

April, 1991
Volume 24, Number 2

Highlights of mid-year Board meeting.....	1
Announcements.....	2
Letters to the Editor.....	5
Coming Events.....	7
Book Reviews.....	8
Secretary/Treasurer's report.....	10
UNOCAL Best Applications Paper Award guidelines.....	11

AASP NEWSLETTER

DEPT. GEOLOGY AND GEOGRAPHY
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GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
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Attn: F. Rich





AASP NEWSLETTER

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MID-YEAR BOARD MEETING

The AASP Board of Directors held its mid-year meeting on April 12-13 in Plano, Texas. Discussions involved a number of issues; highlights of major issues are presented below:

PROPOSED CHANGES IN BYLAWS

I. *Student Membership*. When annual dues for individual AASP members were raised after the Banff meeting, there was no provision in the bylaws to charge students at a lower rate than other members. The Board asked Norm Frederiksen to study the mechanisms used by other geoscience organizations to establish a category of membership for students. The options he presented to the Board were voted upon; the resulting list of proposed changes to the bylaws are now ready for consideration by AASP members.

Several aspects of this issue were posed by Norm:

- How is a "student" defined for purposes of a special category of membership?
- What rights, and possible restrictions of privileges, does a student member have in comparison with other kinds of members?
- What sort of evidence does a student have to provide to the organization to prove that he/she is a student?
- Who decides whether an applicant meets the qualifications for student membership?

Having addressed the above issues, the Board recommends a new section of the Bylaws, to be inserted as Article 2.01(b):

(b) *Student Members* - Student members shall have scientific and technical interests similar to those of individual members; however, student members are persons who are in-resident undergraduate or graduate students at a degree-granting institution. Student status, as here defined, must be certified once a year by the student's faculty advisor or department chair. Student members will enjoy all the privileges of active membership.

If the proposed change is agreed to by the Membership, the Student Member category will become effective in January, 1992.

II. The present Art. 2.01(b) (definition of Institutional Member) becomes Art. 2.01(c), and the present Art. 2.01(c) (definition of Honorary Member) becomes Art. 2.01(d). An "s" is added to the title of new Art. 2.01(c) to agree with the other articles of 2.01, so that it now reads (new letter underlined):

- (c) Institutional Members - Institutional members shall be those.....

III. Art. 2.02 is emended as follows (new text underlined):

Election of Members

Persons, firms, institutions or organizations desiring membership shall submit their applications, accompanied by their first year's annual dues (in U.S. dollars), to the Secretary-Treasurer. The Board of Directors shall have ultimate authority to determine applicant qualifications and classifications.

In compliance with the current bylaws, the proposed bylaws changes are hereby presented to the membership for consideration and discussion during the next six months. Ballots will be distributed with the July Newsletter and they must be returned by November 20th, 1991 to the Chairman of the Ballot Committee.

INCREASE IN DUES FOR INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

This action was taken by the Board at the Mid-Year Meeting to parallel the increase for individual members. Dues for institutional members was set at \$40.

A NEW INITIATIVE BY AGI (AMERICAN GEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE)

AGI proposes to establish a new *Geosciences Advocacy Program*, in order to advance the interests

of the earth sciences and provide information to Washington decision makers that will lead to well-founded laws, policies, and programs. This has been initiated because advocates for the biological and chemical disciplines are already active on the Hill. This program will be staffed by a full-time specialist in governmental and public policy activities with experience in working with Congressional staff members, policy-level personnel in federal agencies, and the public. AGI is seeking financial support for this initiative from its member societies. On a formula basis, each member society is requested to contribute 75 cents per individual per year. Accordingly, the AASP Board of Directors voted to contribute \$240 (based on membership of 319 U.S. Earth Scientists) for the first year of the Advocacy Program, with the provision that the effectiveness of the program be monitored to determine whether or not continued support from us is warranted.

SITE SELECTION FOR THE REPOSITORY OF PALYNOLOGICAL TYPE MATERIALS

The Board voted to designate the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, (see notice from Judith Lentin elsewhere in this Newsletter) as the AASP-recommended repository for palynological collections, including type and figured material on slides, voucher macerations, residues, rock samples, and associated publications. Our thanks go to Al Traverse and his committee for their diligent effort in studying all aspects of this issue of site selection.

Barbara L. Whitney, President
John H. Wrenn, President-Elect

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF AUSTRALASIAN PALYNOLOGY AND PALEOBOTANY 1988

This 28 page document lists publications alphabetically by surname as well as including a subject index. It also contains a list of names and addresses of the members of Palynological and Paleobotanical Association of Australasia. It was compiled by Joan Dawson and Jennifer McEwen Mason.

For information contact: Jennifer McEwen Mason or Barbara Wagstaff, Centre for Palynology and Palaeoecology, Department of Geography, Monash University, Clayton, Victoria Australia 3168.

STRATIGRAPHIC PALYNOLOGIST

UNOCAL North American Oil & Gas Division is seeking a stratigraphic palynologist for a position in its operations Paleo/Strat Lab, located in Ventura, California.

Candidates should have an expertise in Mesozoic and Paleozoic floras as well as a general knowledge of Tertiary floras. Experience with dinoflagellates would be advantageous as would a familiarity with palynofacies studies.

Responsibilities would include operational well work and regional studies for the North American Oil and Gas Division. Interaction with multidisciplinary teams is an important part of the job. Good communication skills are required.

Send resume and salary requirements to:
Dr. Gregory H. Blake
Mgr. of Paleo/Strat
UNOCAL Oil Company
2323 Knoll Drive
Ventura, CA 93006

Qualified candidates should send their resumes in no later than June 7, 1991. U.S. citizenship or permanent U.S. residence is required. UNOCAL is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

IMMEDIATE POSITION AVAILABLE - AASP NEWSLETTER EDITOR

The AASP Editorial Board is seeking an individual to take over the responsibilities of Newsletter Editor, beginning with the July 1991 edition (Fred Rich, the current editor, will help with the July issue). The newsletter is distributed four times each year (January, April, July, October), and contains information of interest to the entire membership. Principle duties consist of receiving and organizing news items and other information, reformatting this material into an appropriate style, and arranging for printing. Mailing is handled by other persons within AASP. The newsletter is a critical function of the society, and the work is always noticed (if not explicitly appreciated) by all who read it. The term of office is open, but we would like to find an individual who is willing to commit through the end of 1992 (eighteen months). If you are interested in the position, please contact:

D.K. Goodman, AASP Managing Editor
Arco Oil and Gas Company
2300 West Plano Parkway
Plano, Texas 75075

NOMINATIONS FOR AASP COUNCILLORS TO IFPS

The AASP has two councillors representing our organization at the International Federation of Palynological Societies (IFPS). Our current representatives are Douglas J. Nichols and Harold V. Kaska. Both of their terms expire at the 8th International Palynological Conference at Aix-en-Provence, France, in 1992, and we are soliciting nominations for two individuals to succeed them. The terms of IFPS councillors run between consecutive IPC meetings, which are held every four years and are sponsored by the IFPS. The AASP councillors to IFPS would be expected to attend the IPC meetings during their terms, as well as interim meetings which are held during AASP annual meetings.

If you are interested in the position or wish to nominate another person as a Councillor to IFPS, or would like additional information, please contact:

Barbara L. Whitney, AASP President
Unocal Science & Technology Division
P.O. Box 76
Brea, California 92621

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS

Wall, David - Telephone prefix should be 588 ~~not~~ 556

Maher, L. J. - Telephone area code is (608) ~~not~~ (712)

REMINDER!

The deadline for abstract titles for the AASP 1991 Annual Meeting in San Diego is June 14, 1991. Abstracts are due no later than July 31, 1991. Along with the hard copy of your abstract, please send, if at all possible, a copy on your floppy disk-- IBM (preferably) or Macintosh ASCII file. If you have any questions, please contact V. Eileen Williams, Program Coordinator:
Unocal Science and Technology
376 S. Valencia
P.O. Box 76
Brea, CA 92621

Telephone: (714) 577-2361
FAX: (714) 528-3520

SAN DIEGO MEETING - REQUEST FOR "FLOPPY ABSTRACTS"

The program committee for the AASP annual meeting in San Diego requests that all authors submitting abstracts for the technical sessions (poster and oral presentations) include a floppy disk with an ASCII (text only) file containing the abstract, in addition to the paper copy. This will save a significant amount of time in preparing the Abstracts Program volume for the meeting, and it will eliminate the need to retype each abstract for *Palynology*. The San Diego committee thanks you all for your cooperation.

The Editor thought the following items might be of interest to readers of the Newsletter. These articles came from our local paper, but were released by Associated Press, so you may have seen them in your own paper if you live in the U.S.A. In any case, the pollen rain in the Southeastern United States has been extraordinary this year, with a blanket of yellow dust lying over everything. You might refer to the January, 1991, Newsletter for an article about the pollen rain in Texas. This year should leave an interesting record in pollen-bearing strata along the Gulf and Atlantic coasts of the Southeast.

From the Statesboro Herald, Friday, March 29, 1991:

ALLERGISTS: POLLEN IN GEORGIA COULD BE THE STATE'S WORST IN FIVE YEARS

ATLANTA- Dusty, yellowish pollen-the romantic courier for trees and grasses-has Georgians sneezing and scratching all over this spring, in an allergy season experts predict could be Georgia's worst in five years.

Pollen counts, already two times greater than normal, are expected to rise even higher through April. Allergists attribute this year's heavy pollen presence to two years worth of mild winters and heavier-than-normal rains.

"Whether they're allergic or not, many people are having some type of reaction, because of the sheer amount of pollen," said Dr. Bob Berkowitz, an allergist with the Atlanta Allergy Clinic.

In Atlanta, the pollen count measured 826 pollen grains per cubic meter of air Wednesday, well above the normal measurements of 300 to 400 for this time of year. After rain Thursday, the count dropped to 390.

Pollen counts above 120 are considered extremely high, and any count above 60 will cause allergy sufferers to experience health problems.

"If we get a good, soaking rain, the pollen will be a total washout. That's our hope," Berkowitz said. "It will markedly help allergy sufferers."

Dr. Howard Silk, a Tucker allergist, predicted that pollen measurements this year are likely to hit last year's highs of 1,500 to 1,600.

"Last year was the worst pollen season in four years, and this year, it seems to be worse," Silk said.

One of the biggest culprits, Berkowitz said, is oak pollen-it made up 30 percent of pollens found in Wednesday's count. Heavy, yellow-green pine pollen, the most visible but least harmful, accounted for 20 percent, Berkowitz said.

"It's the other pollen, not the pine pollen, that causes the increased symptoms," Berkowitz said. "It's what you don't see that really gets the symptoms going."

Whatever the cause, many people are complaining of red, watery, itchy eyes; runny, stuffy, irritated noses; sore or scratchy throats; wheezing, coughing and shortness of breath. Treatment has ranged from taking over-the-counter antihistamines to undergoing a program of allergy shots, Berkowitz said.

From the Statesboro Herald, Friday, April 5, 1991:

POLLEN LEVELS SKYROCKET AS YELLOW DUST BLANKETS GEORGIA

ATLANTA-Allergy sufferers are taking to the tissues as pollen fills the air in Georgia and other warm weather climates, sneaking into sinuses and leaving a yellow film on automobiles and windowsills.

"It's coated everywhere," said Michelle Jolly of suburban Marietta. "We had to close all the doors and windows in the house."

The Atlanta Allergy Clinic reported a record pollen count Thursday of 2,045 particles per cubic meter of air, the highest recorded since the clinic began measuring pollen in 1987.

The count jumped 334 points from the 1,711 reported Wednesday.

The high counts are not good news for allergy sufferers, said Dr. Wilfred Cole of the clinic, one of 32 pollen-counting stations across the country certified by the Wisconsin-based American Academy of Allergy and Immunology.

"For those who are even mildly allergic, they're going to have a tough time in this," Cole said. "If you're not allergic, it doesn't mean anything except that you'll have to wash your car."

A pollen count as low as 120 usually means sneezy times for the estimated 22.5 million allergy sufferers nationwide, allergists say. Atlanta's 2,045 count bedeviled noses not typically prone to pollen sufferings.

Mrs. Jolly, who said she never has been effected by pollen before, missed a day of work from the Coca-Cola Co. this week. The 30-year old Marietta woman suffered at home Wednesday with flu-like

symptoms: headache, nausea, sinus congestion and body aches.

"I moan I was a mess," Mrs. Jolly said. "I went to the doctor thinking I had the flu, but he told me it was a reaction to the pollen."

Other areas in the South also are being blanketed with the thick yellow dust. The heavy rains and 75 mph winds that hit Birmingham, Ala., area last week weren't enough to keep the pollen down.

"The plants took a deep breath and came back stronger. They are pollinating like crazy," Birmingham resident Les Hamer said between sneezes. "I have a brown car that has a real pollen-yellow hue to it now."

Allergic southerners aren't alone in their suffering. Sarah Kaluzny of the 4,300-member allergy academy said this year's mild, wet winters across the country have resulted in a proliferation of tree and grass growth-the main sources of the pollen.

"Right now, the South is really peaking into the tree season and the grass is next. The North is just getting into their tree season, so the worst is yet to come there," she said.

While pollen may plague all sections of the country, it tends to be more noticeable in the South because it lingers longer, Cole said. The pollen seasons follow a region's growing seasons, which last longer in warm weather climates.

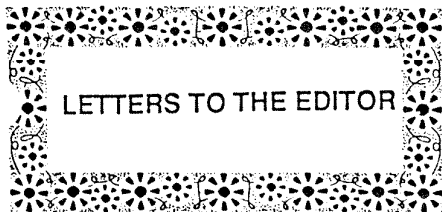
"Places like Minnesota might have a growing season of three months, but you come down South and it could be nine months," Cole said.

Cole said Atlanta's woes are being caused mainly by pollen dust from pine, oak, mulberry, sweet gum, maple and birch trees. He said the visible pollen-the yellowy dust that settles on everything-is not the kind that attacks the sinuses of allergy sufferers.

Allergists list three helpful hints for allergy sufferers caught in a pollen storm: Use over-the-counter antihistamines, close doors and windows at home and offices, and pray for rain.

South Georgia was doused with rainfall Thursday afternoon and a 60 percent chance of rain was forecast for parts of north Georgia for Friday, according to the National Weather Service.

In addition to bringing temporary relief to allergy sufferers, the rains also will help wash off the yellow pollen dust blanketing cars and windowsills.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CONTRIBUTING TO EARTH SCIENCE EDUCATION

The poor quality of science education in elementary and high schools in the United States is a concern to many scientists. Aspects of this problem were discussed in a two-day meeting in Alexandria, Virginia, in February, which was sponsored by the American Geological Institute (AGI). The meeting, the K-12 Earth Science Education Conference, was attended by representatives of each of the AGI member societies, including AASP.

Prior to the meeting, each society sent in a summary of the kinds of activities that their members undertake in order to further K-12 (kindergarten through 12th grade) education. AASP has no formal program, but some of our members volunteer to help with science fairs by advising students on their projects or by judging at the fairs, by giving short lectures or demonstrations at schools and at job fairs, and by inviting groups of students to visit their offices and laboratories.

A rather long list of "Tasks to be Accomplished to Improve K-12 Earth Science Education" was compiled by AGI. One of the main goals is to work out inquiry-oriented, problem-solving, and hands-on methods for teaching K-6 children especially. Another goal is to orient science in the schools toward practical problems of importance to society. A third goal is to encourage girls and minorities of both sexes to become interested in science.

Two of the main ways AASP members can help science education are (1) by acting as resource persons for teachers; this is especially critical in the case of earth science teachers, most of whom know little about the subject; and (2) by giving short talks or demonstrations in school classrooms. The first of these activities is being addressed by GSA's SAGE program (Science Awareness through Geoscience Education), which is compiling lists of scientists who wish to work one-on-one with teachers or museum personnel. For information, write SAGE, Geological Society of America, P.O. Box 9140, Boulder, CO 80301. Teaching science to children especially in grades K-6 is definitely more effective if one knows something about teaching techniques at that level. One excellent guide is Section 1 ("Hints for Successful Class Visits") of A Sedimentary

Geologists' Guide to Helping K-12 Earth Science Teachers: Hints, Ideas, Activities, and Resources, published by SEPM (P.O. Box 4756, Tulsa, OK 74159).

Most AASP members are professional scientists who owe a lot to the science education they received. Maybe we should think about giving something back to the school systems that gave us the beginnings of our education.

Norm Frederiksen and Doug Nichols

The following notice came to me from Jan Jansonius. It was followed by a related notice from Judith Lentin. Please pay careful attention to the following contributions. Ed.

BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE--NEW WRINKLES IN THE OLD CLOTH. *CAVEAT NOMENCLATORI*

Correct application of nomenclature can be tough work, and sloppy efforts of earlier authors can set up pitfalls that the unwary (sic) may stumble into only many years later. The International Code of Botanical Nomenclature is a living thing, and can turn quite ornery in reaction to decisions taken at each International Botanical Congress. Every 5 years, new or modified Rules are encoded in a new edition of the ICBN which supersedes all previous ones.

In the last few editions, new conditions have been introduced that may easily trip up the unwary. Every Department or Institution where new plant names are published, should obtain a new edition of the Code.

In a nutshell, the main new wrinkles are:

1) Now, with a retroactive date of 1958, the name of a new genus is not validly published unless there is a holotype for it; i.e. the type specimen of a species. If the name of this type species turns out to be a junior synonym, its type specimen still remains the type of the generic name, even if the correct name of the type species may have changed. Thus, it now can happen that the name of a genus and the correct name of its type species each have a different holotype (Art. 10.1; Art. 37.1). Conversely, a genus proposed after 1957 with a type species for which no holotype or lectotype had been designated was not validly published.

2) Since the 1988 "Berlin Code", the name of a new species or infraspecific taxon is not validly published as of 1 January 1990 unless the herbarium or

institution in which the type is conserved is specified (Art. 37.5). This is certainly a controversial Rule, although it made good sense as a Recommendation, and it may be difficult to apply (how permanent must the "herbarium" be, or how big and official the "institution"?).

I intend to write a formal proposal to have this Art. 37.5 rescinded, but in the meantime it makes good sense for all authors of new genera/species to make arrangements for their holotypes to be curated in a recognized institution, which must be specified in the publication. (An "indirect indication", through use of officially assigned codes only by mere implication, would be insufficient).

Sound practice has always been a good idea and generally has not been affected by this kind of change in the Code. Some do's are:

- Explicitly designate and illustrate a holotype and indicate where (and under what number) it is curated and can be accessed.
- Give a careful and complete (yet concise) generic diagnosis or specific description.
- Identify the illustration of the holotype, and additional paratypes.
- Make a pertinent comparison with the closest named look-alikes.
- Give age and provenance of the type.
- Ask a classics department for help in making sure that the new name is correct Latin.

The don'ts include things like:

- Do not base a monotypic genus on someone else's species.
- Do not base a new genus on a preexisting species, unless it satisfies all the above "do's" and the holotype has been reexamined; even then, a well described and illustrated new species may be preferable as type.
- Do not assume earlier publications to be free of error.

Jan Jansonius
Esso Plaza West, rm 1415
237 - 4 Ave SW
Calgary, Canada T2P 0H6

Reference cited:

W, GREUTER, J. McNEILL et al. (editors) 1988
International Code of Botanical Nomenclature
adopted by the Fourteenth International Botanical
Congress, Berlin, July-August 1987. Regnum
Vegetabile, vol. 118, xiv + 328 pp.
[Koeltz Scientific Books, PO Box 1360,
Koenigstein, D-6240, Germany; DM. 60.=]

THE CARNEGIE MUSEUM SITE CHOSEN FOR AASP HOLOTYPE COLLECTION

Some time ago Harry Leffingwell, then President of the AASP, recognized that a number of palynologists were retiring and leaving holotype specimens either at their old offices or taking them home to put in shoe boxes under their beds. He set up a committee to select a museum in the United States where members of the AASP could house holotype specimens of palynomorphs. Professor Al Traverse chaired the committee which contacted a number of possible museums which would meet the needs of the palynological community. His committee (including Alan Graham, Ron Litwin, and Sedley Barss) selected three museums which they considered good possibilities, then visited each to speak to the staff. At the mid-year Board of Directors meeting, April 12-13 in Dallas, Texas, the Board voted to follow the recommendations of Professor Traverse and his committee who selected the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as the site for the AASP Holotype Collection.

As mentioned above in Jan Jansonius's article on the changes to the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature, all descriptions of new taxa published after January 1, 1990, must include the name of the herbarium or museum where the specimens are housed. In general, collections associated with university departments are not considered permanent collections. University museums are, unfortunately, typically under-funded and often without full-time curators. Collections in oil company files are even less safe repositories for types. Personal collections are not permanent.

There is certainly no way that the AASP can or would wish to compel members to deposit their type specimens at the Carnegie Museum. However, by selecting the Carnegie, we are offering the option which would allow for a large collection to accumulate over the years and be a wonderful future resource for palynologists. In the words of Colin McGregor (1989) "Loss of, or failure to preserve type specimens should be regarded as a scientific disaster and a neglect of responsibility to future generations of scientists."

The Carnegie Museum of Natural History has a palynologist on staff. Indeed, the Director of the Museum, James King, has a PhD in palynology from the University of Arizona. The museum also has a half-time palynological staff position which is currently waiting to be filled. The other half of this position is with the University of Pittsburgh.

For the records at the Carnegie Museum the following information needs to be presented with the slides:

1. Description of preparation technique.
2. Description of mounting media and methods used to seal the cover slip.
3. Information regarding the type locality and a small hand sample of the type material (if possible).
4. A copy of the original publication containing the description of the new taxon.

For specimens mounted on open glycerin mounts and specimens mounted on devices used in scanning electron microscopes it will be necessary to contact Dr. Mary Dawson, at (412) 622-3246 or Dr. James King, at (412) 622-3241 for special instructions.

The address of the museum is as follows:
The Carnegie Museum of Natural History
4400 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
U.S.A. 15213

Send all slides, samples and materials in care of Dr. Mary Dawson.

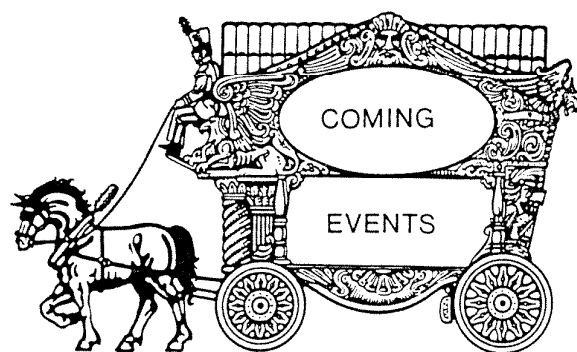
Reference:

McGregor, D.C., 1989, Preservation of paleontological types; in Current Research, Part F, Geological Survey of Canada, Paper 89-1F, p. 55-59.

Judith Lentin
L.I.B. Consultants, Ltd.
2110, 505 4th Ave. SW
Calgary, Alberta T2P 0J8



****TITLES DUE JUNE 14, 1991****



Please note the following special event. I, for one, would love to participate. Ed.

CRETACEOUS TO RECENT PALYNOLOGY AND SCENIC LANDFORMS OF THE OTWAY REGION, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.

This excursion will include visits to major palynological and paleobotanical sites, many of international significance (including Isabel Cookson's Tertiary localities), a wide range of landforms and a good selection of vegetation types characteristic of southeastern Australia.

Organizers: The Palynological and Palaeobotanical Association of Australasia

Dates: November 21-23, 1991

For information please contact: Dr. A.P. Kershaw, Centre for Palynology and Palaeoecology, Department of Geography and Environmental Science, Monash University, Clayton, Victoria, Australia 3168

C.I.M.P. Symposium on Acritarchs and Chitinozoa

**British Geological Survey, Nottingham
September 3 - 6, 1991**

For further information please contact:
Dr. S. G. Molyneux
British Geological Survey
Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5GG, United Kingdom.

June 3-7: CANQUA 1991. Fredericton, New Brunswick. Theme: "Late Glacial and Post-Glacial Events in Coastal Environments". Details: A.G. Pronk, Geol. Survey Branch, Dept. of Natural Resources and Energy, Box 6000, Fredericton, New Brunswick, E3B 5H1. Tel: (506) 453-2206. FAX: (506) 453-3322.

June 10-21: Course in Dinoflagellate Cyst Morphology. Utrecht, The Netherlands. See October, 1990, Newsletter. Details: H. Leereveld, Lab. of Palaeobotany and Palynology, Heidelberglaan 2, 3584 CS UTRECHT, The Netherlands. Tel: (31) (0)30-532630, FAX: (31) (0) 30-531357.

June 27-28: Open Workshop on Organic Matter Classification. University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Registration free. See announcement in this Newsletter. Details: M.A. Lorente, Hugo de Vries Lab., Kruislan 318, 1098 SM Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Tel: 31.20.5257950 FAX: 31.20. 5257715.

August 2-9: XIII INQUA Congress. Beijing, PRC. Details: Secretariat, XIII INQUA Congress, Chinese Academy of Sciences, 52 Sanlihe, Beijing 100864, People's Republic of China.

August 24-25: Canadian Palaeontology and Biostratigraphy Seminar and Pander Society Joint Meeting. Vancouver, B.C. Details: M.J. Orchard, Geological Survey of Canada, 100 west Pender St., Vancouver, B.C., V6B 1R8. Tel: (604) 666-0409.

September 22-27: Carboniferous-Permian Stratigraphy and Geology (12th International Congress). Buenos Aires, Argentina. Language: English. Dr. S. Archangelsky, Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales, Av. A. Gallardo 470, Buenos Aires 1405, Argentina.

October 21-23: 24th Annual AASP Meeting. San Diego, California. Held in conjunction with GSA Meeting. Details: Rogor Whitmer, UNOCAL Research Centre, P.O. Box 76, Brea, California 92621, U.S.A. Tel: (714) 528-7201.

October 21-24: Geological Society of America Annual Meeting. San Diego, California. Details: GSA HQ, Box 9140, 3300 Penrose Place, Boulder, Colorado 80301, U.S.A. Tel: (303) 447-2020.

Book Reviews

Atlas of Opaque and Ore Minerals in Their Associations. 1990, R.A. Ixer. Van Nostrand Reinhold, New York, 64 plates, 208 pages. \$129.95

Whenever I am curious about the black opaque minerals in kerogen preparations, I find a reflectance microscope and someone to help identify them. Coal petrologists are more cognizant of opaque minerals than palynologists because they examine polished pellets using reflected light optics. Precise identification of opaque minerals is always difficult. Ixer's book is a big help because it is filled with 64 colored plates of minerals in reflected light. Furthermore, rather than showing minerals in economic deposits, Ixer chose to focus on rocks that are of interest to palynologists and coal petrologists—shales, limestones, fossilized wood, ocean-floor sediments mixed with volcanogenic vent sulfide minerals, sedimentary rocks intruded by copper-bearing porphyries, banded iron formation, and manganese nodules.

The section on sample preparation is usefully detailed in its instructions on polishing sections. I was fascinated to read how quickly some minerals can oxidize during this process. Unfortunately, mineralogists working on opaque minerals use low-power lenses—the highest magnification shown was 180x. Resolution obtained from this lens would miss many organic matter-opaque mineral associations. Another association that this resolution misses is the petroleum in carbonate-hosted Pb-Zn deposits. I suspect that some of the black areas that are identified as "polishing pits" or "voids" may be, instead, petroleum. Although this book is expensive, it shows morphologies and variations in colors of opaque minerals that can prove very useful for all optical microscopists.

Eleanora (Norrie) Robbins
U.S. Geological Survey
956 National Center
Reston, VA 22092

Tectonics of Suspect Terranes. 1989, David G. Howell. Chapman and Hall, 29 West 35th Street, New York, New York 10001, 232 pages.

The decade of the 1960's was a time of social, cultural, and geological revolution. The ramifications of the newly proposed plate tectonic theory—linking seafloor spreading, subduction, and mountain building—radically changed the way in which geologists viewed

the Earth. The interaction of plates determines the locations of continents, ocean basins, and mountain chains, which in turn affect atmospheric and oceanic circulation patterns that ultimately determine global climates.

Since its general acceptance during the 1960's, plate tectonic theory has been refined as new data have become available. One of the more recent "additions" to plate tectonic theory has been the recognition and interpretation of suspect terranes, which are areas of apparently unrelated geology comprising single orogenic belts.

This book is an introduction to the subject of suspect terranes and how they relate to classical plate tectonics in terms of mountain building and continental accretion.

The book is divided into seven chapters. The first three chapters are an introduction to various features of the Earth, the principal elements of plate tectonics, and a history of continental growth. Chapter 4 - Suspect terranes-is what the book is all about. Howell provides an overview of what suspect terranes are, how they came to be identified, and the nomenclature of tectonostratigraphic terranes. From there, he discusses the making of terranes, how they are formed, move, and are identified. He concludes the chapter with a discussion of Precambrian terranes. Chapter 5 discusses the kinematics of measuring terrane displacements. Chapter 6 involves the role of suspect terranes in mountain building and the shaping of continents. In this chapter Howell provides overviews of the history of the Taiwan to the Timor area, the Himalaya and Tibet plateau, Africa-Europe collision, the Cordillera of North America, and the Andes. Chapter 7 concerns the strategy of a field geologist in terms of mapping suspect terranes.

This is an excellent book that is well-written in an informative and lively manner. It has simple and well drawn illustrations, and I highly recommend it to anyone who wants a concise overview of plate tectonics and is interested in the importance of suspect terranes in terms of mountain building and continental accretion.

Reed Wicander
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Roadside Geology of Texas. 1991, Darwin Spearing. Mountain Press Publishing Company, P.O. Box 2339, Missoula, Montana 59806, 432 pages. \$15.95.

Roadside Geology of Texas is the seventeenth title in the Roadside Geology series. As with the other titles which have been reviewed in the Newsletter before, this book explains in nontechnical language how the various geological processes have shaped and molded the various landscapes one can see along the highways of Texas. After an overview of geologic time, an introduction to the geology of Texas, and a review of why there is so much oil in Texas, the book contains six sections which cover the geology of the entire state. Each section begins with an introductory review of the area followed by descriptive road logs of the area. The six areas described are: The Gulf Coast, Central Texas, Northeast Texas, Northcentral Texas, West Texas, and Northwest Texas.

As with all the roadside books in this series, Roadside Geology of Texas is profusely illustrated with photographs, simple uncluttered diagrams, and numerous maps which make it easy to correlate your geographic location with respect to discussion in the text. In addition there is a glossary at the end of the book and a bibliography showing where additional information on the geology of Texas can be obtained.

Reed Wicander

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STRATIGRAPHIC PALYNOLOGISTS, INC.
1991 MID YEAR MEETING SECRETARY'S REPORT
(October 3, 1990 through April 1, 1991)

	<u>Individual Members</u>	<u>Institutional Members</u>	<u>Total</u>
I. Total Membership at Annual Meeting (10/31/89)	807	140	947
II. Membership Changes			
1. New Members	46	5	51
2. Resignations & Decreased	4	4	8
3. Non-Paying Members			
A. Honorary (K. Faegri, L.R. Wilson, C. Downie, W.R. Evitt, L. Cranwell T.F. Vozzhennikova)	(6)	(0)	(6)
B. Outstanding Paper Award (Robert Vance)	(1)	(0)	(1)
C. Archives (Hunt Archives)	(0)	(1)	(1)
Total	(5)	(1)	(6)
III. Membership Total	849	141	990*

*Includes approximately 338 Individual and 69 Institutional members in arrears for 1990/1991 or 1991.

1991 MID YEAR MEETING TREASURER'S REPORT
(October 3, 1990 through April 1, 1991)

MBank Money Market Checking Account (#702 438)* (A.A.S.P., Inc. -2)	\$37,728.64
MBank CD (#7066, next maturity date 06/12/91 @ 7.102%)	\$22,345.40
MBank CD (#6620, next maturity date 05/17/91 @ 6.10% L.R. Wilson account)	<u>\$ 5,781.26</u>
<u>TOTAL</u>	\$65,855.30
Disbursements (10/03/90 to 04/01/91)	\$ 4,914.86

*Ending 04/01/91 - includes Scholarship Fund donations, Unocal Best Applications Paper Funds and Robin Helby's \$2,000.00 loan to the Association. The principle of the latter is due and payable upon demand.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon D. Wood
Secretary-Treasurer A.A.S.P., Inc.

Please note that, according to Gordon, the total amount in the Treasury is "high" because we haven't paid for *Palynology* 14 yet. Also, please beware that between 35-45 individual/institutional members will be deleted because their mail is being returned. We're wasting postage on these and don't intend to continue doing it.

GUIDELINES: UNOCAL BEST APPLICATIONS PAPER AWARD

The UNOCAL Best Applications Paper Award was established in 1988 and first awarded in 1989. UNOCAL established and funds this award to:

1. encourage studies which focus on the applications of paleopalynology, including its integration with collateral disciplines, in solving geological problems;
2. foster the reporting of these studies at AASP Annual Meetings;
3. more widely publicize the value of palynology among our geological colleagues, by financially assisting the author to present the winning paper at the following year's National Annual Meeting of a prominent geological society.

Papers are judged by a committee of three persons, who evaluate papers with respect to their scores in the following categories:

PRESENTATION STYLE	MAXIMUM SCORE
	23
1. Delivery--Pace and even flow	4
2. Grammar--Meaning clear from word choice	8
3. Audience Rapport--Maintains audience interest	8
4. Timing--Time for 1 question=3; 2 minutes over=-2	3
VISUAL AIDS	27
1. Legibility--Information visible from back of room	9
2. Visual Impact--Audience clearly understands data	9
3. Effectiveness--Information documents speaker's thesis	9
CONTENT&ORGANIZATION	50
1. Introduction--States overall geological problem	10
2. Palynological Technique--Why chosen and description	5
3. Results--New information from palynological approach	10
4. Impact--Importance of the study; potential applications	25

The foregoing breakdown clearly favors applications-oriented studies whose origins are rooted in a geological problem, the resolution of which could be found in the utilization of one or more palynological technique(s); and heavy emphasis rests on the impact of the study on geological disciplines, rather than on just reporting the palynological results.

The Award will be presented only if, in the eyes of the judges, at least one paper has achieved a minimum standard of excellence; thus there could be a year(s) in which no Award will be made.

The Award includes a certificate and a monetary grant, currently a sum of \$750, which is specifically dedicated to covering all--or a major portion--of the author's travel and lodging expenses during subsequent presentation of the paper at a National Annual Meeting of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG), the Geological Society of America (GSA), or the Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists (SEPM). If the timing of these meetings, or prior commitments by the author, preclude presentation of the winning paper in those fora, other appropriate venues will be sought. The Chairman of the UNOCAL Best Applications Paper Committee will be available to assist authors in securing meeting information and placing their paper.