

Official Publication
of the American Board
of Criminalistics

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Certification News

Volume 9 Issue 1 Winter 2002

“Professional Competency Certification in Criminalistics”

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Remembering a giant in science and so much more

Dr. Walter C. McCrone’s contributions to science in general and criminalistics in particular is legendary, but do you know the contribution he made to the ABC?

The certification of individual criminalists got its start in the mid 1970’s with a national effort funded by the federal government. Unfortunately, that attempt failed to produce a program when the community of forensic scientists was polled and they voted against implementing it at that time.

Dr. McCrone understood the importance of personal certification and the value it would bring to our profession. Therefore, after letting the idea sit for almost a decade and observing the success the CAC was having in the implementation of its regional certification, Dr. McCrone knew it was time to act. Using his own funds, Dr. McCrone hosted a meeting in Chicago. Invited to attend were the movers and shakers from the earlier certification attempt, along with the CAC Certification Committee chair and other interested parties. Thanks to Dr. McCrone’s interest, vision, and checkbook, the framework of the ABC was created and then handed off to the new generation to implement.

Dr. McCrone’s gift to the criminalistics profession is just one of his many accomplishments. The remainder of the President’s message is a reprint of a press release from the McCrone Institute chronicling his many achievements.

Jennifer Mihalovich – ABC President

Walter “Doc” McCrone

1916 – 2002

A pioneer in the science of chemical microscopy died in Chicago on July 10, 2002 at the age of 86.

Walter C. McCrone (1916 - 2002), the father of Modern Microscopy, revolutionized the use of and understanding of the light microscope for materials analysis, trained thousands of students worldwide in the use of microscopy, wrote hundreds of articles and books, gave thousands of presentations and lectures on microscopy, and developed numerous accessories, techniques, and methodologies to push the state-of-the-art in microscopy. He is better-known to the general public for his analytical work on the Shroud of Turin, the Vinland Map and various other famous works of art and antiquities.

McCrone was, at the same time, a humanitarian extraordinaire. He served on the Board of Directors of Ada S. McKinley Community Services, Inc. since 1951 and as Board President from 1964 to 1995. The Agency, a not-for-profit

human services organization, has 40 program locations, a staff of 560, an annual budget of \$40 million, and serves more than 15,000 clients annually throughout Chicago. In recognition of his many years of dedicated service to the Agency, in 1997 they dedicated their new facility in honor of Dr. McCrone, the *Walter C. McCrone Industries* facility. The facility houses 120 clients in its sheltered

- Dr. McCrone - the Father of Modern Microscopy and the Catalyst of the ABC

Presidents Message continued on page 2

The ABC Membership Directory

It is anticipated that the next ABC Membership Director will be distributed on CD. One printed, paper copy will be available to members at no cost, by request from the registrar.

To keep the Directory current – notify the registrar if your information changes.

Although it is still under construction, the list of certified members will be part of the newly designed web site. If you would like to have your name, address or phone number excluded from the site, please contact the registrar.

ABC Web Site

The ABC web site at www.criminalistics.com is being improved and updated. Check out the changes and report your opinions back to the Board of Directors or the webmaster.

THE ABC LOGO

An
Historical
Perspective



As the ABC was forming, Jo Ann Becker designed the ABC Logo. The five rays entering the prism represent the original five members of the ABC; CAC, MAAFS, SAFS, NEAFS, and MAFS. The founding Associations came together to form a unified certification program for the whole profession.

Since that date the membership has grown, but the logo continues to represent the roots of the ABC.

REMINDER

When adding your certification accomplishment to your signature block, the ABC encourages you to use

D- ABC for Diplomate

F-ABC for Fellow

S-ABC for Technical Specialist

Let these marks of distinction bring you recognition for the effort you put into meeting the certification challenge.

Look for the ABC Booth at a Meeting Near You

The ABC will have a more pronounced presence at professional gatherings.

The ABC booth, making its first appearance at the Atlanta AAFS meeting, will be prominently displayed at most of the regional and national meetings. Stop by, get free ABC signature items, and show your support for the ABC certification process.

American Board of Criminalistics Mission Statement

To raise the level of competence in Forensic Science through peer based certification and promotion of professional development.

The American Board of Criminalistics is dedicated to the highest quality standards and programs for certification of scientists involved in the administration of justice.

Changes in your Representation on the Board of Directors and Examination Committee

Welcome Incoming Members

Linda Jankowski – *Board of Directors, Member at Large Supported by MAAFS*

Mrs. Jankowski is the Laboratory Director for the New Jersey State Police DNA Laboratory, the State's only forensic DNA laboratory, located in Ewing, New Jersey.

One week after graduating with a B.A. in Biology from Gettysburg College, she began her career with the New Jersey State Police. Mrs. Jankowski was the first (and only) serologist at South Regional Laboratory, where she developed and supervised the Serology/Biochemistry program for over twenty-five years. In 1988, Mrs. Jankowski spent four months as a Visiting Scientist with the FBI in Quantico, Virginia, performing DNA research. In 1992, Mrs. Jankowski received an M.S. degree in Biology with a concentration in cell and molecular biology from Rutgers University. In 1994, under Linda's direction, the New Jersey State Police opened its doors for DNA testing.

She has been a strong supporter of individual national certification of forensic scientists since the concept arose in the mid seventies. In 1996, Linda became a Diplomate (certificate #614) and a Fellow (molecular biology) of the ABC. After years of advocacy in the New Jersey State Police Forensic Science Bureau, Linda was very influential in the administration's decision to fund ABC certification for the scientists in the Forensic Science Section.

Ms. Jankowski has 30 years of active involvement in the field of forensic science. She has chaired two annual meetings of the Mid Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientists, and served as its President in 2000. She has made numerous presentations and has several publications in the *Journal of Forensic Sciences*.

Bharat Lakhkar – *Board of Directors, Representing NEAFS*

Mr. Lakhkar has an M.S. in Chemistry from India and M.B.A. from Rutgers University. He has worked in the area of Forensic Science in N.J.S.P. and Westchester County Department of Laboratories and Research in the areas of Drugs, Toxicology, Arson and Quality Assurance. With a total experience of about 20 years.

Mr. Lakhkar is presently working (almost) full time as Quality Assurance Manager at Westchester County Department of Labs and Research.

He is proud to be a Diplomate and a Fellow (Drugs) of the ABC. His previous involvement with the ABC was as member of the G.K.E. Management Committee of in the early years of the G.K.E. The Westchester County Lab is extremely positive towards the ideas of Certification and Accreditation. About half of the Forensic staff are Diplomates (Fourteen) and they have four Fellows of ABC.

Mary Holt – *Examination Committee, Representing SAFS*

Thank you to Outgoing Members

Robert (Bob) Parsons

After 13 years of dedicated service to the ABC, Robert (Bob) Parsons, Forensic Chemist of the Indian River Regional Crime Lab, Ft. Pierce, FL, and a driving force in the ABC, has stepped down as the Southern Association of Forensic Scientists (SAFS) representative to the ABC Exam Committee, effective June of 2002. Bob has had a long tenure with the ABC, dating back to 1989 when he was appointed by SAFS as their first representative to the newly forming certification board. Bob was instrumental in helping to create the current GKE from the framework of the CAC Certification Exam. He was also the Drug Analysis Exam coordinator for the ABC Exam Committee and served many years as Vice Chairman of the ABC Exam Committee. Bob worked on forming the Drug Analysis Fellow Exam and Technical Specialist Exam with other drug analysts from around the country. He was instrumental in working on the sensitivity analysis of the exams and establishing KSA's for the exams.

The American Board of Criminalistics and SAFS are grateful for the energy, enthusiasm and hard work Bob has put in for the organizations over the past two decades. A couple of paragraphs does not do justice to the amount of time and effort Bob dedicated to the ABC and the positive impact certification has had on the profession of criminalistics. His work helped to make the ABC what it is today.

We wish him luck in his next endeavor, preparing his Laboratory in Ft. Pierce for ASCLD LAB Accreditation.

Good luck Bob and THANK YOU!

Judy O'Conner

Judy served the ABC for six years as the NEAFS representative to the Board of Directors. Her first involvement with the ABC was when she became a diplomate in 1993, followed by Fellow status in 1997. She worked hard to promote the ABC and helped to bring it to what it is today.

Judy, your participation and hard work will be missed. Thank you for everything.

ABC CALENDAR

PLEASE POST ON YOUR LABORATORY BULLETIN BOARD

| Date/Deadline | Event | For More Information, Contact: |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| February 19, 2003 Deadline December 19, 2003 | All ABC Exams, AAFS Meeting Chicago, Illinois | Jennifer Mihalovich 510/238-3386 |
| April 7-11, 2003 Deadline February 7, 2003 | All ABC Exams, CAC Meeting El Dorado Hotel, Reno, Nevada | Jennifer Mihalovich 510/238-3386 |
| May 7, 2003 Deadline March 7, 2003 | All ABC Exams, MAAFS | Susan Blankenship 301/739-8577 |
| May, 2003 Deadline March, 2003 | Special Offering – State of Alaska Crime Lab Anchorage, Alaska | Dave Green 440/350-2183 |
| May/June, 2003 Deadline March, 2003 | Special Offering – John Jay College New York, New York | Bharat Lakhkar 914/231-1630 |
| May 5-8, 2003 Deadline March 5, 2003 | All ABC Exams, SAFS Meeting Hyatt Regency Hotel, Savannah, Georgia | Mike Healy 941/747-3011 |
| May 7, 2003 Deadline March, 2003 | All ABC Exams, MAAFS Meeting Annapolis, Maryland | Susan Blankenship 301/739-8577 |
| June 5, 2003 Deadline April 5, 2003 | Special Offering – Main State Police Augusta, Maine | Al Lyter 919/848-3696 |
| October 2003 Deadline August, 2003 | All ABC Exams, CAC Meeting San Diego, California | Greg Matheson 213/847-0043 |
| October 18-24, 2003 Deadline August 18, 2003 | All ABC Exams, MAFS Meeting Hyatt Regency Hotel, Columbus, Ohio | Dave Green 440/350-2183 |
| November 2003 Deadline September 2003 | All ABC Exams, NEAFS Meeting Pittsfield, Massachusetts | Bharat Lakhkar 914/231-1630 |
| February 2004 | All ABC Exams, AAFS Meeting | Jennifer Mihalovich 510/238-3386 |
| May, 2004 Deadline March, 2004 | All ABC Exams, CAC Meeting San Mateo County, California | Jennifer Mihalovich 510/238-3386 |
| Spring, 2004 | All ABC Exams, SAFS Meeting New Iberia, Louisiana | Mike Healy 941/747-3011 |
| Fall, 2004 | All ABC Exams, SAFS Meeting Orlando, Florida | Mike Healy 941/747-3011 |
| October 2004 Deadline August, 2004 | All ABC Exams, CAC Meeting Ventura, California | Greg Matheson 213/847-0043 |

Plan ahead and prepare yourself for one of the offerings listed above, or.....

The ABC will proctor a test at your lab!

Are your colleagues having a hard time getting to a test offering?

Make life easier and encourage your colleagues by bringing the test to them.

All you need is for five or more people to register and the ABC will cover the expenses of getting an ABC test administrator to your site. Even if there are only 1 to 4 people, the ABC will absorb half the cost.

Contact the ABC registrar, Mike Haas, at 715.845.3684 to get the ball rolling.

To arrange to sit for an examination, you must contact the Registrar by letter or fax (715-845-4156) by the deadline listed.

Local contacts are provided for conference information only.

To arrange for ABC Exams to be administered in your laboratory, contact your regional representative.

NOTES FROM THE REGISTRAR



Replacement ABC lapel pins can be purchased from the Registrar for \$10: Make checks payable to the ABC. Additional ABC lapel pins can be purchased by certificate holders for \$10 each. There is not a separate lapel pin for Fellows.

CHANGES TO THE MEMBER DIRECTORY

Starting with the next distribution, the ABC Member Directory will be distributed to all members on a CD in PDF format.

One paper print-out of the Directory will be provided, upon request to the registrar, to members unable to utilize the new CD version of the directory. Additional copies of the directory, on CD or paper print-out can be purchased by members for \$10.

The ABC no longer utilizes the AAFS Offices for maintenance of records. Therefore, changes of address reported to the AAFS for your AAFS Membership will not be forwarded to the ABC Registrar's Office. The ABC cannot track our certificate holders without current addresses, so in order to better serve our certificate holders, changes of address must be reported directly to the ABC Registrar's Office.

ABC Shirt Order Form

White short sleeve
Polo shirt
W/ ABC logo
100% cotton

\$27 plus \$3 shipping and handling
No exchanges or refunds



**American Board
of Criminalistics**

| M | L | XL | Price | Total |
|---|---|----|--------------|-------|
| | | | \$30.00 each | |

Name: _____

Address: _____

Mail this form with a check payable to the ABC to:

American Board of Criminalistics
P.O. Box 1123
Wausau, WI 54402-1123

ABC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| President | <i>Jennifer Mihalovich</i> - CAC Oakland Police Department Crime Lab 510/238-3386 jsmihalovich@oaklandnet.com |
| Vice President | <i>Gregory B. Matheson</i> - CAC At Large Los Angeles Police Dept. Crime Laboratory 213/847-0043 GBM1@aol.com |
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| At Large | <i>Linda Jankowski</i> - MAAFS At-Large New Jersey State Police 609/671-0022 N011jankowskiL@qw.njsp.org |

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Certification News is the official publication of the American Board of Criminalistics. Published semi-annually in summer and winter. Address questions or comments to:

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Presidents Message Continued:

workshop program and provides intake, evaluation, and job placement for more than 1,000 program participants annually. He also served on the boards of VanderCook College of Music, Chicago and The Campbell Center for Historic Preservation Studies in Mt. Carroll, IL.

McCrone was born in Wilmington, Delaware on June 9, 1916. He grew up mainly in New York State and attended Cornell University where he completed his undergraduate degree in Chemistry in 1938 and was graduated with a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry in 1942.

After two post-doc years at Cornell University, McCrone accepted a position as a chemist (microscopist and materials scientist) at Armour Research Foundation (now, IITRI) from 1944 thru 1956 where he rose to become Assistant Chairman of the Chemistry and Chemical Engineering Department. In 1956, McCrone left the structured world of the University to become an independent consultant and, on April 1, 1956 he founded McCrone Associates, Inc., Chicago (now located in Westmont, IL) an analytical consulting firm that grew from a one man/one microscope consulting service to a world renowned materials science facility dedicated to microscopy, crystallography, and ultramicroanalysis, now serving more than 2000 clients each year.

In 1960, McCrone founded McCrone Research Institute, Chicago, a not-for-profit organization devoted to the teaching and research of light and electron microscopy. In its 42 years, the Institute has taught over 20,000 students in all facets of microscopy. The Institute remains a leading educational facility within the world of microscopy. As Director of the Chicago Institute, he expanded its activities to include McCrone Scientific, the sister organization in London, England.

Dr. McCrone was also the editor and publisher of *The Microscope*, an international journal started by Arthur Barron in 1937 and dedicated to the advancement of all forms of microscopy for the biologist, mineralogist, metallographer, and chemist. *The Microscope* publishes original, previously unpublished, works from the microscopical community and serves as the proceedings of the INTER/MICRO microscopy symposia held in Chicago each year. It emphasizes new advances in microscope design, new accessories, new techniques, and unique applications to the study of particles, fibers, films, or surfaces of any material whether inorganic, organic or biological.

During his 60-year career as a chemical microscopist, McCrone published more than 600 technical papers and 16 books and chapters. *The Particle Atlas*, his best known publication, written with other McCrone Associates staff members, appeared as a single volume in 1970 and as a six-volume second edition in 1973. Today, it is available on CD-ROM and is still recognized as one of the best handbooks available for solving materials analysis problems.

McCrone received world-wide attention and acclaim for his work with the Shroud of Turin Research Project in 1978.

McCrone's contentious conclusion that the Turin Shroud is a medieval painting was subsequently vindicated by carbon-14 dating in 1988. In 2000 he received the American Chemical Society National Award in Analytical Chemistry for his work on the Turin Shroud and for his tireless patience in the defense of his work for nearly 20 years.

Throughout his remarkable and outstanding career as a pioneer in microscopy and microscopical techniques, McCrone received many other honors and awards. A few of these honors follow: in 1970, the Benedetti-Pichler award in microchemistry from the American Microchemical Society; in 1977 the Ernst Abbe Award of the New York Microscopical Society; in 1981 the Anachem Award of the Association of Analytical Chemists; in 1982, the Certificate of Merit from the Forensic Science Foundation; in 1984, the Distinguished Service Award (Paul Kirk Award) of the Criminalistics Section of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences; in 1988, the Madden Distinguished Service Award, VanderCook College of Music; in 1990, the Irving Selikoff Award of the National Asbestos Council; in 1990, the Founder's Day Award and in 1991, the Roger Green Award of the California Association of Criminalists; in 1991, the Fortissimo Award, VanderCook College of Music; in 1993, the Public Affairs Award of the Chicago Section, American Chemical Society; in 1999, the Emile Chamot Award from the State Microscopical Society of Illinois, and just in June of 2002, he received the August Köhler Award from the State Microscopical Society of Illinois and is the only person to have received both the Society's awards.

McCrone and his wife Lucy recently took advantage of the Cornell Campaign Challenge to complete funding for a professorship in the College of Arts and Sciences. Named the Emile M. Chamot Professorship in Chemistry, it honors Emile Monnin Chamot, a Cornell professor of chemical microscopy.

Walter McCrone is survived by his wife, Lucy, who is also an accomplished microscopist and has shared Walter's love of microscopy, working along side her husband for over 40 years.

Contributions can be made in his name to the Walter C. McCrone Scholarship Fund for Advanced Microscopy Studies, c/o McCrone Research Institute, 2820 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60616.