

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Well, who would've thought? About a year ago, the price of oil was at \$140 a barrel and companies were hiring. Now oil's hovering around 50 to 60 bucks a barrel and some companies are laying off people (although I hear at least one is both firing and hiring).

Some things never change...

Still, micropaleontologists seem to be hanging in there. In fact, there were an awful lot of them at the recent Microfossils II meeting ("Geologic Problem Solving with Microfossils") held this past March at the University of Houston. Despite the economic downturn and decreased travel budgets, approximately 150 persons attended from industry, academia, and government and from North America and overseas (see column in this newsletter). Microfossils II was originally organized in honor of the late Garry Jones, with whom I had the opportunity to work with at Unocal. "MII" was held in honor of Brian O'Neill who lost a valiant battle with cancer last spring, and I had the pleasure of meeting Tess O'Neill, who was kind enough to attend the entire meeting. There was a really impressive collection of talks ranging from biostratigraphy (of course) to rapid climate change and other topics too numerous to mention, as well as a great social event at the Houston Museum of Natural History and poster session mixers.

I also had the great pleasure of meeting up with former co-workers and colleagues I hadn't seen in 15 or 20 years. All of you look just the same (really!). I hadn't been in Houston for a number of years either and it looked pretty good, too, considering it went through a hurricane last fall.

I would like to thank Pete McLaughlin of the Delaware Geological Survey (my Technical Program Co-Chair) and Nancy Engelhardt-Moore, Ron Waszczak, and especially Don van Nieuwenhuise for all their logistical efforts and fund-raising on the Houston end. It must have been nightmarish at times putting things together in Houston, but it sure turned out great! Speaking of future meetings: GCSSEPM is organizing a session in honor of Ed Picou (who also attended MII) and Mark Leckie is already talking about organizing "MIII" at the University of Massachusetts, so stay tuned.

All of this would seem to bode well for micropaleontology and biostratigraphy. But, return-

ing to my earlier remark about some things never changing: A year ago this past April, the MMRG meeting at AAPG was devoted to the future of micropaleontology. I've heard nothing since. One of my close colleagues says of micropaleo: "stop the whining and just go out and do it". I agree and more "whinefests" won't help. But... university administrators (at least) don't understand micropaleo or biostrat, they understand other things. You know what I'm talking about...



Some of the main points of the 2008 MMRG meeting were:

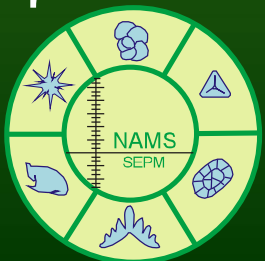
**Industry must be pro-active in supporting student research.** NAMS does this with its student travel and research grants and the recent MII meeting helped bolster the Jones-O'Neill Fund. But more could be done.

- **Long-term forward planning is therefore critical to the health of micropaleontology and biostratigraphy.**
- **Industry must demonstrate a long-term commitment to training of students.**
- **The tasks facing micropaleontology and biostratigraphy represent a resurgence of tremendous opportunities.**
- **These studies should be integrated into academic research.**
- **A follow-up meeting was proposed for the near future to review the consortium proposals and evaluate alternatives.**

I was told that this particular MMRG meeting was the best attended in years, but I've heard nothing since the meeting in 2008. I hope someone or some persons are carrying the ball on this one.

At this point, it's time for me to hand the baton to Martin Farley, the new president of NAMS, and Jason Lundquist, President-Elect. Have fun, guys!

*Ron Martin*  
President



## GRANTS AND AWARDS

### Garry Jones and Brian O'Neill Memorial Fund

#### Stacie Blair - 2009 Recipient

Each year, NAMS offers a grant to support a NAMS student member who is working on a research project that has substantial micropaleontologic content. The amount of the award is \$1500.

This year, Stacie Blair has been selected awardee of the 2009 Garry Jones & Brian O'Neill Memorial Grant. Congratulations Stacie! The award is in support of Stacie's graduate research "Cenomanian-Coniacian calcareous nannofossil biostratigraphy of Demerara Rise (ODP Leg 207) and the Kerguelen Plateau (ODP Leg 183): applications of high-resolution biostratigraphic techniques in the Cretaceous".

Stacie explains the importance of her research: "The Cenomanian-Coniacian currently lacks a fine-scale biostratigraphic framework as cored sections of this interval have had spotty recovery and/or poor preservation of carbonates. However, sediments from the Demerara Rise and Kerguelen Plateau provide a unique opportunity to analyze Cenomanian-Coniacian nannofossil bioevents in two rare, deep-water nannofossil-rich depositional settings. This time pe-



Stacie Blair, recipient of the 2009 Jones & O'Neill Memorial Grant

riod encompasses rapid turnover within several nannofossil families. Previous research (Blair and Watkins, in press) across the Coniacian-Santonian stage boundary indicated an abundance of new taxa associated with evolving lineages."

"The Upper Cretaceous bioevents noted will be used to better corroborate and calibrate nannofossil biostratigraphies developed primarily in shallow-water outcrop sections, as well as improve age control in petroleum industry wellbore settings. In addition, calcareous nanoplankton are valuable for evaluating fluctuations in primary productivity, surface water dynamics, temperature, and salinity, and can provide better insight to paleoecological transitions between carbonate-rich and carbonate-poor sediments at these two localities."

Stacie is currently a Ph.D. candidate at Florida State University. *see Stacie Blair (cont.) on page 6*

#### Mobile Foundation Student Participation Grant

#### Claudia Cetean - 2009 Recipient

Congratulations are in order to Ms. Claudia Cetean as the NAMS awardee for the 2008 SEPM Mobil Foundation Student Participation Grant, which will support her travel to the 2009 AAPG/SEPM annual meeting in Denver this June. Claudia is in the Department of Geology, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj Napoca, Romania.



Claudia will present in the "SEPM Student Awards Poster Session", and the title of her presentation will be: "Agglutinated Foraminifera Morphogroups—Insights to the Upper Cretaceous Paleoenvironments from Two Tethyan Sections: Contessa Highway, Italy and Dambovită Valley, Eastern Carpathians, Romania".

Claudia's co-authors are Mike Kaminski (Department of Earth Sciences, University College, London) and Ramona Balci (Department of Geology) and Sorin Filipescu (Faculty of Environmental Sciences), both of Babeş-Bolyai University.

Ron Martin

Energy & Geoscience Institute

**EGI**

[www.associates.egi.utah.edu](http://www.associates.egi.utah.edu)

Production, reproduction and distribution of the NAMS Newsletter is made possible by the generous support of the Energy & Geoscience Institute at the University of Utah.

# Table of Contents

President's Letter	1
Grants and Awards	2
Treasurer's Report	3
Reports on Past Meetings	4
NAMS News	5
Meetings and Requests for Abstracts	7
Meeting Calendar	8
NAMS Membership (Renewal) Form	9
Memorials	10

---

## Treasurer's Report

As of May 15, 2008, the NAMS treasury contained \$12,851.18 on account. Since my last newsletter report, NAMS received \$611 in member dues. Expenditures totaling \$510 have included co-sponsorship of the NAMS/Cushman reception at GSA for 2008 and miscellaneous expenses. In addition, to normal fund activity \$9,250 were received on behalf of MII and transferred directly to the SEPM. Expenses associated with the newsletter have been generously subsidized by the Energy & Geoscience Institute.

If your membership is not paid through 2009, we would appreciate your payment to bring your membership up to date. I wish to remind those NAMS members that already have subscriptions to *Micropaleontology* that their subscription includes membership to NAMS. This is another good reason to subscribe to *Micropaleontology*. Please see [www.micropress.org](http://www.micropress.org) for further information. You may also send a copy of your subscription to us to have your dues credited in this manner.

Many of you are aware of the success of the MII meeting through your participation and articles contained herein. Currently, we are reconciling all outstanding expenses to determine the net income which has exceeded that of MI. To date all but one pledge has paid their sponsorship and we are still hopeful that we will receive those funds in addition to those already received. It has been a privilege to serve you as Treasurer since April of 2007 and I look forward to seeing you at future NAMS meetings.

*Don Van Nieuwenhuise*  
Treasurer

Please visit NAMS online at:  
<http://www.sepm.org/nams/index.htm>

# NAMS/SEPM Officers

President  
Ron Martin  
University of Delaware  
Newark, DE 19716  
(302) 831-6755  
daddy@udel.edu



President-Elect  
Martin Farley  
Geology, Old Main 213  
UNC, Pembroke  
Pembroke, NC 28372  
(910) 521-6478  
MBFarley@hal-pc.org



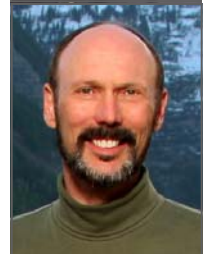
Secretary  
Robert Campbell  
Shell International E&P, Inc.  
HOU-WCK, Rm. 2171  
200 North Dairy Ashford  
Houston, TX 77079-1197  
(281) 544-5223  
Robert.Campbell@shell.com



Treasurer  
Donald S. Van Nieuwenhuise  
Department of Geosciences  
University of Houston  
Houston, TX 77204-5007  
(713) 743-3423  
donvann@uh.edu



Newsletter Editor  
Anthony C. Gary  
Energy & Geoscience Institute  
University of Utah  
423 Wakara Way, Suite 300  
Salt Lake City, UT 84108  
TGary@egi.utah.edu



Past-President  
Ron F. Waszczak  
ConocoPhillips  
600 N. Dairy Ashford, Rm. PR-3044  
Houston, TX 77090-1175  
(281) 293-3088  
Ron.F.Waszczak@conocophillips.com



---

*NAMS NEWS is published by NAMS two times a year, just before the GSA annual meeting in the fall and AAPG annual meeting in the spring. Submissions are always appreciated. Copyright 2009.*

## REPORTS ON PAST MEETINGS

### Geologic Problem Solving with Microfossils II

NAMS hosted the SEPM Research Conference “Geologic Problem Solving with Microfossils—An International Conference in Memory of Brian J. O’Neill” from March 14-19, 2009, at the University of Houston. Brian, like Garry Jones, was very active in Gulf Coast micropaleontology and education. All proceeds from the conference will go to the newly-renamed Garry Jones and Brian O’Neill Memorial Fund for student support.

The conference attracted over 150 attendees from industry, academia, and government from 22 countries: US, Canada, UK, Norway, Denmark, France, Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Italy, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, India, China, Malaysia, Colombia, Venezuela, Brazil, Poland, and Switzerland. The technical program consisted of 46 oral and 58 poster presentations that collectively

covered the various microfossil groups that are used to solve geologic problems, not to mention presenting new problems! Oral sessions included: *Chronostratigraphy and High-Resolution Biostratigraphy*; *Oceanic Events and Paleoclimate*; *Coastal and Environmental Micropaleontology*; *Microfossils, Paleooceanography and Biotic Evolution*; *Microfossils and Biofacies*; *Technology, Tectonics, and Provincialism*; and *From Hydrocarbon Reservoirs to Climate and Sea-Level Change: Insights from Microfossils*.



Microfossils II attendees enjoying a brief respite from presentations

A pre-meeting field trip to Brazos River and other locales was organized and led by Don Van Nieuwenhuise. The meeting was immediately followed by several workshops: Brian Huber and Mark Leckie supervised a workshop on Chronos; Jim Ogg and Felix Gradstein presented the workshop on Timescale Creator, and NAMS’s own Anthony Gary conducted the final workshop on statistics — The workshops were packed.

As you can imagine, organizing the meeting involved an enormous amount of effort. In fact, discussion and preparation began as early as the NAMS board meeting at AAPG/SEPM in Long Beach in 2007. The Conference Organizing

*see Microfossils II (cont.) on page 11*

### NAMS Plenary Dinner: A Jurassic Jackpot

During the NAMS “Geologic Problem Solving with Microfossils II” research conference, a Plenary Dinner was held at the Houston Museum of Natural Science on Monday, March 16, 2009. The event was a huge success with about 130 at-



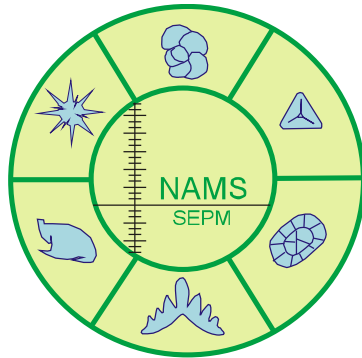
The full-time residents of the Paleontology Hall at the Houston Museum of Natural Science watch over Microfossils II attendees as the enjoy appetizers.

tendees and guests. After the technical session was over, buses transported the conference attendees to the museum where a buffet dinner was served and everyone enjoyed eating among the dinosaurs and other fossils in the Paleontology Hall. Following dinner, attendees checked out the museum and toured the world famous Cullen Hall of Gems & Minerals and the Smith Gem Vault. Museum docents generously volunteered their time to talk to the visitors about the exhibits. The evening’s highlight was a lecture by the guest speaker, Michael Henderson, Curator of Earth Science at the Burpee Museum of Natural History in Rockford, Illinois. His lecture “Jurassic Jackpot: Burpee Museum’s Dinosaur Discoveries in Southeastern Montana and Southern Utah” was given in the Planetarium. Mike talked about the discovery of “Jane”, the museum’s most famous dinosaur that was found in Montana in 2001. He spoke about the ongoing controversy surrounding “Jane” as to whether she is a new species of *Tyrannosaurus* or a teenage T-Rex. Mike then spoke about “Homer”, the sub-adult Triceratops and “Petey”, the second probable teenage T-Rex that the museum has found in Montana, which will hopefully settle the controversy

*see Jackpot (cont.) on page 6*

## Thirty Years of NAMS

This year NAMS celebrates the 30th anniversary of its founding and its affiliation with SEPM, the Society of Sedimentary Geology. The formative society that became NAMS was first conceived in 1977 by founders led by Emile Pessagno and included a number of North America's most renowned micropaleontologists: Allen Bé, William Berggren, Martin Buzas, Richard Casey, Dorothy Echols, Howard Ellis, Kristin McDougall, S.F. Percival, William Sliter, and Charles Smith. In 1979, this society was officially established as the "North American Micropaleontology Section" – a special interest section of SEPM – with William Berggren as NAMS first President Elect. As a "special interest" section, NAMS was distinguished for its uniqueness among prior established "regional" sections of SEPM – the Pacific, Gulf Coast, Permian Basin, Eastern, Rocky Mountains, and Great Lakes sections. NAMS was established for this expressed purpose: "Promoting all aspects of micropaleontology through application, research and education dealing with morphology, biostratigraphy, ecology/paleoecology, and geologic history of all groups of microfossils occurring in the stratigraphic record."



Since the time of its conception and affiliation, NAMS has fostered the disciplines of micropaleontology in significant ways. For nearly every year of the past three decades, NAMS has held its annual meeting in conjunction with the joint Annual Convention of SEPM and AAPG (American Association of Petroleum Geologists). There, NAMS' contributions have earned hallmark recognition: first, as sponsor of Marine Micropaleontology Research Group meetings (MMRG is a formal research group within SEPM reporting to the SEPM Research Committee), and second, as organizer of micropaleontology-focused oral and poster sessions, short courses, and field trips. The 1999 Annual Meeting was one of highlight; NAMS sponsored a full-day technical session "Paleobiological, Geochemical, and Other Proxies of Sea-Level Change." Many of the abstracts presented at that session were developed into research articles that are contained in SEPM Special Publication No. 75, "Micropaleontologic Proxies for Sea-Level Change and Stratigraphic Discontinuities". From 2001 to present, NAMS has annually awarded, to one NAMS student member, funding for travel to the SEPM/AAPG Annual Meeting to present at the "SEPM Student Awards Poster Session". This annual award is made possible through the generosity of the SEPM Mobil Foundation Student Participation Grant Program.

during the past decade: the establishment of the "NAMS Micropaleontology Endowed Fund" and the initiation of the research conference series "Geologic Problem Solving with Microfossils." During 1998, NAMS Council proposed to the SEPM Foundation the establishment of an endowment for student awards for research in micropaleontology, through securing tax-exempt donations from corporations and individual patrons, and from fees from short courses, conference registrations, and sale of publications. In 1999, the Fund was established, whereby the NAMS Council of Officers is trusted with authority to determine the recipients of any grants, and whereby disbursed grants are funded by revenues from investment and interest gains on principal balance. In 2004, the inaugural NAMS Student Research Grant was awarded, and since then one award has been granted annually.

During 2003, plans were put in motion to convene the first NAMS-sponsored research conference "Geologic Problem Solving with Microfossils." This was probably the most ambitious event NAMS had ever organized. In March 2005 in Houston, the conference became reality, attracting 150 attendees from industry, academia, and government from 23 countries to participate in a technical program comprised of 48 oral and 51 poster presentations. Proceeds from the conference were deposited to the endowed fund increasing its viability three fold. Many of the abstracts presented at that conference were developed into research articles that are contained in SEPM Special Publication No. 93, which is now close to release. In March 2009 in Houston, the second of the microfossil conferences series convened, carrying forward the initial success and building a heritage of excellence.

In 2004, the endowed fund was renamed to carry in memory the name of Garry Jones, NAMS' President during 2001. In 2008, the fund was again renamed to additionally carry in memory the name of Brian O'Neill, NAMS' President during 2002. These two NAMS members were notably influential in educating geoscientists in the role of micropaleontology in geologic problem solving through the numerous workshops and short courses they conducted around the country. The last decade of success for NAMS is largely a result of the efforts of Garry and Brian, and NAMS honors them.

By the virtues of our activities and growing programs, the North American Micropaleontology Section has become one of the premier sections of SEPM. This 30th anniversary sees Section membership at about 200, a number that has been relatively unstable since peaking during high industry employment of micropaleontologists during the early 1980s.

Two significant events in the history of the Section occurred

*see Thirty Years (cont.) on page 6*

## Lundquist President-Elect

In a tight election Jason Lundquist prevailed over Richard Denne to become the NAMS/SEPM President-Elect. Both Jason (BP) and Richard (Applied Biostratigraphix) posted impressive credentials and the NAMS officers thank them both for offering their services to the organization. Jason is a foraminiferal micropaleontologist working for Houston-based BP America, Inc, and is no a stranger to the NAMS organization having served as the NAMS News Editor from 2001 to 2008.

In the annual NAMS/SEPM office equivalent of musical chairs, Martin Farley now replaces Ron Martin as the NAMS President and Ron moves to the position of Past-President displacing Ron Waszczak. Waszczak has been a tremendous asset to NAMS for the period of his three-year tenure from President-Elect through Past-President, and we are all appreciative of his tireless commitment to the success of NAMS. Knowing Waszczak, with or without an official title, I am sure that he will continue to contribute to NAMS.

*Anthony Gary*

### **Stacie Blair (cont.) from page 2**

sity where Dr. Sherwood Wise is her academic advisor. Prior, Stacie received her M.S. and B.S. degrees in geology at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln where Dr. David Watkins was her advisor. Her M.S. thesis focused on the nannofossil biostratigraphy of the Coniacian-Santonian stage boundary of the Western interior seaway. Stacie also has experience as a nannofossil biostratigrapher for the AN-DRILL Southern McMurdo Sound Project, Antarctica.

NAMS is pleased to support Stacie's graduate work through the endowed memorial grant for student research. It is encouraging to see these kinds of projects being pursued by students.

A call for applications for the next year's award will be posted late this year with an anticipated deadline of February 2010. Received applications will be ranked by the NAMS Council of Officers on the basis of the scientific merit of the proposed research, faculty recommendation of the student applicant, and financial need.

*Ron Waszczak*

### **Thirty Years (cont.) from page 5**

Though primarily drawing from the United States of America, the Section now has 25 members from other countries. The globalization of our membership is testament that the Section has earned recognition for service to scientific excellence from a community of micropaleontologists that now extends worldwide.

*Ron Waszczak*

## TYPHOON at GSA

A meeting of the Marine Micropaleontology Research Group was convened by NAMS-SEPM in conjunction with the October 2008 GSA Annual Meeting in Houston, Texas. The MMRG program featured a demonstration of "TYPHOON – A Web Integrated Micropaleontological Database System" which was facilitated by Marie-Pierre Aubry and Monique Bonnemaïson.

TYPHOON is an innovative computerized micropaleontologic database system involving the illustration and description of taxa, including calcareous nannofossils, planktonic and benthonic foraminifers, dinoflagellates, diatoms and radiolarians. The easy to use operating system provides details of stratigraphy, biogeography, and synonymy. TYPHOON is driven by a database manager of the innovative Knowledge Representation Generation. TYPHOON has been active and funded for two years by a consortium of oil companies.

TYPHOON is an ambitious project developed in several steps. A first objective is to make TYPHOON a highly efficient resource for the taxonomy, stratigraphy, ecology, biogeography and phylogeny of all microfossils. The ultimate objective is to give TYPHOON the power of on-line age determination and stratigraphic interpretation.

Want additional information and/or want to offer your support? You are welcome to contact Marie-Pierre Aubry (aubry@rci.rutgers.edu) and Monique Bonnemaïson (e.geo.bonnemaïson@gmail.com).

*Ron Waszczak*

### **Jackpot (cont.) from page 4**

when it is assembled. Then, Mike talked about the huge Jurassic bone-bed discovered in Utah last year. This recent discovery may be the largest in US history. The Hanksville-Burpee Quarry as it is now called is about 20 meters thick, 100 meters wide and at least 400 meters long. It may be bigger than Dinosaur National Monument, Cleveland-Lloyd and Mesa Verde combined. To date at least 12 Sauropods, a probable juvenile "Allosaurus" and a partial *Stegosaurus* have been found along with several large petrified conifer logs, some up to 9 meters in length. This year, the Burpee staff and volunteers will be going back to Utah in May and June, and Montana in August to continue their excavations. If you are interested in volunteering, check out the museum's website for more information at [www.burpee.org](http://www.burpee.org). Following the lecture and questions, Nancy Engelhardt-Moore presented Mike with a speaker's award of appreciation. To top off the evening, Ron Waszczak announced Stacie Blair, winner of the 2009 Garry Jones & Brian O'Neill Memorial Grant.

*Nancy Engelhardt-Moore*

# MEETINGS & REQUESTS FOR ABSTRACTS

## AAPG-SEPM

### "Image the Past, Imagine the Future"

June 7-10, 2009

Colorado Convention Center, Denver, Colorado

#### Selected NAMS Highlights:

##### Monday Morning Poster Session, June 8

Theme II: Hydrocarbon Systems and Basin Analysis

##### "NAMS Advances in Biostratigraphy and Paleoenvironmental Analysis (SEPM)"

Exhibition Hall 8:30 - 12:00

Co-Chairs: R. Campbell and R. Martin

- A.S. Waterman, R.H. Fillon: New Cenozoic Bio-Chrono-Stratigraphic Charts for the Gulf of Mexico Basin
- S.A. Nathan, R. Leckie: The South China Sea: Middle to Late Miocene Proto-Warm Pool Development and the East Asian Monsoon
- M.K. Zobia, F.E. Oboh-Ikuenobe, M.S. Zavada: Applications of Palynology for Hydrocarbon Exploration: Case Studies from Egypt, Eastern Tennessee (U.S.A.) and the Gulf of Mexico

##### Tuesday Morning Poster Session, June 9

Theme XV: Student Sessions

##### "SEPM Student Academic Research"

Exhibition Hall 8:30 - 12:00

Co-Chairs: C. Fielding and G. Grammer

**C.G. Cetean\***, M.A. Kaminski, R. Balci, S. Filipescu: Agglutinated Foraminifera Morphogroups - Insights to the Late Cretaceous Paleoenvironments from Two Tethyan Sections: Contessa Highway, Italy, and Dambovitza Valley, Eastern Carpathians, Romania

\* recipient of Mobil Foundation Grant (see page 2).

## 8th International Symposium on the Cretaceous

### 8th International Symposium on the Cretaceous System, University of Plymouth, UK

September 6 - 12, 2009

Abstract Deadline: May 31, 2009

Registration Deadline: July 31, 2009

This meeting will follow the tradition of other successful Cretaceous Conferences over recent years and will embrace a wide range of interests. We hope that specialists from around the world will attend and that we can generate a programme of lectures, posters, excursions and social events worthy of such an international gathering. The University of Plymouth is pleased to host this meeting, following the successful Symposium in Neuchâtel in 2005.

Key themes for sessions are to include: International Sub-Commission: meeting on stage boundaries; Chalk of the North Sea Basin and adjacent areas; Cretaceous sequence stratigraphy; geochemistry and stable isotopes, climates, terrestrial vegetation, palaeoecology, ecosystems and evolution.

Post-conference excursions are to include: "Jurassic Coast" World Heritage Site - including the Cretaceous succession of Purbeck and the Jurassic/Cretaceous boundary succession of Durlston Bay, the Isle of Wight; the Sussex Coast and the Weald.

See <http://www.cretaceoussymposium.org>

Contact information: Malcolm Hart, Secretariat - [mhart@plymouth.ac.uk](mailto:mhart@plymouth.ac.uk)

*Gregory Price*

## AASP Annual Meeting

### 42nd Annual AASP Meeting, The Meadowview Resort, Tennessee, USA

September 27- 30, 2009

Abstract Deadline: August 10, 2009

Registration Deadline: September 15, 2009

The annual AASP meeting will begin on Sunday, September 27 with all day registration and an evening ice breaker. Plans for pre-conference workshops and post conference field trips are being made. In addition, thematic sessions on forensic palynology, and in honor of R. Kapp are also being planned. Lectures open to the public will feature, Vaughn Bryant: *Pollen, Much More than a Sneeze*, and Lucy Edwards: *Buried Surprises – A Paleontologists Tells Tales of the Largest Impact Crater in the U.S.*

I also want to remind every member and non-member whether attending the meeting or not, you are welcome to submit your best "artistic photographs" that depict any aspect of palynology (including industry, organic petrology, ultra-structure, etc.) for a display that will be presented at the Natural History Museum and Gray Fossil Site. The exhibit opens on the night of the ice breaker September 27, 2009 and will run about 2 months. We will also take suggestions for the name of the exhibit. Send an electronic version of the photograph(s) or a high quality photograph on paper to Michael S. Zavada, Department of Biological Sciences, Box 70703, Johnson City, TN 37614 or electronically to [zavadam@etsu.edu](mailto:zavadam@etsu.edu). The museum will mount and label the photographs, and will be returned at the end of the public display.

See <http://www.palynology.org/content/nl/nl40-4.pdf>

*Michael S. Zavada*

## NAMS Council Meeting

### Report on the NAMS Annual Council Meeting, March 15, 2009

The 2009 NAMS Annual Council Meeting was held prior to the Microfossils II conference at the University of Houston, on 15 March 2009. This timing was slightly unusual as the meeting is typically run at the AAPG/SEPM Convention. This year's AAPG/SEPM meeting is in Denver in June, and, as many of the council members are unable to attend, it was decided that Microfossils II would make a suitable venue. A typical agenda was followed, with discussions of treasury, membership, the newsletter, and upcoming meetings.

It was reported that NAMS had ~\$12,700 in the treasury as of 3 March 2009, and has just over 200 current members. The spring newsletter is to be distributed ahead of the June AAPG/SEPM convention, and there was some discussion over the cost of providing color hardcopy newsletters to members in contrast to the largely cost-free electronic versions. If you have not already done so, please let Robert Campbell or Anthony Gary know if you would like to receive only an electronic version of the newsletter, and help NAMS keep the costs down.

The Microfossils II conference was an important agenda item, and we focused on issues associated with the conference preparations. The most significant of these issues was the abstract submittal process through the SEPM website, and the lack of fields for co-authors and their affiliations. This issue will be raised with SEPM to try and develop an

improved procedure for future conferences. It was noted that registration to Microfossils II was high and that the majority of the sponsorship revenue (over \$50,000) would be available for the Jones-O'Neill Fund.

The growing Jones-O'Neill Fund, dedicated to former NAMS officers Gary Jones and Brian O'Neill, and used annually to help fund student research, was discussed briefly by the council. It was recognized that NAMS needed to be more proactive in monitoring the performance of the fund, which is managed by SEPM. It was agreed that the treasurer would request monthly updates on the fund. Members are reminded that they can donate to the Jones-O'Neill Fund via the SEPM website.

NAMS participation at future meetings was reviewed, including a poster session at AAPG/SEPM Denver, 2009, and a \$500 donation to the Cushman Reception at GSA Portland, 2009. Mobil Foundation Student Participant Grant award winner, Claudia Ceteau, will present her poster at the SEPM Students Poster Session in Denver.

The final part of the meeting involved installation of new officers: Martin Farley as President and Jason Lundquist as President-Elect. A big thank you and farewell to Ron Waszczak as the outgoing President. The next NAMS Council Meeting is scheduled to be at the New Orleans AAPG/SEPM Convention in April 2010.

*Robert Campbell*

## MEETING CALENDAR

The 8th International Symposium on the Cretaceous System  
September 6-12, 2009  
The University of Plymouth  
Plymouth, UK

American Association of Petroleum Geologists  
International Conference  
November 15-18, 2009  
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

American Association of Petroleum Geologists  
Annual Meeting  
June 7-10, 2009  
Denver, Colorado USA

42nd Annual AASP Meeting  
September 27-30, 2009  
The Meadowview Resort, Tennessee, USA

Geological Society of America  
Annual Meeting  
October 31 - November 3, 2010  
Denver, Colorado USA

Geological Society of America  
Annual Meeting  
October 18-21, 2009  
Portland, Oregon USA

Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies, AAPG  
Annual Meeting  
September 27-29, 2009  
Shreveport, LA USA

International Association of Radiolarian Paleontologists  
September 14-17, 2009  
Nanjing Museum of Paleontology  
Nanjing, China

# REPORTS ON PAST MEETINGS (cont.)

## Cushman Reception at GSA

NAMS and AASP co-sponsored the Cushman Reception and Awards ceremony at the October 2008 Geological Society of America Annual Meeting in Houston, Texas.



George Scott, recipient of the 2008 "Joseph A. Cushman Award for Excellence in Foraminiferal Research", with Sue Goldstein, President of the Cushman Foundation

There, the 2008 "Joseph A. Cushman Award for Excellence in Foraminiferal Research" was presented to George H. Scott of the New Zealand Geological Survey. Established in 1980, the award has honored major contributors to foraminiferal research and has been presented at this annual evening social at

the GSA. The 2008 awardee's citation reads: "George Scott, world leader in studies on the evolution of foraminifera using biometrics, statistical evaluation and quantification of foraminiferal data, and evolution of planktic foraminifera with emphasis on Southern Hemisphere temperate lineages. George Scott, along with the late Norcott Hornibrook and late Graham Jenkins, played the major role in elevating Cenozoic foraminiferal biostratigraphy of NZ to the international reputation it now enjoys."

In addition to this award, the Cushman Board of Directors also recognizes excellence in student research through three grant funds: 1) Joseph A. Cushman Award for Student Research, 2) William V. Sliter Research Award, and 3) Loebllich and Tappan Student Research Award. Information and details on application for Cushman Awards are available at <http://www.cushmanfoundation.org/awards/index.html>.

While at the Reception, NAMS Council members received ten applications for NAMS Student Membership. "Welcome" to our newest student members: Jonathan Ciappetta, Adelphi University; Thasinee Charoentitirat, Chulalongkorn University; Rodney Hubscher, University of Northern Iowa; Svetlana Mizintseva, Rutgers University; Candace Grand Pre Natalie Nahill, University of Pennsylvania; Lisa Neville, Brock University; Lizette Leon-Rodrigues, Rice University; Jonathan Schueth, Penn State; Nicholas Tiedemann, Ball State; and Mohamed Zobia, Missouri University.

*Ron Waszczak*

## NAMS Renewal Information

### If your dues status is:

- 2009 or later - dues are paid
- 2008 - please pay \$10 for 2008 dues
- 2007 - please pay \$10 for 2007, \$10 for 2008 and \$0.50 late fee
- 2006 - you must pay \$31 this year or you will be dropped from membership!

**DON'T WAIT!  
PLEASE RENEW TODAY!**

Remit to:  
NAMS, SEPM  
Donald S. Van Nieuwenhuise, Treasurer  
Department of Geosciences  
University of Houston,  
Houston, TX 77204-5007

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

AFFILIATION: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTRY: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIALIZATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a renewal?                    Y            N  
Years you are paying for \_\_\_\_\_

Micropaleontology subscriber?    Y            N  
(if so, enclose JM renewal)

Please indicate your status: A) student, B) academic/government professional, C) industry professional, D) consultant/self-employed/retired

Enclose a check payable to 'NAMS, SEPM' for:  
\$10 for each year of membership and  
\$0.50 for each late year penalty (dues prior to 2008)

For voluntary contributions to the Garry Jones & Brian O'Neill Fund for NAMS Student Research enclose a check payable to 'Garry Jones & Brian O'Neill Memorial Fund'. Contributions are deductible as charitable gifts for U.S. Income Tax purposes.

## Microfossils Big at Burpee Paleofest

Nancy L. Engelhardt-Moore, a past President of NAMS, was invited to be a guest speaker at the 11th annual PaleoFest at the Burpee Museum of Natural History in Rockford, Illinois, March 7 and 8, 2009. For a decade, the Burpee Museum has drawn large crowds for the 2-day event that features well-known paleontologists from North America. This year's lineup of distinguished speakers spoke on such diverse topics as Paleozoic chitons, Tertiary killer pigs, dinosaurs and of course, marine microfossils. The keynote speaker was Dr. Robert T. Bakker, Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. His talk was titled "Veggie-saurs Rule!" which drew a large and appreciative audience on Saturday evening at the Veterans Memorial Hall. The goal of the event is to educate the public, promote paleontology and raise money for the museum's outstanding projects in Montana, Utah and Oklahoma. As part of the activities, both a live and silent auction were held. One item in the live auction was an Estwing rock hammer that all the speakers etched their name on. It raised about \$250! On Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m., Nancy gave her talk entitled "Marine Microfossils: What are they and what are their uses?" It drew a large crowd of about 100 people that knew very little about microfossils and many were amazed at the beautiful photos. The enthusiastic crowd enjoyed the presentation and had many questions. Nancy received a



Scott Williams, Burpee Museum's Manager of Collections and Exhibits, presenting Nancy Engelhardt-Moore with Speaker's Appreciation Award

mounted and personally engraved Estwing hammer as gift of appreciation. Following the lecture, she was asked to sign autographs!

*Nancy Engelhardt-Moore*

## MEMORIALS

### **Cordell Mantle "Corky" Johnson** (1933 - 2009)

Cordell Mantle "Corky" Johnson, died on Easter Sunday, April 12, 2009 in Oxford, Mississippi.

Corky was born in Belle, Missouri, the only child of the late Hazel and Amy Johnson. He attended the University of Missouri - Columbia, receiving an undergraduate degree in Geology and a Master's Degree in Micropaleontology. Corky spent his entire career in Louisiana as part of the oil and gas industry, most of it in Lafayette as an employee of Atlantic Richfield (ARCO). He relocated to Oxford in 2007.



Corky was known for his outgoing personality and his sense of humor, never failing to strike up a conversation. He also had tremendous intellectual curiosity, with a love for sports, travel, music, astronomy, geology, history and art. Corky was a longtime member and Sunday school teacher at Asbury United Methodist Church in Lafayette, and was active

*See "Corky" (cont.) on page 11*

### **James "Jim" Monroe Lammons** (1924 - 2008)

James Monroe Lammons, a World War II veteran who specialized in oil and gas exploration in the Amazon Basin, has died. He was 84.

His work took him across South America and the Caribbean, where he used his expertise in geology to help companies like Atlantic, Standard and Texaco figure out where to drill.

Lammons, the sixth of seven children, was born Oct. 6, 1924, in Kansas City, Mo. His family later moved to Wichita, Kan. James attended Kansas University on the GI bill and earned a bachelor's in geology. In 1951, he took a job with Atlantic Oil Company in Venezuela. James later earned a master's in geology from Wichita State University and a doctorate in micropaleontology from Michigan State University.

He became an expert in oil and gas exploration in the Amazon Basin, living with his wife and three children in Venezuela, Peru, Ecuador and Trinidad. In 1978, James Lammons moved to Houston, where he worked as an oil and gas consultant.

*See "Jim" (cont.) on page 11*

## MEMORIALS (cont.)

### Albert David (A.D.) Warren (1929-2008)

A.D. grew up between New Orleans and Belize where his father captained a fleet for the United Fruit Company. As a child, A.D. was so fond of the New Orleans music scene that he would hide under tables of famous juke joints to hear and see the performers. An amateur herpetologist at an early age, he collected snakes and other reptiles to sell to the NOLA Zoo and Ross Allen Reptile Institute. A.D. was an avid naturalist and birdwatcher throughout his life and is credited with one of the last known sightings of the possibly now extinct ivory-billed woodpecker *Campephilus principalis*.



After military service (U.S. Army and U.S. Marines), A.D. enrolled at LSU earning a B.S. and a M.S. in geology with a special emphasis in micropaleontology. Leaving graduate school in 1954, he went to work for Magnolia Petroleum in the Gulf Coast. At Magnolia, A.D. worked with H.L. Tipsword and Phil Jennings to establish the company's Gulf Coast microfossil biostratigraphic zonation. A.D.'s contribution was in the utilization of planktonic foraminifers to refine the regional benthic foraminiferal biostratigraphy. In 1965, he became Mobil Oil's chief biostratigrapher for its western division in Santa Fe Springs, CA. During this stage of his career, he pioneered efforts to integrate planktonic biostratigraphic zonations for foraminifers and calcareous nannofossils with the provincial West Coast benthic foraminiferal zonation of Kleinpell. In 1974, he left Mobil to join the private consulting firm of Anderson, Warren & Associates in San Diego, CA. In 1980 he moved on to McClelland Engineers, then in 1983 returned to a major oil company, ARCO in Plano, TX. In 1992, A.D. "retired" to consult as Warren Worldwide.

Although his biostratigraphic work began in the Gulf Coast, it eventually brought him to work on oil fields on the West Coast and California Borderland (San Joaquin Basin; Los Angeles Basin, Wilmington Field, Long Beach Unit; and Santa Barbara Channel).

During his professional career, A.D. served as Treasurer and President of the Gulf Coast Section of SEPM, as Secretary and President of the Pacific Coast Section of SEPM, as President of the Louisiana Geologic Society, as Trustee of the Paleontological Research Institute, and as Fellow of the Geological Society of America. In 1996 A.D. was appointed Honorary Member of the North American Micropaleontology Section of SEPM (NAMS).

*Tom Deméré, San Diego Natural History Museum*

### "Corky" (cont.) from page 10

over the years in Little League coaching and support of the Acadiana High School Band.

Corky was married for 48 years to Fay Helen Wiele, who preceded him in death. He is survived by a son Dr. Kenton Mark Johnson, of Minneapolis, Minnesota and a daughter Lori Johnson Beckham, of Germantown, Tennessee. He leaves four grandchildren, Bethany Helen Beckham, Leland Matthew Johnson, Amelia Grace Beckham and Lowell Christian Johnson.

*The Daily Advertiser, Lafayette, LA.*

### "Jim" (cont.) from page 10

Six years ago, he suffered a stroke and had to relearn how to walk. In his final years, Parkinson's disease further limited him physically. He died Oct. 25, 2008 after suffering a heart attack and brain hemorrhage. He is survived by his wife, Herminia; his sister, Mary Jane Jacobs; his children, Linda Smock, James G. Lammons and John T. Lammons; and several grandchildren.

*Lindsay Wise, Houston Chronicle, Houston, TX*

---

### Microfossils II (cont.) from page 4

Committee consisted of: General Chair Don Van Nieuwenhuse (University of Houston); Conference Program Co-Chairs Nancy Engelhardt-Moore (Devon Energy) and Ron Waszczak (ConocoPhillips); and Technical Program Co-Chairs Pete McLaughlin (Delaware Geological Survey) and Ron Martin (University of Delaware). Thanks are also extended to Theresa Scott and Howard Harper of SEPM.

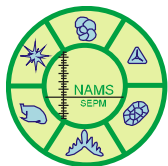
The conference was supported by the generous financial donations of: GCS SEPM Foundation; BP, Chevron, Shell, ExxonMobil, and Devon Energy; BHPBilliton, ConocoPhillips, StatoilHydro, and The Palynological Society (AASP); Hess, StrataData, Inc., and The Micropaleontological Society; Ellington and Associates, Inc., National Petrographic Services, Inc., Paleo-Data, Inc., Energy & Geoscience Institute (University of Utah); BugWare, Inc. and Cushman Foundation; Ron Waszczak, Tramontane, Inc., Nancy Engelhardt-Moore, Applied Biostratigraphix, and Applied Stratigraphy Group.

Don Van Nieuwenhuse (who apparently has nothing else to do and is a glutton for punishment) is currently assembling an editorial board for a post-M2 volume of invited papers and is negotiating with journals for possible publication routes, but nothing has been finalized. Papers will be invited for inclusion in the proceedings as soon as the publication route and the capacity of the volume(s) have been determined.

*Ron Martin*

The next issue of the NAMS News will be published before the 2009 GSA Annual Meeting. Please send news to the Editor through September 30, 2009. 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 or letter to the Editor:

NAMS News Editor  
Anthony C. Gary  
Energy & Geoscience Institute  
University of Utah  
423 Wakara Way, Suite 300  
Salt Lake City, UT 84108  
Tel. (801) 585-9768  
Fax (801) 585-3540  
tgary@egi.utah.edu  
<http://www.septm.org/names/index.htm>



Anthony C. Gary, NAMS News Editor  
Energy & Geoscience Institute  
University of Utah  
423 Wakara Way, Suite 300  
Salt Lake City, UT 84108

**FIRST CLASS**

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED  
PLEASE FORWARD**

