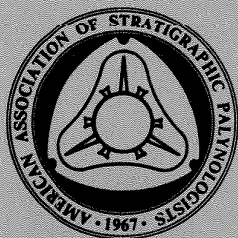


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AASP NEWSLETTER
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(First) (Middle) (Last)
Address: _____

Telephone: _____

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

Send to: Dr. Gordon D. Wood
Amoco Production Company
P.O. Box 3092
Houston, TX 77253

Please send \$20.00 (US)
with your application.

Date: _____

Listed Name: _____

Name change: _____
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Address change: _____

Telephone change: _____

Send to: Dr. Gordon D. Wood
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Houston, TX 77253



AASP NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 19, NUMBER 4 OCTOBER, 1986

R. L. RAVN, EDITOR ISSN 0732-6041

AASP members will be saddened to learn of the death of Dr. Robert H. Tschudy following a brief illness, at his home in Boulder, Colorado, on October 31, 1986. Bob Tschudy was employed for many years by the U.S. Geological Survey in Denver, with whom he continued to be associated in active research after his retirement several years ago. He was 78.

We also regret the necessity to announce the death of Dr. Ganapathi Thanikaimoni of the Institut Français in Pondichery, India. Dr. Thanikaimoni died tragically in the hijacking of the Pan Am jetliner in Karachi, Pakistan, on September 6, 1986. We extend our condolences to his friends and colleagues.

The Newsletter anticipates formal memorials for both these fine gentlemen in our next issue.

NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR

With this issue, my three-year reign of terror as editor of the AASP Newsletter comes to a close. I am pleased to announce that I will be succeeded in this post by my close friend (in what may have been a Freudian slip as I typed this notice, I initially spelled that last word as fiend) John Wrenn of Amoco Production Company Research in Tulsa, Oklahoma. John is one of the more diligent and capable people I have had the pleasure of dealing with in this business, even if he does have an inexplicable fascination with Cenozoic dinoflagellates. God knows I tried to cure him of that many times, but it didn't work. Actually, members will be interested in the recently-issued AASP Contribution Series No. 17, papers from the Symposium on Neogene Dinoflagellate Cyst Stratigraphy, that was made available at the New York meeting; John edited this volume, with assistance from Jeff Stein and Susan Duffield, also of Amoco. It is a splendid piece of work with spectacular photographic reproduction that anyone interested in dinoflagellate cysts or palynostratigraphy, even those of us who understand the true superiority of Paleozoic and Mesozoic spores and pollen, will want to own. Its availability is discussed more fully later in this Newsletter. John is most eminently qualified to hold the post of Newsletter editor, with his enthusiasm and beard, the latter continuing the lineage of Nichols, Frederiksen and yours truly. I didn't even have to pay him too

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much to take the editorship out of my hands.

I'd like to take a little space here to express my thanks to those of you who have contributed material to the Newsletter during the past three years. Your letters, announcements and technical articles are what make the Newsletter go and what keeps a kind of special communication flowing in our society. I'm sure that John will be favored with the same wonderful cooperation I received during my tenure. Several people deserve being singled out by name for their special help. AASP Presidents John Clendening, Vaughn Bryant, Ray Christopher and new President Don Benson have all been vitally involved in seeing that important material gets into the Newsletter on a timely basis. Much the same can be said of Managing Editor Doug Nichols, whose advice I learned early to seek and value. The most harried people in the society with whom I had to deal were Secretary-Treasurers Ken Piel and Gordon Wood. I suspect that few members are aware of the time and energy burdens that the Secretary-Treasurer of AASP has to carry, but both Ken and Gordon have always been instantly available to provide information, address labels, lists of new members, and of course, money for printing and mailing. Finally, I'd like to thank Reed Wicander, who has been and continues to be AASP Book Review Editor, and whose ability to persuade or coerce reviews of publications out of the membership has provided the Newsletter with a reliable source of valuable material. Thanks to you, one and all. Now you can get back to work.

I've enjoyed doing this job more than I expected when I took it on. I'd be lying if I said there weren't moments when it caused me to tear out hair (John will need to be more careful about that than I was), but it has been most rewarding, especially in regard to the number of people in AASP I've gotten to know over the last three years. My thanks to you all.

Future correspondence to the Newsletter should be directed to:

Dr. John H. Wrenn, Amoco Production Company, Research Center, P.O. Box 3385, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74102. Telephone (918) 660-3644.

Bob Ravn.

SHINY BIG APPLE

Accolades to Dan Habib and his corps (pronounced core) of aides who planned and presided over a highly successful and enjoyable Annual Meeting of AASP in New York City October 29 to November 1. 151 participants registered for the meeting, which featured, I believe, the largest number of oral and poster presentations given at any Annual Meeting in the history of the society. Attendance was bolstered by a substantial number of AASP members from Europe, including members of C.I.M.P., who were present for the joint C.I.M.P. meeting. Several presentations in the Symposium on Paleozoic Palynology were given by C.I.M.P. members on topics from various areas of Europe.

The technical program also featured symposia on Triassic-Jurassic Palynostratigraphy, the Palynology of Ore Deposits, Quaternary Palynology and Neogene Dinoflagellate Cyst Stratigraphy. The latter symposium merits special mention, as it featured the appearance of a special symposium volume of papers, AASP Contribution Series No. 17, edited by John Wrenn, Jeff Stein and Susan Duffield. This volume is available at a cost of \$15.00; persons interested should write Robert T. Clarke, AASP Foundation Secretary-Treasurer, Mobil Research and Development Corp., Dallas Research Lab, P.O. Box 819047, Dallas, Texas 75381.

The attendance at the New York meeting was above estimates of attendance needed to cover expenses, and is therefore especially gratifying in a year of general retrenchment of employment in the earth sciences. Several other, and much larger, professional societies have experienced disturbingly low attendance at their meetings this year, and the joint AASP-CIMP attendance demonstrates at least to some degree that our society remains vital and vigorous. An open discussion concerning a variety of issues relating to the future of AASP and addressing such matters as the increasing logistical difficulties members have in attending meetings was held following the icebreaker, and will be described in more detail shortly.

Don Benson assumed the Presidency of AASP, replacing outgoing President Ray Christopher. Norm Frederiksen is President-Elect, and will succeed Don at next year's meeting in Halifax. Gordon Wood continues as Secretary-Treasurer and Doug Nichols continues as Managing Editor, although he relinquished his duties as Journal Editor to David Goodman; manuscript submissions to Palynology should now be made to Dr. David K. Goodman, Arco Oil & Gas, 2300 W. Plano Parkway, Plano, Texas 75075. The editorship of AASP Foundation Contribution Series also changed hands, as Dick Hedlund has succeeded Bob Clarke; manuscripts for AASP Contribution Series volumes should now be sent to Dr. Richard W. Hedlund, Amoco Production Company Research Center, P.O. Box 3385, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74102.

Dave Goodman also assumed a position as a new Director-at-Large, as did Patricia Gensel. Continuing for their second years as Directors-at-Large are Bill Cornell and Barbara Whitney. Judi Lentin and Reed Wicander left the Board after two years of service as Directors-at-large. The following committees were appointed: Nominating Committee; John Clendening (chairman), John Wrenn, Steve Jacobson, Harold Kaska and Sarah Damassa. Ballot Committee; Dave Goodman (chairman), Dick Curry and Bud Simpson. Awards Committee; Virgil Wiggins (chairman), Barbara Whitney and Lucy Edwards. Public Relations Committee; Vaughn Bryant (chairman), who will appoint other committee members.

Another sign of continuing health for AASP can be seen in the report of Treasurer Gordon Wood, which shows a present balance of \$42,980.28 in several accounts, not including the L. R. Wilson Student Paper Award fund, which is in excess of \$4,000. This balance represents a healthy increase over last year's balance, and would be even better were it not for an alarmingly large number of members who are arrears in payment of dues. Membership figures show, as of October 24, a total of 734 individual members and 111 institutional members having paid dues at least through 1986. 66 individual and 5 institutional members are in arrears for 1986 in payment of dues, and 117 individual and 17 institutional members are in arrears for 1985. Members please note that, if you are in arrears for 1985, according to the bylaws, you will be dropped from membership (this issue of the Newsletter is being mailed to those in arrears for the past two years of dues). A list of names of those not recorded as having paid dues for 1985 or 1986 appears later in this Newsletter. Secretary-Treasurer Gordon Wood noted that the difficulties in the oil industry and the resultant slowdown in employment in the earth sciences in general probably have contributed to this anomalously high number of delinquent dues payments, but also noted that this is a very good year to pay dues in advance, because of coming tax law changes for U.S. members. A special mailing has been made to inform members that payment of dues, purchase of publications, etc., before December 31, 1986, will still be tax-deductible. Next year they won't.

AASP Foundation Secretary-Treasurer Bob Clarke also reported a healthy financial condition for the Foundation, with an October 14, 1986 balance of \$25,668.85. AASP Foundation Trustees continue to be Bob Clarke, Norm Norton and Dick Hedlund, although, as mentioned, the responsibility for editing AASP Foundation publications has been assumed by Dick, succeeding Bob in this capacity.

The L. R. Wilson Student Paper Award was won by Warren L. Kovach for his paper titled "Ultrastructural studies of Recent and Mesozoic lycopod megaspores." Warren is a student of Dr. David Dilcher at the Department of Biology, Indiana University. He received a plaque and cash stipend for his winning presentation. Six entries were made in the Student Paper Award competition, and, as has been the case in the last several Annual Meetings, the overall quality was excellent and the competition for the award close. This always sounds like a cliché, I know, but it is worthy of note that these competitions are judged on a point system, with points awarded by three judges for various qualities of paper presentation and content. After all the points were tabulated, Warren's winning presentation was one point ahead of the second-place paper. Congratulations to Ron Litwin, Farley Fleming, Anne LeNoir, Denise Gaudreau and Tom Sarro on their excellent presentations in the L. R. Wilson competition.

A key feature of this year's meeting was a special discussion as part of the Board meeting, conducted after the icebreaker. The discussion was called by President Ray Christopher in response to comments by a number of members concerning the future of employment in palynology, the future of AASP in general, and the prospects of possibly becoming allied with some larger organization for the purpose of holding joint meetings that would be easier for many members to attend. In regard to the latter, which has been the subject of letters to the editor in recent issues of the Newsletter, the general trend of most comments was that the logistical difficulties of such a move at this time far outweigh the potential advantages. One key point made

was that the New York meeting appeared to be a financial success, while most of the larger organizations with whom AASP could ally had had big problems with meetings this year. Several people expressed the opinion that the major problem we have as an organization is one of public relations. Too many people, especially potential employers, simply do not know what we can, or do, do. The topics addressed in the forum are obviously of continuing interest to us as a professional society, and the Newsletter solicits further commentary from all interested members on these matters.

The award for Greatest Distance Traveled to the meeting (informally dubbed the Basil Balme Award) did not go to Basil this year, because he wasn't able to attend. It went instead to Mary Dettmann, who appeared to present an introduction to IPC VII, to be held in Brisbane, Australia, August 29-September 2, 1988. In regard to IPC VII, an ad hoc committee has been set up to write a grant proposal to the National Science Foundation to ask for travel funds to help defray expenses for U.S. members of AASP to travel to the meeting; President-Elect Norm Frederiksen is chairing the committee, with Directors-at-Large Bill Cornell and Pat Gensel as committee members.

CIMP President Bernard Owens proposed to the Board of Directors that a meeting of AASP be held at Sheffield, England, in 1989 or later. This proposal will be considered further at the 1987 mid-year meeting of the Board, to be held April 2-3 at the Westin Oaks Hotel in Houston, Texas. The 1987 Annual Meeting of AASP will be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia (see First Announcement later in this Newsletter), and the 1988 Meeting will be held in Houston.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The 1986 Annual Meeting is now history. Dan Habib and his committee deserve many accolades for putting on an excellent meeting. The open discussion which was held after the icebreaker was very good and a number of individuals expressed their ideas concerning the "future of palynology", affiliation with other groups, and other matters. These subjects, among other things,

will be discussed at the mid-year Board Meeting in Houston, Texas.

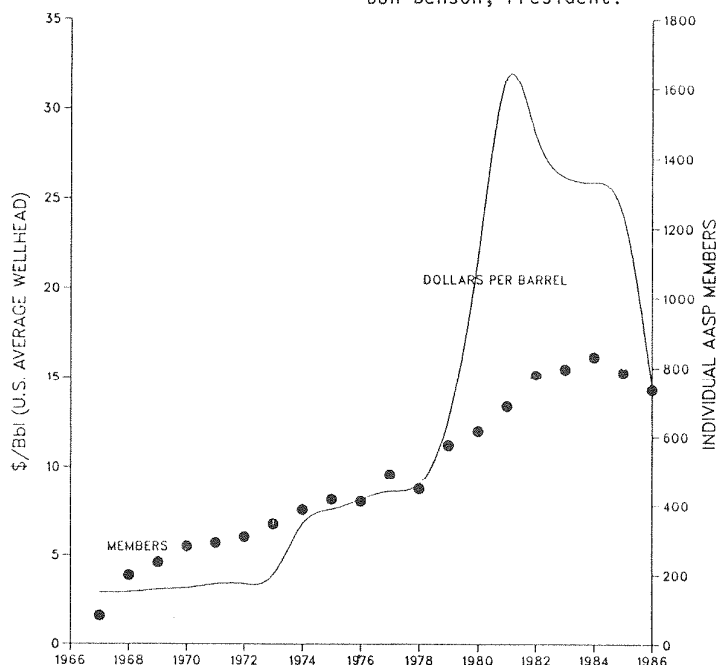
As you all know, ad hoc committees have taken surveys of industry, academia, and those governmental agencies which currently employ palynologists. The results have been reported to the board and presented to the membership in the AASP Newsletter, vol. 19(2).

The growth of our Association has been rapid. Interestingly, our growth curve approximately parallels the increase in oil prices (see graph). Considering the industrial utility of our science this is not surprising. Although depressing, it also should be no surprise that the downturn in oil prices has had a negative impact on current employment in palynology.

Is affiliation with another society, as has been suggested by some, the answer to our dilemma of making more scientists aware of the utility of our discipline and thus our job security? I think not. Our society has grown not only because of the increase in oil prices but also because of the excellence of our technical meetings and our strong commitment to excellence in our publications. Incorporation of our technical presentations into the programs of other scientific organizations would dilute our impact considerably. Then again, which organization would we affiliate with? SEPM (for our industrial colleagues) or GSA (for academic and/or governmental colleagues)? But wait -- what about our Quaternary scientists -- would they feel more comfortable with AIBS? (Am. Inst. Biol. Sci. for the geologists out there). I trust you now see my point. AASP is a multidisciplinary society, and an affiliation which would satisfy all of our members is not likely.

I believe that the solution to our "problem" in palynology lies within each of our members. We must be technically excellent in working with the palynomorph group(s) of our choice, but we cannot be isolated from colleagues in areas where we can make a contribution. We must be willing to communicate with workers in other fields where our scientific expertise can assist in the solution of a problem. Each of us must be a salesman of palynology. I welcome comments from the membership on this column.

Don Benson, President.



1987 ANNUAL AASP MEETING

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

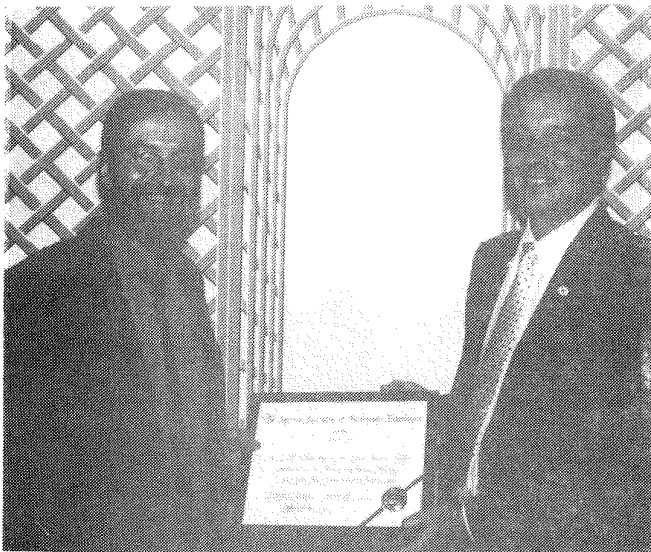
The Twentieth Annual Meeting of AASP is tentatively scheduled for October 6-9, 1987 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Further details on the meeting, plus an Abstract submission form, will appear in the next issue of the Newsletter. Inquiries should be directed to:

M. Sedley Barss, Atlantic Geoscience Centre, P.O. Box 1006, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada B2Y 4A2.

AASP LOGOS

AASP decorative logos, identical to that which appears on the cover of this Newsletter, but larger, are now available in two forms. The first is iron-on transfers that can be affixed to clothing; these are approximately four inches in diameter and are available in either black or white. Cost is \$1.50 (US) each. The second is an adhesive label for attachment to bags, notebooks, etc. These are slightly smaller, three-color reproductions of the logo, and cost \$1.00 (US) each. Interested persons should contact Bob Clarke, Mobil Research and Development Corp., Dallas Research Lab., P.O. Box 819047, Dallas, TX 75381.

NEW YORK GALLERY



Warren Kovach receives his plaque for the L. R. Wilson Award from outgoing President Ray Christopher.



New AASP President Don Benson (new at being AASP President, but he has been Don Benson for a while) and CIMP President Bernard Owens.



Jim Canright and Mary Dettmann.

(Photographs courtesy of John Wrenn).

AASP STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD FOR 1986

The AASP Awards Committee announces that Faith Daniel, a graduate student at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, has been selected to receive the society's 1986 scholarship, which carries a stipend of \$250. Faith is a student of Dr. Frederick Rich, and is investigating the palynology of Early Cretaceous lignites in Kansas, incorporating sedimentologic and petrographic data into her study.

The Awards Committee appreciates the efforts of the students who applied for the award, and commends the consistently high caliber of their research proposals. The applications form for the 1987 Student Scholarship competition is attached to this Newsletter.

Barbara Whitney, member, AASP Awards Committee.

NEOGENE DINOCYST MORPHOLOGY WORKSHOP

Following the AASP Annual Meeting in New York, Peta Mudie organized a workshop of Neogene dinocyst morphology, held at Queens College, under the auspices of Dan Habib. Approximately ten people attended the workshop, where type specimens of a number of important taxa were examined, and certain important problems were recognized; future work on these problems is planned. Interest in the workshop was such that possible similar workshops on the topic are being considered. Persons interested in possibly taking part in a future meeting on this topic should contact John Wrenn, Newsletter Editor for 1987.

NONMARINE CRETACEOUS CORRELATIONS

A new project of the International Geological Correlation Program was approved in April, 1986, and is now in operation. This is IGCP project 245, entitled "Nonmarine Cretaceous Correlations," and it is co-directed by Niall J. Mateer (1467 North 17th, Laramie, Wyoming 82070 USA) and Chen Pei-ji (Nanjing Institute of Geology and Palaeontology, Academia Sinica, Nanjing, People's Republic of China). As stated in Episodes (1986, v. 9, p. 34), "This project will correlate the non-marine basinal deposits with marine sequences using techniques of biostratigraphy, magnetostratigraphy and physical stratigraphy. The aim is to improve the understanding of event stratigraphy, depositional environments, and economic resources of the basins investigated, and to provide reference areas for future studies elsewhere."

A number of project coordinators have been designated for various countries; the names are available from Niall Mateer or Chen Pei-ji, as is additional information about the project. As Project Newsletter 1 notes, project working groups that have been set up so far are mainly concerned with regional issues, but the directors welcome suggestions for topical issues of interregional or intercontinental significance. Such topics as worldwide climatic changes during the Cretaceous, or the spread of early angiosperms, spring to mind.

It is hard to imagine an IGCP project better suited to or in need of palynological support than this one. At the AASP Board of Directors meeting in New York in November, the general problem was again discussed that palynologists do not sufficiently integrate their data collection and results with studies of other specialists. As a result, many geologists and biologists are not aware of our potential to

produce first-class science. Here is a chance for us to really make our presence felt and to show what we can do. We can hardly blame anyone but ourselves if we do not take advantage of opportunities such as this.

Norm Frederiksen, AASP President-Elect.

DUES PROBLEMS

As some may have noticed, this issue of the Newsletter carries the ever-popular DUES NOTICE. Secretary-Treasurer Gordon Wood has been having some problems in collecting dues from non-U.S. residents because checks or money orders drawn on overseas banks frequently arrive with no indication of who the dues payments are for. Please be sure your name is attached to any remittance sent to AASP for dues; it will greatly facilitate record-keeping.

Due to the unusually large number of members in arrears for the past two years, the Board of Directors has decided that it would be useful to print a list of all such members in the Newsletter. The transfer of Secretary-Treasurer's duties (necessitating transfer of computer membership records) caused problems in notifying members of their dues payment status; consequently, many members may not be aware of exactly what years they have paid for. The following list is of members for whom AASP has not received dues payments for 1985 and 1986; as mentioned earlier, these members will be dropped from active membership following issuance of this Newsletter. If you know anyone on this list who may be unaware of the situation, please contact them.

Archer, Vivienne	Newsome, J. C.
Babuín, Michael L.	Ochsenbein, C. D.
Bailey, Robert E.	Olson, K. N.
Baker, Stephanie A.	Oredein, O. S.
Bardwell, Jennifer	Owen, M.
Barnard, Phillip E.	Pang, C. S.
Belkin, Klara	Peterson, E. T.
Bogdanski, John	Piérart, P.
Bozarth, Steven R.	Ricciardiello, A.
Caro, Yves	Rounds, T. R.
Chaiffetz, M.	Salami, M. B.
Chamberlain, A. K.	Sanchez, M.
Covington, Daniel J.	Seitz, J. A., III
Davis, Ann M.	Singh, V.
Dörhöfer, Gunter G.	Stach, E. M.
Dueñas, Hernando	Tajuddin, M.
Dufek, Debra A.	Taylor, M.
Fisher, M.	Tripathi, A.
Fletcher, M. R.	Tsuji, Sei' Ichiro
Gish, Jennifer W.	Turner, Robin
Gonzaga, Solange M.	Weir, G. H.
González, Enrique	Welsh, T.
Good, Charles W.	Wilkins, G. R.
Granfield, Brenda B.	Williams, A. L.
Griffith, C. E.	Yordy, K. L.
Harker, S. D.	
Hopkins, W. S.	
Hunter, Vernon F.	
Jansen, Stephen T.	
Khalaf, E. H.	
Lammons, J. M.	
Leopold, E. B.	
Lo, Hoom-bin	
Mace, R. B.	
Makooi, K.	
Martínez, J. L.	
McFarlane, R. M.	
Melchin, M. J.	
Modak, S. K.	
Moun, A. M.	

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The dates on the mailing labels for this issue of the Newsletter are current through November 15, 1986. The enormous number of address changes this year, amounting to nearly one-third (some more than once) of the AASP membership, has resulted in a delay in printing and mailing of the Membership Directory. We are presently targeting a late December mailing, and the information in the Directory will be current through December 1, 1986. Members in arrears for 1986 only will be listed, but they will not receive a copy of the Directory. In addition, members in arrears for 1986 will not receive Palynology 10. The AASP Board of Directors will decide on disposition of the delinquent membership at the 1987 Mid-Year Board Meeting in Houston.

Members in arrears whose mail has been returned with the labels "No longer at this address", "Can't forward", or similar notations will be removed from the mailing list immediately. It is the responsibility of members who use bank drafts for membership payment to be sure their names are noted somewhere on the check so proper credit can be assured. The computer print-out sheet of members that was laid out for address corrections at the Annual Meeting has been lost. If you attended the meeting and changed an address and/or phone number, please send a note with these corrections to Gordon Wood. He apologizes for misplacing the printout.

Finally, please note that, although the Newsletter Editor appreciates receiving notifications of address and phone number changes, these should be sent directly to the Secretary-Treasurer (those sent to the Newsletter are of course forwarded). Newsletter policy is not to publish address and phone changes, simply because there are so many it is impractical to do so. Exceptions will be made in the cases of officers of organizations or committee members, where the general membership will benefit from public notification of such changes.

NEW MEMBERS

- Cengiz Aligan, Turkish Petroleum A.O., Arastirma Merzeki, Bakanlikan, Ankara, Turkey.
 Carlos L. Azcuy, Dept. de Geol., Ciudad Universit., Pabellon 2, Nunez, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
 Craig A. Chumbley, Botany Department, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa 52242.
 Fiona S. Dawson, Gearhart Geoconsultants Ltd, Howe Moss Drive, Kirkhill Industrial Estate, Dyce, Aberdeen AB2 0GL U.K.
 Jeffrie L. de Verteuil, P.O. Box 575, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, West Indies.
 Liza Evans, Gerhart Geoconsultants Ltd, Howe Moss Drive, Kirkhill Industrial Estate, Dyce, Aberdeen AB2 0GL U.K.
 Eberhard Grüger, Inst. Palynologie Quartar Univ., D-3400 Göttingen, Wilhelm-Weber-Strasse 2, West Germany.
 Hirohishi Kurita, Central Technical Lab, JAPEX, 3-5-5, Midorigaoka, Hamura, Nishitama, Tokyo, Japan.
 Salih Mahdi, Gearhart Geoconsultants Ltd, Howe Moss Drive, Kirkhill Industrial Estate, Dyce, Aberdeen AB2 0GL U.K.
 R. A. Nelridge, 405 Grier Ave., Apt. A-3, Elizabeth, NJ 07202.
 R. Nickmann, 88 Bogert Place, Bergenfield, NJ 07621.
 Akiko Obuse, Central Technical Lab, JAPEX, 3-5-5, Midorigaoka, Hamura, Nishitama, Tokyo, Japan.

TEXAS PALYNOLOGY COMPLEX

A new palynology complex is in operation at the Department of Geography, University of Texas at Austin. The laboratory includes a separate student work room, darkroom, and acid room with new fume hood, and is the focus of ongoing research in Quaternary palynology.

The palynology specialty is part of the departmental program in geomorphology, biogeography, and physical geography. Two graduate courses in pollen analysis and laboratory methods are presented each year. Geography cooperates with other academic disciplines in cross-listed seminars in Geoarchaeology and Quaternary Paleogeology. Students enrolled in Quaternary palynology courses are from geological sciences, anthropology, botany and geography.

The Department of Geography offers B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees. Faculty in physical geography include Karl Butzer (human ecology, geoarchaeology, geomorphology), Kenneth Foote (computer cartography, quantitative methods, phytosemantics), Stephen Hall (palynology, biogeography, paleoecology, geomorphology), Robert Holz (remote sensing, cartography), and Francisco Pérez (geomorphology, slope processes, vegetation/soils ecology). Inquiries about the academic program should be addressed to Stephen A. Hall, Department of Geography, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas 78712.

BOOK REVIEW

Paleoalgalogy: Contemporary Research and Applications, edited by D. F. Toomey and M. H. Nitecki. Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1985. 376 pp., 157 figs., 40 plates. \$65.00 U.S.

Paleoalgalogists only recently began to assemble at the international level, first in Erlangen (Flügel, 1977), next in Paris [SNEA(P), 1979]. The volume under review is the proceedings of the Third International Symposium on Fossil Algae, held at the Colorado School of Mines in Golden, Colorado, 15-17 August 1983. The title suggests that palynologists will find a wealth of information relevant to their discipline, but, as the editors point out in their overview (Ch. 2), Paleoalgalogy deals almost exclusively with megascopic calcareous algae. Yet, many Newsletter readers might benefit from perusing this collection of up-to-date articles on the carbonate-producing megascopic relatives of some of the unicellular algae that produce organic-walled microfossils.

Two of the book's 29 chapters comprise the introduction; the remaining papers are distributed among the following six sections: Stromatolites and Precambrian Algae (Ch. 3-5); Systematics and Morphology (Ch. 6-11); Reefs, Buildups and Other Frameworks (Ch. 12-18); Calcification, Microstructure and Growth (Ch. 19-21); Algae and Sediments (Ch. 22-27); Diversity and Evolution (Ch. 28-29). The authors cover a broad spectrum of topics, ranging from detailed taxonomic studies (e.g., Ch. 11 by A. F. Poignant: "Key for specific determinations of Cretaceous *Archaeolitholamnum*") to theoretical considerations of general paleobiologic interest (e.g., Ch. 29 by R. S. Steneck: "Adaptations of crustose coralline algae to herbivory: Patterns in space and time").

In the first chapter, J. L. Wray pays tribute to the prolific "J. Harlan Johnson (1982-1974), Father of American Palealgology." Included is a list of 140 of Johnson's publications, most of them on calcareous algae. H. J. Hofmann (Ch. 3) presents an inventory and critical assessment of known "Precambrian Carbonaceous Megafossils." Many of these black films could reasonably be interpreted as compression fossils of nonmineralized megascopic algae (seaweeds), but others might represent flattened colonies of prokaryotic microbes or cysts of large eukaryotic algae. Hofmann comprehensively reviews the taxa and their distribution in terms of geography, stratigraphy and time. He also proposes a logical morphologic classification for these enigmatic remains, and then comments on possible ontogenetic and evolutionary relationships among some of the taxa. The chapter concludes with an exhaustive bibliography, each reference conveniently keyed to a locality map. This paper is required reading for paleontologists concerned with the Proterozoic biosphere.

Hofmann's scholarship is matched by R. Riding and L. Voronova in their contribution (Ch. 6) on "Morphological Groups and Series in Cambrian Calcareous Algae." The authors contend that attempts to compare Cambrian calcareous algae (e.g., *Epiphyton*, *Girvanella*, *Renalcis*) with those of Recent vintage have resulted in unstable classifications. Riding and Voronova opt for a comparative morphologic approach based on six principal criteria: External morphology, internal organization, wall microstructure, wall thickness, wall layers, and wall surfaces. The result is a very sensible classification consisting of six main morphologic groups. Some genera may be arranged in morphologic series, which may evidence evolutionary affinity or convergence. Regardless of the interpretation, the authors have fashioned a useful and sensible scheme. They have succeeded in organizing the confusion, the necessary first step in understanding the calcareous algae of the Cambrian.

Many other articles piqued my interest, including D. W. J. Bosence's on "The 'Coralligene' of the Mediterranean -- a Recent analog for Tertiary coralline algal limestones" (Ch. 16). Bosence argues that Recent coralline algal buildups of the Mediterranean ("coralligene") resemble Tertiary limestones of the Tethyan region. J. H. Hudson (Ch. 20) makes an important contribution to the sedimentologic literature in quantifying the "Growth rate and carbonate production in *Halimeda opuntia*: Marquesas Keys, Florida."

Palealgology is handsomely produced on good paper, and most of the illustrations are of high quality. It contains a helpful taxonomic index (names of genera and species) and a brief subject index. The one or two typographical errors per page did not bother me. But I was a bit distressed that the reviewers and editors permitted the inclusion of a *Nomen nudum* in Chapter 12, where E. R. Magathan refers to a genus "informally"; I believe this practice violates Article 34 of the ICBN (see especially Example 3).

This book merits careful study, although most palynologists will not be interested in personal copies (especially considering the steep price). Instead, they will prefer to sit down with a library copy and take ten minutes to read "Palealgology" (Ch. 2), in which the editors conveniently summarize the important points of each contribution.

REFERENCES

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THE FUTURE OF PALYNOLOGY?

Andy Schuyler reports the following incident of national publicity for one of our more distinguished members: On the Late Night with David Letterman show of Monday, August 18, the host was interviewing Eric Beckjord, who is a cryptozoologist. Beckjord is opening a museum of cryptozoology in a mobile home (actually it should be open by now, for anyone interested, as at the time of the program he was planning to open it on Halloween) in Malibu, California. Exhibits are to focus on 'critters' that have been sighted, but that refuse to be caught (e.g., the Loch Ness monster, the Pterodactyl of Ptexas, etc.).

One planned exhibit, it seems, was present during the program. It was a plastic 'take-out' serving container that Beckford claimed contained Big Foot fertilizer. The dialog at this point proceeded:

Letterman: And finally, against my better judgment, tell us what this stuff is.
 Beckjord: Um . . . this, for gourmets, is uh, Sasquatch droppings. It's been analyzed by Dr. Vaughn Bryant of Texas A&M.
 Letterman: Now, but . . . what can the nature of that analysis be?
 Beckjord: What it is is what it is not. He (Bryant) says it is not bear, not elk, not cattle, and is not horse. Now since tracks were found near this and there was a huge pile of this stuff on top of a small mesa that cattle could not get up to and the, uh, there was a sighting near there . . .
 Letterman: What about a fat camper with a really bad diet?
 (Uproarious audience laughter)

(Editor's note: As mentioned earlier in this Newsletter, Vaughn is now chairman of AAPG's Public Relations Committee. I am reminded of a quote from a recent episode of the DR. WHO television series, wherein the Doctor is examining a strange object and says, "Well, of course I know what it is, but what is it?")

MORE PUBLIC RELATIONS

Another of our distinguished members made the big time in the October issue of the AAPG Explorer. Fully half the space of a half-page ad for a commercial short-course on Practical Dipmeter Interpretation was occupied by a photograph of and testimonial quote by George Hart. I figure George owes me a beer for this one.

Bob Ravn.

EDITOR'S COMMENT:

FAUNAL ASPECTS OF PALYNOLOGY

This being my final issue as editor of the Newsletter, I wish to close by addressing a matter of importance to all palynologists, yet one that is curiously absent from any major text on the discipline that I have ever seen. This matter involves the faunal aspects of palynology.

All palynologists, to greater or lesser degree, tread the dark waters of the science of botany. We deal in floras, microfloras, pollen floras, microspore floras. We name our little darlings by the rules of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature. We are the gardeners of geology and archeology (I threw in that one for the benefit of Vaughn Bryant). Lost amid the emphasis on flora is the importance of fauna in palynology. Like most of us, I used to ignore the faunal aspects of palynology, until I had some cautionary experiences that taught me otherwise.

The first of these came on a blistering August day in a year that shall remain numberless, in the eastern part of the state of K____, which lies directly between the states of N____ to the north, and O____ to the south, and, unlike its neighbors, has miserable college football teams. I was still a student then, doing field work for my dissertation. I was accompanied by my officemate, who bears the same name as a former U.S. Attorney General who went to jail for crimes committed under the administration of President N____.

John Mitchell was (still is) a carbonate petrologist, and he had no appreciation for my obsession with collecting greasy dark shales when there were so many pristine white limestones to hammer on. But I was after the elusive palynomorph, which eschews the sterile limestones. And so it was, in the middle of the scorching afternoon, that I came face-to-face with the faunal aspects of palynology.

I was trying to remove some of the disgusting carbonate overburden from my shale incrop by the time-honored method of random clawing at it with my hands, when I encountered *Scorpio grandihorridus*. The godless beast was hiding beneath a limestone slab. My powers of observation immediately noticed the speed with which he buried his sharp nasty venomous rear end in the palm of my hand. I announced his presence with some appropriate oath and did what seemed the proper thing under the circumstances, flinging *Scorpio* onto the arm of my officemate, who responded with a similar oath. *Scorpio* scuttled off to get under some new rock where he undoubtedly lies in wait for some other unsuspecting palynologist.

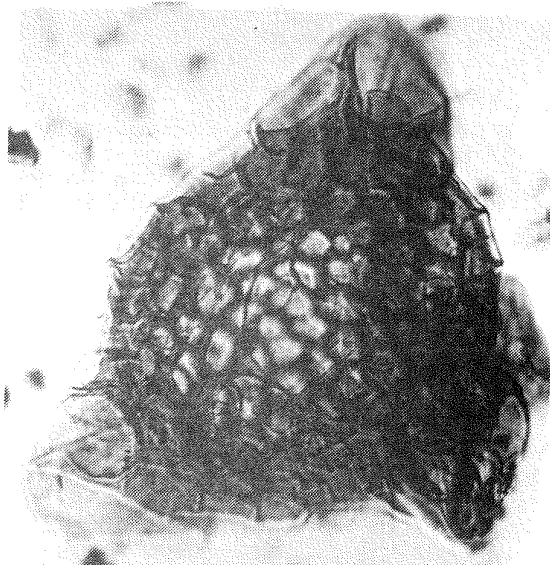
We sat there for a minute or so, nursing our wounds. Mitchell was of the opinion that capital punishment might be too merciful for me, a view with which I was about to disagree, when we heard a noise. We looked up and saw, galloping around the end of a fence in our direction, come a snarling dog the size of a '53 Buick. The dog's name was Bruno. We found that out when the farmer strolled casually around the same fence and said, "Stay, Bruno." Bruno stayed, although he clearly didn't want to. Close examination revealed Bruno to be a felicitous cross between a German shepherd and Godzilla. We had all but forgotten about *Scorpio*.

The farmer wanted to know what we all were doing there, digging on his property, and we explained that we were poor starving nomads, looking for tubers, and could we please have his permission to go dig around that old abandoned quarry we could see in his pasture over there? He shrugged and said Sure we could, then dragged Bruno back toward the end of the fence.

We scaled some rusty barbed wire and began to cross the pasture. About halfway to the quarry we encountered another member of the heavenly constellations, *Taurus maximus*. We did not get to dig for any tubers at the outcrop, but I did collect an admirable amount of a *Taurus* ichnofossil when I fell down in it on my way back to the fence.

Since this episode, I have often encountered other faunal aspects of palynology, such as the giant deceased *Cucaracha* in the beaker of Schulze's solution and the beady-eyed *Hattus norvegicus* ambling across the laboratory floor at one a.m. I take notice of these phenomena now, and record them in my notes for future inclusion in my Methods of Study. Someday, maybe I'll have a chance to write that up for a Contributor's Comment to the AASP Newsletter.

Bob Ravn.



Balmeisporites glenelgensis Cookson and Dettmann 1959; megaspore, approximately 250X, Cenomanian Dakota Formation, northwestern Iowa.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STRATIGRAPHIC PALYNOLOGISTS
STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

The American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists is pleased to announce its program of Student Scholarships to support studies in palynology. Currently two such scholarships for \$250 (U.S.) each may be awarded annually. Ordinarily the scholarships will be awarded to graduate students, but advanced undergraduate students may also apply.

Basis of Awards - The qualifications of the student, the originality and imagination evident in the proposed project, and the likelihood of significant contribution to the science of palynology are factors that will be weighed in selection of award winners.

To Apply - Part A of this form is to be filled out by the student and part B by the student's faculty supervisor. The faculty supervisor will send both forms together to the address given at the end of part B. Scholarship applications must be received no later than March 1, and awards will be announced by May 30.

PART A Application for A.A.S.P. Student Scholarship

Student's name:

Address:

Universities or other institutions attended (earliest listed first). Include institution you will be attending during tenure of the scholarship, degree you will be seeking, and anticipated completion date:

Institution	Degree	Beginning date	Completion date
-------------	--------	----------------	-----------------

What is your background in palynology?

Professional experience:

Previous awards or honors:

Summary of institutional or other support for your project (specify whether granted or applied for):

Title of proposed investigation:

Project supervisor:

Summary of the investigation (250 words or less, on an attached sheet); include objectives, why you selected this problem and its significance, and how you plan to approach and carry out the investigation.

I agree that the recommendation I am requesting from my faculty supervisor will be held in confidence by officials of my institution, and I hereby waive any rights I may have to examine it.

yes _____ no _____

Date:

Applicant's signature:

PART B

Endorsement by Faculty Supervisor

1. Ranking of applicant versus other students you have known who are pursuing the same degree:

lower 50% _____ upper 50% _____ upper 25% _____ upper 10% _____ upper 5% _____

2. Did idea for project originate from student? yes _____ no _____

3. Can you verify the student's statements as to other awards, honors, or financial aid received or applied for? yes _____ no _____

Comment:

4. Please provide a brief summary (100 words or less, on an attached sheet) or your assessment of the applicant's project and his or her potential to attain the objectives. Among other traits, please comment on the student's native intellectual ability, ability to express him(her)self, perserverence, imagination and probable creativity, and value of the project.

Faculty supervisor's name:

Signature:

Date:

Position:

Institution:

Address:

Please return parts A and B to: Virgil D. Wiggins, Chevron U.S.A., Inc., Exploration Dept., P.O. Box 5042, San Ramon, California 94583-0942.

NEW

1986 AASP Foundation Publications

NEW

1. AASP Contributions Series Number 17 - "Papers from the First Symposium on Neogene Dinoflagellate Cyst Biostratigraphy" has just been published. It contains ten papers which were presented at the symposium held during the Annual AASP Meeting, New York City this November. There are 229 pages, 38 text figures and 63(!) photographic plates. Areas covered by the papers on this similar topic include the: Bering Sea - De Soto Canyon, Gulf of Mexico - Colorado Basin, Argentina - Western and Northern Pacific - Offshore Louisiana - South Carolina - and Northwest Italy. The volume is done in the format and style of "Palynology". Cost is \$15.00

2. There were two field trips held in conjunction with the 1986 AASP meeting. Trip No. 1 - Sedimentary Environments in Silurian-Devonian & Triassic-Jurassic Strata in New Jersey and Eastern New York was led by Dr. Gerald M. Friedman. The Guidebook contains 65 pages and has numerous figures and drawings. Cost is \$7.00.

3. Field Trip No. 2 was led by Merrell Miller, Carleton Brett and Charles P. Hart and was a Field Excursion to Trenton Group (Middle & Upper Ordovician) and Hamilton Group (Middle Devonian) Localities in New York, and a Survey of their Chitinozoans. This was a four-day + trip held after the AASP meeting. The guidebook gives extensive geologic and biostratigraphic coverage of the area traversed during the four day trip. Ten superb photographic plates of chitinozoans and acritarchs make this guidebook a must for the serious student of Paleozoic palynology. The guidebook contains 119 pages, numerous figures and maps as well as the ten photographic plates. Cost is \$12.00.

FILL OUT THE ORDER FORM TO ORDER YOUR COPIES

_____	Contrib. 17 0 \$15.00 \$ _____
(name) _____	Field Trip 1 0 \$ 7.00 \$ _____
(address) _____	Field Trip 2 0 \$12.00 \$ _____
_____	TOTAL: \$ _____

Make check payable to AASP Foundation.

Mail order form and check to: Robert T. Clarke
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c/o Mobil Research - DRL
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AASP FOUNDATION CENTURY CLUB

WHAT ?

The Century Club of the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists Foundation is an organization founded by the Trustees of the Foundation in order to provide persons with the opportunity to actively support the publishing activities of the AASP Foundation.

WHY ?

1. To develop an established level of giving that will continue to provide a solid financial base for the Foundation.
2. To provide unrestricted funds to support the various publishing activities of the Foundation.
3. To provide a meaningful organization and method of recognition of dedicated "friends" of the AASP Foundation.

HOW ?

Century Club membership includes individuals who personally contribute a total of \$100 or more to the AASP Foundation every two years. We are nearing the end of the 1985-1986 period and will soon begin the 1987-1988 period. Your contribution may be made by personal check or by a pledge

which is payable before the end of the appropriate membership period. Please designate which "membership" period you wish for your donation, or, better still, make a contribution for both! The AASP Foundation is a not-for-profit, public organization that has a 501 (c)(3) designation. That means that contributions to the AASP Foundation are fully tax deductible from your U.S. Federal income tax return.

NOTE: Many employers have a matching gift program whereby they match your personal gift to non profit organizations. It is well worth the effort to explore this possibility concerning your gift to the AASP Foundation.

BENEFITS YOU RECEIVE

1. A certificate of appreciation bearing your name and period of Century Club membership.
2. Your name included among those names of your fellow Century Club contributors in the AASP Foundation journal, "Palynology".
3. Most importantly, the satisfaction of knowing that you are responsible for the success of the AASP Foundation.

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