICOLOGY II: Sept 13-17, Los Angeles area; LC, advanced GC, GC/MS. Contact Halle Weingarten, 462 Stedman, Monrovia, CA 91016 for details.

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 SOFT/CAT JOINT MEETING - OCTOBER 10-16, 1993 - PHOENIX, ARIZONA
 Contact: Vickie Watts, 1993 SOFT/CAT Meeting Host, 130 N Robson, Mesa, AZ 85201
 Telephone: 602-644-2077 FAX: 602-644-2467
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MIDWESTERN ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC SCIENTISTS (MAFS): October 10-14, Madison, WI. Contact Cynthia Koulis at 815-740-3543.

NORTHEASTERN ASSOC OF FORENSIC SCIENTISTS (NEAFS): October 14-16, Springfield, MA. Contact Karolyn M. Leclair 617-566-4500 x241, FAX 617-566-2833.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FORENSIC SCIENCES (AAFS) ANNUAL MEETING: Feb. 14-19, San Antonio. Contact Brenda Papke, P. O. Box 669, Colorado Springs, CO 80901 (Telephone 719-636-1100) Future AAFS meetings: 2/13-18/95 Seattle; 2/19-24/96 Nashville; 2/17-22/97 New York City

XVth CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF LEGAL MEDICINE AND SOCIAL MEDICINE: May 31 - June 2, 1994. Contact Secretariat of the Congress, Institut de medicine Legale, 11 rue Humann, F-67085 Strasbourg Cedex, France.

1994 SOFT/TIAFT (The International Association of Forensic Toxicologists) JOINT MEETING: Oct. 31 - Nov 4, 1994, Tampa, FL. First joint SOFT/TIAFT meeting! SOFT Host - Dr. Horton McCurdy, Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Division of Forensic Sciences, P.O. Box 370808, Decatur, GA 30037-0808 (telephone: 404-244-2683)

CSFS/NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC SCIENTISTS JOINT MEETING: Oct 31-Nov 5, 1994, Vancouver, BC. Contact Jeffrey Caughlin at 604-264-3507, FAX 604-264-3499.

1995 - SOFT 25th ANNIVERSARY MEETING, Baltimore . Contact Dr. Yale Caplan, 1995 SOFT Meeting Host, National Center for Forensic Science, Div Maryland Medical Lab, 1901 Sulphur Spring Rd, Baltimore, MD 21227 (Telephone: 410-536-1485)

The DRE is an interdisciplinary source of information concerning the problems of the drugged driver and published by the Phoenix Law Department Prosecutor's Office. For a FREE copy, subscription, or back issues, telephone: Mr. Cliff J. Vanell, Editor, at 602-262-7058 or FAX to 602-534-9806.