

# NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STRATIGRAPHIC PALYNOLOGISTS

---

VOLUME 3

DECEMBER, 1969

NUMBER 1

---

Richard W. Hedlund, Editor  
Robert T. Clarke, Asst. Editor

Eloy Salas, Correspondent  
D. Colin McGregor, Correspondent

---

## SECOND ANNUAL MEETING, OCTOBER 19-22, 1969

Pennsylvania State University was the site of the Second Annual Meeting of the AASP. The 85 registrants included palynologists from Canada, the United States, Australia, France and Iran. An excellent program, including outstanding guest speakers and papers, a stimulating field trip, the most gracious hosts and the camaraderie all contributed toward a successful and memorable Second Annual Meeting. Palynologic subjects discussed by the speakers included biostratigraphic, morphologic, ecologic, statistical and electron microscope studies of palynomorphs from the Silurian to the Recent, together with discussions on sedimentation, metamorphism and computer applications of palynologic data.

A pre-convention workshop was directed by Dr. John C. Griffiths, Professor of Petrography at Penn State. Dr. Griffiths discussed statistical problems in geology and stressed the need for precise sampling procedures in all disciplines of the science.

The first day of the Annual Meeting was opened by welcoming remarks from Dr. Alfred Traverse and Dr. William Spackman of the Department of Geology and Geophysics, Dr. Charles L. Hosler, Dean of the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences, and Dr. Charles Upshaw, President of AASP. Dr. George Fournier, Vice-President of AASP and Program Chairman, introduced the first guest speaker, Dr. Donald A. Larson, who presented his results on electron microscope studies of sporoderms. Dr. David Wall discussed some biological problems concerned with fossilizable dinoflagellates, followed by a paper entitled, "Pollen and the Scanning Electron Microscope" by Dr. Paul Martin which included 3-dimensional illustrations. The last guest speaker of the day was Dr. Robert Kosanke, who discussed the distribution of palynomorph assemblages in three Pennsylvanian coal-bearing formations from Kentucky, Virginia and West Virginia. An interesting tour of Penn State's palynological facilities followed the presentation of papers. The annual "smoker" of the AASP was held in the evening in the rustic surroundings of the Penn State Forestry Camp.

The annual AASP business meeting, presided over by Dr. Charles Upshaw, began the second day of the Annual Meeting. Committee reports were presented to the Membership, followed by discussions from the floor. Following the business meeting, the morning session of eight contributed papers was presided over by Dr. George Fournier. The afternoon session included nine papers, Dr. Paul Nygreen presiding. Because of a large response to a call for papers, an evening session, presided over by Mrs. Marcia Winslow was convened. All papers presented at the Meeting contributed to the success of the second day's activities.

A post-convention field trip, under the leadership of Dr. Eugene Williams and Dr. Alfred Traverse examined the cyclic sedimentation of Pennsylvanian coal-bearing strata exposed in a portion of the Allegheny Plateau region west of State College. The well-prepared itinerary offered the participants a better understanding of the criteria for the classification of coal-bearing depositional sequences.

The appreciation of the Executive Committee of the AASP is extended to all who helped make our Second Annual Meeting a rewarding experience. We especially thank Dr. Alfred Traverse and Dr. George Fournier who organized the Meeting; the members of the Penn State faculty, staff and graduate students who generously supported and aided the conduct of the Meeting; and the Members of the AASP, whose participation added materially to the success of the Meeting.

Following the Annual Meeting, the Executive Committee convened to discuss the business of the AASP. All members of the Executive Committee for 1969-1970 were present. The committees of the Association which were appointed at this meeting include the following:

Nominating Committee

William R. Evitt (Chairman)  
Jacob E. Gerhard  
D. Colin McGregor  
Robert L. Tabbert  
Eugene J. Tynan

Ballot Committee

Daniel Habib (Chairman)  
Harold Cousminer  
Calvin J. Heusser

Publications Committee

Richard W. Hedlund (Chairman)  
Robert T. Clarke  
George F. Hart

and the following correspondents:

D. Colin McGregor (for Canada)  
Eloy Salas (for Mexico, S. America)

Constitution Committee

Paul W. Nygreen (Chairman)  
Geoffrey Norris  
Alan B. Shaw

Long-Range Planning Committee

Charles F. Upshaw (Chairman)  
Marcia R. Winslow  
George R. Fournier (ex officio)

Emblem Committee

Earl T. Peterson (Chairman)

Annual Meeting Committee

Geoffrey Norris (Chairman)  
George F. Hart

Other business included discussions concerning the 1971 Annual Meeting of the AASP and the publication of the second Proceedings volume, including papers read at the Second Annual Meeting. It was decided that the next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held in the Spring of 1970. Members of the Association are encouraged to inform the Executive Committee of any items of general interest to the AASP which should be considered by the Committee.

\*\*\*\*\*

REMARKS BY PAST-PRESIDENT UPSHAW AT PENN STATE

On behalf of the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists, I extend our gratitude to the Pennsylvania State University, and particularly to Dean Hosler and Drs. Spackman and Traverse, for hosting our Second Annual Meeting. We sincerely appreciate your efforts. The assured success of our Meeting will largely result from those efforts, and for this we are indeed grateful.

It is also my pleasure, on behalf of the Executive Committee and the Annual Meeting Committee chaired by Vice-President Fournier, to welcome our members and guests. We are gratified that response to a call for papers was so large that an extra session had to be arranged. Our thanks go to all who participated in the Meeting, thereby helping the Association to achieve another service to palynology.

On my own behalf, I wish to thank the membership for the opportunity you have given me to be of service to the Association. I look forward to continuing to work as a member of your new Executive Committee toward the advancement of the AASP and of our science.

Palynology is a small field but a dynamic one, with many areas of research progressing simultaneously. For example:

Studies of more exact means of describing morphology and applying this precision to the solution of phyletic and ecologic problems.

The use of the Scanning Electron Microscope to elucidate structural and sculptural details to a degree that had not been possible.

The development of computer files for the centralization and handling of large masses of palynologic data.

The study of myriad groups of microscopic entities other than pollen grains and spores---the dinoflagellates, acritarchs, chitinozoans, scolecodonts, calcareous and siliceous nannoplankton, and many others---which generates a problem of definition of the word "Palynology".

The relatively unglamorous, but fundamental, recording of palynomorph distribution in numerous sequences of rock units of all ages.

For a scientific community of such small size we are exceedingly diverse in background, training, and research orientation. For a young science, we are faced with a large and complex set of problems and challenges. The very diversity among us multiplies talent, and the vigor so apparent among our membership makes one feel nothing but optimism for the future of our science and profession.

In the same manner, one cannot help but feel optimistic about our young Association. We have come far in less than two years. We have survived a number of problems. We have continuously grown in membership, and in so doing, we have become more broadly representative. We have conducted a highly successful First Annual Meeting, and we are initiating the Second here today. It promises to equal or surpass the First. We will soon publish our first volume of technical papers, the Proceedings of our First Meeting. In other words, we are performing successfully the important function of providing a forum for presentation of research results and the exchange of ideas. And, we are providing for the dissemination of palynologic knowledge to those unable to attend our Meetings.

Beyond these vital functions, we have also given palynologists a voice in interdisciplinary affairs, such as our recent participation in sponsorship of the North American Paleontological Convention in Chicago and our membership on the Joint Committee on Paleontological Information.

Just as palynology is a vigorous science, so is the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists a vigorous representative of the science. I am confident that it will remain so.

\*\*\*\*\*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

During the third year of life of the AASP, the President must continue to work toward the attainment of the original objectives set up by the inspired group of people who created the Association. Two very successful Annual Meetings have provided an opportunity for the Members to get together and become familiar with what the palynologic community has been doing. This has been an inspiration for our future work. The Constitution Committee is hard at work trying to eliminate obvious incongruencies in our Constitution to provide us with a flexible instrument which will allow the necessary changes in response to adjustments as our Association grows. New ideas, capable of broadening the orientation of the AASP, will undoubtedly appear in the near future to reinforce what already has proven to be a successful philosophy.

The Executive Committee has decided to hold our Third Annual Meeting in Toronto, Canada. Sometime in the future we may be able to hold a convention in Mexico or South America. We are attempting to broaden our experience by encouraging workers engaged in closely related disciplines (coccoliths, discoasters, silicoflagellates, etc.) to become a part of our Association. We should offer them a forum where they can express their ideas.

The AASP should function as the instrument of liaison between the academic and industrial worlds in the field of palynology. The academic world provides the manpower for industry, and the industrial world contributes significantly to the preparation of such manpower. The industry is familiar with research projects being undertaken by colleges and universities; the academic world should be more adequately acquainted with the problems characteristic of industrial research organizations.

This year we will expand the news of our profession by having correspondents in both North and South America. These correspondents will provide items of pertinent information in order to expand our knowledge of American palynology. In addition, we will publish the Proceedings of our two previous Meetings in the near future.

To all the Members of AASP, I give my promise to do my utmost for the Association as far as my abilities will permit.

George Fournier  
President

\*\*\*\*\*



## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The following five publications of the AASP are still available for distribution to Members, free of charge:

1. AASP Membership Directory - 1968
2. AASP Membership Directory - 1969
3. Brochure and Program for the Second Annual Meeting - 1969
4. Abstracts of papers presented at the Second Annual Meeting - 1969
5. Registration list of those attending the Second Annual Meeting - 1969

Any of the above publications may be obtained by writing to:

Dr. Alfred Traverse  
Department of Geology and Geophysics  
Pennsylvania State University  
University Park, Pennsylvania, 16802

In addition, the following publications are available for a nominal cost:

1. 1968 Field Trip Guidebook - Lower Mississippi Valley: AASP, First Annual Meeting.  
\$3.00 postpaid.

The 1968 Guidebook contains 78 pages of fascinating historical and geological information about the area from Baton Rouge, Louisiana to Vicksburg, Mississippi, including six papers and road logs. The papers are fully illustrated and well-documented. A must for Civil War buffs! Send your request, together with a check for \$3.00 payable to C.O. Durham, Jr., to:

Dr. Clay Durham, Jr., Director  
School of Geology  
Louisiana State University  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70803

2. 1969 Field Trip Guidebook - Sedimentation in the Carboniferous of Western Pennsylvania: AASP, Second Annual Meeting.  
\$2.00 postpaid.

The 1969 Guidebook, prepared by Dr. Eugene G. Williams of Pennsylvania State University, is a handsomely illustrated compilation of information about the sedimentary history of a portion of central Pennsylvania. Inasmuch as Penn State has devoted many years of research into the origins of cyclic sedimentation, the Guidebook contains a great deal of information dealing with the classification of coal-bearing depositional sequences that is useful to the palynologist. Of equal significance is the information presented on cyclic sedimentation, tectonic control and rock genesis. Send your request, along with a check for \$2.00 payable to AASP, to Dr. Alfred Traverse (address above).

\*\*\*\*\*

## ANNUAL MEETING GROUP PHOTOS

Group photographs of the Members who attended the First Annual Meeting of AASP in Baton Rouge, Louisiana (October, 1968) and the Second Annual Meeting of AASP in University Park, Pennsylvania (October, 1969) are still available. These are good quality 8 x 10 inch glossy prints. They may be ordered by sending \$2.00, postpaid, for each print to:

Mr. Don Krebs  
Deike Building 517  
Pennsylvania State University  
University Park, Pennsylvania, 16802

\*\*\*\*\*

## AASP PROCEEDINGS, VOLUME I

Bob Perkins, editor of the L.S.U. Geoscience Series has informed us that the publication of Volume I of the AASP Proceedings is well underway. Typesetting of all manuscripts should be completed in the near future. A publication date is estimated for approximately June-July, 1970.

\*\*\*\*\*

## AASP PROCEEDINGS, VOLUME II

Plans are being made to publish Volume II of the AASP Proceedings. This volume will contain papers presented at the Second Annual Meeting at Penn State. Speakers at the Meeting are requested to send their manuscripts to the Editor by January 1, 1970, if they desire to publish their papers in this volume. Papers not published in their entirety will be included in abstract form in Volume II. Watch the Newsletter for further information on this subject.

\*\*\*\*\*

## THIRD INTERNATIONAL PALYNOLOGIC CONFERENCE

The Third International Conference on Palynology will be held in Novosibirsk, U.S.S.R. in August of 1971. The Organizing Committee for the Conference is working on the program for the meeting.

It is requested that preliminary applications, with indications of possible subjects of papers be sent to:

Prof. Dr. M. I. Neishtadt  
Staromonetny per. 29  
J-17, Moscow, U.S.S.R.

\*\*\*\*\*



## MEMORIAL TO ROGER ALLEN HERSHEY

(1944 - 1969)

Roger Allen Hershey died the 6th of October, 1969, in Englewood, Colorado, of injuries sustained in an automobile accident four days prior.

He was born October 8, 1944, in Indiana and received his B.S. in Geology from Central Missouri State College, Warrensburg, Missouri, in May, 1968. He then came to Southern Methodist University to begin graduate studies in palynology. He came away from the Baton Rouge AASP Meeting full of enthusiasm and began the groundwork for palynologic research on the Escondido Formation of Texas.

Roger had an exceptionally outgoing and persuasive personality and an incessantly alert and independent mind. His unusually diverse background and experience promised a fine potential.

James B. Urban

\*\*\*\*\*

## EMBLEM COMMITTEE

Earl T. Peterson, Chairman of the Emblem Committee, expresses appreciation to those Members who have submitted design suggestions since the Penn State Meeting. Action must be taken on the adoption of an emblem in the near future. If any more ideas have germinated, please send them to him. The address is:

Earl T. Peterson  
Atlantic Richfield Company  
P. O. Box 2819  
Dallas, Texas 75221

\*\*\*\*\*

## CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

The Constitution Committee of the AASP reports that continuation of progress in revising the Constitution should soon result in a completed draft incorporating most thoughts and suggestions of Committee members. The draft will be submitted to Committee members and thereafter to the Executive Committee for their comments and direction.

The Committee informs us that the concepts utilized in the revision of the present instrument have been those of simplification and of elimination of conflicting procedural and operational provisions. The Committee is striving to produce a simple, more workable document that will guide the AASP within the general direction of our progress of the past two years.

\*\*\*\*\*

## J.C.P.I. REPRESENTATIVE

The Joint Committee on Paleontologic Information (J.C.P.I.) was set up to provide sponsoring societies with reliable data on the basis of which their councils and/or committees may take action in the field of paleontologic information exchange. The AASP Representative to the J.C.P.I is Paul W. Nygreen. The chairman of J.C.P.I., Alan B. Shaw, is a Member of AASP. Representative Nygreen reports the following appointments of AASP Members to the J.C.P.I.:

John W. Hall has been appointed to J.C.P.I. as a representative of the Paleobotanical Section of the Botanical Society of America.

Robert B. Sanders has been appointed to the Task Force on Objective Descriptors.

Harold L. Cousminer has been appointed to the Task Force on Data Filing and Retrieval.

Should any AASP Member have questions or comments about J.C.P.I. or be particularly interested in any specific activity of the Committee, please contact our Representative, Paul W. Nygreen.

\*\*\*\*\*

REMEMBER, SEND ANY NEWS-WORTHY ITEMS TO  
YOUR EDITOR FOR INCLUSION IN THE NEWSLETTER

\*\*\*\*\*

Application-for-Membership Form

**THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STRATIGRAPHIC PALYNOLOGISTS**

Prof. Dr. Mr. Miss Mrs. (Please strike out ones which do not apply.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Professional affiliation: for whom \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of work (graduate student, exploration stratigrapher, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signatures of sponsors 1) \_\_\_\_\_

(Must be members in good  
standing of AASP)

2) \_\_\_\_\_

\* \* \* \* \*

Purpose of AASP (adopted 8 December, 1967): "... to promote the science of  
palynology, especially as it relates to stratigraphic applications and bio-  
stratigraphy; to foster the spirit of scientific research among the members;  
to disseminate information relating to palynology."

\* \* \* \* \*

**Please Note:** Application must be accompanied by \$5.00 (USA) in order for the  
Executive Committee to elect applicants to membership.