

TISSUE → HOMOGENATE → EXTRACT

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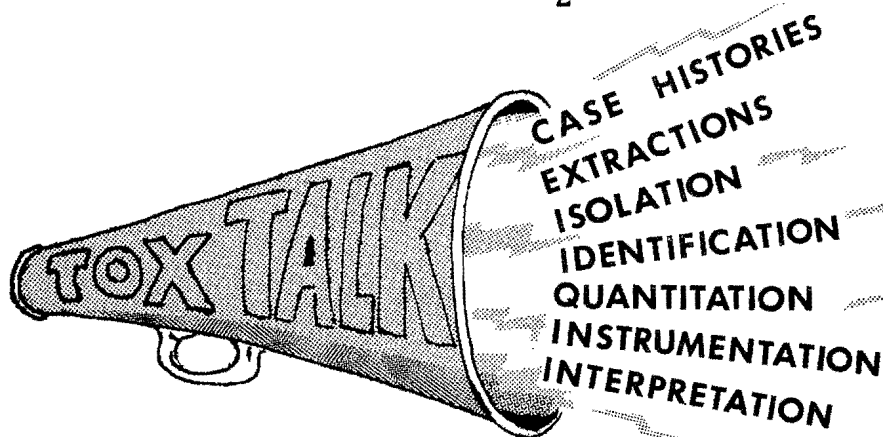
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This Newsletter will be published on a quarterly basis as the official communication of the Society of Forensic Toxicologists. For this first year we will send the newsletter to all registrants of previous SOFT meetings and to other forensic toxicologists whose names appear on other regional mailing lists. As of January 1978 only dues paying members will continue to receive the newsletter. A portion of the annual dues has gone to support this publication and mailing costs.

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INTERPRETATION ← IDENTIFICATION



Not another newsletter! Each of the professional organizations we belong to, manufacturers we deal with, and publishers who somehow got our name on their mailing list bury us in newsletters. As with all our reading material, some are read carefully, others are scanned, and many are "filed". My hope is that this newsletter will reflect the preamble to our constitution and by-laws.

### Constitution and Bylaws

#### Preamble - Name and Objectives

The name of this organization is Society of Forensic Toxicologists.

The purposes (objectives) of this Society shall be to:

1. Provide an organization of professional Forensic Toxicologists; i. e., those scientists engaged in the analysis of human tissue and body fluids for drugs and/or poisons, and who interpret the information generated from these analyses in a judicial context.
2. Establish uniform qualifications and requirements for certified Forensic Toxicologists and provide a mechanism for the continuing certification thereof.
3. Stimulate research and development in the field of Forensic Toxicology.
4. Provide a forum for the discussion and exchange of professional experiences.
5. Promote and further the education and training in Forensic Toxicology under the direction of a certified Forensic Toxicologist.
6. Provide a Board of Review in cases involving differences of professional opinion.
7. When appropriate, to review and make recommendations upon pending or existing legislation which appears to relate to the field of Forensic Toxicology.
8. Act on administrative, career, and financial problems affecting Forensic Toxicologists.

\* \* \* \* \*

Our reader should have special interest in Forensic Toxicology. Educational opportunities, workshops, job openings and job seeker's inquiries will be a major part of this publication. Minutes of business meeting, Executive Board decisions

and progress reports from active committees will provide the missing communications between SOFT and the membership. Your contributions will be gladly accepted and published on a quarterly basis.

The issue following the annual meeting will list all committees and will summarize the panel discussions.

#### October Meeting

Last, (and I do mean very last) call for registering for the October Meeting aboard the SS Emerald Seas. We have long over extended our reservations on rooms. Send your deposit now! SOFT must begin giving up rooms immediately. July 15, 1977 is the absolute deadline.

SOCIETY OF FORENSIC TOXICOLOGISTS, INC.  
ANNUAL MEETING  
MIAMI/NASSAU  
October 14-17, 1977

#### Program

The meeting will feature round table discussions and paper presentations in the areas of

Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry  
Chromatographic Separations

Immunoassays  
Gas Chromatographic Detectors

#### General Information

The meeting will take place aboard the SS Emerald Seas departing Miami, Friday afternoon October 14 and returning Miami Monday morning October 17. Included are all accommodations and meals (3 regular meals, snacks and late night buffet), as well as various forms of entertainment and recreational activities.

The following rates are available per person double occupancy:

Outside cabin (2 Lower beds)	\$195.
Inside cabin (2 Lower beds)	\$175.
Upper/lower bed cabin	\$140.
Port fee: Adults \$11.00, children \$7.00	

**RESERVATIONS:** Space may be limited. Please reserve accommodations by completing and returning the form below.

Full and final payment is required 30 days prior to departure. If not otherwise notified, single reservations will be assigned to double accommodations. Rooms may be singly occupied at increased cost. Contact Dr. Bednarczyk if further information or additional descriptive brochures are desired. Please note that these rates include all meals and entertainment and are substantially less expensive than comparable accommodations in Miami.

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR NSOFT MEETING**  
**October 14-16, 1977**  
**Nassau, Bahamas**

**Friday Evening, October 14**

7:30 - 7:45 Welcome and Introductory Remarks  
 7:45 - 8:30 Panel Discussion on GC Detectors  
 8:30 - 8:45 Coffee Break  
 8:45 - 9:30 Continued Discussion on GC Detectors  
 9:30 Adjourn

**Saturday Morning, October 15**

8:30 - 10:00 Panel Discussion - Immunoassay  
 10:00 - 10:15 Coffee Break  
 10:15 - 11:00 Continued Panel Discussion  
 11:00 - 12:30 Papers

**Saturday Afternoon and Evening, Shore Leave**

**Sunday Morning, October 16**

8:30 - 10:00 Special Problems Forum\*  
 1. Quaternary Ammonium Salts: succinylcholine, curare, etc.  
 2. Gases: nitrous oxide, freons, chloroform, etc.  
 3. Poisonous plants: mushrooms, oleander, hemlock, etc.  
 4. Other  
 10:00 - 10:15 Coffee Break  
 10:15 - 11:00 Continued Special Problems Forum or Papers  
 11:00 - 12:30 Panel discussion - GC-MS

**Sunday Evening, October 16**

7:30 - 8:45 Business Meeting  
 8:45 - 9:00 Coffee Break  
 9:00 - 10:30 Continued Business Meeting or Open Forum

\*If you have had at any time any interesting cases or research experiences involving any of these or related substances and would be willing to give a short talk about them at the meeting, please contact Dr. Everett Solomons or Dr. Horton McCurdy, Co-Chairman, Georgia State Crime Laboratory, P.O. Box 1456, Atlanta, Georgia 30301, or call (404) 656-6050.

Please note that we have allotted only a short time for formal papers. We desired to keep this particular meeting as informal as possible. If you have a paper that you wish to present please contact the co-chairmen at the above address. We will need a few papers to complete the program.

IRS requirements will be met. SOFT will provide suitable proof of certified attendance so that meeting costs can be tax deductible.

MINUTES

Business Meeting - The Society of Forensic Toxicologists,  
New York City, October 21-22, 1976  
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The meeting was opened and presided over by SOFT President Jesse Bidanset.

The minutes of the 1975 SOFT Meeting in Toronto were read and approved with minor changes.

The treasurer's report was given by Thomas Manning. The report, which showed a net balance of \$1,205.25 (exclusive of income and expenses from the N.Y.C. meeting) was approved by the membership.

The general membership approved the resolutions: that the word National be stricken from the name of the Society which henceforth will be the Society of Forensic Toxicologists. That the Corporate address of SOFT be now listed as that of the current Delaware residence of Robert Simon. The executive board agreed to handle matters related to the suggested replacement of the firm of Paul & Lukow as attorneys for SOFT. A discussion of the proposed site of the 1977 SOFT Meeting was led by V.P. Len Bednarczyk. The membership agreed to the proposed three day cruise aboard the S.S. Emerald Seas, Miami to Nassau, to depart Miami October 14th. It was agreed to extend invitations to members of other Toxicological Societies, with particular reference to SAFS and CAT.

A report followed by general discussion was made on the proceedings of the executive meeting of the Board of Directors, held Wednesday evening October 20th at the Tudor Hotel. The current status of the toxicology certification program, sponsored by the American Board of Forensic Toxicology (ABFT) was discussed. The names of the individuals initially certified as Diplomates of the ABFT was read. The importance of certification in relation to the professional standing of individual toxicologists and laboratories was stressed. The activities of other organizations, e.g., American Chemical Society, American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors, in the area of certification of toxicologists was noted; the higher caliber of the ABFT program was emphasized. Members who had not as yet done so were urged to apply for certification, and all members were called upon to actively support the efforts of the ABFT.

A proposed change in the bylaws was offered, wherein the current structure for application and membership would be modified so as to separate the initial application fee from the subsequent annual dues for membership.

The following individuals were nominated and elected to the indicated offices:

PRESIDENT:	Leonard Bednarczyk
VICE-PRESIDENT	Robert Blanke
SECRETARY	Yale Caplan

According to the bylaws of the Society, the Treasurer, Thomas Manning continues in his office for an additional two years. Also in accordance with said laws requiring annual election of two of the five members of the Board of Directors, Robert Simon and Jane Speaker were so nominated and elected. The remaining members of the Board were June Jones, Thomas Rejent and Joseph Monforte.

The importance of the information solicited in the general laboratory questionnaire being circulated by Art Fisk and Elmer Gordon was emphasized, and members who have not as yet done so were urged to complete the questionnaire.

The question of the availability and need for various types of educational opportunities in toxicology were discussed in depth. Among the topics covered were the following: the benefits to technicians and trainees of on site workshops and the awarding of credit for participation in such projects as regards future certification : the benefits to toxicologists of advanced seminar type discussions related to information dissemination and evaluation of current techniques and technical problems as exist in various laboratories. Educational aspects of undergraduate and graduate majors in forensic toxicology were also discussed. Leading this discussion were Len Bednarzyck, Irving Sunshine and Jane Speaker.

The problems involved in accreditation of individual laboratories was left for further discussion for the Executive Board.

Robert Simon gave a report on the activities and progress of the Delaware Political Action Committee. Efforts directed toward legislation action on certification of chemists and toxicologists were described.

Jesse Bidanset issued a call to members to provide material for the News Letter of which he is Editor. The importance of the News Letter as a means of communication in the areas of technical problems, job opportunities, educational programs, and other matters of interest to the individual members or the group at large was emphasized.

The expanding role of SOFT in advancing the cause of forensic toxicology in general and in aiding individual members with professional problems was emphasized throughout.

Donald B. Hoffman, Ph.D.  
Secretary, SOFT 1975-6

#### REPORT OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

Notes from the Board of Directors Meeting, Glen Burnie, Maryland, June 3 & 4, 1977. Present were L. Bednarzyk, R. Blanke, Y. Caplan, J. Jones, J. Montforte, T. Rejent, J. Speaker and J. Bidanset.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. Corporate address changed to: Robert K. Simon, Ph.D.  
12 Dansfield Drive  
Wilmington, Delaware 19803
2. Joseph Hurley, Esq., Wilmington, Delaware is the new Society attorney.
3. Board approved expenditure of money relative to executive board meeting.
4. Formal budget proposed for next year. A system for review and external audit was suggested.

#### FUTURE MEETINGS

After considering Chicago, Williamsburg, Buffalo/Niagara Falls, Philadelphia and Chapel Hill, the Board chose Buffalo/Niagara Falls as the first choice; Williamsburg, the second choice.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

A major accomplishment was Yale Caplan's updating of the mailing list. He combined previous attendance lists with other forensic and analytical toxicology professional groups. He has received 125 responses to 320 update questionnaires.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The balance in the treasury as of May 31, 1977 was \$1363.

**STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Nominating:** Recommendations by L. Bednarczyk for appointments to this committee were approved by the executive board, subject to the individual's acceptance. A slate of officers is due by September 14, 1977. The membership will elect a President, Vice President, Secretary and 2 members of the Board of Directors.

**Membership:** The Board approved a recommendation to separate annual dues from membership applications. A non-refundable \$5. application fee will be proposed. A \$20. annual dues for both full members and associates was also proposed for approval at the annual meeting.

**Certification:** Certification and recertification were the subject of lengthy discussion. J. Montforte has been directed to survey the membership in this area and to develop reasonable suggestions for consideration by ABFT.

**Bylaws:** Removal of inconsistencies in the bylaws and other revisions were referred to that committee.

**Ad-Hoc Committees:** Political action committee (to be renamed Government and Interprofessional Relations), Educational opportunities, Laboratory survey, and Laboratory accreditation Committees were reconsidered. Progress reports and new direction was proposed for each in addition to new appointments.

**Newsletter:** J. Bidanset, Editor, promised three issues for the remainder of this year and quarterly publication thereafter.

In considering future direction of SOFT, the Board decided:

1. To maintain the national status of SOFT.
2. Not to become involved with other organizations directly, rather to appeal for support from their memberships by making the goals of SOFT known.
3. To encourage the involvement of toxicologists at the regional level by sponsoring workshops, forums, sending representatives to meetings and brochures.
4. A descriptive brochure describing SOFT purposes and objectives should be developed to aid in improving SOFT exposure to toxicologists. It was decided that this function should be handled by wide distribution of the Newsletter for approximately a year after which time its distribution will be limited to members and a brochure developed.

## CHARTER MEMBERSHIP

There seems to be some confusion about the term Charter Membership. A charter member is any individual who meets the full membership requirements (see below) and who attended any one of the first five meetings (Nassau County, Suffolk County, Boston, Philadelphia and Chapel Hill)

Charter members still pay dues and enjoy no special privileges over other full members. Some certificate of membership is being prepared and the term "charter" will be incorporated for those individuals who meet the requirements.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT: J. BIDANSET (December 14, 1973)

Full membership shall be restricted to individuals who have demonstrated an ability to perform as Forensic Toxicologists as recognized by members of SOFT. They must obtain a qualified level of training as shown by degree attainment, or training as determined by SOFT. They must have extensive experience in Toxicology and/or continued interest in the field.

Full Members:           Ph.D. & 2 years experience)  
                               M.S. & 4 years experience) & continued interest  
                               B.S. & 6 years experience)

Assoc. Members:       For those not qualified for full membership, but who show  
                               interest in the field of forensic toxicology. Associate  
                               membership need not lead to full membership.

## ANNUAL DUES STATEMENT

1977 DUES-----\$20.00 for full members  
                               10.00 for associate members

Due Immediately

Please send remittance to:   Thomas J. Manning, Treasurer  
   c/o Nassau County Medical Examiner's Office  
   P.O. Box 160  
   East Meadow, New York 11554

## DR. KURT M. DUBOWSKI, PRESIDENT-ELECT OF AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FORENSIC SCIENCES

Kurt M. Dubowski, Ph.D., Professor of Medicine, University of Oklahoma College of Medicine, and Director of its Toxicology Laboratories, has been elected president-elect of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

A graduate of New York University and the Ohio State University, Dr. Dubowski is currently the President and a Diplomate of the American Board of Forensic Toxicology. He is a founding member of the Academy and of the International Association of Forensic Toxicologists; a Charter Member of the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors and National Society of Forensic Toxicologists; and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Forensic Sciences Foundation.



Dr. Dubowski will succeed to the presidency of the Academy at the close of its 30th Annual Meeting which will be held at the Chase - Park Plaza Hotel, St. Louis, February 21-24, 1978.

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If you have not yet completed the following roster up-date, please do so -

SOCIETY OF FORENSIC TOXICOLOGISTS, INC.

Dear Colleague:

Since some difficulties were encountered in our recent mailing concerning the October 14-16 Miami/Nassau Cruise Meeting and mailing list update form, I am enclosing a new form for your reply. Your name appears on our records as either being a member or having attended a previous meeting. Please take a few minutes to complete and return the verification below. Please note that phone numbers are requested on this form and that the office address will be used in all cases unless specified.

IMMEDIATE REPLY REQUESTED. If no reply is received within several weeks following receipt of this notice, your name will be removed from our mailing list.

Yale Caplan, Ph.D.  
Secretary

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SOCIETY OF FORENSIC TOXICOLOGISTS, INC.

RETURN TO: Yale Caplan, Ph.D.  
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner  
111 Penn Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

NAME _____	Degree B.S. _____
	M.S. _____
TITLE _____	Ph.D. _____
	Other _____
ORGANIZATION _____	(specify)
OFFICE ADDRESS: _____	HOME ADDRESS: _____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
Office Telephone: _____	Home Telephone: _____

- I am a member of SOFT and have previously paid dues.
- I am not a member of SOFT. Please send membership application.
- I do not desire membership. Retain my name in your files for future mailings and meeting notices.

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF FORENSIC TOXICOLOGISTS

## Application for Membership

Applicant name: \_\_\_\_\_ Type of membership applied for:

Full (\$20.00) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Associate (\$10.) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone - Office \_\_\_\_\_

Home \_\_\_\_\_

## Employment and Positions Held (last 6 years)

(Up-to-date resume may be substituted)

1.

2.

3.

4.

## Earned degrees:

DegreeGranting InstitutionYear Granted

Areas of interest in forensic toxicology (i. e. instrumental specialities, research areas, etc.)

Present job title, and brief description of duties:

Relevant publications:

References (please submit 2):

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant-----  
Return this completed application, together with a non-refundable check for 1st years dues, payable to "National Society of Forensic Toxicologists", to:

J. H. Bidanset, Ph.D.

P.O. Box #160

East Meadow, New York 11554  
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## LABORATORY SURVEY

The initial responses to the SOFT Laboratory Survey have been colated by Elmer Gordon and will be distributed to participating laboratories at no cost. If you have not returned your questionnaire, please do so for incorporation in future survey results. Non-participants may obtain copies of the survey for a fee to be determined. Please remember that these SOFT sponsored activities benefit us most of all.

SUPPORT THE REGISTRY

Ted Siek's efforts on the Registry of Human Toxicology are certainly useful to the practicing forensic toxicologist. The Registry, however, is comprehensive only if all laboratories contribute. SOFT encourages you to set aside a few minutes a week to complete the sample form below. Each attendant at the Toxicology section of the annual meeting receives a compilation of the statistics collected during the year. You are urged to take part.

Send the following form to: Theodore J. Siek, Ph.D.  
 Chairman, Registry Committee  
 c/o Poisonlab  
 1469 S. Holly Street  
 Denver, Colorado 80222

1. Identity of Toxic Agent: \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_

2.  Multiple Drug Findings:

3. Sex: Female  Age: 0 - 11 mo.   
 Male  1 - 5 yrs.   
 6 - 15 yrs.   
 16 - 30 yrs.   
 31 - 50 yrs.   
 Over 50 yrs.

4. Drug Action Time: \_\_\_ hrs. \_\_\_ minutes

5. Data:                      Quantitative                      Technique

Blood \_\_\_ mg./100ml.  
 Urine \_\_\_ mg./100ml.  
 Brain \_\_\_ mg./100g.                      (1) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Liver \_\_\_ mg./100g.  
 Kidney \_\_\_ mg./100g.  
 Spleen \_\_\_ mg./100g.  
 Stomach Contents \_\_\_ mg. Total                      (2) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other:  
 Blood Alcohol \_\_\_ mg./100ml.

WORKSHOPS

One of the educational functions of the Society is to provide workshop and training opportunities. Some companies have already been contacted regarding supporting workshops under the sponsorship of the NSOFT.

Would you be willing to serve on the faculty of a workshop? In what area are you particularly interested? Could your laboratory host a workshop or seminar? How many participants could you sustain?

WORKSHOPS

Title - Chromatography in the Chemical Laboratory

Sponsored by Department of Pathology and Department of Continuing Education,  
Medical College of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia

Supported by Hewlett Packard Corp.

Includes lectures and lab exercises in GLC, HPLC, and GC/MS

August 3-5, 1977

Inquiries: R. V. Blanke  
Box 696, MCV Station  
Richmond, Virginia 23298

\* \* \*

Title - Forensic Infrared

C. W. Post Center, Greenvale, New York

Includes lectures, labs, luncheon, laboratory notes and dormitory room on campus  
August 9-12, 1977

Members of SOFT eligible to special tuition of \$200.

Inquiries: Dr. Joan E. Shields  
Department of Chemistry  
C. W. Post Center  
Greenvale, New York 11548

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DISCUSSION GROUPS

When: July 22, 1977 from 2-5 p.m.

Where: St. John's University

What: Propoxyphene (methods, case histories, statistics, interpretation, etc.)

Who: Forensic toxicologists

Interested? Contact - J. Bidanset

Box 160  
East Meadow, New York 11554  
(516) 794-1200 Ext. 66

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NEXT NEWSLETTER

Committee recommendations requiring action by membership such as changes in bylaws, slate of officers, and committee reports will be submitted to the Newsletter by September and disseminated to the membership in that way approximately one month before our annual meeting.

Look for your next issue mid-September. Please send your material to:

J. Bidanset  
P.O. Box 160  
East Meadow, New York 11554

A future issue of the Newsletter will include a membership roster including names, addresses and telephone numbers. A list of laboratories and director will be available as we publish the product of Elmer Gordon's committee effort on SOFT's laboratory survey.

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OUR SYMPATHY

Members of SOFT express their sympathy to June Jones over her recent loss. Dr. Herman Jones was no stranger to active workers in the field of Forensic Sciences. His participation in Academy affairs over the years was noteworthy. Dr. Jones died in March of this year.

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Charles Winek handed me a slip of paper suggesting that SOFT should have the following:

1. Official insignia
2. A motto
3. A flower
4. A tie
5. Jewelry
6. Committee for spouses attending meetings
7. A social committee
8. A bird
9. A song

Any suggestions readers?