

# SWAFS

JUNE 2017

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 1

## *Letter from our President*

May, 2017

It has been my honor to serve as President this year. We have had a great year so far under the leadership of Tamara Keller. She truly puts her heart into this organization and making it the best. It has been our goal this year to get more members involved, develop new resources for networking and plan the annual conference. There are many opportunities awaiting you in SWAFS. We are here to guide you and give you information on how to get involved.

Meeting Advisory Committee Chair Azell Carter, Tamara Keller and Michelle O'Neal have been hard at work planning the annual conference. The conference will be October 22-26, 2017 in Ft. Worth, Texas. There are many exciting opportunities for training in all disciplines as well as the ability to present and network. We look forward to seeing you there.

“Vision without action is merely a dream. Action without vision just passes the time. Vision with action can change the world.” Let's make SWAFS a great organization.



# SWAFS NEWSLETTER

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# SWAFS NEWSLETTER

## *Quick message from your Journal Editor*

GREETINGS to all SWAFS Members!

I thoroughly enjoyed putting together this issue of the SWAFS Newsletter. There is so much to share with all of you. Good memories and exciting things to come!

Our meeting advisory committee members have been busy setting up an excellent array of workshops and seminars in all forensic disciplines for our upcoming Annual Conference in Ft. Worth. Our host is Michelle O'Neal and she has done a great job making sure that our visit to "The Paris of the Plains" will be full of hospitality and charm.

Please visit the SWAFS website at [www.swafs.us](http://www.swafs.us) for all the necessary links to conference information and registration. And continue reading this issue of the newsletter for a list of the workshops planned for this year's conference.

We all are busy doing our daily chores and tackling casework. Take time to renew your mind.

Debbie Stephens  
SWAFS Journal Editor

# SWAFS NEWSLETTER



**THE 2016 SWAFS CONFERENCE IN  
GALVESTON, TEXAS WAS A  
TREMENDOUS SUCCESS!**



**A BIG THANK YOU TO THE HOUSTON  
FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER FOR  
HOSTING OUR  
ANNUAL MEETING LAST FALL.**



# GALVESTON 2016





**Announcing the  
39th Annual SWAFS 2017 Conference  
Fort Worth, Texas**

**October 22nd— 26th, 2017**

**AT  
The Stockyards Hyatt Place Hotel  
and the Historic Stockyards Station**



*WORKSHOPS TO BE PRESENTED BY THE 2017 SWAFS ANNUAL CONFERENCE*

ACQUIRING TODAY'S TECHNOLOGY  
Presented by: KEVIN COHN (4 HOURS)

DESIGNER DRUGS: EMERGING TRENDS  
AND RESPONSE  
Presented by: DR. GREG ENDRES  
(4 HOURS)

DIGITAL FORENSICS  
Presented by: BOB GILL AND MILES

FTIR ANALYSIS FOR THE DRUG AND  
TRACE CHEMIST  
Presented by: JEREMY MORRIS (4

INTRODUCTION TO MCMC METHODS  
FOR RESOLVING DNA MIXTURES  
Presented by: REBECCA KLIEN AND REZA  
ALAEDDINI (4 HOURS)

NATURAL PRODUCTS IN DRUG  
CHEMISTRY

TANYA PIERCE, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF  
LAW, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SCHOOL  
OF LAW (4 HOURS)

THE NATURE OF ALCOHOL:  
BLOOD VS BREATH  
Presented by: MACK COWAN (4 HOURS)

SWAFS NEWSLETTER

ANAB INTERNAL AUDITOR COURSE  
Presented by: ANSI-ASQ National  
Accreditation Board (3 ½ DAYS)

DIGITAL EVIDENCE TOPICS  
Presented by: RHONA WEDDEIREN AND  
KYLE GIBSON (4 HOURS)

FIREARMS TECHNOLOGY AND SPECIALIST  
TRAINING  
Presented by GUNLEARN.COM  
(3 ½ DAYS) WITH THE SHILEAN RIFLES

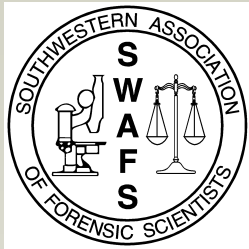
FUNDAMENTALS OF MASS SPECTROMETRY  
AND HYPHENATED MS TECHNIQUES AP-  
PLIED TO ANALYSIS OF DRUGS OF ABUSE,  
EXPLOSIVES, AND BIOTERRORISM  
Presented by: DR. GUIDO VERBECK  
(4 HOURS)

LOOKING BACK: HOW DRUNK WAS THE  
DRIVER?  
Presented by: SARAH SKILES (4 HOURS)

SURROGATE TESTIMONY: PERSPECTIVE  
AND PRACTICE  
Presented by: SHARLA HANKE AND LAURA  
HERNANDEZ (4 HOURS)

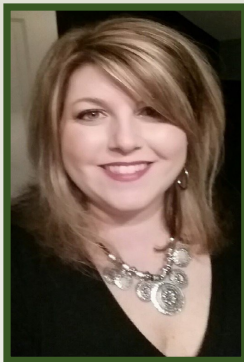
THE CANNABINOIDS AND OTHER  
EMERGING DRUGS  
Presented by: TERRY DAL CASON (4

TOXICOLOGY  
Presented by: DR. ROBERT JOHNSON  
(4 HOURS)



# *Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists, Inc.*

## OFFICERS



PRESIDENT  
Kay McClain



CHARIMAN OF THE BOARD  
Tamara Dallabetta-Keller



PRESIDENT - ELECT  
Alex Madrigal

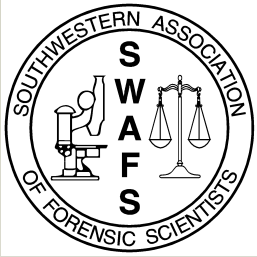


TREASURER  
Donna Williams



SECRETARY  
Marie Chance





# *Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists, Inc.*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



AZELL CARTER  
2015 - 2017



DAVID GOULDTHORPE  
2015 - 2017



AMY ARELLANO  
2016 - 2018



PAUL LANDVATTER  
2016 - 2018

# 2016-2017 COMMITTEES

## Admissions

Stacey Winkler - Chair  
Amy Arellano  
Paul Landvatter  
Terra Lucas  
Alex Madrigal

## Historical

Charles Cline - Chair  
Terry Gallegos  
Scott Sherrill  
Richele Theodore

## Membership

Laura Jo Cook - Chair  
Lauren McDonald  
Sharonda Tucker  
Richele Theodore

## Professional Conduct

Vanessa Walters - Chair  
Lee Garrett  
Derek Sanders  
Linda Littlejohn  
Raul Guajardo  
Joe Correa

## Audit

Amy Arellano - Chair  
Sharla McClosky  
Steve Mays

## Journal/Newsletter

Debbie Stephens – Chair  
Rebecca Strub

## Nominating

Christina Coucke - Chair

## Scholarship

Michelle O'Neal - Chair  
Azell Carter  
David Gouldthorpe  
Richele Theodore  
Christina Coucke-Garza

## Constitution/By-Laws

Krista Buck - Chair  
Shane Windsor

## Meeting Advisory

Azell Carter - Chair  
Kay McClain

## Peer Review

Chris Boydston - Chair  
Garon Foster


## Web Site

Patrick Tynan - Chair



Remember to encourage students to apply for the Floyd E. McDonald Scholarship Award. Each year, SWAFS will award \$1,000 to a student who is pursuing studies expected to lead to a career in a Forensic Science Profession.

Please see the SWAFS website: [www.swafs.us](http://www.swafs.us) for more details and a full application.



**Southwestern Association  
of Forensic Scientists, Inc.**

**FLOYD E. MCDONALD  
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**PURPOSE**  
*To recognize and encourage students to pursue studies to prepare them  
for a career in the forensic science profession.*

**SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS:**

An annual \$1,000 scholarship is available for an applicant who is attending a college or university in the United States of America. Permanent funding for the scholarship to be supplied from any or all of the following sources:

1. Donations from foundations, corporations and businesses.
2. Donations solicited from SWAFS members, other professional organizations and individuals.
3. Raffle(s) at the annual SWAFS Training Conference.
4. Online auction(s).
5. Provided from SWAFS general funds.

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

Applicants for scholarship funds must satisfy the following requirements:

1. Applicant must be entering their junior or senior year of a Bachelor of Science degree.
2. Applicant must be enrolled for at a minimum as a ½ time student (6 semester hours) with the intent of seeking a career in the Forensic Sciences with a Chemistry, Biology or Natural science major.
3. Applicant must have a grade point average of 3.0 or better.
4. Applicants related to SWAFS Board Members and/or Scholarship/Grant Committee Members are not eligible.

**ALL APPLICANTS WILL BE CONSIDERED WITHOUT REGARD TO  
AGE, RACE, SEX, RELIGION OR NATIONAL ORIGIN**

Revised 09/2015

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# SWAFS NEWSLETTER

## FINAL NOTE



Byron Max Courtney died Sunday morning, June 4, 2017, after an extended illness. He was 72. A celebration of Max's life was held at St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, Ft. Worth, Texas. Honorary bearers were officers of the Mansfield Police Department. Memorials: In lieu of flowers, consideration of contributions to the St. Stephen Presbyterian Church Choir, 2701 McPherson Ave., Fort Worth, TX 76109; the Southern Poverty Law Center, Post Office Box 2390, Montgomery, AL 36177-8331; or a charity of your choice, in his memory, is suggested. A lifelong Texan, Max was born Aug. 15, 1944, in Kermit, the son of Marion and Lena Donaghey Courtney. The family moved shortly thereafter to Odessa, where Max spent his childhood. He attended Permian High School, where he played football for the Permian Panthers, graduating in 1962. Max went to college at West Texas State University and earned a BS and MS in chemistry. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega and remained active with the fraternity all his life.



He moved to Fort Worth in 1969, where he worked on his Ph.D. at TCU, but he found his life's calling when he took a position in the Fort Worth PD Crime Lab. Max served there for 10 years and spent several more as an adjunct professor of Criminal Justice before opening a private lab, Forensic Consultant Services, where he solved homicides, did chemical analyses, operated breath test programs, and much more for many of the cities in and around the DFW Metroplex, as well as for the District Attorney's office and as a defense consultant. After closing his lab, he taught at Baylor University for several years, then worked for Mansfield PD until his retirement. Max's expertise was highly valued, and he was renowned for the scientific integrity and honesty of his work. He was a respected, award-winning member of the Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists, as well as the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, the Southern Association of Forensic Scientists, and the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors, and he was a founding member of the international Clandestine Laboratory Investigating Chemists organization.