

President's Message

Paige E. Doherty

At the April Board of Directors meeting, a new Executive Board was elected. As incoming President, it is my pleasure to announce that Joyce Lauterbach is Vice President, Derek Hammond was re-elected Secretary, and Al Southmayd is the new Treasurer. These members, along with continuing Directors Kirsten Jackson, Greg Floyd, Brian Lindblom, Ellen Schuetzner, and Andre Moenssens and new Directors Dennis Mooney and Donna Eisenberg, create an outstanding team to assist and represent you, the Diplomates.

Outgoing President, Brian Carney, served in numerous capacities over his 10-year tenure as a Director and has a long list of contributions and accomplishments. Prior to becoming President, he worked diligently as the Board's representative on the FSAB, was instrumental in revising the Rules and Procedures guide, and served as Vice President and Testing Committee Chairperson. His most recent achievements include developing Standard Operating Procedures for each Director's position and rebuilding the ABFDE's funds to a level where we can continue efforts to validate the testing program. Personally, he reminded me that it is important to remain true to my professional convictions and remain dedicated to the philosophies of the Board despite attempts by outside factors to sway us from our goals. He also demonstrated how leadership by example helps bring our efforts to fruition. I will miss his guidance, insight, and humor.

Randy Gibson also completed a three-year term as both a Director and Webmaster. In addition to his responsibilities as a Director, he did a fine job of building the ABFDE's website, which is now maintained by Diplomat Bill Leaver.

Every President has goals and ambitions they would like to realize during their term. In light of the accomplishments of past Presidents, I have some pretty big shoes to fill. Some objectives I would like to achieve or continue to pursue based on immediate past President Carney's work include making

(continued on page 7)

Contents

From the Editor	2
A Tribute to Don Doud	3
From the Board Room	4
A Tribute to Lucile Lacy	5
Two New Directors Elected	7
Continuing Education	8
ABFDE Workshops	12
Testing Schedule	12

From the Editor

Susan Morton
San Francisco, CA

Back To Our Roots

In May I had the nostalgic pleasure of a nice session of Grapho-Bashing. Remember the good old days when all we had to worry about was Graphos? That was before the Evil Trio made their appearance. For the last dozen years or so we have been so busy fighting their attacks on handwriting identification that we have neglected the erstwhile favorite sport of FDEs.

Howard Rile, Frank Hicks, and I did a role-playing presentation at the spring SWAFDE meeting in Palm Springs. Frank played Jesse Dines, author of the book on document examination that has a macabre parallel to Holy Writ. The Bible can be opened to any page and produce meaningful words; Dines' book can be opened to any page to reveal an egregious factual error. I cannot imagine how he crammed that many mistakes into one volume.

Unfortunately, I had to miss Frank's portrayal, as I was off donning my Grapho costume. I have studied the attire of Graphos at AAFS meetings for years. This is how I survive all those papers on the secret lives of ink lines without my brains turning into mush and drooling out my ears. Based on my observations, I assembled a costume of bold, competing colors, lots of sparkly jewelry, and outdated hair style and glasses. I applied a great swath of lipstick to my lower face and carefully dabbed some on my teeth. I went down to the conference room and sat outside until time for my entrance and had a rather frightening realization. I looked just like the LOL's that wander around hotel lobbies in Palm Springs. No one gave me a second glance or realized I was in costume. But that is another matter to ponder.

(continued on page 8)

Editor Susan Morton

Board Reports

President Paige Doherty
Secretary Derek Hammond

Contributors

Donna O. Eisenberg
John J. Harris
Janet F. Masson
Dennis Mooney

Composer

IntelliType

2004-2005 Committee Chairs

CONTINUING EDUCATION	Allen Southmayd
CREDENTIALS	Derek Hammond
FSAB	Derek Hammond
HISTORIAN	Jan Kelly
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Susan Morton
PRC	Greg Floyd
PUBLIC RELATIONS	Kirsten Jackson
RECERTIFICATION	Greg Floyd
RULES & PROCEDURES	Brian Lindblom
TEST PREPARATION & VALIDATION	Ellen Schuetzner
TESTING	Joyce Lauterbach
WEB MASTER	Bill Leaver
WEBSITE ARTICLE EDITOR	Andre Moenssens
WORKSHOP COORDINATOR	Kirsten Jackson

Mail or fax contributions to:

Susan Morton, Editor
ABFDE News

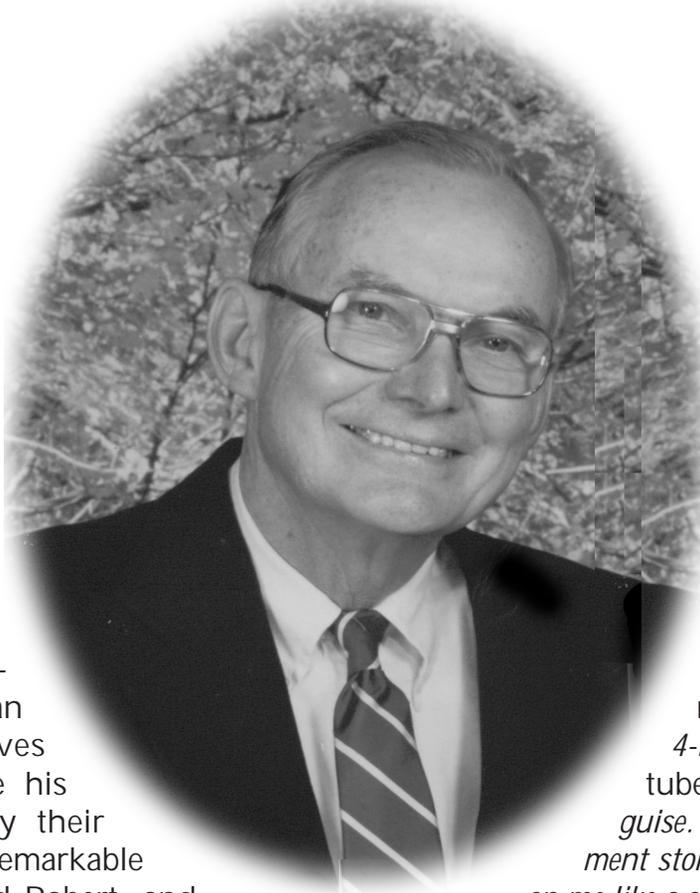
San Francisco Police Department
Crime Laboratory
850 Bryant Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
Tel: (415) 671-3196 / Fax (415) 671-3280
semortonsf@aol.com

Deadline for the next issue is:
September 20th

Advertising matter that appears in the ABFDE News implies neither endorsement nor recommendation by The American Board of Forensic Document Examiners, Inc.

A Tribute to Don Doud

by John J. Harris



On March 23, 2005, our esteemed colleague, Donald Budlong Doud, passed away at the age of 88. If we could make a TV serial about his life it would have to be entitled: *Everyone Loved Don*. Most who reach 88 pass away quietly. Some never even have a funeral. But Don had one. An overflow crowd of more than 300 friends and relatives showed up to celebrate his remarkable life and pay their respects to his equally remarkable wife Jane, sons John and Robert, and daughter Nancy.

After the service, a couple, whom Jane either did not know or remember, introduced themselves saying they were former neighbors back in the 1950s in the same apartment house and that they had read about Don's passing in the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*. Back then he had examined a disputed contract and testified for them during a successful court fight with the landlord. Having little money, their next worry was Don's bill. When it came, it was for only \$50.00. They said that they wanted Jane to know that even after all these years they still remembered and appreciated Don's expert assistance and act of kindness. A document examiner couldn't receive a finer tribute. It summed up Don's life.

Many document examiners have also been recipients of Don's large-heartedness. To name a few, just ask Jan Beck, Jan Masson, and Dan Purdy

how he took them under his wing when they first attended a professional meeting.

In 2003, Don and I were reflecting on our early days and he wrote: *"My entering the profession was an act of desperation on the part of JCS (James Clark Sellers). Everyone else, including you and Dave Black, were in the service, and DBD's 4-F (draft board) rating (due to tuberculosis) was a blessing in disguise. With my new Bullock's department store double breasted suit hanging on me like a shroud, plus a horrible polka dot tie and squeaky shoes, the great JCS must have gagged a few times when he hired me at the magnificent sum of \$1.50 per hour. (Don had had training in photography.) He had a backlog of trial preparation a mile long, and it had to be done immediately if not sooner. For the most part, I learned the details of QD work from your dad (John L. Harris) during the courses he gave at the University of Southern Cal., although I did try to review all of Clark's cases on my own."*

Don was one of those unique humans whose gentle personality and good intentions were so apparent that no one could take offense at anything he said or did. But he did at times frustrate people, me included, and Dave Black in particular. Right after the war, the two of them worked together for three years at the Sellers office. It was a precursor of *The Odd Couple* show. Dave was organized to a fault and neat to an extreme.

(continued on page 9)

From the Board Room

Derek Hammond
Forest Park, GA

The annual meeting of the ABFDE Board of Directors (BOD) was held in Buford, Georgia on April 22-23, 2005. The Board has been and remains focused on improving all facets of the organization. The following excerpts are from the Minutes of the April 2005 BOD meeting:

2004 Workshop and Seminar

Through the efforts of past president Jan S. Kelly, director Kirsten Jackson, and others, the 2004 ABFDE workshop, *Document Examination Techniques in Non-Handwriting Problems*, and the ABFDE Seminar, *Comparative Science in the Daubert World*, were a huge success! Over 200 individuals attended one or both events.

2005 Workshop

The Board is planning another fall workshop in Las Vegas in 2005. This 4-day workshop will include the following topics:

- ◆ Printing Process (desktop & commercial)
- ◆ Meeting the Federal Rules of Evidence—Rule 16 and Rule 26
- ◆ The Electromagnetic Spectrum
Line Intersections and Allterations

See page 8 of this newsletter for more details!

New Applicants

During the past year, the Credentials Committee received applications from two new applicants seeking ABFDE certification. Both applications were approved by the Credentials Committee, and each applicant has entered the testing process.

Changes to the Application for Certification

ABFDE's Application for Certification has a new look (courtesy of director Brian Lindblom

and Mr. Rob Gervais), and a few substantive changes have been approved and initiated.

New applicants are now required to submit a copy of their Program of Instruction (Training Program) or equivalent records documenting the content of their training program to the ABFDE. Previously, applicants were only required to document their dates of training, whether full or part time, where training took place, and by whom. Due to FSAB standards, governing certification boards, and pending publication of the *Guide for the Training of Forensic Document Examiners* by ASTM, the BOD believes that a more thorough review of training materials is needed to ensure that applicants meet the requirements.

The other substantive change concerns the three letters of reference (LOR) required as part of the credential review process. Previously, LORs could be submitted by any forensic document examiner. Applicants are now required to obtain LORs from three ABFDE Diplomates. (LORs from non-Diplomates will be considered on a case-by-case basis.)

Redesign of Attendance Forms

The Continuing Education Committee has replaced the Workshop/Seminar Attendance form (provided to Diplomates attending ABFDE pre-approved events for recertification credits) with two new forms. The previous form was a little confusing and needed updating.

FSAB

The process of validating our certification program is ongoing and must be completed prior to ABFDE submitting its Application for Accreditation to the FSAB. Although FSAB is now accepting applications for accreditation, only one certification board (American Board of Criminalistics) has been accredited.

Written Test

The Testing Committee has purchased software (*Random Test Generator Pro*) to improve the written test. The program creates written tests by randomly selecting a predetermined number of questions from a pool of questions in various

(continued on page 6)

A Tribute to Lucile Lacy

by Janet F. Masson

Lucile Peters Lacy, the first and only child of George and Henrietta Peters, was born on July 1, 1909 in the small Texas town of China Springs. Less than a year later, Lucile's mother died, and she was left with her grandparents, who had a farm in China Springs. Lucile lived on this farm until she was in her mid-teens, when her father married Emabel Brake, a school teacher in Carrollton (a suburb of Dallas). Lucile, who had never taken to the tedium and hardship of farm life, immediately and happily went to live with Pops and Emabel in the big city.

When she turned 16, Lucile entered nursing school in Dallas and worked in the hospital there to help cover the cost of training. She had already developed her strong-willed personality, as can be seen in the following anecdote, which she told me was the reason she moved to Houston. One day when she was beginning her senior year in nursing school, she and another student nurse stopped at the coffee shop across the street from the hospital before walking several blocks to the student nurses' housing. In the coffee shop, a couple of young men offered to drive them down the street to their residence because the streets were icy. Lucile and her friend made the mistake of accepting the offer—and of being seen by the head of the school getting into the car. Well, in those days, proper young ladies didn't get into a vehicle with young



men, especially when they were wearing their uniforms and nurse's capes. So, Lucile and the other student were promptly disciplined with the loss of the stripe on their caps. Now, this stripe was a badge of honor worn by senior nursing students, and Lucile simply was not going to take the loss of her stripe! She promptly transferred to a nursing school in Houston, where she finished her senior year *with* a stripe, became a registered nurse and lived the rest of her life in Houston.

Lucile worked for several years as a registered nurse and eventually decided to attend medical school. In the early 1940s, she was accepted as a student at Baylor College of Medicine. However, during her medical school training, she met George J. Lacy—a general criminalist who had begun to specialize in document examination.

George was an old-fashioned man who wouldn't tolerate having a wife who worked outside the home. So, when they married in 1944, Lucile quit medical school and became George's wife. She was immediately interested in George's work and, by the end of the year, had already "attended" her first meeting of the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners. Her attendance at this first meeting was rather unofficial. In those days, the ASQDE met at the home of Albert S. Osborn. The meetings were all-day affairs that continued into

(continued on page 10)

Board Room

(continued from page 4)

categories. The software will allow the Testing Committee to track the history of individual test questions, provide references for each question, and provide the Board with a valuable resource in the management and implementation of this component of the testing process. Written tests administered at the 2005 AAFS and SAFDE meetings were created using this software.

Practical Test/New Problems

The Test Preparation/Validation Committee, in conjunction with the Testing Committee, has retired several practical problems. The committee sent one new problem to the Testing Committee for use, while three additional practical problems are being evaluated and validated.

Overall Success Rate

During the past year, 5 new and 7 grandfathered Diplomates successfully completed testing. Two candidates either failed or withdrew. Currently, 15 new and 8 grandfathered Diplomates are in the testing process. The success rate for each phase of testing: Written, 100%; Practicals, 87.5%; and Oral Board, 92.3%.

Webmaster

Bill Leaver has replaced outgoing director Randy Gibson as the ABFDE webmaster. Welcome aboard, Bill! Thank you, Randy, for all of your work in keeping the website going!

LaTrobe University Validation Trials

Dr. Bryan Found (LaTrobe University) has tentatively agreed to assist the Board in developing our own Validation Trials. The courts are looking more and more at the reliability of **individual** FDEs. For some courts, extensive blind testing is the only measurable way to assess reliability. The BOD hopes to develop and implant these trials (free) during the next year.

Update to Syllabus/Objectives for Training

The Syllabus and Objectives for Training are being updated. It was noted that relevant unpublished papers can be included in the syllabus provided that these materials are made available on the ABFDE Website.

Chief Editor, Website Publications

Director Moenssens was appointed by President Carney to serve as the Chief Editor for Website Publications. Many papers are presented at professional conferences every year yet, for whatever reason, are not published in a professional journal. The absence of publication does not necessarily equate to the absence of significance of the material. The Board hopes that usage of the website as a source to share and distribute research will fill a void and provide FDEs with an additional resource to publish and share meaningful information.

Hilton Book Project

The ASQDE has walked away from the Hilton book project. The BOD will provide the necessary resources to the co-editors (Jan Kelly and Brian Lindbloom) to ensure completion. ABFDE will receive book royalties not allocated to Mrs. Hilton and will receive recognition in the book. Although the Board does not expect to make much, if any, money, the benefit to the profession and name recognition the book is sure to generate will more than offset any costs.

Joint ABFDE/ASQDE Workshop

ASQDE treasurer Farrell Shiver met with the BOD to discuss the possibility of a future joint workshop by the ABFDE and ASQDE. Although no details were finalized, both parties are interested in the concept and will pursue this matter further.

Election of Directors/Officers

The following were elected to serve on the Executive Committee for the 2005-2007 term:

President – Paige Doherty
 Vice President – Joyce Lauterbach
 Secretary – Derek Hammond
 Treasurer – Allen Southmayd

Diplomates Dennis Mooney and Donna Eisenberg were elected to serve as directors for the 2005-2009 term.

Congratulations to All

A special thanks goes to out-going President Carney for his dedicated service of over ten (10) years to the Board. Your dedication to the organization and to the profession will be missed. ☺

Two New Directors Elected



DENNIS MOONEY grew up in Miami, Florida, and upon graduation from high school in 1967 joined the U.S. Army for three years, serving in Vietnam and Germany. In 1970, he was accepted for employment with the FBI in Washington,

D.C. as a fingerprint technician. In 1972, he began employment with the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, in Raleigh, North Carolina. A two-year forensic document training program began in 1977. In 1983 he began employment with the Colorado Bureau of Investigation and was promoted to Agent in Charge of the technical sciences in the Denver laboratory and later transferred to the Montrose, Colorado regional office. He was American Board of Forensic Document Examiners certified in 1988, and is a graduate of the F.B.I. National Academy. He retired from the Colorado Bureau of Investigation in 2003 and is currently in private practice in Flint, Texas.



DONNA ORLOVE EISENBERG has been a forensic document examiner with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement since 1998. She began her career in questioned documents in 1988 with the U.S.

Secret Service, where she received her training.

Donna received a BA in psychology from the University of Maryland in 1981, and an MFS from The George Washington University 1988.

She has been a Diplomate since August 2002 and is a technical assessor with the Standards Council of Canada/ISO, an organization responsible for assessing and accrediting the competence of testing and calibration laboratories.

Donna's husband, Jay, chairs the Estates and Trusts Department at the law firm of Shulman, Rogers, Gandal, Pordy & Ecker in Rockville, MD. Donna's part-time schedule enables her to stay current and active in her profession and enjoy her beautiful children, Seth and Ashley.

President

(continued from page 1)

application to FSAB for accreditation, updating and increasing the pool of problems and questions for certification testing, reviewing the Board's options for test validation, assessing the Board's role in the implementing validation trials, evaluating the feasibility of offering study or prep classes for potential testing candidates, and continuing to provide high quality workshops that address testing-related topics. As we work toward these goals, either I or another Director will keep you apprised of the status, either on the website or in the newsletter.

Some of the tasks required to complete these goals are very large and need the assistance of you, the Diplomates. Your Directors work hard to maintain the reputation of your certification

so that it is a credential you can continue to proudly display. If you are contacted by a Director, please seriously consider helping or, better yet, step forward unsolicited.

As with previous Presidents, I have an open-door policy. If you have new ideas or concerns about status of any Board-related issues, please contact me. As the spokesperson for the Board, I am prepared to address concerns of both Diplomates and non-Diplomates alike.

Often times Directors are diligently completing tasks behind the scenes to be presented later. I would be delighted to offer interim updates to you on activities of the Board should you be interested. Contact me any time at paperchaser@att.net or (303)278-7225. I look forward to serving you!

Continuing Education

August 2005

- 7-13 **International Association for Identification (IAI)**
Adams Mark Hotel; Dallas
Ann Punter (*Conference Planner*)
10932 Glenoaks Dr.; Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730
(909) 481-3308 / Fax: (909) 941-9272
conference@theiai.org
- 11-16 **American Society of Questioned Document Examiners (ASQDE)**
Montreal, Canada
Marc Gaudreau (*Program Chair*)
Forensic Division, Revenue Canada
79 Bentley Ave.; Ottawa, Ontario, Canada KIA QL5
(613) 952-7824 / Fax: (613) 952-7824
marc.lab.gaudreau@ccraadrc.gc.ca

October 2005

- 3-7 **Midwestern Association of Forensic Scientists (MAFS)**
Downtown Adam's Mark Hotel, St. Louis
<http://www.mafs.net>
- 14-16 **Southwestern Association of Forensic Document Examiners (SWAFDE)**
Salt Lake City
- 19-22 **Canadian Society of Forensic Science (CSFS)**
Calgary, Alberta, Canada
<http://www.csfs.ca>

November 2005

- 7-10 **American Board of Forensic Document Examiners (ABFDE)**
Orelans Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas
Kirsten Jackson (703) 406-7103 or
Jan Kelly (702) 229-3963

This list of opportunities available to Diplomates seeking recertification credits may not be all-inclusive. Provide details of upcoming meetings or workshops for this newsletter to the editor.

Editor

(continued from page 2)

Howard and I had combed transcripts of several Graphos and made up a list of questions and answers. The dialog was paraphrased from real testimony. I had studied a videotape to find mannerisms to imitate. I had created a character based on several Graphos and prepared a resume for her and a scenario for the case she was presenting. The whole thing was a hoot, and we had a great time. But there was a serious message. These people are still out there sullyng our reputation. I found it very hard to create a caricature. Parody is done partly by exaggeration. How do you exaggerate a person who, during sworn testimony, scratches her armpit under a lavalier microphone to make a toe-curling sound? We have to find time to keep after these charlatans. They will still be with us long after saks, et al. have been consigned to the legal dust heap.

If nothing else, Howard and I proved two things: 1) Howard is a man of the highest valor for volunteering to be my straight man, and 2) I am not afraid of personal humiliation, though there are some who would say I ought to be used to it by now.

Several folks told me afterward that I absolutely nailed Graphos in their areas. Graphos must run to type, because I had not heard of any of them. Several other people, me included, were a bit alarmed at how naturally I slipped into the role. That is a thing I will have to worry about during the dark of night, along with the LOLs running around Palm Springs with their wigs crooked and lipstick on their teeth. Maybe I had too much fun. Or maybe the parody was a little close to home. So, who knows, maybe Potentilla Bombazine will make another appearance one day and will stick in place. 🔍

Doud

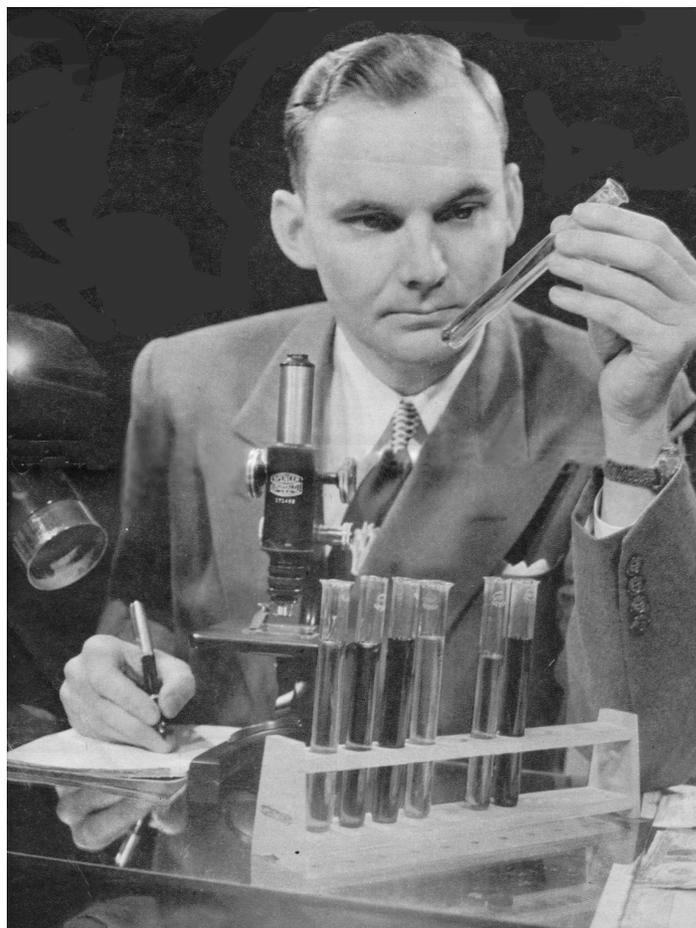
(continued from page 3)

Everything, even pencils, not only had to be stored in their designated place and properly sharpened but also pointing the right direction. Let's just say Don was the opposite. At times he had difficulty *finding* a pencil. Felix and Oscar in *The Odd Couple* shared an apartment, while Dave and Don were jammed in one tiny room and jointly used a still tinier darkroom. I'll leave the rest to your imagination.

By 1948, it was time for Don to move on. This was another one of those blessings in disguise because in the process he received a QD education that is both unique and unsurpassed to this day. He had one aim, and that was to become a document examiner, so he didn't mind being shuttled from pillar to post. These were some pillars and some posts. By the time he settled in Milwaukee in 1951, he had spent six years in Los Angeles with Clark Sellers with added tutelage from my father, J. L. Harris. Next, for over a year, he worked at the Osborn office in New York, followed by a year with H. J. Walter in Chicago. And finally, in 1951, he settled in Milwaukee with John F. Tyrrell, who was in the process of retiring. By coincidence, after living most of his life in California, he landed back in the state where he was born. No one else can say that they trained or mentored under five charter members of the ASQDE: Sellers, J. L. Harris, A. D. Osborn, Walter, and Tyrrell, among whom he said H. J. Walter was his idol. Don summed it up in a letter dated April 29, 2004, "*And it was a grand ride as the Irish say. Wouldn't have changed anything for the world.*"

He arrived in Milwaukee with a bang. I still have a copy of a feature article dated January 21, 1951—in color no less—where Don's picture (adjacent) is featured on the cover of *The Milwaukee Journal's Picture Journal in Rotogravure*. They wrote, "A TRUE scientific detective, Donald B. Doud, 33, investigates questioned documents. In the office of Tyrrell and Doud at 312 E. Wisconsin av. [sic] he undertakes such tasks as detecting authors of forgeries"

During his long career, Don had his share of well-known cases, including the Alger Hiss



prosecution, the Clifford Irving-Howard Hughes forged autobiography, and the Howard Hughes "Mormon" Will Contest. He was also president of the ASQDE (1964-66), chairman of the QD Section of the AAFS (1960), and served on the Board of the ABFDE (1983-89). He authored many technical papers including a letter-form survey in the 1960s, well before Daubert.

While Don was a kindly soul, don't get the idea that he was a pushover. He had "an edge" (which Jan Beck says all good document examiners have) and became uncompromising when standing up for what he believed was right. His son, John, recalls an incident when his dad took him to court to hear him testify and to listen to the testimony of an opposing graphologist. Afterwards they were in the men's room, and in walked the graphologist who immediately began to praise Don to the skies, telling him what an honor it was to have worked on the same case and to be in court with such a distinguished expert. Don looked him straight in

(continued on page 10)

Doud

(continued from page 9)

the eye. John said he held his breath when his father proceeded to tell this grapho in no uncertain terms that he shouldn't even be in this or any other courtroom, that he didn't have a clue about what he was doing, and that he should do something worthwhile with his life. I don't know whether this graphologist took Don's good advice, but I'll bet that he took little or no offense at the way it was offered. Don could do that.

Earlier this year I asked him what he considered his most important contribution to our field. He wrote back, *"If I had to list the accomplishments I am most proud of it would be the hundreds of talks I gave to bar associations, American College of Trial Lawyers, law schools, civic groups and QD meetings from coast to coast and in several other countries. I lectured for twenty years before Fred (Inbau's) scientific evidence classes as well as the Ford Foundation Prosecutor's and Defense Attorneys annual seminars."*

On the lighter side, there was a little of Garrison Keillor in Don. He and Jane spent vacations at their cottage on Three Lakes, and perhaps that was Don's Lake Wobegone. He never took himself too seriously, was a happy person, a good writer, and had a well developed, dry, self-deprecating sense of humor. His witty Christmas letters are classics. People read them and complained if they didn't receive one.

By every measure, Don's life was a success. He overcame a three-year stay at Barlow Sanatorium in Sunland, CA, *"with feet never touching the floor"* and lived on to be 88. A *"chance encounter with Clark Sellers"* began his long career, during which time he was recognized as one of this nation's outstanding document examiners. He and Jane enjoyed a marriage lasting 53 years. They raised three offspring and reveled in their seven grandchildren. He always gave more than he received. What more can a person ask out of life than to have a loving family, a successful career, and to be loved and respected by friends and peers? Don did it all. We'll truly miss him. 

Lacy

(continued from page 5)

the night. After dinner, when Mr. Osborn led the men into the parlor to continue their discussions, Lucile promptly trotted into the parlor with them. According to her, Mr. Osborn turned around and ordered her out, saying, "NO WOMEN ALLOWED." Her immediate response was to stand up to him, and she started to argue. However, Mrs. Osborn took her by the arm, said "Come on, dear," and led her out of the room. Well, Lucile was just about to throw a "hissy-fit" when Mrs. Osborn whispered, "What they don't know won't hurt them." And they promptly sat on the stairs outside the parlor and listened to every word that was said.

From the start of her marriage, Lucile worked in the laboratory. She trained, went to night school at the University of Houston and obtained her baccalaureate degree, and became a member of ASQDE—the first woman to be accepted into the Society. She completed the ASQDE two-year course of training and became a regular member in 1957. When she became a member of the organization, Clark Sellers leaned down to kiss her on the cheek, saying that he had never expected to see the day when he would kiss a member of the Society.

Lucile said that the first time a client called to ask her to work on a case, she thought the days of her marriage were numbered. Even though George had trained her, it had apparently never dawned on him that a client might actually employ her. That first client became a favorite of Lucile's and employed her many more times over the years.

Lucile and George had been married 18 years when George died. She wasn't sure after George's death that she would continue to be accepted as a document examiner. However, she had support and encouragement from many colleagues, especially Clark Sellers, Jack Harris, Don Doud, Linton Godown, and George Swett, so she decided to continue the practice. After George's death, Lucile became the first woman to serve as an officer of ASQDE, and she served as the organization's first woman president from 1968 to 1970.

When I met Lucile, she was already 68 years old, although you would never have known it from her

(continued on page 11)

Lacy

(continued from page 10)

activities or appearance. She was little and feisty and could work me under a table. She was working on the Howard Hughes "Mormon Will" and needed someone to do her darkroom work. She asked an employment agency if they knew of a woman photographer. She insisted on a woman because a man would try to "take over the joint." Someone at that agency knew me and suggested that I might be able to assist her—and the rest is history. I worked under Lucile's guidance for eight years, and we became good friends.

Lucile was a careful and methodical examiner. She always wanted to examine a set of documents at least three times before she prepared a report—just to make sure she didn't see something differently on review. She also constantly reread portions of the texts in the field. If she became stumped when working on a problem, she would go to the bookcases and say, "Let's see what Ordway and Mr. Osborn have to say about this." It was almost like she was having a conversation with them.

Lucile also worked for some years with Jim Daniels. Jim and I recently reminisced about Lucile and agreed that, for better or worse, she was one of the strongest-willed persons either of us has ever known. We both meant it as a compliment. I have often wondered if her strong will was not developed in part because she was a little person who had to learn at an early age to stand up for herself.

Ted Dinkins, a Houston probate attorney, said he remembered having a pretrial conference with Lucile. He told her how he wanted to present her testimony. She listened patiently to all his suggestions and instructions. Then, ever the Southern lady, she said, "Thank you so much for your suggestions, Mr. Dinkins. Now, let me tell you how we are going to do it." And that was the end of that!

When testifying, Lucile could be daunting. I remember one day when a just-out-of-law-school attorney tried to challenge her opinion. She shook her finger at him; said, "Now listen here young man!" and proceeded to tell him how the cow ate the cabbage. She told me that she knew she could sometimes be "snippy" when she testified and she tried to control it, but sometimes she just couldn't



help herself. It didn't seem to bother her nearly as much as it bothered the young attorneys.

Leon Jaworski said that while George Lacy was a good document examiner, ultimately Lucile became a much better document examiner than George had ever been. In Houston and in Texas, she clearly became a force to be reckoned with.

Lucile was certified by ABFDE and supported the work of that organization. At the time of her death, she was also a Retired Fellow of AAFS and a Life Member of ASQDE. However, she postponed receiving Retired/Life status in these organizations as long as she could. She didn't want anyone to think she was actually going to retire!

But ultimately Lucile did retire from the profession on July 1, 1995—her 86th birthday. At that time, she had maintained an office in the Esperson Building in downtown Houston for more than 50 years. She was especially proud of the fact that she had worked, either as a nurse or a document examiner, for exactly 70 years to the day.

Lucile lived the last year of her life in a nursing home, as her memory and physical abilities declined. On May 4, 2005, she got up and had breakfast, then laid down for a mid-morning nap from which she simply didn't wake up. I think it's the way she would have wanted it.



ABFDE Workshops

The ABFDE is sponsoring a series of workshops, November 7-10, 2005, involving various aspects of forensic document examination.

November 7 and 8, Printing Processes (commercial and desktop) for FDEs (US Secret Service); November 9, ½-day Ultraviolet and Infrared Examinations (Gerry Richards, Jim Lee, Kristina Kovarik), and ½-day VSC examinations (Foster and Freeman); November 10, ½-day Line Intersections and Alterations (Susan Morton and Bonnie Beal) and ½-day Rule 16 and 26A (Brian Carney and Derek Hammond).

The full four-day workshop series is worth 16 points toward ABFDE recertification. A maximum of 80 forensic document examiners may register. Practical problems will be provided ahead of time. **Registration: \$425.**

All workshops will be held at the Orleans Hotel/Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada. Registration forms and additional information can be found at www.ABFDE.org. Please contact Kirsten Jackson at 703-406-7103 or Jan Kelly 702-229-3963 if you have any questions.



TESTING SCHEDULE

The written test and/or oral boards will be offered at the following national and regional forensic document conferences:

August 10, 2005	ASQDE, Memphis
November 2005	ABFDE, Las Vegas
February 2006	AAFS, New Orleans

Testing may also be available at other regional meetings in the upcoming year. Any grandfathered Diplomate interested in beginning the testing process should contact Joyce Lauterbach, Testing Committee Chair, at (803) 253-3547 for details.

American Board of Forensic Document Examiners, Inc.

Administrative Office
7887 San Felipe, Suite 122
Houston, TX 77063