



Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc.

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ToxTalk

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1998 ANNUAL MEETING HOSTS

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EDITORIAL BOARD: H. Chip Walls, B.S., Jim Wigmore, B.Sc., Daniel Isenschmid, Ph.D., DABFT, Vincent Papa, Ph.D.

PUBLISHER: Patricia Mohn-Monforte

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OF SPECIAL INTEREST: 1999 SOFT Officers and Directors ☼ '99 Meeting Information

INSERTS: 1999 SOFT Meeting Information ☼ Abstracts of the '98 SOFT/TIAFT Meeting ☼ JAT Special Issue

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

As we begin our march towards the millennium, I look forward to another exciting year. We will hold our annual meeting off of the mainland for only the second time ever (I will forever remember the 1977 Nassau trip). You'll find a lot of 1999 SOFT meeting information enclosed with this issue of ToxTalk. Please make your plans early.

A happy and prosperous 1999 to all! ☼

VISIT THE SOFT WEBSITE: www.soft-tox.org

ToxTalk is mailed quarterly (bulk mail) to members of the *Society of Forensic Toxicologists, Inc.* It is each member's responsibility to report changes of address to the SOFT mailing address (Mesa, AZ - above). Non-members may now receive ToxTalk for \$15 per calendar year. Make your check payable to SOFT and mail it directly to the ToxTalk Editor.

All members and others are encouraged to contribute to ToxTalk. Please mail your contribution to:

Joseph R. Monforte, Ph.D., DABFT, ToxTalk Editor

42408 N. Sombrero Rd, Cave Creek, AZ 85331-2821

Telephone: 602-595-6646 Fax: 602-595-6663 - after 11 a.m. E.S.T. please

E-mail: DrMonforte@aol.com

DEADLINES: Feb. 1, May 1, Aug. 1, and Nov. 1.

NEXT DEADLINE: February 1, 1999

SOFT is a supporting organization of the American Board of Forensic Toxicology

1998 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Joseph Saady, Ph.D., DABFT

SOFT 1998 IN REVIEW

ANNUAL MEETINGS: One of the primary activities of SOFT is to sponsor scientific meetings such as the extremely successful meeting recently held in Albuquerque. In 1998, SOFT signed three contracts for annual meetings: Puerto Rico 1999, Milwaukee 2000, and New Orleans 2001. Our meetings provide a scientific and social venue for exchange of ideas among our professionals. SOFT must continue to build upon this so as to allow ample planning time for the meeting hosts and members.

VISIONING: SOFT as an organization should not remain satisfied with the "status quo" but must be proactive in our ever-changing profession. Therefore, we should be actively involved in the "evolution" of the profession rather than being swept along by events. We must continue to pursue the best way to accomplish this and take an active part in its development.

NEW FACES, NEW VOLUNTEERS: One of the main strengths of SOFT is the network of responsible and competent volunteers. SOFT has very few paid part-time contractors. The bulk of our work is performed by the officers, board members, committees, and meeting hosts. We must continue to welcome and encourage new faces and new ideas. All of our volunteers should remember that colleagues expect you to: *Deliver the goods! Complete the assignment! Accomplish the mission!*

FAILURES: Certainly there were failures this year, but they were greatly outweighed by the accomplishments, and I prefer not to focus on them! They were discussed at the business meeting in Albuquerque. There were also additional successes not mentioned here.

THANKS FOR THE HELP: I am grateful to so many of you who made 1998 successful beyond my expectations. Membership continues to increase, annual meetings are continually successful, there is a great deal of interest from potential meeting hosts offering future meeting sites, and other organizations wish to meet along with us. SOFT is a healthy, vibrant, growing, active professional organization.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as President for 1998. ☺

1999 SOFT OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

The following terms of office end December 31st 1998: President, Joseph Saady, Vice President, Marilyn Huestis, Treasurer, Robert Zettl, and Directors, Laurel Farrell and Daniel Isenschmid. The SOFT President and Vice President each served one year terms, the Treasurer served a two year term and the SOFT Directors each served three-year terms. The Society of Forensic Toxicologists will continue to be represented by Michael Smith as Secretary and the following individuals on the Board of Directors: Bruce Goldberger, Amanda Jenkins and Thomas Simonick.

At the 1998 Annual Business Meeting, held October 9th in Albuquerque, SOFT members, by acclamation, unanimously accepted the slate presented by the Nominating Committee as follows:

PRESIDENT: Marilyn Huestis, Ph.D.

VICE PRESIDENT: Robert Zettl

TREASURER: Laurel J. Farrell

DIRECTORS: Graham Jones, Ph.D., DABFT (3 year term)
Daniel Isenschmid, Ph.D., DABFT (re-elected for 1 year term)

HISTORIC PUBLICATION NOW AVAILABLE

A project to produce a history of the development of forensic toxicology during the last half of the twentieth century was initiated by Dr. Irving Sunshine. The SOFT History Committee endorsed and encouraged this suggestion. The end product, *Was It a Poisoning? Forensic Toxicologists Searching for Answers*, has been compiled, edited and printed. The financial sponsorship of SOFT, the AAFS Toxicology Section, CAT, MATT and SAT insured that each of their members will receive one free copy of the book. Its distribution to members who reside in the United States is made possible by a generous grant from the Fredric Rieders Renaissance Family Foundation. Non-U.S. residents who are members of the sponsoring organizations may request and obtain their copies by sending \$10.00 (check or money order in U.S. funds) to cover the cost of printing and handling to:

Bonnie Fulmer, SOFT, P O Box 5543, Mesa, AZ 85211-5543 USA

Others interested in acquiring a copy of the book may do so by sending \$20.00 to Ms. Fulmer, which includes the cost of the book, postage and handling. ☺

TREASURY NOTES

Submitted by J. Robert Zettl, SOFT Treasurer, 1500 East Mineral Place, Littleton, CO 80122-2911
Phone for voice: 303-795-1654 Phone for fax: 303-795-1654 #99 E-mail: JRZettl@Ecentral.com

Dues for SOFT are \$50.00 (U.S.) annually, due at the end of December of each calendar year. A late fee of \$5.00 is added after January 1st for anyone who is unpaid. Dues notices have been mailed by the SOFT Administrative Office. If you have not already done so, please submit your 1999 dues immediately. Please be sure that your check contains your name so that your account is properly credited.

Your new Treasurer will be Laurel Farrell who, I am certain, will competently perform her duties. ☺

CONSIDER APPLYING FOR A 1999 ERA

The Educational Research Award is designed to recognize students pursuing advanced degrees (Ph.D. and M.S.) with research in an area relevant to forensic toxicology. The deadline to apply for this honor and financial award is May 1st annually. Contact information will be included in the next issue of ToxTalk.

ABFT NEWS

If you are certified by the American Board of Forensic Toxicology and did not receive a newsletter during the Annual ABFT Breakfast or by mail shortly thereafter (October), please contact: ABFT Secretary Richard Shaw, 5270 Joan Court, San Diego, CA 92115.

There are currently 5 applicants who have successfully achieved "Candidate" status. ABFT candidates must complete the examination requirement within 2 years.

Requalification application materials have been distributed to ABFT Diplomates whose current certificates expire 6/30/99. These should be completed and submitted to Dr. Monforte by April 1, 1999. In June, similar materials will be sent to ABFT Forensic Toxicology Specialists whose certificates expire 12/31/99

The ABFT Laboratory Accreditation Program: To receive specific laboratory accreditation information, please contact the ABFT Administrative Office.

Forensic toxicologists with a doctorate or masters degree who are interested in certification by the American Board of Forensic Toxicology should contact: ABFT Administrative Office, P.O. Box 669, Colorado Springs, CO 80901-0669 telephone: 719-636-1100.

For more information on ABFT activities, try their new web-site at: www.abft.org ☺

PLANS FOR EXCITING SOFT 1999 MEETING UNDERWAY

Our Puerto Rican hosts and meeting consultant are busy planning for the 1999 SOFT Annual Meeting. The meeting agenda will include the following: (Refer to the insert for more detailed information.)

Saturday: Oct. 9

CAP Inspectors Workshop
NLCP Inspectors Workshop

Sunday: Oct. 10

Workshops:

"Drugs and Driving Update"

"Pathology for Toxicologists"

"Workplace Drug Testing: Issues in Puerto Rico"

Welcoming Reception

Monday: Oct. 11

SOFT Fun Run/Walk (Crawling OK, too)

Workshops:

"New Pharmaceuticals - Pharmacology and Toxicology"

"Investigation of Drug-facilitated Sexual Battery"

President's Reception / Elmer Gordon Open Forum

Tuesday: Oct 12

Scientific Sessions

Posters

Puertorrican Night

Wednesday: Oct. 13

ABFT Breakfast

Scientific Sessions

Posters

Farewell Banquet/Vendors Recognition Night

Thursday: Oct 14

Scientific Session

Official Closing

San Juan Photo-Marathon

Pre- and Post-conference tours are available

HOTEL INFORMATION: The Caribe Hilton Hotel is the site for this year's meeting. Room charge is \$143 single or double plus 9% tax. Gratuities for the bellman (\$3.50 per person - one time charge) and maid service (\$.25 per person per day) will also be charged. This negotiated rate is guaranteed only until September 1st. You will be billed for one night if you do not cancel at least 72 hours prior to your planned arrival. When making your hotel reservation, be sure to identify yourself as an attendee of the SOFT meeting. A hotel reservation form is included with the meeting materials in this issue of **ToxTalk**. Or call the Caribe Hilton at 800-468-8585.

PRE-CONFERENCE TOURS AVAILABLE: Old San Juan Historic District (half day)
Bacardi Rum Distillery (half day)
Rain Forest (half day)
Rain Forest/Luquillo Beach (full day)

For further information, contact:

Meeting Host: Flor R. Mattos
Institute of Forensic Sciences
P O Box 11878
San Juan, PR 00922-11878
Tel: 787-765-0615 x 401
Fax: 787-759-8908

Events Coordinator: Mayra Carrilo Cotto
Carrillo Associate
P O Box 366655
San Juan, PR 00936-6655
Tel: 787-787-7744
Fax: 787-754-2811



CALL FOR PAPERS

JOURNAL OF ANALYTICAL TOXICOLOGY - SOFT SPECIAL ISSUE

Abstracts must be submitted by March 8, 1999 to:

Bruce Goldberger
University of Florida College of Medicine
2310 S.W. 13th St, Gainesville, FL 32608

Tel: 352-846-1579
Fax: 352-846-1586
E-mail: bruce-goldberger@ufl.edu

The deadline for completed papers is March 22nd. See the enclosed flyer for more information.

Case Notes: A CASE OF POISONING OR NOT? THE CIRCUMSTANCE OF THE ELDERLY PATIENT AND THE D,L-DESOXYEPHEDRINE TWINS

Submitted by: Bradford R. Hepler, Ph.D., Daniel S. Isenschmid, Ph.D., J. Scott Somerset, M.D., Ph.D., and Sawait Kanluen, M.D., Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office, Detroit, MI.

A 79 year old gentleman became unresponsive at home and was transported to hospital. En route to hospital, he was administered CPR and given ACLS protocol including cardiopulmonary defibrillation therapy. This therapy was continued in the ER without success. He was pronounced dead after 12 minutes. The decedent had seen a private physician about 3 weeks previous to this episode with a complaint of chest pains. The decedent also had a history of high blood pressure. An allegation was made to the ER physician that he may have been poisoned. The body was ordered into the medical examiner's office and a full autopsy was performed.

Heart blood, bile and vitreous humor were submitted for toxicology testing. The specimens were evaluated for the presence of volatiles, carbon monoxide, cyanide, ethchlorvynol, acetaminophen, salicylates, morphine, cocaine and metabolites, benzodiazepines, sympathomimetic amines and organic bases. Acetaminophen was detected in the blood using the o-cresol test and confirmed by FPIA analysis (11 µg/mL). Therapeutic concentrations of diphenhydramine (0.008 µg/mL), propoxyphene (0.48 µg/mL), norpropoxyphene (qualitative), sertraline (0.37 µg/mL) and norsesertraline (0.82 µg/mL) were measured in heart blood by GC/NP and confirmed by GC/MS. These agents were also confirmed in bile by GC/MS. Additionally, methamphetamine (desoxyephedrine) and amphetamine were determined to be present in the blood sample by GC/NP and GC/MS at concentrations of 0.13 and 0.066 µg/mL, respectively.

d-Methamphetamine and its metabolite d-amphetamine are strong CNS stimulants, controlled substances and considered drugs of abuse in the federal workplace drug testing program. At the concentrations noted, the findings were consistent with the alleged poisoning. Additional testing in the bile using GC/NP and GC/MS resulted in the identification of methamphetamine and N-desmethylselegiline. A further review of the case history indicated that the decedent was under treatment for Parkinson's disease and was being given selegiline (Deprenyl®) for this condition. Selegiline is a levorotatory derivative of methamphetamine that acts as a MAO inhibitor. It metabolizes to only l-methamphetamine and l-amphetamine. l-Methamphetamine is also an ingredient of the Vicks® Inhaler, an over-the-counter preparation. The l-isomer is reported to have a much weaker CNS stimulant action than the d-isomer, and a greater peripheral sympathomimetic action. Additional chiral studies carried out on the blood sample indicated that only l-methamphetamine was present. Parent selegiline was not detected in the blood sample.

One other postmortem case report has been described in which there was a history of selegiline use in a 72 year old female (Meeker and Reynolds, *J Analyt Tox* 14:330-31, 1990). Analysis of heart blood indicated the presence of l-methamphetamine (0.28 µg/ml) and l-amphetamine (0.17 µg/mL). Femoral blood concentrations for these two agents were 0.08 and 0.07 µg/mL, respectively. Other findings in this case included ethanol (0.07 %, heart blood), methyprylon (6.8 µg/mL, heart blood), nortriptyline (2.38 µg/mL, heart blood; 0.46 µg/mL, femoral blood; 135 µg/g, liver) and trazodone (0.05 µg/mL, heart blood). Findings in this case lead to a reported cause of death of ASCVD with history of polypharmacy.

In the current case, autopsy studies revealed an enlarged heart with left ventricular hypertrophy and a pulmonary embolism originating from thrombophlebitis of the right leg. Toxicology testing and case history ruled out the alleged poisoning in this decedent. These findings led to the determination that the cause of death was due to a pulmonary embolism as a result of thrombophlebitis. The manner of death was natural. ☒

CALL FOR CASE NOTES

Your case note should be about 1/2 page in length, no more than a full page. Material on a disk (preferably using Microsoft Works/Word 4.0) may be mailed or faxed to:

Joseph R. Monforte, Ph.D., DABFT, ToxTalk Editor, 42408 N. Sombrero Rd., Cave Creek, AZ 85331-2821.
Or fax: 602-595-MONF (6663). The e-mail address is : DrMonforte@aol.com

Other items of interest to SOFT members are also welcome.

Next deadline: February 1, 1999

Case Notes: DRONABINOL AND DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

Submitted by Lionel Raymon, Pharm.D., Ph.D., Bernard Steele, M.D., and H. Chip Walls, B.S.

Dronabinol (Marinol[®]) is a Schedule II preparation containing Δ^9 -Tetrahydrocannabinol, THC, the principal psychoactive constituent of cannabis. It is prescribed as an antiemetic and is categorized as an orphan drug used as an appetite stimulant to prevent weight loss in patients with a confirmed diagnosis of AIDS. Cytochrome P450 mediated oxidation of position 11 yields an active metabolite, 11-OH-THC, and further oxidation results in inactivation to THC-COOH.

We report here the case of a 35-y-o white male, stopped at a routine road block in Dade County, FL. The DUI test report describes a cooperative and polite driver, with a flushed face and bloodshot conjunctiva. The breath odor was not indicative of alcoholic beverage ingestion, but the speech was slurred. Pupils appeared dilated. No data were recorded as to the blood pressure, heart rate and temperature of the apprehended driver. Psychophysical evaluations showed bilateral, distinct, horizontal gaze nystagmus at maximum deviation with onset occurring before 45 degrees. The Romberg Balance and One-Leg-Stand tests were abnormal. Impairment is further confirmed through a failed Finger-to-Nose test. An interview with the driver revealed his HIV positive status and multiple prescription drugs taken for the illness. Among 14 medicines taken, Marinol[®], 10 mg, BID and Xanax[®] 0.5 mg, at bed time, stood out as potentially responsible for the impairment. A urine sample was collected and sent to the University of Miami Toxicology Laboratory for analysis.

Immunoassay screening of an aliquot with Roche OnLine[®] reagent gave a positive THC signal of 1118 and a benzodiazepine value of 889 (cut-off at 1000 in both cases), resulting in a presumptively positive urine for both drug classes. Confirmation by GC/MS failed to identify and quantitate a benzodiazepine (including alprazolam and hydroxyalprazolam). THC-COOH, THC and 11-OH-THC were present and their respective ng/mL concentrations were 1297 ± 66 , 11 ± 0.4 and 111 ± 4 . The averages are the results of 4 distinct measurements.

Following observations that treatment with dronabinol of nausea and vomiting associated with cancer chemotherapy enhanced the mood and appetite of cancer patients, the FDA approved the use of dronabinol in AIDS wasting syndrome in 1992. Large placebo-controlled studies have shown the benefit of the treatment, with significant weight stabilization in AIDS patients. Although the mechanism of action of THC is not well understood, receptors can be found centrally in the cerebellum and basal ganglia, possibly explaining cannabinoid interference with movements and coordination; they are also found in the hippocampus pyramidal cells, dentate gyrus and certain cortical layers, possibly relating to the effect of cannabinoids on memory and cognition. With these "organic" bases in mind, the empirically described impairment in psychomotor performances and the illegal status of marijuana use in our western society, it is not surprising that many prosecutors and their respective expert witnesses would conclude that people taking dronabinol, even for medical reasons, should not drive. However, there are some important points to consider. First, it is the acute administration of those drugs with sedative properties which is associated with significant impairment. Taking alcohol, an old generation H₁-antihistamine, benzodiazepines, some antidepressants, barbiturates and opioids have certainly been associated with side-effects. But repeated exposure has generally been shown to result in tolerance to the impairing effects. The daily intake of 20 mg of THC is most probably associated with significant tolerance to the psychoactive effects of the drug. Second, can we really assess driving skills through a One-Leg-Stand, a Romberg Balance, and a Finger-to-Nose test? Measures of postural stability are far from exploring crucial driving behaviors such as divided attention and vigilance skills.

Although our case is significant for the presence of high levels of metabolites in the urine and the classical "bloodshot eyes", stable daily intake of dronabinol may not result in substantial impairment of skills required for driving. Pertinent studies relating kinetic and dynamic aspects of prescription-strength dronabinol are warranted, with a special emphasis on tolerance to the psychomotor effects of THC.

The authors would like to thank Dr. Jim Visconti from Ohio State University and Dr. Bob Dudley from Unimed Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Buffalo Grove, IL. ☼

JOURNAL CLUB:

Do to the size of the 1998 meeting abstracts, the Journal Club materials will be saved for the next issue of ToxTalk.

ATTENTION SOFT OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

THIS INFORMATION IS ACCURATE - the information in the AAFS preliminary program is NOT correct. The SOF Board will meet in Orlando on **Tuesday, February 16th, at 7 p.m.** The exact location should be noted in the AAFS final program. Be sure to submit your written report to the SOFT Administrative Office by the **February 1st deadline.** ☼

Technical Notes: BLUTALKOHOLKONZENTRATION No. 23

Submitted by: J.G. Wigmore, B.Sc., Toxicology Section, Centre of Forensic Sciences, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Fatal Hemorrhage From a Single Scalp Wound. H. Bratzke and T. Gilg Arch. f. Kriminol., 180:101-106, 1987 German title: Todliche Verblutung aus isolierter Kopfschwartenverletzung

Three case reports of fatal hemorrhagic deaths due to a single scalp wound are shown in which all three victims were alcoholics. All victims suffered only a single scalp wound and were found dead at the scene in a blood-soaked area. Evidence at the scene showed that all three victims initially made attempts to stop the bleedings.

The first victim was a 42-year-old male with a postmortem BAC of 0.325 g/100mL and a UAC of 0.410 g/100mL.

The second victim was a 63-year-old female with a postmortem BAC of 0.225 g/100mL and a UAC of 0.265 g/100mL. The blood and urine methanol concentrations were 0.005 and 0.005 g/100 mL, respectively, which is in the typical range for alcoholics.

The third victim was a 57-year-old female with a postmortem BAC of 0.260 g/100 mL and a UAC of 0.340 g/100 mL. The blood methanol concentration was 0.002 g/100mL and the blood acetone and isopropanol concentrations were 0.016 and 0.009 g/100 mL, respectively.

The authors conclude that the acute and chronic effects of alcohol impair the clotting ability of the blood and that intoxication prevents the victims from seeking medical assistance. ☹

“DRUGS IN THE NEWS”

submitted by Joseph R. Monforte, Ph.D., DABFT

A rather disturbing article recently appeared in the Arizona Republic. Two drug addicts were arrested for attempting to abduct an 8-year-old child walking home from grammar school. Purpose of the abduction - to obtain a urine specimen from the child which the addicts could submit as their own as required by the drug rehab program in which they were enrolled.

“Prozac-Diet Drug Combination Warnings” A recent study focused on the risk of combining some over-the-counter cold or obesity drugs with Prozac or similar drugs, for example, Paxil and Zoloft. The study focused on the behavior of phentermine, pseudoephedrine, phenylpropanolamine and ephedrine. The study suggests that heart valve damage and lung problems similar to those resulting from “fen-phen” usage are possible. Although no conclusive evidence documenting adverse effects has been presented, Eli Lilly(Prozac) does not support combining Prozac with phentermine and Medeva Pharmaceuticals (phentermine product Ionamin) does not recommend using its product with Prozac or similar drugs.

submitted by Patricia Mohn-Monforte

Jimson Weed: The recent SOFT meeting featured another “Mystery Drug” poster, prepared by Lisa Caughlin and Deb Kogut. Understandably, I was attracted more by the t-shirt than anything else. Vince Papa won first prize (complimentary 1999 SOFT meeting registration) for correctly identifying jimson weed. Shortly after the Albuquerque meeting, an article appeared in the Arizona Republic (10/16/98) warning of the rise in jimson weed abuse in Arizona. For those of you unfamiliar with this southwestern weed, it is described as a legal psychotropic, atropine-containing plant with beguiling beauty. “All parts are poisonous and can cause seizures, coma and even death as well as hallucinations.” Classic symptoms include increased heart rate and dilated pupils. The plant, which grows vigorously during the summer and fall, is particularly popular among local teens who eat it seeking a legal high. They are often observed eating solid objects, such as rocks - thinking they are eating food items like oranges.

To me, the most interesting portion of the article was the colored picture - it is the same plant I have been nurturing for its appealing trumpet-like flowers and erosion protection on the side of our mountain. ☹

RECAPS - A Quick Look At Other Newsletters Included in the December, 1998, issue of **Toxi-Logic**, the publication of the Toxicology Section of the Canadian Society of Forensic Science: A Historical Perspective of the Toxicology Section of the Canadian Society of Forensic Science (Peel) [Editor's note: This article is included in the Sunshine historical book], Some Capillary Electrophoresis Separations (Hudson), Positive LSD Immunoassay After Sertraline Intake (TIAFT Bulletin), and Continuing Education - Test Your Knowledge. ☹

ELMER GORDON OPEN FORUM

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR INFORMAL DIALOGUE

SO-SOFT: Significant Others-SOFT, as well as our TIAFT Sisters had a great New Mexican experience. There were many activities to choose from so we informally paired up and traveled about according to individual preferences. Everyone seemed to have a great time and many friendships were created or further nurtured. Plans for Puerto Rico are uncertain at this time.

RETIREMENT: Everett Solomons recently retired from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation after many years of service. E-mail your congratulatory message to Dr. Solomons at 102153.2012@compuserve.com

WE BEEPED! For those of you wondering if the Monfortes' beeper ever went off during the SOFT meeting - Grandson Joseph Martin was born October 11th.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PHILIP M. KEMP, Ph.D., DABFT, who will be presented the Irving Sunshine Award at the 1999 meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. ☺

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. If you have a job position available, FAX (602-595-6663) or E-MAIL (monforte@juno.com) to ToxTalk or mail to: Dr. Joseph Monforte, ToxTalk Editor, 42408 N. Sombrero Rd., Cave Creek, AZ 85331-2821.

Forensic Toxicologist to perform routine and complex forensic toxicological examinations of biological fluids, licit and illicit drugs using chemical, physical and instrumental methods of analysis; perform chemical analyses for the quantitation of alcohol, testify in court as needed, and assist in the training and supervision of subordinate personnel; required relevant F... including 20 credit hrs of chemistry and 2 yrs experience, preferably in forensic toxicology at a forensic lab; relevant MS ma... be substituted for 1 yr experience. 1999 salary range: \$42,785 - \$56,810. Contact Thomas J. McGimpsey, Westchester Co. Dept. of Labs & Research, 2 Dana Rd., Valhalla, NY 10595. Telephone: 914-593-5555.

Toxicology Laboratory Director for the Maricopa County MEO to oversee tox and histology labs (develop and maintain lab budgets and expenditures, research and recommend new instruments and equipment acquisition, oversee development of lab protocols, testing and QA methods, certify lab results and serve as expert witness); Ph.D. in toxicology or acceptable related field, minimum 5-yr experience and ABFT Diplomate certified or eligible required. Contact Cathy Moore, Maricopa County Human Resources Dept, 301 W. Jefferson, Phoenix, AZ 85003-2145 Tel: 602-506-3755 TT: 602-506-1908

Assistant Professor to begin August, 1999 in Chemistry Dept of West Chester University of Pennsylvania. Two positions, tenure-track: 1) in forensic chemistry; 2) in clinical chemistry. For complete description contact John Fenton at 610-436-2968 or Web site: www.wcupa.edu/_academic/sch_cas.che/ (repeat from last issue) ☺

Don't forget to check the SOFT Web site for current career openings:

www.soft-tox.org

PROFESSIONAL CALENDAR

SOFT MEETING: **October 10-14, 1999.** Contact Flor R. Mattos, Institute of Forensic Sciences, P O Box 11878, San Juan, Puerto Rico. Tel: 787-765-0615 Fax: 787-759-8908

Future meetings: 2000: Milwaukee, WI 2001: New Orleans, LA

American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) annual meeting: February 15-20, 1999, Orlando, FL; February 21-26, 2000, Reno, NV. Contact Brenda Papke, 719-636-1100. ☺



CALL FOR PAPERS

SOFT/JAT SPECIAL ISSUE

The 19th annual October special issue of the **Journal of Analytical Toxicology** will be published in collaboration with the **Society of Forensic Toxicologists (SOFT)**. The guest editor for this issue is **Bruce A. Goldberger**.

Original manuscripts to be considered for publication should be directed to

Bruce A. Goldberger

University of Florida College of Medicine

2310 S.W. 13th Street ♦ Gainesville, Florida 32608

Telephone: (352) 846-1579 ♦ Fax: (352) 846-1586

Email: bruce-goldberger@ufl.edu

Deadlines for submission:

March 8, 1999 for Abstracts

March 22, 1999 for Completed papers

Complimentary copies of this issue will be distributed at the JAT booth during the 1999 SOFT meeting (October 10-14, San Juan, Puerto Rico)

For prompt consideration, submissions should follow *Journal* format. For a copy of the *Journal's* Guide for Authors, contact the editorial office at (847) 647-2900 or see our webpage at www.jatox.com.



Experience Forensic Toxicology in the warmth of the Caribbean

PUERTO RICO S.O.F.T. 1999

Caribe Hilton Hotel
San Juan, P.R.
October 10-14, 1999



Institute of Forensic Sciences
P.O. Box 11878
San Juan, Puerto Rico
Flor R. Mattos
Tel: 787-765-0615 Fax: 787-759-8908



*Society of Forensic Toxicologists
San Juan, Puerto Rico
October 10-14, 1999*



PRELIMINARY MEETING SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, October 9, 1999

2:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. CAP Inspectors Workshop
5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Registration
7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. NLCP Inspectors Workshop
Pre conference Tours available

SUNDAY October 10, 1999

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration
8:30 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. Workshop #1 Drugs and Driving Update
2:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m. Workshop #2 Pathology for Toxicologists
12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. ABFT Board Meeting
2:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m. Workshop #3 Workplace Drug Testing: Issues in Puerto Rico
6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Welcoming Reception

MONDAY October 11, 1999

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 am SOFT Fun Run/Walk
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration
8:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.. ABFT Examination
8:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.. Exhibit set up
8:30 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. Workshop #4 New Pharmaceuticals - Pharmacology and Toxicology
12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m. S.O.F.T. Board of Directors Meeting
2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Exhibits Open
2:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m. Workshop #5 Investigation of Drug-facilitated Sexual Battery
7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. President's Reception/ Elmer Gordon Forum

TUESDAY, October 12, 1999

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration
8:00 a.m.- 10:00 p.m.. Poster set up
8:30 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. Scientific Session
12:00 noon - 2:00 p.m. Luncheon
12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Exhibits and Posters Open
2:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. Scientific Session
7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. *Puertorrican Night*

WEDNESDAY October 13, 1999

7:00 a.m.- 8:30 a.m. ABFT Breakfast Buffet
8:00 p.m. - 12:00 p.m. Exhibits and Posters Open
8:30 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. Scientific Session
12:00 noon - 2:00 p.m. Luncheon
2:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. Scientific Session
3:00 p.m. - 5:00p.m. Vendor's Meeting
6:30 p.m. 11:00 p.m. Farewell Banquet/ Vendors Recognition *Night*

THURSDAY, October 14, 1999

8:30 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. Scientific Session
12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. Luncheon
1:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m. Scientific Session/Closing
3:00 p.m. - 6:00p.m. San Juan Photo-Marathon
Post conference tours available

HOTEL RESERVATION FORM



Society of Forensic Toxicologists
October 9 - 14, 1999

CARIBE HILTON HOTEL RESERVATION FORM*

PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town / City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Business Telephone: _____

Fax Number: _____

Arrival: _____ Departure: _____
(Check-in time, 3:00 PM) (Check-out time, 12:00 PM)

Reservations must be guaranteed by one night's deposit on either recognized credit cards or by check.

- American Express
 Visa
 Discover
 Diners
 MasterCard
 Check/Money Order

Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Card Holder Signature _____

I understand that I am liable for one night's room which will be deducted from my deposit, or billed through my credit card, in the event that I do not arrive on the date indicated or cancel 72 hours prior to arrival.

*This reservation is subject to availability within group room block

Please check type of accommodations: (Plus 9% Tax)

- Single @ \$143.00
 Smoking
 Double @ \$143.00
 Non-Smoking

Please be advised, a bellman and gratuity charge will be automatically posted to your account. Bellmen Gratuity consists of \$3.50 Per Person, a one time charge. Maid Gratuity consists of \$0.25, Per Person, Per Day.

Reservations must be received no later than **SEPTEMBER 1st, 1999** after which date room is subject to availability at the Conference Rate.

Please mail this Hotel Reservation Form To:

**Reservations Department
Caribe Hilton
P.O. Box 9021872
San Juan, PR 00902**

Or Fax to: (787)724-6992
Toll Free Number : 1-800-468-8585

PUERTO RICO S.O.F.T. 1999
OPTIONAL TOURS AVAILABLE

PRE CONFERENCE TOURS

◇ Old San Juan Historic-Half Day- 9:00 am or 12:00 noon-Guided Tour

Explore 500 years of history from the days of pirates & pieces of eight!
Experience & prowl through the battle areas of El Morro/San Cristobal Fortress.
Juan Ponce de Leon's home, & family church. Museums, shopping, fine cuisine and lots of fun. Fort entrance fee \$2.00 p/p.

◇ Bacardi Rum Distillery-Half Day Guided Tour- 9:00 am or 12:00 noon

Producers of rum since 1862, and owned by the "Bacardi" family. Start your tour in an open tram of the largest distillery in the world. Last year, over 21 million cases were sold worldwide. In addition, view the fermentation and bottling process. Visitors are treated to exhibits that chronicle the history, products and innovations in technology. The distillery absorbs the largest quantity of molasses produced on the island. Peek at their family life in the museum. Delight in the Pavilion's free drinks.

◇ Rain Forest-Half Days Guided Tour-8:30 am or 12:00 noon

A must see! "El Yunque"...the sacred Indian mountain! 28,000 acres reserve. Learn about Tropical forest. Hike, picnic and enjoy the cool mountain streams. Admire lush foliage with calm surroundings.

◇ Rain Forest/Luquillo Beach Combination-Full Day 9:00 am-5:00 pm.

The "sacred Indian mountain plus the joy experiencing another of the island beaches". Swim, relax, or prance on 5 mile stretch of sandy beach. Become part of the action while enjoying good Piña Coladas.

POST CONFERENCE TOURS

◇ Horseback Riding-Half Day-Hacienda Carabali- 10:30/12:30/2:30 pm

A guided 2 hr. tour through a unique natural environment, at the foothills of the Rain Forest. Ride gentle but spirited "Paso Fino" horse through small water streams with brief stops at designated intervals.

◇ Camuy Caverns-Full Day-Guided Tour

Millions of years old, nature adorned the cave ceilings with crystalline stalactites and flooring in mushroom mounds of stalagmites. Few cave system in the world are as massive or as dramatic. A unique experience. (Incl. Refreshments on board)