

GULF COAST SECTION OF THE SOCIETY OF
ECONOMIC PALEONTOLOGISTS AND MINERALOGISTS

NEWS LETTER

By CLAUDE M. QUIGLEY, PRESIDENT
January 13 1961

1960-1961 OFFICERS OF THE GULF COAST SECTION SEPM

Claude M. Quigley, President, Standard Oil Co. of Texas, Houston, Texas
H. V. Andersen, Vice President, Geology Dept., L.S.U., Baton Rouge, La.
Ann Butler, Secretary, Louisiana Geological Survey, Baton Rouge, La.
Edward Marks, Treasurer, Union Oil Co. of California, Houston, Texas

DEP, Past Pres.

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Emmett Adams, Shell Oil Co., Jackson, Miss.
Miss E. Ann Butler, Louisiana Geological Survey, Baton Rouge, La.
Mr. L. A. Gimbrede, Southwest Louisiana Institute, Lafayette, La.
Mr. C. W. Holcomb, Humble Oil & Refg. Co., Corpus Christi, Texas
Dr. Karl Koenig, Texas A&M College, College Station, Texas
Dr. John R. Sandidge, Consultant, San Antonio, Texas
Dr. H. S. Puri, Florida Geological Survey, Tallahassee, Florida
Mr. W. W. Schell, Sun Oil Co., Richardson, Texas
Mr. P. H. Nichols, Shell Oil, Tyler, Texas
Dr. Keith Young, University of Texas, Austin, Texas
Mr. H. L. Tipsword, Mobil Oil Co., Bellaire, Texas

Gene Martin, Gulf, New Orleans

EDITOR OF SECTION

Mrs. Sybil Lightfoot, St. Mary's University, San Antonio, has been appointed Editor of the Section. Her job is to obtain papers for our Annual meeting and for publication in the G.C.A.G.S. Transactions. Any member who is planning to present a paper should make it known to Mrs. Lightfoot and to the local Representative immediately, and work should be started on the paper now so that it can be cleared, if necessary, and in the hands of the Editor by July 1. Our members have been very active in the programs of past annual meetings and I feel sure they will present several good papers at the next meeting.

TREASURER'S INTERIM REPORT

Our Treasurer informs me that as of December 31, 1960, we have \$448.14 in the bank but that we owe the G.C.A.G.S. \$552.35 which is a no-interest bearing loan for publication of the First Unit of the Type Localities descriptions.

TYPE LOCALITY PROJECT

Chairman - Charles W. Stuckey, Union Oil Co. of California, 800 Prudential
Building, Houston, Texas
Editor - Dr. H. V. Anderson, Dept. of Geology, L.S.U., University, La.

Baton Rouge

Unit I of the Type Locality Project, which contains descriptions of 19 stratigraphic units, was published just prior to the 1960 annual meeting in Biloxi, Mississippi. This publication of 53 pages sells for \$2.50 post paid, from E. Ann Butler, LGS, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Each of our members should have a copy of this valuable reference.

Unit II of this Project will be published this year and it is expected that more than 50 stratigraphic units will be included. Manuscripts have already been received which describe several formations and members, and firm commitments have been made for descriptions of many other units.

Nine manuscripts have been received for Unit II as follows:

From Gene Ross Kellough: Tehuacana member, Kincaid formation; Pisgah member, Kincaid formation; Kerens member, Wills Point formation; Mexia member, Wills Point formation; Corsicana formation.

From E. R. Applin: Lake City limestone; Atkinson formation; Avon Park limestone.

From James P. Spillers: Pascagoula member, Fleming formation.

New commitments are:

From L.S.U.: Naborton formation; Cow Bayou formation; Pendleton formation; Sabinetown formation; Cane River formation; Pierson member; Catahoula member; Sabine Bayou member.

From H. B. Stenzel, Shell: Weches formation; Reklaw Formation.

From D. E. Davis, Lamar Tech: McElroy formation; Caddell Formation.

From Ed. Marks, Union of California: Burditt marl.

From W. H. Matthews III, Lamar Tech: Beaumont clay.

From Bill Huff, Mississippi Southern: Mint Springs marl (definite); Other Vicksburg formations (tentative).

From Russell & Smith, A&M: Manning - Yuma, Tuttle, Goodbread; Wellborn - Carlos, Bedia.

In regards to the type locality report I would like to bring your attention to the fact that the G.C.A.G.S. has lent us the initial money to get started. If each member of our society would buy one copy of this report our financial difficulties would evaporate. Mr. Chun, our past Treasurer, brought to our attention at the Biloxi meeting that \$1.47 had been spent per each member last year. This of course does not include any time of the committees or expenses borne by any of them or their companies in order to carry out the projects and business of the GCS-SEPM. We cannot hope to continue to operate on this basis.

If each of you will support our own publications we should in a few years be able to finance other projects that are beneficial to all of us. At the present

time it is necessary to charge a 50 cent mailing charge for each publication if ordered by mail. However this charge is eliminated if you arrange to pick up the publications in person from the following:

- E* E. Ann Butler, Baton Rouge, La.
- C. M. Quigley, Houston, Texas
- Dave Pope, New Orleans, La. *Kenner or Core Martin, N. O.*

It also might be arranged that if there are sufficient requests in any one area that the area representative may be supplied with sufficient copies to satisfy the demand.

It is important that sufficient copies of Unit I of the type localities be sold in order that we may proceed with Unit II.

Completed manuscripts should be sent to Mr. Stuckey before July 1, to be included in Unit II. There is much interest in this Project, and our members should describe as many type localities and type subsurface sections as possible. In addition to the satisfaction of being an author and making a contribution to Gulf Coast geology, each participant in this Project will learn something new and interesting and worthwhile. So start now to describe at least one type locality or section.

FIELD TRIPS

A field trip is scheduled for May 13, 1961 under the direction of Dick Zingula, chairman. The trip will cover the type localities of the Crockett - Cook Mountain, Reklaw, and Weches formations. Exposures of Sparta, Queen City and Wilcox will also be seen. Let's all come to this field trip to make it a success. Jack Colle is working on some of the financial aspects of this trip.

There will be no field trip sponsored by our Section in conjunction with the Annual Meeting in San Antonio next fall. However, the South Texas Geological Society will offer a field trip to study the Lower and Upper Cretaceous rocks between San Antonio and Del Rio immediately after the Annual Meeting. Many of our members should plan to attend that trip.

fall Tentatively planned for our members is a field trip, probably in the *spring* of 1962, to the classic Tertiary type localities and to Little Stave Creek, southwestern Alabama. *7 So. Miss.*

FIELD TRIPS IN CONNECTION WITH THE 1963 NATIONAL MEETING OF THE A.A.P.G. IN HOUSTON, TEXAS

Tentative plans are now being made for our Section to offer two field trips immediately following this meeting. Consideration is being given to offering again the trip to study the "Recent Sediments of the North-Central Gulf Coastal Plain," and too, a trip to study the "Tertiary of the Brazos River Valley."

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Several of our members have been honored by being elected or appointed to important offices in geological societies. Some of the honorees are:

Jules Braunstein - President of the New Orleans Geological Society
Paul H. Nichols - President of the East Texas Geological Society
Grover E. Murray - Editor of the A.A.P.G. Bulletin
Wendell B. Johnson - Editor of the 1960 Transactions of the G.C.A.G.S.

Other members have been honored for their contributions to earth science. Some of them are:

Prof. Henry V. Howe, an honorary member of SEPM, received the Sidney Powers Medal ward at the Atlantic City, New Jersey, meeting of the A.A.P.G., April 26, 1960.
Prof. John A. Wilson received an award for best SEPM paper of 1959 at the 1960 Atlantic City Meeting.
Mrs. Esther R. Applin was honored by the G.C.A.G.S. at Biloxi, October 20, 1960.

Many of our members have been active in planning and leading field trips in the Gulf Coast. Some of them who gave freely of their time and talents to this worthy activity are:

Grover E. Murray, H. V. Andersen, C. O. Durham, John C. Ferm, H. A. Bernard, R. J. LeBlanc, E. H. Rainwater, Porter A. Montgomery, C. W. Stuckey, Fred E. Smith, R. R. Priddy, Baxter L. Smith, H. S. Puri.

E. H. Rainwater received second prize for his paper, presented at the 1960 Biloxi meeting and published in the Transactions: "Stratigraphy and its Role in the Future Exploration for Oil and Gas in the Gulf Coast." He subsequently presented this paper to the Shreveport Geological Society, Corpus Christi Geological Society, Houston Geological Society, and South Texas Geological Society. Reprints of this paper have been sent to more than 140 geologists in many countries.

MEMBERSHIP

We now have 323 members, which makes us the largest Section of the SEPM. But there are in the Gulf Coast many other geologists who should become members. It is the duty of each of us to make our organization worthwhile and to induce others to join.

Already this year we have had the following new members join the GCS-SEPM: L. C. Menconi, Houston; J. P. Raymond, New Orleans; E. W. Borden, Houston; W. C. Holland, Sr., Houston; W. J. Huff, Hattiesburg. Each of our new members will receive a copy of the directory that was the result of R. W. Everett and his committee.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

A Directory of our membership was published in 1960 and distributed to members. R. W. Everett, Jack Dunlap and others who worked on this valuable publication deserve the thanks of all of us.

LOCAL MEETINGS

There have been some meetings of our members in Houston and New Orleans, and other local groups should be encouraged to get together occasionally to get acquainted, discuss local geological problems, and to help promote the objectives of our section.

A LOOK INTO THE FUTURE

The bio- and lithostratigraphy branch of earth science is again becoming recognized as vital to the understanding of earth history, which is necessary in the exploration and exploitation of any of the mineral resources. "The Objective of the Section is to promote the science of Stratigraphy. . ." and each of our members has an obligation to do just that. The future is indeed bright for paleontologists and mineralogists who are sincerely interested in doing a good job. Let us promote more and better field trips, study groups, publications, and lectures, but at the same time let us prove our value to our employers, whether they be corporations, schools, geological surveys, or individuals. There is a great need for the application of our knowledge, but we must convince the geologists, geophysicists and lay people of this fact.

POSSIBLE PROJECT - SALE OF SAMPLES OF MICROFOSSILIFEROUS GULF COAST FORMATIONS

E. H. Rainwater has suggested that we might render a service to our members and also build up our treasury by collecting and offering for sale at the Annual Meeting samples of richly fossiliferous outcrops which could be used by micropaleontologists and by teachers of micropaleontology. One-pound bags of unwashed dried samples from such localities and formations could be sold for \$1.00 each.

Should you consider such a project feasible, please contact your local representative who will relay the message to the President. If there is sufficient interest in obtaining such samples, we believe the material can be collected, labeled, and sent or brought to San Antonio next fall by members who want to help our Section.

I believe it is important that we do become stronger locally and show our colleagues (subsurface geologists and geophysicists) that we have something to offer that can be found in no other way. We must be more aggressive, we owe it not only to ourselves but to the organizations for whom we work. We have a product, let's sell it. As a group I believe that we can do more than individuals. Working together as a group it may be possible to get things published in the national SEPM publications that are pertinent to us in the Gulf Coast section. After all, I understand that we are the largest section in the United States with 323 members.

A fine group of officers have been elected to serve with me and have worked hard already on business for the GCS-SEPM. We have more to do and we are going to need your support, and encouragement. We cannot please everyone but we can try with your assistance. My first suggestion is that each of you get acquainted with your nearest representative and let him know what each of you want. He in turn can get in touch with one of your officers or the appropriate committee chairman and we can get the wheels rolling. Let's not let one person or one group carry all the load.

We are enclosing a dues notice slip and an envelope in which to return it along with your dues. You may wish to write on your dues notice and your suggestion will be given the proper attention in my news letter which I hope to get out in August.

I wish to thank our former officers who I believe did a fine job. I am particularly happy to have the counsel of Dave Pope who has made my job much easier.

LATE RELEASE

I have just received the minutes of the fourth meeting of the 1960 executive committee of the GCAGS. As your President, I attended this meeting on December 16, 1960, at Jackson, Mississippi. Mr. Emmett Adams, our representative there, also attended.

We reported to the council that about 90 copies of the type localities had been sold and appraised them that the GCS-SEPM was having a field trip which we have covered above.

The new officers of the GCAGS are:

Dunward Dassow - President
Consultant
939 Milam Building
San Antonio, Texas

E. P. Roth, Jr. - Vice President
Leslie Bowling & Assoc.
California Company Building
New Orleans, La.

E. L. Ames - Treasurer
Gilcrease Oil Company
P. O. Box 2708
San Antonio, Texas

I will from time to time inform the area representatives of pertinent news during the year. Please keep in touch with them.
