

# NEIAI Newsletter

**NEBRASKA DIVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR IDENTIFICATION**

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NEIAI

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NEBET9/18

# NEIAI 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Educational Conference



The NEIAI 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Educational Conference will be held on **April 2-3, 2019** at the Peter Kiewit Lodge, located at Mahoney State Park in Ashland, Nebraska.

For registration information (conference and workshops), schedule, and payment options, refer to the NEIAI website. **Please be sure to check the website often for important changes/updates to the schedule, as we are still actively in the planning phase.**

[www.neiai.org](http://www.neiai.org)



As voted on and approved by the membership during the 2018 Business Meeting, **the fee for the 2019 Conference will be \$50** (this fee includes the two-day attendance of the conference and a one-year membership with the NEIAI).

### **Other notes to remember:**

- The conference is tentatively set to run from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on both days; and registration will occur from 7:00 am to 8:00 am.
- Lunch will be available onsite through Caddy's Parkside Grill (we are working with the restaurant to put together a buffet style lunch for conference attendees).
- Due to the overwhelming success and attendance of last year's **President Reception**, we will again be hosting this event at **Cabin 53!** Please plan on joining us after classes on Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> for food, fun and networking! More information about this event will be coming soon.



There are several positions on the NEIAI Board of Directors that will be open for election/re-election at the upcoming conference. Elections will be held during the business meeting on Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. All Board of Directors terms are held for two years. If you are interested in serving on the NEIAI Board of Directors, please contact Robert Hurley at [lpd882@cjis.lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:lpd882@cjis.lincoln.ne.gov). The NEIAI is always looking for new members willing to help the Division and offer fresh ideas. Visit our website ([www.neiai.org](http://www.neiai.org)) for more information on the position duties and requirements for running.

**Board positions up for election/re-election in 2019:**

- Vice President
- Newsletter Editor
- Webmaster
- Board Member at large

***2019 NEIAI Photo Contest: Calling All Photographers!!***



The NEIAI photo contest is an opportunity for our members to show off their photography skills and possibly win a \$25 gift card (one per category)! If you are interested in entering the 2019 Photo Contest, refer to the NEIAI website ([www.neiai.org](http://www.neiai.org)) for official contest rules and entry form, or contact Sarah Zarnick at [sarah.zarnick@nebraska.gov](mailto:sarah.zarnick@nebraska.gov). We would love to see your photos!! The 2019 Photo Contest Categories are:

- **Forensics/Crime Scene/Law Enforcement**
- **Nature/Scenery**
- **People**
- **Animals**

# *Harold Moon Scholarship*

Since 2004, the NEIAI has annually awarded a \$500 scholarship to one **active member** for use towards the attendance of the annual International Association for Identification (IAI) Educational Conference.

This scholarship is named after Harold W. Moon. Mr. Moon was one of the foremost document examiners in the Midwest and was instrumental in forming the Nebraska Chapter of the IAI (NEIAI). When the NEIAI was chartered on June 14, 1985, Mr. Moon served as the first elected president.



Christie VanAndel of the Nebraska State Patrol Criminal Identification Division, was awarded the \$500 Harold Moon Scholarship at last year's NEIAI conference. This award was given to Christie in order to help her attend the 2018 IAI conference in San Antonio, Texas.

### **In order to qualify for the Harold Moon Scholarship, you must:**

- Attend the 2019 IAI Annual Educational Conference in Reno, Nevada on August 11-17, 2019;  
For more information on the 2019 IAI Conference, visit the IAI's website:  
**[www.theiai.org/conferece](http://www.theiai.org/conferece)**
- Be an active member of the NEIAI in good standing;
- Be a forensic practitioner (i.e. crime scene technician, forensic scientist, officer, etc.);
- Complete a scholarship application form and provide an essay stating your personal and/or departmental training needs;
- After attending the IAI conference, you must provide a written synopsis to the NEIAI Board of Directors in regards to the training you received, overall conference experience, etc.

All applications (form and essay) must be received by **March 29, 2019**, in order to be considered for the 2019 Harold Moon Scholarship. For more information and the application form, please visit [www.neiai.org](http://www.neiai.org) and click on the Harold Moon Scholarship link.

## 2018 Harold Moon Scholarship Recipient Essay

While applying for the Harold Moon Scholarship I created a number of objectives I wanted to cover if approved to attend the 2018 International Association for Identification (IAI) Annual Educational Conference. As a supervisor of seven tenprint operators and two tenprint workflow assistants, my objectives included expanding my tenprint knowledge, learning more about the tenprint operator training plans from agencies outside of the Nebraska State Patrol, increasing my awareness of outside agency AFIS database systems and their unique features, and furthering my progress in becoming IAI tenprint certified.

After being awarded the Harold Moon Scholarship during the 2018 Nebraska Division of the International Association for Identification (NEIAI) Annual Educational Conference, my chain of command at the Nebraska State Patrol approved my request to attend the Conference in San Antonio, Texas, July 30 – August 3.

One of the many requirements for IAI tenprint certification is courtroom testimony training. Due to our agency's training budget restrictions, receiving approval to attend courtroom testimony training outside of the Conference would be a difficult task. Keeping this in mind, I centered my Conference workshop and lecture schedule on the courtroom testimony training. I attended Pat Wertheim's *Developing Courtroom Skills: Testimony as a Form of Public Speaking* daylong workshop and a four-hour workshop, *Courtroom Testimony, a Practical Approach*, presented by Jeff Goudeau. The daylong workshop was a comprehensive introduction to courtroom testimony with four individual practical exercises. The four-hour workshop was more informative and did not include practical exercises. I was very impressed with the workshop quality and felt confident in the knowledge and experience gained from both workshops.

I met my tenprint operator-related objectives by attending a daylong workshop, *Fingerprint Pattern Interpretation: A Lost Art Form?*, presented by Sandy Siegel and by networking with tenprint operators working for agencies outside the state of Nebraska. There was a discrepancy between the workshop description provided during the registration process and the workshop content presented at the Conference. The workshop presented at the Conference was essentially an introduction to fingerprint pattern classification; however, I turned this workshop into an opportunity to learn from the other workshop attendees. I learned from the other workshop attendees and some of the tenprint operators attending the Conference that their agencies were still utilizing the Henry Classification System to categorize arrest fingerprint cards and conduct their tenprint verifications. Because Nebraska does not utilize the Henry Classification System for these purposes any longer and, instead, benefits from an Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS), this drastically reduced my opportunities at the Conference to learn from these agencies about their tenprint operator training plans and unique AFIS features.

Due to the courtroom workshops I registered for and the timing and availability of the other workshops and lectures offered, I was required to pick and choose wisely any additional workshops and lectures I wanted to attend. I was hesitant to register for a workshop focused on supervision at the Conference, but as a supervisor, I did want to partake in some additional training on how to improve my leadership skills. I attended a three-hour workshop, *Become a Better Leader*, presented by Jennifer Greene and I did not regret my decision to attend. I have attended several supervision and leadership trainings; however, I have always been the only attendee from the biometric identification/forensic science field. During this workshop, I learned more about my leadership style, strengths, and weaknesses than I had learned in my previous trainings combined. It was unbelievably beneficial to be in this type of a workshop with other attendees (around 20) in my same field. Topics of discussion included how to better balance budget restrictions with mandatory training requirements, supervising staff with analytic and detail-oriented

## *2018 Harold Moon Scholarship Recipient Essay*

mindsets, and how to increase cohesion between civilian and sworn staff.

In addition to these workshops, I attended several lectures that made me further appreciate the work that those in our field do every day. We can learn so much from our peers, so it was a tremendous learning opportunity to sit in on these lectures.

There were plenty of opportunities made available for Conference attendees to socialize and network at planned events. In addition to an orientation and reception for first time attendees, there was a vendor exhibition reception and a closing banquet. I also benefited from the Conference sponsored networking event that was organized based upon an attendee's discipline. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting Conference attendees from near and far.

I am so very grateful for the knowledge and experience obtained from attending this Conference. This would not have been possible without the assistance from the Harold Moon Scholarship. The Nebraska State Patrol and I sincerely thank you for helping make this training opportunity a reality. I look forward to passing along all that I learned to my team and I highly recommend others in the field of forensic science and biometric identification to attend this Conference.

Thank you so very much for this opportunity!

--- Christie VanAndel ---

**104<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL FORENSIC EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE  
RENO, NEVADA ON AUGUST 11 - 17, 2019**

**YOUR *Odds* ARE BETTER WITH THE IAI**  
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**The IAI's Annual Educational Conference meets the core aspects of the IAI Mission  
- education and professional development.**

**There will be a full week of high-quality, cutting-edge education and hands-on training  
in forensic physical evidence examination and crime scene processing.**

**The 2019 IAI Conference will be self-contained in the Peppermill Resort.**

**[www.theiai.org/conference](http://www.theiai.org/conference)**

# *The other guys are just all wet.*

## **Moisture. Humidity. Contaminants.**

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NEBEB8/17



# 2019 NEIAI Conference Workshops



*At this time, we have the following workshops planned for the 2019 Conference:*

## **Documentation & Recovery of 2D Impression Evidence**

*Jason Cole, Foster + Freeman*

**3 Hours**

**Workshop is limited to 20 attendees**

Footwear impressions can reveal, in many cases, the type, make, design and approximate or precise size of the footwear that made them. This can be done through class and individual characteristics that are visible in the impression. The information can often assist in identifying a suspect. In addition, the location of footwear impressions at the scene can often help to reconstruct the crime. The presence, characteristics and condition of the impression can assist in determining the number of suspects involved, their path through and away from the crime scene, their involvement in the crime, and the events that occurred during the crime. Footwear impressions at crime scenes can also be used to corroborate or refute information provided by other witnesses. This hands-on workshop is designed to help the student learn the best methods for recovering 2D footwear impression evidence. The collection of exemplar prints will also be discussed and new technology/methods demonstrated.

## **Redefining Possibilities: The Development of Latent Fingermarks from Cartridge Casings and Cleaned Metals Using a Novel Vapor Phase Technique**

*Jason Cole, Foster + Freeman*

**2 Hours**

**Lecture/Demo Workshop**

This presentation will begin by providing attendees with a background to a new novel chemical fuming process that has been shown to offer significant advantages over traditional latent fingerprint enhancement processes across a range of metallic substrates (copper, brass, stainless steel, etc.). Described by the UK Ministry of Defense as 'revolutionary' and 'ground-breaking', the unique ability of this process to recover fingerprint ridge patterns when none of the latent fingerprint residue actually remains on the substrate (i.e. the surface has been wiped clean, washed, submerged in water, heated, or a combination of these) will be explored and practical examples illustrated and discussed.

## 2019 NEIAI Conference Workshops

### Comparison of Plantar Friction Ridge Impressions

*Jon Stimac, Ron Smith & Associates*

**4 Hours**

**Workshop is limited to 15 attendees**

**Magnifying glass is required**

Due to their infrequent submission into forensic laboratories, friction ridge impressions originating from the foot/sole that have been recovered at the scene of a crime can challenge even the most tenured comparison analyst. This four-hour workshop is designed to provide the participant with the biological fundamentals, legal admissibility scenarios and a tangible practical comparison experience with plantar friction ridge impressions. This workshop will not address classification or recording techniques.



### An Understanding and the Comparison of Latent Palm Prints

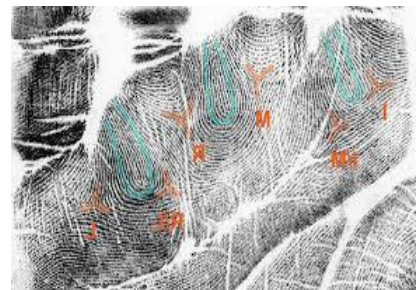
*Jon Stimac, Ron Smith & Associates*

**4 Hours**

**Workshop is limited to 15 attendees**

**Magnifying glass is required**

Directly taken from Jon's RS&A course Latent Print Search & Comparison Techniques, this four-hour workshop is dedicated to the friction ridge skin of the palms. Beginning with a lecture on the anatomical aspects of the palm, attendees will then be occupied in practical exercise. Initially becoming familiar with the key creases and regions of the palms, several different associative and comparison exercises will supplement the attendee's knowledge and experience with palmar friction ridge impressions.



# 2019 NEIAI Conference Workshops

## Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Utilizing FARO Zone 3D Analysis

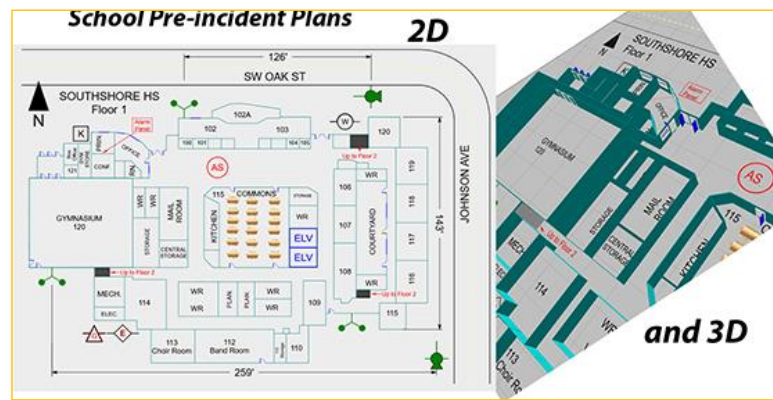
**Brenda Butler, FARO**

**4 Hours**

**Workshop is limited to 20 attendees**

**Computers will be provided by FARO for use during the workshop**

Utilizing 3D technology provides a unique opportunity for the crime scene investigator to analyze bloodstain patterns after leaving the crime scene. Through analysis of the individual spatter stain, questions can be answered such as where the victim was when the blood shedding event occurred and other investigative questions relating to the bloodstain patterns long after the scene was processed. This workshop will provide attendees with the opportunity to use 3D software to document a bloodstain pattern using a laser scanner and an opportunity to perform an area of origin analysis utilizing the FARO Zone 3D software.



For more information regarding classes/instructors and/or products, please feel free to visit the following websites:

[www.ronsmithandassociates.com](http://www.ronsmithandassociates.com)

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[www.faro.com/products](http://www.faro.com/products)



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## *2019 NEIAI Conference Lectures*



*At this time, we have the following lectures planned for the 2019 Conference:*

### **Exclusions: A Problematic Conclusion!?**

*Jon Stimac, Ron Smith & Associates*

There has been much recent discussion on concept and practice of documenting and reporting exclusions. Week-long training courses have been created to assist us in formulating these conclusions as accurately as possible. But will training and discussion resolve the concern with the high-rate of errors association with exclusions? This lecture will discuss the possible differences in how we reach the conclusion of either 'exclusion' or 'individualization'. Definition, policy and standards associated with exclusions will also be discussed, including 'root cause' assessment of casework involving erroneous exclusions. The lecture will conclude with a discussion of the possible cognitive factors that may affect the exclusion process.

### **Nikko Jenkins Case Study**

*Jen Tinsley, Douglas County Sheriff's Office*

A mother, leaving work after a long shift, was brutally ripped from her vehicle and murdered in cold blood; left to die alone in a quiet intersection of Northwest Omaha. The killer--unknown at the time. This case relied heavily on both forensics and 'boots on pavement' investigative techniques. Learn how the Douglas County Sheriff's Office was able to get a death penalty sentencing for this seemingly random act of violence.



## *2019 NEIAI Conference Lectures*

### **NamUs: Resources for Missing, Unidentified, and Unclaimed Person Cases**

*Melissa Gregory, NamUs*

Ms. Gregory will familiarize attendees with the scope of the missing and unidentified person problem across the United States, as well as issues that have impeded information sharing amongst criminal justice agencies. She'll also inform attendees about the biometric and analytical resources available to law enforcement, medical examiners, and coroners on missing, unidentified, and unclaimed person cases. Finally, Ms. Gregory will touch on updated NamUs technology including how to utilize the online system.



### **ViCAP**

*Special Agent John Hallock, FBI*

The Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (ViCAP) maintains the largest investigative repository of major violent crime cases in the U.S. It is designed to collect and analyze information about homicides, sexual assaults, missing persons, and other violent crimes involving unidentified human remains. ViCAP is part of the FBI's National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime, and operates under the Critical Incident Response Group. This lecture will provide attendees with an overview of what ViCAP is and how it can be a useful tool for Law Enforcement.

### **Behavioral Analysis Unit (BAU) Overview/Boy in the Bunker Case Study**

*Supervisory Special Agent Molly Amman, FBI*

SSA Molly Amman, a recent alumna of the Behavioral Analysis Unit (BAU) at Quantico, Virginia, will provide an overview of the five separate BAUs at Quantico, including program coverage, noteworthy cases examples, and procedures for soliciting assistance. Following this overview, SSA Amman will provide an in-depth case study presentation regarding a high-profile murder-abduction deployment which occurred in rural Midland City, Alabama, in 2013. In late January 2013, Jimmy Lee Dykes boarded a school bus, murdered the driver, and abducted five-year-old hostage Ethan Gilman. Over the course of the following six days, the FBI deployed a full response package from the Critical Incident Response Group and nearby field offices including crisis negotiators, hostage rescue assets, behavioral analysts, bomb technicians, crisis management specialists, evidence identification and collection specialists, media and information assets, and more; SSA Amman was part of this deployed response group as the lead profiler. She will walk the audience through those six days as they progressed and devolved to the point of necessitating a rescue.

# 2019 NEIAI Conference Lectures

## Sexual Assault Victims & Evidence Collection

*Anne Boatright, State Forensic Nursing Coordinator*

This lecture will cover the following topics:

- Identify basic signs of trafficking and sexual assault in Nebraska.
  - Discuss sex trafficking facts
  - Review of national and local sex trafficking and sexual assault data to illustrate the impact
  - Discuss average age, risk factors, trafficker tactics and warning signs – What things to look for in clinic patients and how to identify victims
  - Identify the healthcare implications of sex trafficking
  - Describe the role of the forensic nurse and why this role is necessary
- Respond effectively to assist victims
  - Identify the most beneficial screening questions and when/how to ask them
  - Examine how to respond if someone discloses, including mandatory reporting, proper responses and minimal facts interviews
- Know local resources for victims of trafficking and sexual assault
  - Identify the current progress of local efforts to minimize sex trafficking
  - Identify common injuries present in both
  - Discuss Sexual Assault Evidence Collection kit contents for Nebraska
  - National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline or text option
  - Nebraska Child Advocacy Centers (CAC's)



## Addressing the Untested Sexual Assault Kit Backlog in Nebraska

*Jason Linder, NSP Crime Laboratory DNA Section Manager*

This presentation will provide an overview of what the Nebraska State Patrol Crime Laboratory is doing to address the Untested Sexual Assault Kit Backlog in Nebraska. Participants will get a better understanding of what steps they should consider when participating in this project.



## *Vendor Appreciation*

We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the following vendors for their continued support and contributions to the NEIAI. Without them, our organization could not provide the high quality conferences/trainings that we have been able to. On behalf of the NEIAI Board of Directors and the membership, we thank you!



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The Nebraska Division of the International Association for Identification (NEIAI) is a non-profit organization for those professionals engaged in forensic identification, investigation, and scientific examination of physical evidence. In support of this goal, and in collaboration with our parent organization the International Association for Identification (IAI) the NEIAI has these goals:

- To associate persons who are actively engaged in the profession of forensic identification, forensic investigation, forensic education, and the scientific examination of physical evidence in an organized body within the State of Nebraska, so that the profession in all of its branches may be standardized and effectively and scientifically practiced.
- To encourage the advancement and improvement of the science of forensic identification and crime detection.
- To keep its members apprised of the latest techniques and discoveries in crime scene detection.
- To encourage research work in scientific crime detection.
- To raise the standards of all personnel engaged in scientific crime detection.
- To employ the collective wisdom of the profession to advance the scientific techniques of forensic identification and crime detection.
- To provide training, education and publication in forensic science disciplines represented by the Nebraska Division of the International Association for Identification.
- To work closely with the International Association for Identification, in furthering the profession of identification generally.

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