



# ASTEE

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January 2012

## ASTEE at a Glance

Hello fellow ASTEE members, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!!!

Looking back, 2011 was a great year overall for the organization. We had two great social events at AAFS and the Trace Evidence Symposium, we gave out the first ever **Edmond Locard Award for Excellence in Trace Evidence** to a very deserving **Scott Ryland**, and our organization has seen some tremendous growth. With the aid of a strong showing at the 2011 Trace Evidence Symposium in Kansas City, our membership has now surpassed the 300 member mark.

Expanding on the fact that we had a strong showing at the Trace Evidence Symposium, our reception at the Boulevard Brewery was a resounding success. We had over 200 members and applicants attend. We would like to take this opportunity to once again thank the two members, **Jenny Smith** and **Sandy Parent**, who were responsible for putting in a huge amount of effort to make this event happen. We would also like to thank our sponsors: CRAIC Technologies, Gateway Analytical, and StarLIMS for their critical support. Last but not least, we would like to thank all of those who were able to make it; hopefully a good time was had by everyone. Our ad-hoc photographer, **Pete Diaczuk**, captured numerous moments from the evening which he was kind enough to provide for publication here (see pages 12 through 15 and 22).

We are certainly ending the year strong with yet another excellent edition of the ASTEE journal. **Chris Bommarito**, his editorial staff, and the authors should be congratulated on another valuable addition to the trace evidence literature.

As always, Chris is keeping an eye out for worthy submissions. If you have some research that needs to be written up, a validation study you would like to share, or an interesting case that the rest of us should hear about, please be sure to send a submission.

*(Cont. on Page 2)*

## **ASTEE at a Glance** *(Cont. From Page 1)*

While on the topic of the journal, there were numerous high quality presentations given at the Trace Evidence Symposium. We would implore you to share your work in written form with the perfect target audience. As we all know, times are tough all around so many of our members did not have the opportunity to attend the symposium. The journal would be the perfect chance to share your work with the entire organization. Hopefully you won't wait too long and you will help to continue the strong string of ASTEE journals that have been issued thus far.

Looking forward to 2012, we have many things planned and a few things to announce. Our board will be changing, we will be hosting an event at AAFS in Atlanta, we will be awarding the second **Edmond Locard Award for Excellence in Trace Evidence**, we should all be looking forward to additional editions of the journal, and we will be looking to add more content to our website. Please be sure to read on as many of these topics are further elaborated upon in the following pages.

## ***The 2012 ASTEE Board of Directors***

It is with great pleasure that we announce the 2012 ASTEE Board of Directors:

**President: Chris Taylor**

**President-Elect: Chris Bommarito**

**Treasurer: Sandy Parent**

**Secretary: Sandy Koch**

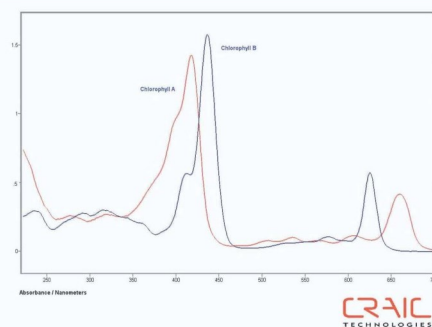
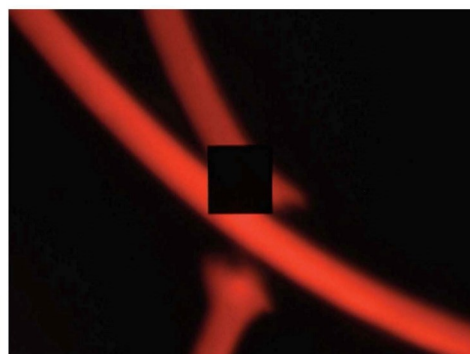
**Director: Cassandra Burke**

**Director: Amy Michaud**

**Director: Jenny Smith**

As always, the board will be looking for motivated individuals to help move the organization forward. If you have any ideas on how ASTEE can serve the trace community better or you would like to get involved, please be sure to let any one of the individuals listed above know.

*(Cont. Page 4)*



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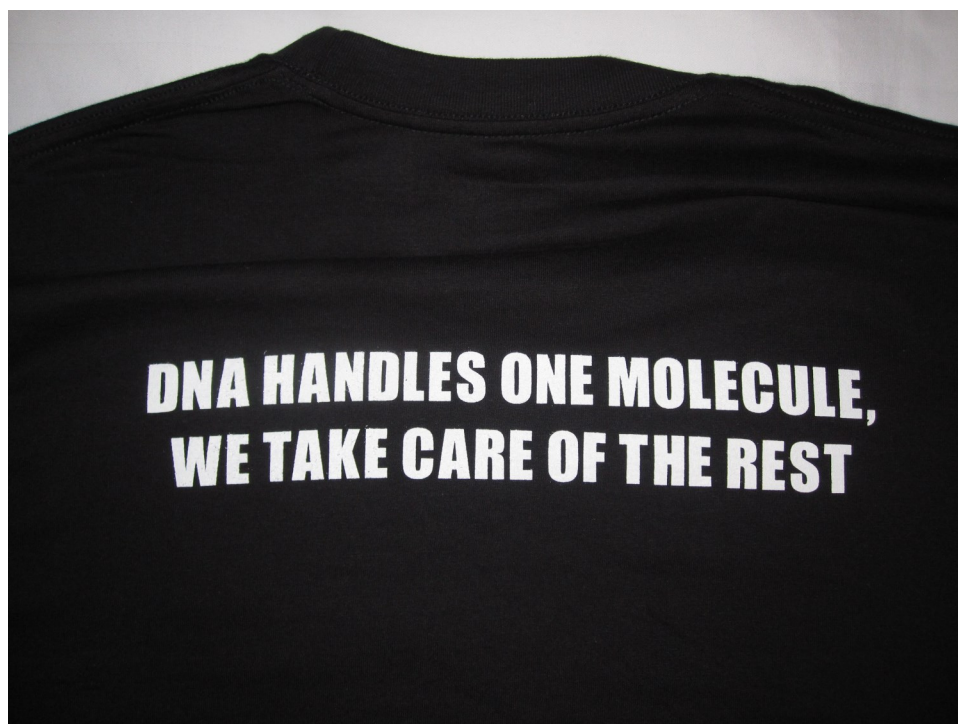
## ASTEE at a Glance *(Cont. From Page 2)*

### **2012 AAFS Meeting in Atlanta**

For those of you that are considering attending the 2012 AAFS meeting in Atlanta, there are a few events that might help you make the decision to make the trip.

Several of our members have either assembled or are participating in a few trace related workshops that are sure to be high quality educational opportunities. The two workshops of note include one on explosives identification and another on soil analysis. The AAFS preliminary program has been posted on the Academy's website and further details on these workshops can be found there.

On the social side of things, we will be organizing another reception to be held on Tuesday, February 21st at a location to be named very soon. As with last years event, **CRAIC Technologies** and **Gateway Analytical** have once again generously volunteered to sponsor the event. As with our last few events, this promises to be a great way to meet up with some old friends and meet some new ones. If you plan on attending please send an e-mail confirming your intent to **vfornsic@yahoo.com** so that we can plan accordingly. Additional details will be provided via-email in the coming weeks. *(Cont. Page 6)*





# Bridging the Service Gap— Beyond the Expected



- Examination of multiple trace evidence types including:
  - Animal and Human Hair
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## ASTEE at a Glance *(Cont. From Page 4)*

### ASTEE Treasury

Our Treasurer, **Sandy Parent**, will be sending out the 2012 dues notices soon after the beginning of the year. On this note, there was a little confusion over the 2011 dues for those of you submitted your applications at the Trace Evidence Symposium. The fees collected at that time were for your 2011 dues. However, at that time, some people only submitted their application fee. A communication was sent out to remind those in this latter category that they were responsible for paying their 2011 dues upon acceptance of their membership. This communication was sent to several individuals who had already paid, some of whom ended up paying again. If you are one of the members who paid your dues twice, please contact Sandy to let her know and the second payment will be credited to your 2012 dues.

For your review, the 2011 ASTEE income and expenses have been provided below. It is worth noting that the generosity of our members enabled the organization to make a \$623.60 donation to **Susan G. Komen for the Cure**. Please see page 20 for the thank you letter that we received.

2011 ASTEE Income			2011 ASTEE Expenses		
1/19/2011	CRAIC Donation (AAFS)	\$ 1,500.00	1/19/2011	Go to meeting	\$234.00
1/19/2011	Dues 2010	\$ 48.97	4/28/2011	Boulevard Brewing Co. Deposit	\$500.00
2/10/2011	Membership	\$ 50.00	4/12/2011	Return Check	\$57.00
3/1/2011	Dues	\$ 80.00	5/31/2011	AAFS Reception	\$2,962.85
3/8/2011	Dues	\$ 40.00	6/7/2011	Boulevard Brewing Company (TES)	\$2,500.00
3/14/2011	Gateway Donation (AAFS/TES)	\$ 2,000.00	8/8/2011	DJ (TES)	\$500.00
3/14/2011	Membership	\$ 55.00	8/10/2011	OK Joes Service Gratuity (TES)	\$200.00
4/8/2011	Dues	\$ 3,270.00	8/11/2011	OK Joes (TES)	\$2,751.92
5/31/2011	Dues	\$ 940.00	8/11/2011	OK Joes (TES)	\$87.61
5/31/2011	Paypal Dues	\$ 500.00	8/15/2011	Scholarship (Emily Schenk)	\$250.00
6/24/2011	Paypal Dues	\$ 181.66	8/22/2011	Shuttle (TES)	\$160.00
7/15/2011	Craic Donation (TES)	\$ 2,500.00	8/22/2011	T-shirts	\$1,247.50
8/4/2011	Dues	\$ 147.00	8/22/2011	Website renewal	\$133.38
8/4/2011	Starlims Donation (TES)	\$ 500.00	8/24/2011	Plaque	\$107.00
8/12/2011	T-shirt sales (TES)	\$ 1,194.50	10/14/2011	Susan G Komen Charity Donation	\$623.60
8/12/2011	Membership, dues, dinner (TES)	\$ 1,623.00			
8/12/2011	Membership, dues, dinner (TES)	\$ 165.00			
8/30/2011	Membership	\$ 100.00			
9/1/2011	Paypal Dues	\$ 43.97			
12/14/2011	Dues	\$ 20.00			
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 14,959.10</b>	<b>Total</b>		
			\$12,314.86		

TES=Trace Evidence Symposium

## ASTEE at a Glance *(Cont. From Page 6)*

### 2012 ASTEE Awards

Before we get to the 2012 awards announcement, let's take a moment to congratulate the recipients of the 2011 ASTEE Awards:

**Scott Ryland**  
**The Edmond Locard Award for Excellence in Trace Evidence**

And

**Emily Schenk**  
**The ASTEE Scholarship Award**

Upon receipt of the award, Scott provided ASTEE with a heartfelt thank you letter which he asked be published in the newsletter for distribution to the membership. This letter has been included for our membership on page 9.

In addition to these two awards, ASTEE was asked to judge the poster session at the 2011 Trace Evidence Symposium. The award for best student poster went to **Jennifer L. Greaux** from Florida International University for her work titled: *Method Development for the Rapid Separation and Detection of Organic Gunshot Residue by UPLC/MS/MS*. The runner up for the best poster went to **John Chester** from the Indiana State Police for his work titled: *The Identification of Metal Transfer from Bullets onto Laminated Glass*. Last but not least, the best poster award went to **Tiffany Eckert-Lumsdon** from the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory for her work titled: *Validating Glass Annealing Thresholds in an ISO World*. Jennifer, John, and Tiffany all received an ASTEE T-Shirt, a one year membership, and an original **Jarape** print that was generously prepared and donated by **Jarape** himself.

**Michelle Palmer** and her committee certainly had some excellent nominations to choose from for the 2011 awards. Our group is blessed with an abundance of individuals who have made tremendous contributions to trace evidence for many years. In order to acknowledge these individual's efforts, we will be continuing this tradition and Michelle has assembled the announcements for the 2012 ASTEE awards which can be found on the pages to follow.

Since there is no Trace Evidence Symposium this year, the 2012 awards will be given out at the ASTEE reception at the AAFS meeting on Tuesday, February 21st in Atlanta. We realize that this is a relatively fast turnaround, but it will be the best opportunity to celebrate the awardees. It should be noted that all Locard Award Nominations from last year have been retained by the Awards Committee. If someone would like to re-nominate an individual, they would just need to contact the committee chair (**Michelle Palmer: Michelle.palmer@dfs.virginia.gov**). If there are additional details above and beyond what was provided for last years nomination, please provide those in that communication.

Nominations for the Edmond Locard award and applications for the Scholarship award are due to Michelle by February 3, 2012. A description of these awards and application materials can be found on pages 16 to 19 of this newsletter.

**Congratulations to**  
**Scott Ryland**  
**on his receipt of the**  
**2011**  
**Edmond Locard Award for**  
**Excellence in Trace Evidence**





Dear Colleagues,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the honor bestowed upon me with the Edmond Locard Award for Excellence in Trace Evidence. My special thanks to the Board of Directors, the Awards Committee, and to Diana Wright of the FBI Laboratory, who was so gracious as to nominate me. I trust there were many deserving nominees, because I know what a dedicated group of professionals you all are. I have always considered myself fortunate to be among your ranks.

I am a bit of an emotional guy, and I am pretty sure I would not have been able to get this entirely out at the brewery. (Oh my, I guess that didn't sound too good. Perhaps I should not have shared the location.) We owe quite a bit of gratitude to the group that organized this association and continues to help it grow. Now I am not one to shirk capitalizing on someone else's efforts, and I would encourage you to be the same. Let's not miss this opportunity. Stay active, stay interested, and please share your projects and case experiences in the Journal. It is the perfect place for the case-working examiner to publish. Do not be discouraged if a review comes back negative, for that is the nature of peer review. One seldom, if ever, gets to publish just what they want. It is a compromise made by you and given to all that benefit from your efforts. Oral presentations are great and they get the word out quickly. But unfortunately, in today's legal environment the work must be published if it is to be used by others in their encounters with the legal system. Incorporate that reviewer's worthy suggestions and resubmit the paper. We all would be at a loss without it.

So with that plea, let me again say thank you to all. As Chris and Vinny said, I hope "every contact has left a trace," and let me assure you, it was a cross transfer.

Yours truly,  
Scott Ryland

**Congratulations to**  
**Emily Schenk**  
**on her receipt of the**  
**2011**  
**ASTEE Scholarship Award**





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think forward

Spectroscopy



# 2011 Trace Evidence Symposium





# Kansas City Missouri

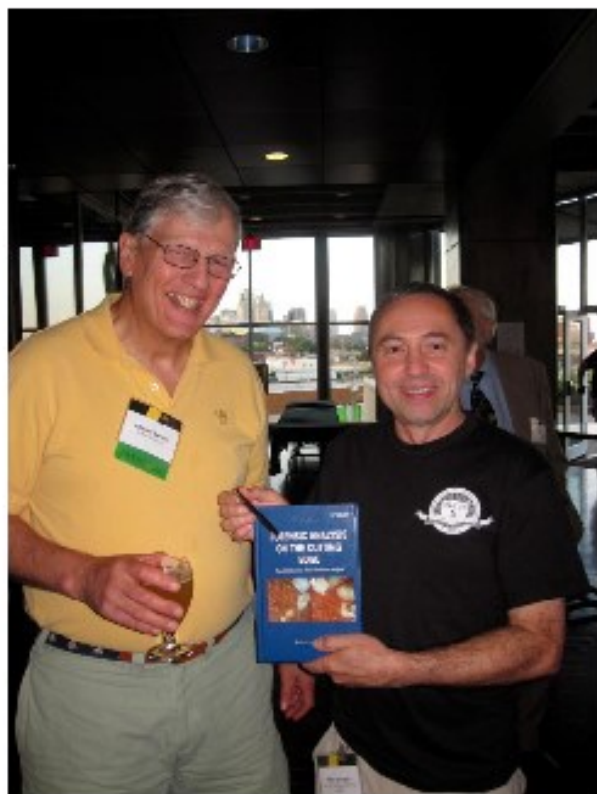


# 2011 Trace Evidence Symposium





# Kansas City Missouri





## **American Society of Trace Evidence Examiners Scholarship Award**

**Criteria:** This scholarship of \$250 is to be presented to a student who has demonstrated academic excellence in the field of Forensic Science, with an emphasis in Trace Evidence.

**Eligibility Requirements:** Applicants must be currently enrolled as an undergraduate or graduate student in a Forensic Science or related science program with plans on pursuing work in the Trace Evidence field. Applicants must demonstrate excellence in his/her academic program.

**Application Requirements:** Applicants will submit an essay of no more than 1000 words in which they detail their personal goals in regard to Trace Evidence, their achievements, and why they feel they should be considered for this award. Applicants will provide an official school transcript which must include semester grades for the most recent completed semester. Applicants will submit a letter of recommendation from a professor in the applicant's curriculum accompanied by the Scholarship Recommendation form. Applicants will submit a completed Scholarship Applicant form.

All required materials must be received no later than midnight on February 3, 2012. Applicants may e-mail all materials except the official school transcript. The school transcript must be an original mailed by the school or the applicant. Scans or photocopies will not be accepted.

Interested candidates should submit all required materials to:

**Michelle Palmer**  
Virginia Department of Forensic Science  
6600 Northside High School Road  
Roanoke, VA 24019  
[Michelle.Palmer@dfs.virginia.gov](mailto:Michelle.Palmer@dfs.virginia.gov)

If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Palmer at (540) 283-5937 or via e-mail.





## The Edmond Locard Award for Excellence in Trace Evidence

**Criteria:** This award is to be presented to an individual who has demonstrated excellence in the field of Trace Evidence. This award will be determined by nomination. Nominee must be a member of ASTEE and have a minimum of ten years in Trace Evidence. Nominee will have made a major contribution to the field of Trace Evidence. This could include teaching or training, presented or published research, or innovations in techniques, methods or instrumentation in the Trace Evidence field.

**Give a summary of the nominee's background and the reason(s) for the nomination:**  
(Attach additional sheets if necessary)

**Submitted by:**

**Address:**

**Work Phone:** (      )

**All nominations must be received by the Awards Committee for review no later than midnight on February 3, 2012. The recommendations of the Awards Committee will then be forwarded to the ASTEE Board of Directors, who will determine the final choice for the award recipient.**

**Please mail or e-mail nomination to:**

**Michelle Palmer  
Virginia Department of Forensic Science  
6600 Northside High School Road  
Roanoke, VA 24019  
[Michelle.Palmer@dfs.virginia.gov](mailto:Michelle.Palmer@dfs.virginia.gov)**

**If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Palmer at (540) 283-5937**



## American Society of Trace Evidence Examiners Scholarship Applicant Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Residence Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

School Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

College attended: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree program: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate which address and phone number is the best one for contacting you.

Application Requirements:

- Scholarship Applicant Form
- Scholarship Recommendation Form
- Official School Transcript, including grades for the most recent completed semester (mailed)
- Essay detailing personal goals with regards to Trace Evidence, achievements, and reasons for award consideration (limit 1000 words)

Interested candidates should submit all required materials to:

Michelle Palmer  
Virginia Department of Forensic Science  
6600 Northside High School Road  
Roanoke, VA 24019  
[Michelle.Palmer@dfs.virginia.gov](mailto:Michelle.Palmer@dfs.virginia.gov)  
(540) 283-5937



## American Society of Trace Evidence Examiners Scholarship Recommendation Form

Candidate Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation to Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

Professor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Recommender: \_\_\_\_\_

College/Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include the following information when submitting the recommendation for the candidate: Candidate's knowledge of the subject matter, ability to work with others, communication skills, reliability, attitude, integrity, motivation, maturity, and how relevant the candidate's course of study is to the field of Trace Evidence. Please feel free to add any additional information regarding this candidate that you feel would be helpful.

Please mail, e-mail or have the candidate submit this form and the letter of recommendation to:

Michelle Palmer  
Virginia Department of Forensic Science  
6600 Northside High School Road  
Roanoke, VA 24019  
[Michelle.Palmer@dfs.virginia.gov](mailto:Michelle.Palmer@dfs.virginia.gov)

If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Palmer at (540) 283-5937 or via e-mail.



Mary and Affiliate  
200 East Jones Road, Suite 107 Towson, Maryland 21206  
410-238-8900, [www.komen.org](http://www.komen.org)

December 20, 2011

American Society Of Trade Evidence

Trenton, NJ 08611

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for your \$625.00 donation to the Maryland Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure®. Your gift enables us to achieve our promise to save lives and end breast cancer forever by empowering people, ensuring quality care for all and energizing science to find the cures.

As the Maryland Affiliate enters its 20th year, we are committed to continuing our exemplary legacy of funding innovative local grants with 70% of our net revenue and contributing the other 30% to transformative national breast cancer research, often taking place at Maryland institutions. We have also instituted a call to action, urging for "Less Talk, More Action" going into 2012. The ultimate goal is to increase mammography screening rates and the early detection of breast cancer.

In fiscal year 2012, Komen Maryland allocated nearly \$2.5 million to local breast cancer research and direct services to the community. We are proud to provide funding for 29 breast cancer education, screening, treatment and support projects that help women, men and families across Maryland. Some of the free services our grant partners provide include: outreach to minority communities, mammograms and clinical breast exams, meals delivered to women undergoing treatment, and counseling for women and their families. In addition, the impact Susan G. Komen for the Cure has had on early diagnosis and targeted therapies promises all women (and men) who will be diagnosed with breast cancer in the future with realistic and evidence-based hope for a long, healthy life.

The wonderful success of our Race for the Cure®, the signature fundraiser for Komen for the Cure, is a direct result of your support. This support enables us to boast that every advancement in breast cancer diagnosis, treatment and outcomes has been touched by Komen for the Cure contributions. We hope you will continue to raise funds, start or join a team in our 2012 Maryland Race, April 22, 2012 in Ocean City or October 21, 2012 in Hunt Valley, or support someone who is participating.

With enormous community support, we have become the largest source of nonprofit funds dedicated to understanding and treating breast cancer in the world. In this decade, we want to achieve our vision of a world without breast cancer. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

Sincerely,

Lenore Koors  
Operations Director

*In compliance with the IRS requirements regarding charitable contributions, we affirm that no goods or services have been provided by in consideration of your contribution. Please retain this letter as proof of your gift for federal income tax purposes.*

The greatest risk factors for  
breast cancer are being female  
and growing older.





## ASTEE Membership Application

### DIRECTIONS:

1. All information supplied on this form WILL be verified.
2. Type or print in ink and check your preferred mailing address.
3. Attach a copy of your curriculum vitae/resume and lists of applicable forensic coursework to this form.
4. Have two (2) current ASTEE members propose and second your membership application.
5. Enclose a check or money order (made payable to ASTEE), for the non-refundable \$5.00 application fee.
6. Mail application and fee to the Treasurer (see address below).

Name:

Agency:

Title:

Preferred Mailing Address:      ☐ HOME      ☐ BUSINESS

Business Phone: (    )                      EXT. \_\_\_\_\_                      E-mail Address:

Education and Experience: (attach Curriculum Vitae/resume and a list of applicable forensic course work)

Please select any disciplines in which you actively conduct analysis/examinations.

Administration	Forensic Education	Impression Evidence
Arson	General Unknowns	Ink
Explosives	Glass	Paints & Polymers
Fibers	Gunshot Residue	Physical Matches
Fire Debris	Hairs	Soil

My signature acknowledges that all information on this form is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### PROPOSAL FOR MEMBERSHIP:

ASTEE Member #1 Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____ Daytime phone: (    ) _____	ASTEE Member #2 Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____ Daytime phone: (    ) _____
ASTEE Treasurer Amy Michaud ATF National Laboratory 6000 Ammendale Road Ammendale, MD 20705	For ASTEE Use Only Date application & fee received: _____ Check No. _____  ASTEE Membership No. _____

# *Tout Contact*



## *Laisse une Trace*