

THE IDENTIFIER



https://www.reddit.com/r/mildlyinteresting/comments/mkk7p2/oil_left_from_someones_finger_collected_pollen_my/

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Letter from the President
- Officer Meeting Recap/Meet the officers
- SCIAI Announcements
- SCIAI Spring Conference Information and Schedule
- SCIAI Merchandise
- In the News: Drones could spot Crime Scenes from Afar
- Fun in Forensics
- Upcoming Training/Employment Opportunities



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy Spring SCIAI Members!

I can't believe that our Annual Conference is just around the corner, May 9-11th in Charleston, SC! I hope to see all of you there! With that- it also means the end of my term as President. I have enjoyed the pleasure of serving you all over this last year and I hope that my time here has been a benefit to this division. With that being said, I am not "abandoning ship" but will instead take on my role as Chair of our Board of Directors. The board functions to ensure the long-term stability and goals of the division as well as assisting/mentoring officers in their roles. This Board of Directors function will continue to expand as our division does ensuring our division is active and thriving!



Officers serve an important role in the division. We simply cannot function without people participating and volunteering to help lead this organization. I have served as Historian and President now- being active since the division's re-emergence in 2017. Watching us grow and seeing my part in it has been so fulfilling. **WE NEED YOU!** If you are interested in stepping up (or want to nominate someone) into an officer role this upcoming year please email me (sprattl@charleston-sc.gov). Elections will be held at our upcoming Business Meeting at the conference on May 9th. With the passage of our proposed amendments, our officer positions next year will be: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian. If those of us who have served in the past were able to contribute to the organization on top of our careers/family/lives/ etc. then you can too! Something to keep on your radar is that annual dues (\$50) are due by July 1st. You will see reminders coming out after the conference. These dues allow us to provide these trainings and conferences at a reduced (often free) rate and ensure we secure high quality speakers.

Thank you all again for allowing me to serve you this last year and I look forward to seeing some new folks involved in the division this year.

Stay safe!

Luke Spratt

SCIAI President 2022-2023



OFFICER MEETING RECAP

During the February 28th virtual meeting, attending officers discussed the plans for the SCIAI Spring Conference that is quickly approaching in May 2023. President Spratt discussed the socials that will be sponsored for Monday night (Welcome Reception: May 8th) prior to the conference and Wednesday night during the conference (Evening Social: May 10th). President Spratt discussed the agenda and the list of speakers that are going to be present and a tentative schedule for the 3-day conference. Vendors were also discussed and the fees paid so far. Parking for attendees was also discussed as a reserved parking lot near the venue. President Spratt also discussed some future plans he has for the SCIAI to include condensing officer positions and/or a functioning board of directors for past presidents. If anyone is interested in becoming an officer for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, please email sprattl@charleston-sc.gov



MEET THE OFFICERS

- **Luke Spratt — President**
- **Chris Wilson — 1st Vice President**
- **Anita Moore — 2nd Vice President & Historian**
- **Chris Gary — Secretary &
State Representative**
- **Harold Bouknight — Sergeant at Arms**
- **Tyler Bucholtz — Treasurer**
- **Brittany Brown — Editor**
- **Jeffrey Scott — Vendor Representative**



SCIAI ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ALL MEMBERS are encouraged to review the SCIAI constitution and by-laws posted on the website located under the News tab.
- Submissions for case study features and Member Spotlights are open. We want to highlight our members and interesting or unique cases that you have personally been involved with. If you would like to see yourself, a coworker, or one of your cases featured, please contact the Editor at bribrown@greenvillecounty.org
- Have a topic you would like to see covered or have an article you would like to submit for future issues of *The Identifier*? Submit your proposals to the Editor at bribrown@greenvillecounty.org – guest authors are welcome!
- If you've taken a newsletter appropriate forensic related photograph that you would like to see featured in an upcoming issue of The Identifier – Please contact the Editor at bribrown@greenvillecounty.org!
- President Spratt has proposed the consolidation of a number of the officer positions and absorb them into other positions. This proposition will be voted on during the business meeting at the Spring Conference in Charleston in May. President Spratt proposed the following officer positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian. Please reference the emails sent by President Spratt for further information.
- Officer elections will take place during the Business Meeting on May 9th 2023 at the Conference in Charleston.

If you still need to register
for the conference, CLICK HERE!

SCIAI 2023 Conference

May 9-11, 2023

South Carolina Division of the IAI
www.sciai.org



CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Location:

College of Charleston- Sciences and Mathematics Building

~ 202 Calhoun St., Charleston, SC, 29403 ~

Registration:

Registration open to Forensic Scientists, Crime Scene Investigators, Detectives, Law Enforcement, Attorneys/ Solicitors/ Judges, and Criminal Justice/ Forensic Science Students

Members: \$80; Non-Members \$160

(\$50 active/associate memberships-available on sciai.org)

Student Members: Free; Student Non-Members \$50

(\$35 student membership-available on sciai.org)

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/HtuQMa1zflcXVeEyR8>

HOTEL INFORMATION

*Embassy Suites by Hilton
Charleston Historic
District*

Address: 337 Meeting St.,
Charleston, SC, 29403

SCIAI Rate: \$228/night (rate matches government rate; includes free breakfast and happy hour, parking is \$25/night)

The Embassy Suites is within walking distance (3 blocks away) from the conference location. Rooms are suite style- bedroom separate from the living room area and come in 1 king or 2 queens.

Booking Link:
www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/sciai-charleston-2023/

Room Rate/Block Expires 30 days prior to the event





Welcome Reception

Monday May 8th @ 7pm-9pm

Kudu Coffee and Craft Beer

4 Vanderhorst St., Charleston, SC, 29403

2 Drinks (beer, wine, cider) and Desserts provided

(add'l drinks for purchase)

Event sponsored by:

Data Works

DataWorks Plus

SCIAI 2023 Spring Conference

DAY 1

Tuesday May 9th, 2023

College of Charleston Mathematics and Science Building- 202 Calhoun St., Charleston, SC, 29403

TIME	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3
8:00-8:30am	Registration/ Check In/ Breakfast		
8:30-9:00	Opening Ceremony, Introductions, Presentation of the Colors, Group Photo		
9:00-10:30	<p>"Pulse Nightclub Shooting" - Kayla Rivera, Scott Smith, and Cassandra Foster- Orlando Police Department</p>		
10:30-12:00	<p>"The Bloody Barefoot Killer: Case Study" - Kayla Rivera, Scott Smith, and Cassandra Foster- Orlando Police Department</p>	<p>"Unlocking the Keys to Effective Communication: Strategies for Forensic Supervisors" - Ashley Church-Gap Science</p>	<p>"Forensic Comparative Science - Irritations and Insights" (10:30-11:30) -John Vanderkolk- Unique Forensics</p>
12:00-1:30	Catered Lunch/ SCIAI Business Meeting		
1:30-5:30	<p>"Crime Scene Documentation Workshop" - Casson Reynolds- North Carolina Justice Academy</p>	<p>"Creating Impartial Identification Evidence and Tips for Confronting Direct and Cross-Examination" - Stephen Kryston- Cavanaugh & Thickers, LLC</p>	<p>"Determining Thresholds While Comparing Shapes in Latent Print Examinations" (limit 25) - John Vanderkolk- Unique Forensics</p>

*** Schedule/ Presentations Subject to Change ***

SCIAI 2023 Spring Conference

DAY 2

Wednesday May 10th, 2023

College of Charleston Mathematics and Science Building- 202 Calhoun St., Charleston, SC, 29403

TIME	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3	Atrium
8:00-8:30	Registration/ Check In (Coffee and Pastries)			Vendor Hall (All Day)
8:30-9:30	"Inconclusive Decisions – The Achilles Heel of Latent Print Examination" - John Black, Black & White Forensics	"HRSI: The Intricacies of Investigating a Hunting-Related Shooting Incident Property Damage Case" - John Dobies, NY Dept. of Envr. Conservation (Ret.); L-Tron Corporation		
9:30-10:30	Break- Vendor Hall			
10:30-12:00	"Introduction to Fracture Examination" - John Vanderkolk, Unique Forensics	"Forensic Internships" - Alexis Rentas- Orlando Police Department		
12:00-1:30	Lunch on Your Own			
1:30-3:30	"Basic Latent Fingerprint Examination" - Anita Moore - North Charleston PD	"Grouping FCCs for the Crime Scene Investigator (2 hr workshop) (limit 30)" - Luke Spratt and Holly Saunders- Charleston PD	"Latent Recovery Workshop (limit 15)" - Mary Phillips, Charleston PD	
3:30-4:00	Break- Vendor Hall			
4:00-5:00	Crime Scene Round Table- Moderated Discussions/ Micro-presentations	Latent Print Round Table- Moderated Discussions/ Micro-presentations		

*** Schedule/ Presentations Subject to Change ***

Evening Social

Wednesday May 10th @ 6pm

Charleston Beer Works

480 King St., Charleston, SC, 29403

2 Drinks (full bar) and Heavy Hors d'oeuvres
provided
(add'tl drinks for purchase)

Event sponsored by:
Evident

EVIDENT

FORENSCOPE

SCIAI 2023 Spring Conference

DAY 3

Thursday May 11th, 2023

College of Charleston Mathematics and Science Building- 202 Calhoun St., Charleston, SC, 29403

TIME	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3
8:00-8:15	Registration/ Check In/ Breakfast		
8:15-10:30	"The Jodi Arias Case: Murder of Travis Alexander" -Heather Conner, Mesa Forensic Services (AZ)		
10:30-12:00	"The Effects of Pityriasis Rubra Pilaris on Friction Ridge Skin" -Nova Grilli, Charleston PD - Alice White, Evolve Forensics	"Leadership Strategies for Targeting Forensic Retention" - Dr. Ashleigh Wojslawowicz- Charleston County CJCC	"Introduction to Forensic Dentistry and Best Practices" - Dr. Wolf Bueschgen, DMD - Wolf Dental
12:00-1:30	Lunch on Your Own		
1:30-2:30	"Masked Minutiae and False Minutiae and Tonal Transitions - Oh My!" - Alice White- Evolve Forensics	"Let the Feet Do the Talking-A Genetic DNA Case Study" -Anita Roman and Sara Tuuk- Charleston County Coroner's Office	"Mental health, Self-Care, and Culture Change" -Kristin Eyre, LISW-CP- Roman Catholic Diocese of Charleston
2:30-3:30		"Opioids: The Pain of an Epidemic" - Bobbi Jo O'Neal and Dr. Suzanne Abel- Charleston County Coroner's Office	"Crime Scene Contributions to Sexual Assault Cases" - Debbie Herring-Lash
3:30-4:30			

*** Schedule/ Presentations Subject to Change ***

COMING SOON!

SCIAI Merchandise

Available for purchase
at the 2023 Spring Conference

To include **NEW**
SCIAI Challenge Coins

while supplies last



Stay tuned for more items!

IN THE NEWS

Published: May 1st ,2022

Drones Could Spot Crime Scenes from Afar

A system could aid forensic searches and crime-scene mapping by detecting reflections from human materials.

Volunteers sometimes spend months trudging through remote terrain to search for lost hikers or crime victims. But a new tool could soon pinpoint forensic evidence from the sky instead. By identifying how traces of blood and other human signs reflect light when found on various natural surfaces, the scientists say searchers will be able to quickly scour large areas for clues about missing persons—dead or alive—using [images acquired by drones](#).

Special drone-mounted sensors can record wavelength intensity for the entire electromagnetic spectrum (rather than just the red, green and blue of a typical camera) in each pixel of an image. Geologists routinely use this technology to pinpoint mineral deposits. Mark Krekeler, a mineralogist at Miami University in Ohio, and his colleagues realized that the same approach, supported by the right spectral data library, could potentially detect forensic evidence.

To build their tool, the researchers measured how human-related features, including blood, sweaty clothing and skin tones, reflect different wavelengths of light. Previous studies have examined such reflective “signatures” to identify blood, “but the signature depends on the surface itself and may change over time,” Krekeler says. He and his team analyzed thousands of samples, such as bloodstains on different rock types, recording how they changed as the blood dried.

The researchers customized software that mixes the known reflective signatures of various surfaces to reproduce a target of interest. For example, rock and clothing signatures can be combined to seek a hiker lost in the mountains, or a blood signature can be mixed with those of clothing and sand to search for a wounded person in a desert.

The software estimates whether the target exists in any pixel in an image. It can distinguish between an animal and a human in dense forest, search a cityscape for evidence of a specific person in a blue cotton dress, or determine whether soil is stained by blood or diesel fuel, Krekeler says. His team was slated to present its work at the Geological Society of America’s meeting of the North-Central Section in April.

(Continued on page 15)

IN THE NEWS

Drones Could Spot Crime Scenes from Afar

A system could aid forensic searches and crime-scene mapping by detecting reflections from human materials.

Wendy Calvin, a planetary scientist at the University of Nevada, Reno, who was not involved with the study, calls it “an interesting and novel use of spectral data—and the technique looks promising.” But she says it could be challenging to use from afar because of how much of a substance would likely be needed to show up in a pixel.

Within months, officials will be able to download and test the tool for themselves. Developing best-practice protocols for search teams could make such technology routine for investigations and forensics, Krekeler says. As drones and sensors become more widespread, he adds, they can transform investigations that are currently costly, labor-intensive or even impossible.

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This article was originally published with the title "Remote Rescue" in Scientific American 326, 5, 20 (May 2022)

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<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/drones-could-spot-crime-scenes-from-afar/>

FUN WITH FORENSICS

Frequently in the field of Forensics, we, as a whole, deal with a variety of difficult and demanding scenes, tough scenarios, and are often placed in stressful situations. This panel is designed for you to have the opportunity take a quick mental break, refresh your mind, and also to have a little fun. 😊

Use the cipher below to decode the phrase!



A	B	C	J	K	L
D	E	F	M	N	O
G	H	I	P	Q	R
S			W		
T	X	U	Y	Z	
V					

Forensic Emoji Sudoku Answer Key

UPCOMING TRAINING/EVENTS

April 17th—April 21st, 2023: [Cellebrite Certified Operator & Cellebrite Certified Physical Analyst](#)

40-hour, 5 day course— Charleston Police Department, Charleston, SC

May 9th—May 11th, 2023: [SCIAI Spring Conference](#)

3 day, College of Charleston SSM Building, 202 Calhoun St, Charleston, SC

November 6th—10th, 2023: [Forensic Supervision by GAP Science LLC](#)

40-hour, 5 day course, Cost \$775, Aloft Greenville Downtown, 5 N Laurens St, Greenville, SC

If you have upcoming training that you would like advertised in the newsletter, contact the Editor with course information and details!

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Greenville County: [Forensic Evidence Technician](#)

Charleston Police Department: [Evidence Technician](#)

North Charleston: [Forensic Pathologist](#)



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