

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Our NAMS Newsletter editor tells me that you should see a new face (mine) in the upper right-hand corner of this page, replacing Mark Leckie's, as this year's NAMS President. I'd like to thank Mark for his work with the NAMS officers on your behalf during the last year. He will continue to provide us sage advice, however, as our current Past-President. I'd also like to thank Sally Zellers, our outgoing treasurer, for her fine service through the last three years!

You've already guessed: if Sally and Mark are both moving on, it must be time for another NAMS election. Please have a look elsewhere in this newsletter for details on the slates for President-Elect and Treasurer, then VOTE! I thank you in advance for taking a few minutes to exercise this important responsibility; our candidates will certainly appreciate it as well.

I'd like to take the rest of my space in this letter to step up into the "bully pulpit" for a while, and discuss some issues that were bantered about at the last NAMS Executive Board session at the 1998 Salt Lake City AAPG-SEPM meeting, as well as at several recent Intercompany Biostratigraphy Coordinator (IBC) meetings throughout the oil patch. In the light of ongoing low crude oil prices, and a possible replay of petroleum industry "merger mania", I'd like to share some thoughts with those of you involved in petroleum company,

consulting industry, and academic settings as micropaleontologists. Quite simply, I want to offer some observations and suggestions regarding what each of these three groups can do to help develop and support what I choose to call "The 3-Way Relationship". I ask you, the NAMS membership, to send me your thoughts and ideas on this topic after you have a look at my rantings below, and we'll give your ideas greater circulation in the next edition of this newsletter.

The 3-Way Relationship. Some background. Since the major petroleum industry downsizings of the mid 1980's in North America, three things have happened to micropaleontologists: 1) hundreds of them are no longer employed by petroleum companies, 2) many, but certainly some lesser number than hundreds, have moved on to successful positions in a rapidly expanding consulting industry, and, 3) there are fewer new graduates in micropaleontology, who are finding still fewer employment opportunities within their specialties. I offer these as givens; I didn't need to be particularly astute to have noticed these major trends in our profession.

Here's the concept, then. I'll posit that a mutualistic symbiotic relationship exists between industry, consulting, and academic micropaleontologists that needs to be nurtured. We must develop additional ways to support each other's

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FORAMS02 in Perth! Martha Gamper leads a cheerleading squad of international foraminiferal micropaleontologists celebrating the election of Perth, Australia as the site of the FORAMS meeting in 2002. See the report on the wildly successful FORAMS98 meeting in Monterrey, Mexico, page 6.

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activities, if our specialties are to flourish, as I firmly believe they should. I'm not embarrassed to tell you that I'm still a "true believer" - having just passed my 20th year as, at core, a petroleum industry biostratigrapher/micropaleontologist, I continue to see the demand for quality paleontologic data and interpretations ever increasing. Some suggestions/thoughts/harangues for members of each of the three sectors mentioned above:

1 - Petroleum Company Micropaleontologists - We need to accept that we're never going back to the large, in-house staffs that we last saw back in the early 1980's, and we should find better ways to support and develop our external consultants. Please remember - many of the individuals that you now critically depend upon to generate top-quality data and interpretations used to be in the offices right next door to you, as co-workers. Bring them back into your facility for project work and meetings; this kind of partnership simply works better. The "proprietary data" argument against having them there is a true "red herring". If you don't trust your consultants - they shouldn't be your consultants. Make sure you're involved in your own "succession-planning" when you begin to think about leaving your present position. For that matter, try to bring in two biostratigraphers to replace you. If you've been around a while, I guarantee that your accumulated knowledge comes to at least what two less experienced folk will bring in with them! Find ways to fund work-study programs, internships, and post-doc positions in your work unit. I've found it particularly effective to match carefully chosen students to work on focused, business-unit funded projects. Yes, this sometimes requires a considerable search effort, but it allows (forces) you to expand your own network of contacts, which then come in handy further down the road. Develop research funding, as either sole support, or through consortia alliances, with the academic or consulting sectors, for those research initiatives that you can no longer do in your own shop. Prepare papers for our professional society meetings and journals; make a special effort to attend research conferences and other venues where you can meet faculty and students. Contribute funds to organizations (yes, NAMS is one of them) that fund student scholarships in micropaleontology.

2 - Consulting Industry Micropaleontologists - Please make sure you don't neglect your continuing education needs, even though a large corporate structure may no longer be there to support you. If you have a going (growing?) business, you too, should be thinking of succession and expansion issues. Don't let your business just disappear simply because it's time for you to move on; develop younger colleagues through work-study programs, internships, and post-doc offerings, just as the petroleum companies do. Involve partners in either a formal or informal sense. Talk with the petroleum companies that you do business with about having your own relatively inexperienced personnel do internships with them, attend their training courses, or support you in training your own new hires with

additional projects which will be closely monitored by you. Don't be insulted by narrow-minded petroleum company managers as to your true worth. Continuously ask to "come inside" the organization as part of your own work process improvement. Try to make it clear (as tactfully as you may!) that you represent an important "value-adding" component in your client's geoscience evaluation effort. Become involved in professional society activities; it provides you with the opportunity to give back to the field, and it represents an important opportunity for networking that you may be ignoring to your own detriment.

3 - Academic Micropaleontologists - Develop reasonable employment scenarios with your M.S. and Ph.D. students. While it is still certainly true that the very best will find a position in their specialties, the fact remains that not every student with a specialty in micropaleontology will find a position in micropaleontology. Understand that more trained micropaleontologists work in the petroleum industry today in areas outside of micropaleontology than do in their original specialty. Know that micropaleontologists are often recruited quite avidly by petroleum companies to become more generalized exploration and production geologists because of their particular prowess in physical stratigraphy, correlation, and sequence stratigraphy. Ensure that your students also receive an appropriate broader training in earth science applications. Investigate spending some of your sabbatical leave with a petroleum company; one of the easiest ways of developing this type of opportunity is by staying in touch with former students and colleagues now in the petroleum business. Should you do this, you'll return to the classroom and laboratory with insightful accounts for your students, and you'll be able to provide them with considerably better career counsel. Attend petroleum industry oriented meetings to observe trends, and increase visibility for yourself, your projects, and your students. Consider having a department booth at an AAPG meeting; they only cost ~\$400 for a non-profit organization, and bring your students along to help staff the booth. Ask for industry support for your research programs and student projects; very little "fundamental research" in biostratigraphy is (can be) done in the greatly reduced research organizations of the major oil companies today. Of course money is tight, but a well-reasoned, scientifically relevant proposal stands a far better chance of funding now from the petroleum industry than it does from the National Science Foundation of the United States.

Enough of my prattle; what do you think we can do together?

All the best,

NAMS President Tom Dignes
twdi@chevron.com

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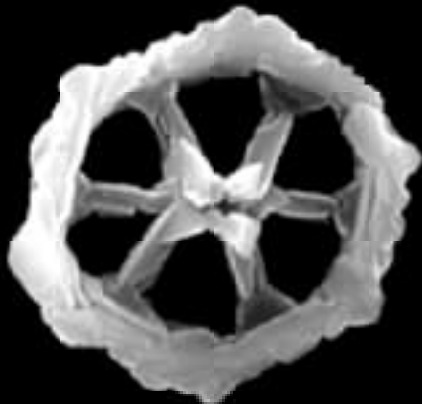
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TREASURER'S REPORT

As of Oct 1 1998, the NAMS treasury contained approximately \$7,300. From the period of May 1, 1998 to Oct 1, 1998, we received about \$510 from member dues and interest on the account. Expenditures for the same period were just over \$1085. These costs include newsletter expenses, secretaries expenses, the 1997 Cushman reception, the NAMS student book awards, software for maintaining member information, taxes and filing fees. An additional amount of \$1,386 will be added to the account shortly to reflect additional member dues paid by Micropaleontology Press.

-Sally Zellers, NAMS Treasurer

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NAMS/SEPM OFFICERS

President
Tom Dignes
Chevron Overseas Petroleum Inc.
P.O. Box 5046, San Ramon, California 94583
Tel. 510-842-3667 twdi@chevron.com



President-Elect
Hilary Clement Olson
University of Texas at Austin
Institute for Geophysics
4412 Spicewood Springs, Bldg. 600, Austin, Texas 78759
Tel. 512-471-0455 olson@utig.utexas.edu



Secretary
Tony D'Agostino
PGS Reservoirs
10550 Richmond Ave, Suite 250, Houston, TX 77042
Tel. 713-706-0590 tonyd@hstn.res.pgs.com

Treasurer
Sally Zellers
Texaco E&P
400 Poydras Street, New Orleans, LA 70130
Tel. 504-680-1183 zellesd@texaco.com



Newsletter Editor
Ben Sloan
Texaco Exploration
4800 Fournace Place, Bellaire, Texas 77401
Tel. 713-432-3808 sloanbj@texaco.com



Past-President
Mark Leckie
Dept. of Geology and Geography
University of Massachusetts
P.O. Box 35820, Amherst, Massachusetts 01003
Tel. 413-545-1948 mleckie@geo.umass.edu

Visit NAMS online at:
<http://www.ig.utexas.edu/nams/nams.html>

NAMS NEWSLETTER ADVISORS

John Van Couvering	212-769-5657
Ken Finger	909-597-6662
Mervin Kontrovitz	318-342-1878
Annika Sanfilippo	619-534-2049
Patricia Whalen	501-253-5011
Fay Woodruff	213-831-3487

NAMS NEWS is published two times a year, just before the GSA meeting in the fall and AAPG meeting in the spring, by NAMS. Submissions are always welcome. Copyright 1998.

NAMS TECHNICAL SESSION & FIELDTRIP 1999 AAPG/SEPM MEETING SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

NAMS will convene a technical session at the 1999 AAPG/SEPM Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas. The session, organized by Mark Leckie (University of Massachusetts-Amherst) and Hilary Clement Olson (The University of Texas at Austin), will include both posters and oral presentations on the theme "Paleobiological, Geochemical and Other Proxies of Sea-Level Change". Date and time of the session is to be announced. The response to this session has been excellent. We anticipate papers and posters including studies on sea-level change related to: speleothems in submerged cave systems from the Pleistocene; Gulf of Mexico foraminiferal records; Pleistocene through Oligocene climate variability along the New Jersey margin (geo-chemical, foraminiferal, and sediment studies); variations in terrestrial vs. marine palynomorphs; Cretaceous foraminiferal populations, lithology and geochemistry; re-research on Holocene marshes; transition between carbonate and evaporite deposits; modern models of intertidal foraminifera from the UK; chronostratigraphic boundaries, sequence architecture, FADS and LADS, condensed sections, and computer-aided models related to sequence stratigraphy; mid-Pleistocene carbonate records from the Feni Drift; microfaunal distribution patterns in the western Black Sea; Jurassic-early Cretaceous foraminifera and palynomorphs from the North Slope of Alaska; mid-Brunhes carbonate dissolution in the Caribbean Quaternary; and "Greenhouse" and "Icehouse" worlds from the late Eocene-early Oligocene in southern Australia. NAMS anticipates publishing papers from this session, possibly as a special issue of a journal. We also welcome papers for inclusion in the volume which are not part of the technical session but which focus on the same theme. If you are not presenting at the technical session in San Antonio but are interested in submitting a paper, please contact Mark (mleckie@eclogite.geo.umass.edu) or Hilary (olson@utig.ig.utexas.edu). The deadline for submission of papers is Tuesday, April 12, 1999.

The NAMS field trip will be a one-day visit to the Austin Chalk in the type locality. Jason Lundquist (geology) and Hilary Clement Olson (logistics) of The University of Texas at Austin will be leading the trip (contact them with any questions at jasonl@mail.utexas.edu or olson@utig.ig.utexas.edu). This field excursion's primary focus will be a bed by bed examination of outcrops of the Austin Chalk Group, in this Group's primary type area. A century of lithostratigraphy and biostratigraphic study in this area (the City of Austin's environs) has allowed for highly detailed stratigraphy of these "white chalk" deposits. A recently compiled



"complete" stratigraphic section through the entire Austin Group will be used to guide an outcrop based tour from the lower to the upper contact of the Group.

Field Trip Highlights

- Meter-scale bed by bed stratigraphy of the composite strato-type for the Austin Chalk Group.
- Outcrops linked to a complete section through the Austin.
- Chalk-marl alternation throughout the Austin
- Longshore (?) meter-scale channels in the lower Austin
- Biostratigraphic/chronostratigraphic position throughout the section (ammonites, microfossils).
- Paleoenvironments and paleoceanographic conditions in Austin time.
- Macrofossil distributions on the outcrop.
- Faults and fractures in the Austin.

The field trip will begin at 8am on Saturday, April 10th from the San Antonio convention center, head out to the Austin environs by bus, and return to the convention center after dinner that same evening. Not to be missed will be the evening stop (included in the price of the field trip) for dinner at the Salt Lick BBQ restaurant in Dripping Springs, Texas. If you have never been to the Salt Lick, it is a truly Texas experience not to be missed - delicious BBQ (beef and chicken) in a casual, outdoor atmosphere. Come out and support this fundraiser for NAMS, enjoy a great day in the field with your colleagues, and relax with some Texas BBQ and beer afterwards.

PALEONTOLOGY JOB OPENING

The Department of Geology at the University of Iowa invites applications for a full-time tenure-track Assistant Professorship with a speciality in micropaleontology or invertebrate paleontology. Contact: Dr. Holmes Semken, Search Committee Chair, Department of Geology, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242-1379 (Phone: 319-335-1818; Fax: 319/335-1821). The closing date for applications is December 1, 1998.

BRING OUT YOUR OTOLITHS

Request for micropaleontologists: During the examination of residue for microfossils, fish ear stones or otoliths are sometimes found (especially in the coarse sieve sizes). Gary Stringero Northeast Louisiana University has been studying various aspects of otoliths for over 20 years, and is very interested in their stratigraphic distribution. Any specimens found during routine paleontological examination would be greatly appreciated. Geographical and stratigraphic data is essential (paleoenvironmental and paleobathymetric information is also very valuable). Any specimens may be sent to Dr. Geosciences Gary L. Stringer, Department of , Northeast Louisiana University, Monroe, Louisiana. Email: gestranger@alpha.nlu.edu.

BUG BYTES

BIOLOG 4.0.3 NOW AVAILABLE

BIOLOG is a biostratigraphic database software running on UNIX workstations and networked PCs. BIOLOG stores data according to EPICENTRE

(<http://www.posc.org>).

BIOLOG offers easy data capture (but data may come from other sources!); data handling (building and/or emendation of reference lists, classifications and synonymies amongst taxa...); studies management (pieces of studies from various sources pertinent to the same section can be merged as wished: BIOLOG will check for any pitfall); and data presentation and retrieval (check for the joint occurrence of a foraminifer and a pollen ...or if this foram was ever found in this manno-zone...). Visit the Web site at www.sud.cap.gemini.fr/posc/Projects/biolog.htm. A demo CD-rom is available from Pierre Chevalier (picheval@capgemini.fr), and a paper about the data model from Jean-Louis Volat (jean-louis.volat@elf-p.fr).

-Jean-Louis Volat

CONODONT LISTSERVER

con-nexus is a listserver providing a forum for the rapid exchange of ideas and information concerning conodonts and conodont related research. For more information, check the con-nexus website at: <http://www.le.ac.uk/geology/map2/con-nexus/con-nexus.html>

To subscribe to con-nexus send the following message to listserv@le.ac.uk :

subscribe con-nexus xxxx@xxxx.xx.xx
(where xxxx@xxxx.xx.xx is your e-mail address)

con-nexus is associated with the Pander Society website, hosted by the University of Leicester.

ODP MRC UPDATE

The home page for Micropaleontological Reference Centers has been updated. In addition to listings of Leg, Site, Core, Section, Top cm and Bottom cm for all foraminifera, calcareous nannoplankton, radiolarian, and diatom samples that are in the MRC holdings, the foraminifer collections database now includes depth below seafloor, area code, epoch, and a numerical age in Ma (for select Cenozoic samples). The radiolarian sample database has been updated by Annika Sanfilippo, with chronostratigraphic, biozone, and depth assignments for all radiolarian MRC samples from DSDP Leg 1-96 and ODP Leg 110-112. One can also find sub-epoch assignments and samples for all diatom (Legs 5-94) and select calcareous nannoplankton (Leg 1-36) MRC samples.

The age models used to determine numerical ages for foraminifer samples were generated by Michael Knappertsbusch (Natural History Museum, Basel) using Dave Lazarus' Age Depth Plot Program and linear interpolation between control points to arrive at samples ages was

done with the Age Maker Program correlated with the Berggren et al. (1995) time scale. See the MRC home page for more details at: <http://www.odp.tamu.edu/mrc/mrccenters.HTML>

For additional biostratigraphic information you can find downloadable range charts from DSDP Leg 11 to ODP Leg 114 at the Ocean Drilling Stratigraphic Network site: <http://www.geomar.de/personal/twolf/SYNATLAN-home.html> and for ODP Legs 104-146 at the ODP home page: <http://janusaxp.tamu.edu/download/paleontology/>

-Brian Huber

NAMS PROFESSIONAL REGISTRY

Current NAMS members may post an online business card on the NAMS website. Please submit your name, title, address, and a sentence on your interests or qualifications to the webmaster: nams@utig.ig.utexas.edu. Students and researchers may post information on projects. Contractors may mention areas of expertise. The idea of the registry is to act as a clearinghouse of contact information on micropaleontologists and their credentials for purposes of collaboration. See it online at: <http://www.ig.utexas.edu/nams/networking/registry.html>.

DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

NAMS would like to be able to contact our members via email. If you have an email address, please send it to nams@utig.ig.utexas.edu. Please let us know if you do not wish it to be released on the web site, otherwise we will list it there. Future NAMS correspondence, possibly including the newsletter, will be sent electronically and you do not want to miss out. Rest assured that your address will not be released by NAMS for any purpose other than NAMS business.

FOSSIL CD IN PREP

The Natural History Museum, in collaboration with publisher Chapman and Hall, is preparing a series of CD-ROM databases with a large collection of macro- and microfossil images and detailed descriptions within a database allowing searching, sorting, etc. Examples are viewable at <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/palaeontology/palaeovision/PVGallery.html>. Publication is expected mid-1999.

INA LAUNCHES WEB SITE

The International Nannoplankton Association has launched a web site with a burgeoning collection of information about the society and everything you might ever want to know about nannoplankton, including detailed taxonomy. Please check in with them at http://www.nhm.ac.uk/hosted_sites/ina/

MEETING REPORTS

SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MODERN AND FOSSIL DINOFLAGELLATES



A relaxing morning ride via bus to the 'Elektrobygget' for Dino 6 and a night watching World Cup Football in a Trondheim pub with a Lysholmer sandwiched a day of intriguing dinoflagellate presentations. The superb work of the organizing committee, including Kari Grosfjeld, Eric Monteil, Egil Sakshaug, Morten Smelror, Karl Tangen and a legion of helpful and courteous Norges teknisk-naturvitenskapelige universitet (NTNU) student assistants was graciously appreciated by the 200+ participants from more than thirty countries. The organizing committee's energy is exemplified by their perseverance through a bus strike, an end of the week air traffic controllers strike and some world renown scientists unable to attend because they were probably walking a picket line.

The program consisted of approximately 100 papers spanning a five day period. Subjects varied from dinotoxins to dinopigments, calcareous dinoflagellates, fossil organic-walled dinoflagellates, dinoflagellates and Milankovitch cycles, dinoflagellates and paleoecology, dinoflagellates and dinosaurs, dinoflagellates and sapropel, to name a few. Fieldtrips were organized concerning the 'phytoplankton and dinoflagellate cysts of Trondheimfjord' aboard the F/F Harry Borthen and a visit to the Hopavagan marine biological station where marine pelagic ecosystems and coastal eutrofication are being studied (COMWEB project). Two Workshops were held: "Neogene and Quaternary Dinoflagellates" led by Head, Poulsen and de Vernal and "Calcareous dinoflagellates" organized by Willems, Janofske and Zonneveld and a special session "Dinoflagellate evolution and systematics" chaired by Fensome and Taylor. A fairly large, and enthusiastic, contingent of students were represented including a legion from the Laboratory of Palaeobotany and Palynology (LPP), most of whom presented research at the meeting.

It is difficult, and unrewarding, to attempt to choose highlights at such a meeting because participants are attracted by the dinoflagellate theme, but are separated by specific interests associated with the group. The benefit of this conference was that there were a wide breadth of research and all papers contained informative data no matter what your explicit appeal. Calcareous dinoflagellates were addressed in several well illustrated papers. These presentations were an eye opener for workers who deal only with fossil organic-walled microplankton and deliberately use hydrochloric acid to remove the unwanted calcium carbonate in our samples. The fact that Discoasters were shown to be alive (albeit entombed in annual sea ice), probably produced by dinoflagellates and not extinct at the Pliocene-Pleistocene boundary, was somewhat unnerving. The polar occurrence of Discoaster-producing organisms (rough cultures were started by melting sea ice) also mitigates against the belief that these organisms were indicative only of warm water depositional environments. (It was with unbridled joy and smugness that I relayed these findings to our in-house nannoplankton worker.)

An impressive display of posters was one of the highlights of the meeting. For the most part these presentations contained extremely well done graphics and were very informative. Posters were displayed for four full days and the objects of some lively discussion particularly during coffee/cookie (& beer) breaks.

The initial session was convened by Bill Evitt. The presence of Bill, and his wife Geisela, was a pleasant surprise to the gath-

ering. Many of us had the pleasure of their company and hospitality when attending the two week Dinoflagellate Short Course Bill taught at Stanford University.

Another high point of the meeting was a presentation by Bill Sarjeant preceding the Gala Dinner. In the proceedings volume it was noted as "From Excystment of Bloom? Personal recollections of thirty-five years of dinoflagellate and acritarch meeting". Myself, and others, always find Bills' presentations entertaining and informative and he did not disappoint the audience. The subject matter included illustrations and discussion from Ehrenberg to Recent workers, including Bill's own personal recollections. The research into the history of dinoflagellate/acritarch research obviously was time consuming and difficult but his passion in the subject area was obvious. He admonished anyone for using glycerin jelly as a mounting medium (no matter how careful you are it degrades and cracks over time) and the fact that Georges Deflandre inadvertently blamed Bill for an article written by A. R. Loeblisch, Jr., sent Bill a letter stating that he 'will never communicate with him for the rest of his life.'

Following Bill Sarjeant's presentation was the Gala Dinner held in the 'Palmenkoven' of the Britannica Hotel. A very enjoyable fare of primarily 'Fruits of the Ocean' and some of the largest raspberries and blackberries I have ever seen. The dinner included two presentations. The first was the Best Poster Session Award to Susanne Feist-Burkhardt and Jörg Pross for "New methods in light microscopy and their application to fossil dinoflagellate cysts." Henk Visscher (LPP-Utrecht) presented William R. Evitt an Honorary Membership in the Palaeobotanical-Palynological Society-Utrecht (PPUG) for his excellent contributions to the study of dinoflagellates. The evening was topped off by the NTNU Student Union-Pirum singing group (Norwegian Spice Boys?).

In brief, this was a very well organized meeting with excellent scientific contributions and several other memorable moments. The latter included the melodic ring of a cell-phone in the middle of Joyce Lucas Clarks presentation, an expletive uttered by a presenter after errantly pouring a cup of water (resulting in several minutes of laughter by the audience), and the sight of the lengthy pointing stick (javelin on steroids?) used by speakers during a Thursday morning session.

-with permission of Gordon Wood, AASP Newsletter

JMG SECRETARY



In August at the 5th International Symposium on Jurassic Stratigraphy in Vancouver in Canada, Susanne Feist-Burkhardt (Geol.-Pal. Institut, Schnittspahnstrasse 9, D-64287 Darmstadt, Germany, e.mail: feist@bio.tu-darmstadt.de) volunteered to serve as secretary, convenor and newsletter editor for JMG. The computer database of the Research Directory of the Members of JMG is still been managed by Patricia Whalen (521 St. Albans Lane, Eureka Springs, Arkansas, 72632, USA e.mail: micropaw@ipa.net), and the publications index by David C. Cole (Department of Geology, University of Southampton, Highfield, Southampton SO9 5NH, UK, e.mail: d.c.cole@soton.ac.uk).

The JMG members present at the meeting agreed on continuing paying a subscription for the JMG-Newsletter. However, Susanne will explore the possibility of publishing on the web. The JMG-Newsletter will in the future be published in the summer each year.

MEETING REPORTS

-Niels E. Poulsen

FORAMS '98

This meeting, organized by Dr. Jose F. Longoria, Jr. and his wife, Martha A. Gamper, Florida International University, Miami, Florida, was a huge success. The technical sessions took place at the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey. The presentations were organized into twenty theme sessions that included a wide spectrum of topics on Foraminifera. Subjects ranging from taxonomic and ecological studies to stable isotopes and paleoproductivity were covered. The Theme Sessions (and their Cochairs) included: Advances in Foraminiferal Biochronology at the K/T Boundary and Extinction Patterns (Gamper and Olson), Application of Foraminifera to Environment and Environmental Change (Yanko and Debenay), Calcification Mechanisms in Foraminifera: Implications for Stable Isotopes and Trace Elements (Erez and Mackensen), Foraminifera as Proxies for Paleoproductivity (Jorissen and Rohling), Foraminifera from Carbonate Sequences and Microfacies (Krutak and Gaella), Foraminifera in Oil Exploration: New Advances and Techniques (Koutsoukos, Longoria and Berlanga), Foraminifera: Contribuciones en Español (Orue-Etxebarria and Carreño), Foraminiferal Biochronology of Oil-Bearing Mexican Basins (Rosales-Domingues, Velásquez and Rivera), Foraminiferal Evolution: Biological Evidence (Arnold and Darling), Foraminiferal Evolution: Macroevolution and Speciation (Bowser, Pawlowski and Lipps), Geochronology, Time Scales and Global Stratigraphic Correlation (Berggren and Premoli-Silva), Innovative Applications of Foraminifera to Sequence Stratigraphy (Olson, Arnaud-Vanneau and Truskowski), Larger Foraminifera as Environmental Indicators: Modern and Ancient (Hallock, Caus and Hottinger), Paleoclimate and Paleoceanography: The Scope of Micropaleontology (Tyzka and Knudsen), Paleozoic and Biometric Studies in Foraminifera (Lepping and Scott), Quaternary Benthic Foraminifera from Marginal Seas (Castillo and Sen Gupta), Studies in Cenozoic Foraminifera: Taxonomy, Stratigraphy and Paleoecology (Luterbacher and Pitelli), and Studies in Mesozoic Foraminifera: Taxonomy, Stratigraphy and Paleoecology (Pessagno and Revets).

In addition to the technical sessions, three workshops occurred. The first, Introduction to Seismic Stratigraphy: Sequence Analysis and Seismic Facies Analysis, was co-convended by Hilary Olson and Marta Carrillo. The same authors also organized a second session, Chronostratigraphy, Biofacies Analysis and Quantitative Stratigraphy. Valentina Yanko convened a third workshop, The Role of Forams as Indicators of Stressed Environments.

During the last day of the technical sessions, participants voted to have the next International Symposium on Foraminifera in Perth, Australia (2002). Barcelona, Spain was a close alternative.

There were two wonderful field trips associated with Forams '98. A three day pre-meeting trip that visited classic Mesozoic outcrops exposed in the Mexican Cordillera near Monterrey (Potrero Chico, Potrero Garcia, Huasteca Canyon, La Boca Canyon) and farther south (Santa Rosa Canyon). After the technical meetings in Monterrey, a one day post-meeting trip visited the controversial Cretaceous/Tertiary boundary outcrops in the Burgos Basin of Tamaulipas State. Field trip participants were able to collect samples at both the El Mimbrel and La Lajilla localities in the Basin. These have been the focal point in the controversy surrounding the Chicxulub asteroid impact



event that has been used as a mechanism of foraminiferal extinction in the Gulf of Mexico.

The Sociedad Mexicana de Paleontología, A.C. published the Proceedings of the Meeting and the Abstracts with Programs and will shortly publish the two Fieldtrip Guidebooks. All three of the volumes may be ordered through Dr. Jose F. Longoria, Jr., Dept. of Geology, Florida International University, Miami, Florida 33199, Ph. (305) 348-2365, Fax (305) 348-3877, e-mail: gamperma@fiu.edu

The co-convenors of Forams '98 are to be congratulated for a job well done! I am looking forward to the 2002 meeting in Perth and the interesting field excursions that will take place at both Shark Bay and the Great Barrier Reef. I hope that the worldwide community of foraminiferalogists will join us there.

-Paul R. Krutak

FORAMS '98 PROVIDES LOOK AT THE RICH CULTURE OF MEXICO

The organizers of the Forams '98 meeting in Monterrey, Martha Gamper and Jose Longoria, provided not only an opportunity for scientific exchange, but also an opportunity to bask in the richness of the Mexican culture via food, music, costume and dance. It was truly a task for the "fuerte" at heart to keep up with the all evening partying and dancing as well as the all day scientific meetings.

The Gamper-Longoria team organized a beautiful dinner at the end of the first day of the meeting at the Metropolitan Museum. Upon returning from the meeting to the hotel rooms around 5:30pm that day, all attendees and guests found beautifully embroidered Mexican fiesta dresses for the women and sombreros and bandanas for the men laid out on the bed with a little note: "wear this to the fiesta tonight." The museum was just across the square from the beautiful Radison Plaza Gran Hotel Ancira (meeting headquarters hotel); the procession that evening of over 200 attendees in Mexican fiesta dresses and sombreros across the square was one of micropaleontological pagentry. A delicious buffet of traditional Mexican food (served with refreshing cervezas and margaritas!) was accompanied by entertainment reflecting the joyful aspects of Mexican music (mariaches) and dance (Ballet Folklorico) - all in the beautiful outdoor setting of the interior courtyard of the Metropolitan Museum.

The farewell dinner on the last night of the meeting was a blend of more formal dining and dancing punctuated by spontaneous toasts, speeches and even some cheerleading. Jere Lipps gave a salute to our colleague Bill Sliter who had contributed much to the Forams '98 meeting before his death several months previous. All the organizers of Forams '98, especially Martha and Jose, were thanked for their efforts over the last four years to organize such a rewarding meeting. The excitement about the selection of Perth, Australia for the 2002 meeting culminated in the "passing of the torch" by Martha Gamper and her Forams '98 cheerleaders (see photo, page 1). We thank both Martha and Jose for the opportunity to share in the rich culture of Mexico during the Forams '98 meeting in Monterrey.

-Hilary Olson

MEETING CALENDAR

1998

IGCP Project No. 396
Continental shelves in the Quaternary
October 26-30 1998
Dona Paula, Goa, India
Contact: Dr M. Veerayya
IGCP 396 3rd Annual Conference
National Institute of Oceanography
Dona Paula, Goa, India
Tel 91(0) 0832 221322 226253
Fax 91(0) 0832 223340 239102
Email veerayya@csnio.ren.nic.in
www2.env.uea.ac.uk/gmmc/index.html

American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists
October 28-30, 1998
Ensenada, Mexico
contact: Javier Helenes
C.I.C.E.S.E.
Departamento de Geologia
Carretera Tijuana-Ensenada
Ensenada, Baja California 22860, Mexico
Email jhelenes@cicese.mx
opal.geology.utoronto.ca/AASP/AASPanmtg.98.html

American Association of Petroleum Geologists International Meeting
November 8-11, 1998
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
contact: Sandy Hensley
AAPG Convention Dept.
P.O. Box 979
Tulsa, OK 74101-0979 USA
Tel 918-560-2641
Fax 918-560-2684
Email shensley@aapg.org
www.aapg.org/1998conference_rio/rioregis.html

18th International Symposium
North American Lake Management Society (NALMS)
November 10-13 1998
Banff, Alberta, Canada
Contact: Ian D. Campbell
Canadian Forest Service
5320-122 St.
Edmonton, Alberta T6H 3S5 Canada
Tel 403-435-7300
Fax 403-435-7359
Email icampbel@nrcan.gc.ca
www.biology.ualberta.ca/alms/1998.htm

Paleontological Association Annual Meeting
December, 16-19 1998
Portsmouth, England

Contact: David K. Loydell
School of Earth, Env. & Phys. Sci.
University of Portsmouth
Burnaby Road
Portsmouth PO1 3QL U.K.
Fax 44 (0) 1705 842244
Email David.Loydell@port.ac.uk
www.le.ac.uk/geology/map2/PalAss/pages/meetings.html

Email e.insalaco@bham.ac.uk
www.le.ac.uk/geology/map2/PalAss/pages/meetings.html

AAPG Annual Meeting
April 11-14, 1999
San Antonio, Texas
contact: Sandy Hensley
AAPG Convention Dept.
P.O. Box 979
Tulsa, OK 74101-0979 USA
Tel 918-560-2641
Fax 918-560-2684
E-mail: shensley@aapg.org
www.aapg.org/sa99annual.html

XVI International Botanical Congress
August 1-7, 1999
Saint Louis, Missouri
contact: Secretary General, XVI IBC
c/o Missouri Botanical Garden
P.O. Box 299
St. Louis, MO 63166-0299 U.S.A.
Tel 314-577-5175
Fax 314-577-9589
Email ibc16@mobot.org
www.ibc99.org

15th Int'l Union for Quaternary Research Congress XV INQUA
August 3-12, 1999
Durban, South Africa
contact: Dr D Margaret Avery
South African Museum
P O Box 61
Cape Town 8000 South Africa
Tel 2721-243-330
Fax 2721-246-716
E-mail mavery@samuseum.ac.za
inqua.geoscience.org.za/

15th International Diatom Symposium
September 28- October 2, 1999
Perth, Australia
contact: Jacob John, Chair
15th Intl Diatom Symposium
School of Environmental Biology
Curtin University of Technology
GPO Box U 1987
Perth 6845 Western Australia
Tel 61 8 9266 7327 7368
Fax 61 8 9266 7327 2495
Email: RJACOBJO@cc.curtin.edu.au
www.indiana.edu/~diatom/15IDS.html

1999

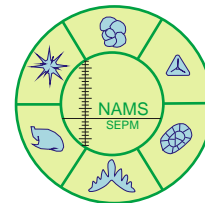
QRA Annual Discussion Meeting
Recent Advances In Quaternary Biostratigraphy
January 5-6, 1999
Cambridge, U.K.
Contact: Dr Danielle Schreve
Department of Palaeontology
Natural History Museum
London SW7 5BD
Tel 44 0171 938 9258
Fax 44 0171 938 9277
Email D.Schreve@nhm.ac.uk

Fourth Meeting of the World Archaeology Congress
Global Archaeology at the Turn of the Millennium
January 10-14 1999.
Cape Town, South Africa
Contact: Carolyn Ackermann
Congress Secretariat
P.O. Box 44503
Claremont, 7735, South Africa
Tel 27 (21) 762-8600
Fax 27 (21) 762-8606
Email wac4@globalconf.co.za
www.uct.ac.za/depts/age/wac

Geological Society of London Lyell Meeting
Organism-Environment Feedbacks In Carbonate Platforms And Reefs
March 1-2, 1999
London, England
Contact: Enzo Insalaco
School of Earth Sciences, The University of Birmingham,
Edgbaston, Birmingham
B152TT UK
Tel 0121 4146163



1998 GSA Annual Meeting Toronto, Canada



Sunday, October 25
Learning From The Fossil Record
NAMS-sponsored short course, Judy Scotchmoor, University of California, Museum of
Paleontology, Berkeley

Monday Morning, October 26
Paleoecological And Geochemical Signature Of Cretaceous
Anoxic Events: A Memorial To William V. Sliter
Cushman Foundation; 1998 Annual Meeting Committee
Tim Bralower, Brian Huber & Mark Leckie

7-11 pm, Monday October 26
Cushman Foundation Reception
location to be announced

12:15 pm, Wednesday, October 28
What Is The Future For Scientific Ocean Drilling?
A lunchtime discussion. Sponsored by GEOLOGY.
Michael A. Arthur, Pennsylvania State University

6-9 pm, Wednesday, October 28
Canadian Association of Palynologists
Annual Meeting
Sheraton Centre, Huron Room

JOIDES Resolution Legs 182-185

<http://www-odp.tamu.edu>



Leg	Region	Co-Chiefs	Dep. Port	Date	Objectives
182	Australian Bight	Feary, Hine	Wellington, New Zealand	October 12	transect of cores along a cool-water Cenozoic carbonate platform to better understand evolution, global climate
183	Kerguelen Plateau	Frey, Coffin	Fremantle, Australia	December 13	formation of a major Large Igneous Province in the SW Indian Ocean to better understand eruption rates and plateau development
184	South China Sea	Wang	Freemantle, Australia	February 16	establish late Cenozoic evolution of the East Asian monsoon area by showing the link between climate and tectonics, particularly the uplift of the Tibetan plateau
185	Izu-Mariana Trench	Plank, Ludden	Hong Kong	April 18	investigate sediment subduction along the world's deepest trench system and characterize chemical fluxes during alteration of the oceanic crust

PUBLICATIONS

NEW PUBLICATION FROM PALAEONTOGRAPHICA CANADIANA

Palaeontographica Canadiana is a monograph series of major contributions to Canadian paleontology that is dominantly, but not exclusively, systematic in content. The series is sponsored jointly by the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists (CSPG) and the Geological Association of Canada (GAC).

Taxonomie des petits foraminifères du Carbonifère supérieur-Permien inférieur du bassin de Sverdrup, Arctique canadien. Sylvie Pinard et Bernard Mamet. 1998. Palaeontographica Canadiana No. 15, 251 pp., 42 pls. ISBN 0-919216-63-3.

Summaire

Les fusulines constituent l'outil de corrélation le plus employé pour la stratigraphie du Carbonifère supérieur et du Permien inférieur. Les divisions de cet intervalle géologique se basent essentiellement sur ces organismes. Les géologues ont jusqu'à présent négligé l'emploi des «petits» foraminifères qui pourtant ont une valeur biostratigraphique comme le démontre cette étude. Une quarantaine de coupes stratigraphiques ont été étudiées et 170 taxa répartis parmi 58 genres sont présent. La plupart de ceux-ci ont été décrits de niveaux équivalents tant en Amérique du Nord qu'en Eurasie. Toutefois, dix-sept formes semblent inédites. Quinze assemblages (peut-être 16) sont reconnus. Les implications pour l'interprétation du paléoclimat et de la paléogéographie sont brièvement discutée.

The foraminiferal stratigraphy of the Late Carboniferous-Early Permian is commonly based on fusulines that provide a reliable zonal framework. Up to now, geologists have neglected smaller foraminifera although they have some biostratigraphic value, as this study will demonstrate. More than forty stratigraphic sections have been studied, and 170 taxa that belong to 58 genera are present. Most of the taxa have been previously recorded in North America or Eurasia, but 17 are new. Fifteen (maybe 16) biostratigraphic assemblages are recognized. Paleoclimatic and paleogeographic implications are briefly discussed.

Other monographs (see GAC's home page for tables of contents and abstracts) in the series that would interest NAMS NEWS readers are:

Palaeontographica Canadiana No. 4. Fensome, R.A. 1987. Taxonomy and biostratigraphy of schizaealean spores from the Jurassic-Cretaceous boundary beds of the Aklavik Range, District of Mackenzie. 49 pp., 5 pls.

Palaeontographica Canadiana No. 8. Braman, D.R. and Hills, L.V. 1992. Upper Devonian and Lower Carboniferous miospores, western District of Mackenzie and Yukon Territory, Canada. 97 pp., 24 pls. ISBN 0-920230-80-6.

Palaeontographica Canadiana No. 11. Zailiang Ji and Barnes, C.R. 1994. Lower Ordovician conodonts of the St. George Group, Port au Port Peninsula, western Newfoundland, Canada. 149 pp., 25 pls. ISBN 0-920230-86-5.

PUBLICATION DISTRIBUTION OFFICE
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Fax (709) 737-2532
E-mail gac@sparky2.esd.mun.ca
WWW <http://www.esd.mun.ca/~gac>

Readers from outside of Canada who wish to order copies should check latest prices through the home pages of both GAC and CSPG. The CSPG price may be less than the GAC price for orders from the United States.

-A.D. McCracken
Editor of Palaeontographica Canadiana

GERMAN PALEO JOURNAL

The newest issue (no. 6) of the PALAEONTOLOGIE, STRATIGRAFIE, FAZIES which is the palaeontological series of the FREIBERGER FORSCHUNGSHEFTE of the Freiberg University (TU Bergakademie Freiberg) is available. The abstracts of all articles are available online via the PSF homepage <http://www.geo.tu-freiberg.de/psf/>

-Olaf Elicki

PALEOBIOLOGY TEXT

Bringing Fossils to Life: An Introduction to Paleobiology, Donald R. Prothero, McGraw-Hill, 456 pages, ISBN 0 0705 21972, softback, November 1997. Much talked-about new text for general geology and paleontology courses is gaining widespread acceptance.

COMPLETE PALYNOLOGY

Palynology: Principles And Applications. J. Jansonius & D.C. McGregor, editors, 1996. American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists. 1330 pages. Three volumes. ISBN 0-931871-03-4. US\$100. Thorough modern review of all aspects of palynology and associated subdisciplines. Lavishly illustrated with 125 plates, including fourteen in color.

HISTORICAL GEOLOGY

One Long Experiment: Scale and Process in Earth History, Ronald E. Martin, April 1998. Columbia University Press. Perspectives in Paleobiology and Earth History Series. 272 pages, 64 illustrations, ISBN 0-231-10904-0, \$85.00 (cloth), ISBN 0-231-10905-9, \$35.00 (paper). Topics include scale, measurement, and process (which includes a discussion of fractals and hierarchy theory), growth and development of the geologic time scale, bioturbation, taphonomy, assessing completeness of the stratigraphic record, cycles and secular trends, and evolution and extinction.

INTERRAD 2000

INTERRAD 2000

Ninth meeting of the International
Association of Radiolarian Paleontologists
September 17-23, 2000
Feather River Inn, Blairsden, California

THEME Applications of radiolarian paleontology - show-
case the utility of radiolarians in geology and
oceanography

Suggested theme sessions

1. Radiolarians in paleoceanography and paleoclimatology.
2. Radiolarians applied to exploration geology (mining and petroleum).
3. Radiolarians applied to structure and tectonics.
4. Biostratigraphic tool development - advancements in calibration, correlation, application of quantitative methods.
5. Recent advances in taxonomy, phylogeny, and systematics,
6. Cretaceous/Paleogene boundary,
7. Assessing paleocurrents and paleolatitude with Mesozoic radiolarians

PRE-MEETING SHORT COURSE Biologic Indicators in Siliceous Source and Reservoir Rocks, September 13-14. Organized by J. Blueford, I. Aiello, L. White.

PRE-MEETING FIELDTRIP Jurassic and lower Cretaceous of California, 3 days. Organized by Clark Blake and Paula Noble.

POST-MEETING FIELD TRIPS

Upper Cretaceous and Cenozoic rocks of California, including the famous Franciscan Formation in San Francisco, Miocene in Berkeley Hills and Monterey Fm. Organized by Joyce Blueford.

Paleozoic of Nevada, and possibly Sierra Nevada of northern California. Sept. 23 - 26th. Organized by Paula Noble.

CONTACTS

Joyce Blueford
INTERRAD President
Math/Science Nucleus
4074 Eggers Drive
Fremont, California 94536 USA
phone: (510) 790-6284
FAX: (510) 790-6089
email: blueford@msnucleus.org

Paula Noble
INTERRAD 2000 Technical Chair
Dept. of Geol. Sciences/172
University of Nevada Reno
Reno, NV 89557-0138 USA
phone: (702) 784-6211
FAX: (702) 784-1833
email: noblepj@unr.edu

NAMS DUES RISE TO \$10!

The NAMS officers voted to raise annual membership dues to \$10 beginning in 1999. The treasurer will accept renewals at the \$7 rate for as many as five years prepaid, until the end of 1998.

RENEW NOW AND SAVE up to \$15

NAMS Renewal Information

Your official NAMS address label on this newsletter is the key to your dues responsibility. Please note the code and/or date after your name on the mailing label. The date tells you the year through which your dues are paid.

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- 1997 - please pay \$7.00 for 1998 dues
- 1996 - please pay \$7.00 for 1998 dues, \$7.00 for 1997 dues, and \$.50 late fee.
- 1995 - you must pay \$21.50 this fall or you will be dropped from membership!!

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BEFORE YOU FORGET!**

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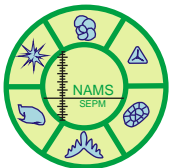
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The next issue of NAMS News will be published before the 1999 AAPG Annual Meeting. Please send news to the Editor through March 15, 1999. News regarding meetings, symposia, people, books, internet information, software, new journal articles, and just about anything else regarding micropaleontology is welcome. Submit your news by email (preferred), FAX, letter, or phone to the Editor:

Benjamin Sloan
NAMS News Editor
Texaco Exploration
4800 Fournace Place
Bellaire, Texas 77401
Tel. 713.432.3808
Fax 713.432.2832
Email sloanbj@texaco.com
<http://www.ig.utexas.edu/nams/nams.html>



Benjamin J. Sloan, *NAMS News* Editor
Texaco Exploration
4800 Fournace Place
Bellaire, Texas 77401

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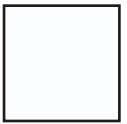
Every vote counts in a NAMS election. Only 20 ballots were submitted last year!
Please vote for one candidate for each office. Ballots due Dec 15, 1998.

President Peter Thompson Pamela Hallock Muller

Treasurer Martin Farley Mitch Covington

Fold this ballot in thirds and affix a stamp.

fold here first



Tom Dignes
Chevron Overseas Inc.
6001 Bollinger Canyon Rd
PO Box 6046
San Ramon, CA 94583-0746

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1998 NAMS ELECTION SLATE

President

The President is the presiding officer at all meetings of the Section and Council. The President is responsible for appointing the chairs of all committee and research groups. In addition, the President is the official Section representative to the Executive Council of SEPM. Other duties of the President include notifying nominees of election results, selection of an auditing committee and a nominating committee, presiding as chair of the MMRG and attending the appropriate SEPM meetings. The term of President, President-elect, and Past-president is one year. At the end of one year the President-elect automatically becomes President and the President fills the role of Past-president.

-NAMS Constitution

Peter Thompson is Senior Principal Research Geologist with ARCO Exploration and Production in Plano, Texas, where he has held as succession of positions as paleontologist and geologist. Before joining ARCO in 1981, Peter held various research and faculty positions at Lamont, Rutgers, CUNY, and Columbia and sailed on several scientific cruises including DSDP Legs 56 and 67. He holds a Bachelor's from Franklin and Marshall College (1970), a Master's from Rutgers (1972) and a doctorate from Tohoku University in Japan (1977), where he studied foraminifera of the western Pacific Ocean. Peter's research interests include planktic and benthic foraminifera, their taxonomy, biostratigraphy and paleoecology, topics on which he has published extensively. He is a member of GSA, SEPM, the Cushman Foundation, BMS and NAMS (since 1990).

Pamela Hallock Muller is a geological oceanographer and Professor in the Department of Marine Science at University of South Florida in St. Petersburg, Florida. She joined the USF in 1983 after an assistant professorship at University of Texas of the Permian Basin, in Odessa. Pamela holds a B.A. in zoology from University of Montana (1969) and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from University of Hawaii (1972, 1977). She completed post-doctoral studies at University of Copenhagen and at Kiel University in Germany, in 1979.

Prof. Muller's areas of specialization include larger foraminiferal distributions, populations, and functional morphologies in studies of environmental quality, paleoenvironments, and carbonate sedimentation. She has worked on the role of nutrients in coral reefs, carbonate sedimentology and paleoceanography as well as the role of algal symbiosis in carbonate production, community structure and evolution. She has participated in a dozen research cruises over reef areas worldwide and is the author of over 70 publications. She sits on the editorial board of *Geology*, *Marine Micropaleontology*, and the *Journal of Foraminiferal Research*. Pamela is past-president of the Cushman Foundation and the Paleontology Councilor to the Executive Council of SEPM.

Treasurer

The Treasurer will have custody of and responsibility for all funds of the Section. The Treasurer keeps account of receipts and disbursements, and submits this account to the Council on an annual basis as stated below. Treasurer will consider all candidates for membership and pass on the qualifications of the applicants; applicants deemed unacceptable will be referred to the Council for review. A unanimous vote of the Council will be required before rejecting any applicant.

Martin Farley is an Exploration Geologist in the Biostratigraphy Section at Exxon Exploration in Houston. He received a B.S. from Penn State in 1980, a M.A. from Indiana University in 1982, and a Ph.D. from Penn State in 1987, all in geology. He was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Smithsonian Institution before joining Exxon Production Research Co. in 1990. He transferred to Exxon Exploration in 1996.

His research has included the relationship between palynomorphs and depositional environments in nonmarine settings, particularly in Upper Cretaceous and Paleogene rocks, and palynostratigraphic work in Cretaceous and younger intervals from around the world. While at EPR, he played a leading role in synthesizing the biostratigraphic and sequence stratigraphic data for the "Sequence Stratigraphy of European Basins" Project, soon to be a SEPM Special Publication.

He has served as Director-at-large of the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists, chairman of its short course committee, and field trip coordinator for the 9th International Palynological Conference. He also was co-convenor of symposia on palynofacies and sequence stratigraphy for the 8th and 9th IPC's. Society memberships include SEPM, GSA, Paleontological Society, and the Paleobotanical Section of the Botanical Society of America.

Mitch Covington is a consulting nannofossil paleontologist and developer of paleontological software. Mitch graduated from UNC-Wilmington with a bachelor's degree in geology in 1982 and from Florida State with a master's in 1985. He began his career as a paleontologist and computer applications coordinator with the New Orleans office of Texaco in 1985. In 1990 he joined the Florida Geological Survey and in 1992 struck out on his own as a consultant.

He has been a member of AAPG, SEPM, NAMS, INA, and NOGS for most of his geologic career. While in New Orleans, he was active in NOGS as Computer Applications Chairman and Editor for the NOGS Log monthly newsletter.

Mitch is able to process credit card payments and does so currently for the International Nannoplankton Association.

