



OHIO INVESTIGATORS ASSOCIATION

The Professional Association for State Investigators
77 SOUTH HIGH STREET
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215

NEWSLETTER

September Issue

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

OIA MEETING DATES 2005

September 28
November 9 (2nd Wednesday)
BANQUET FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9th

AG'S CONFERENCE ON LAW ENFORCEMENT

SEPTEMBER 26 and 27 at the Hyatt
Regency Hotel in downtown Columbus
http://www.ag.state.oh.us/training_conferences/05_le_c_registration.pdf

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By Gary Kennedy

Greetings! I want to thank Detective Ken Lawson of the Columbus PD for his presentation on "human trafficking." If you missed it you'll have another opportunity on September 26th. He is one of the presenters at the AG's Conference on Law Enforcement.

Planning is underway for the Auditor's Fraud Conference. **Mark your calendars for May 23 and 24, 2006.** In addition, our committee for the Investigator and Fraud Examiner Training Conference is working hard on next year's event. The date will be announced soon.

A brief history of the OIA is featured this month. The information was compiled from newsletters and personal accounts. If any of you old timers see errors or omissions, please contact me so I can revise it. We are also featuring one of our newest members, Judy Knapp. Enjoy! Thanks to everyone and see you on the 28th.

AWARDS BANQUET

The annual awards banquet will be held on Friday, December 9th at 5:30pm at the Doubletree Hotel located on Front Street in downtown Columbus. Tickets will cost \$15 per person, but we are offering an EARLY BIRD SPECIAL of \$10 if you purchase your ticket at the meeting on September 28th. (Children are welcome: meals cost only \$5)

INVESTIGATOR OF THE YEAR

We are now accepting nominations for Investigator of the Year. Nominations can be forwarded by email to any OIA officer and should include the name, title and a short narrative about why you think your nomination should win. **The nomination deadline is November 11, 2005.**

OIA MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

If you have not received your 2005 membership roster, please contact Vickie DiCesare at
Vickie.dicesare@slpaud.state.oh.us

OIA CONTACTS

Officers & Committee Chairs for 2005

President:

Gary Kennedy (D) 614/644-5955
gkennedy@serb.state.oh.us

Vice-President and Banquet Committee Co-Chair:

Kelli Coleman DelGuzzo (D) 614/644-9176
Kelli.Coleman@exchange.state.oh.us



OHIO INVESTIGATORS ASSOCIATION

The Professional Association for State Investigators

77 SOUTH HIGH STREET
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215

NEWSLETTER

September Issue

Secretary and Banquet Committee Co-Chair:

Vickie DiCesare (D) 614/728-2438

Vickie.dicesare@slpaud.state.oh.us

**Treasurer, Professional Development,
Fundraising and Training Committee Chairs:**

David Crawford, Jr. (D) 614/466-0900

DCRAWFORD@AG.STATE.OH.US

Nominating Committee Chair:

Alan Bonham (D) 614/644-7139

ABONHAM@serb.state.oh.us

Awards Banquet Committee Co-Chair:

Faith Ottavi (D) 752-2468

Faith.ottavi@acc.state.oh.us

AGENCY PROFILE

*THE HISTORY OF THE OIA AS COMPILED
BY GARY KENNEDY*

The Ohio Investigators Association was founded in 1992. Its first meeting was held on April 14, 1993, at the Holiday Inn – Downtown. Richard Bearor, an investigator with the Ohio Board of Architects, chaired the meeting. FOP Organizer Chet DeLong made a presentation. The Inspector General at the time, David Sturtz, was the first guest speaker. At this meeting, the name, Ohio Investigators Association, was adopted by the members.

In 1994, Rex Waldenmyer was elected to become the first President of OIA. The Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR) was contacted to perform training for the membership.

Mike Moran became President in 1995. The other officers were: Vice President, Faith Ottavi; Secretary, Michael Jacobson; and, Treasurer, Rex Waldenmyer. These are the founding members that formed the OIA as we know it today. The first line of business for the officers was to create

committees including, a Legislative Committee to keep tabs on legislation that could impact OIA members. The first training seminar, “Developing Investigative Resources: The Relationship Model,” was held at Monaco’s Palace. In 1996, the officers were: President, John Woolwine; Vice President, Rex Waldenmyer; Secretary, Michael Jacobson; and, Treasurer L.B. Hodge. Gregg Thornton chaired the Newsletter Committee. OIA cosponsored a conference with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction called “Basic and Specialized National Certified Investigator/Inspector Training Program” through CLEAR. An Investigative Resource Manual was initiated. A golf outing was held. The year started with only 18 members.

1997 saw Alan Bonham as President, L.B. Hodge as Vice President, Beth Shaffer as Secretary, and Laird Eddie as Treasurer. OIA meetings were regularly held every other month. The first annual holiday meeting was held.

Alan remained President while Beth Shaffer became Vice President in 1998. Bob Featheringham was the new Secretary and John Monce, Jr. took over the Treasurer’s slot. Revisions to the Bylaws were adopted. Awards, such as Investigator of the Year, were implemented. Michael Moran received the first President’s Award and Deborah Gearhiser was the first recipient of the Investigator of the Year Award. The National Certified Investigator/Inspector Training Program (NCIT) was held. OIA cosponsored the AG’s Law Enforcement Conference for the first time. OIA also started developing, through Gregg, its website. Alan was keen on increasing membership. The successful campaign resulted in a total of 70+ new members.



OHIO INVESTIGATORS ASSOCIATION

The Professional Association for State Investigators

77 SOUTH HIGH STREET
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215

NEWSLETTER

September Issue

In 1999, Bob remained Secretary, Deborah Gearhiser became Treasurer, Lauri Rinehart Thompson was Vice President, and Beth Shaffer took over as President. A Nominating Committee was headed by Alan Bonham while the formation of the Bylaws Committee and Scholarship Committee was completed. OIA looked into incorporating and started to give new members certificates. Diana Coulter received the President's Award and Joseph Hopkins was Investigator of the Year.

Gregg Thornton was elected President for 2000 and Lou Agosta became Secretary. Lauri and Deborah maintained their positions. The officers announced four goals: Membership growth, completion of Article of Incorporation, scholarship program, and fundraising. The website became operational. The OIA logo was introduced. Faith Ottavi received the President's Award and Steven Schierholt was Investigator of the Year

For 2001, Gregg remained President, Lou moved to Vice President, Linda Hardesty became Secretary, and Arnie Schropp became Treasurer. OIA became a cosponsor of the Emerging Trends in Fraud Conference. Alan Bonham received the President's Award and David Kessler was Investigator of the Year

In 2002, Lou became President, Linda remained Secretary, and Arnie Treasurer. Chad Holland was voted Vice President. Faith Ottavi received the President's Award for the second time and John Monce was the Investigator of the Year recipient.

For 2003, Lou remained President and Chad Vice President. Gary Kennedy took over as Secretary and Randy McGough was voted Treasurer. Arnie Schropp was the

Investigator of the Year and Gregg Thornton got the President's Award.

In 2004, Gary became President, Kelli Coleman DelGuzzo Vice President, Dave Crawford Secretary, and Randy remained as Treasurer. Kelli was the President's award recipient and Steven Southard Sr. was the Investigator of the year. The By Laws were revised. Pizza Party was given free of charge.

2005 brought Vickie DiCesare in as the new Secretary and Dave moved to Treasurer. Kelli and Gary maintained their offices. The OIA and the Fraud Examiners put on their first training seminar.

OIA MEMBER PROFILE

Name: Judith Knapp

Position: Labor Relation Specialist

OIA Membership: Since 2005

Judy is a Labor Relations Specialist for the State Employment Relations Board. Prior to SERB, her entire career was in the private sector. Judy's career has taken her from the financial world while at Discover Card, in both Columbus and Salt Lake City, Utah, to the food world at Harry & David and Nash Finch. She has been in numerous labor and management positions at each company. Judy has previously been responsible for areas such as loss prevention, auditing, bank operations, training, criminal investigations, physical security, asset management, and customer service. She has also been trained in interviewing and interrogation techniques as well as public speaking through Dale Carnegie. Judy's interests include, cooking, camping, softball, and reading. She is a member of the American Association of Industrial Security (ASIS), Ohio Investigators Association, and the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. Currently, Judy is studying to become a Certified Fraud Examiner.