

IOP NEWSLETTER 72

September 2002

CONTENTS

THE W.H. JONGMANS AWARD TO HARALD WALThER
THE POLAR MEDAL TO JANE FRANCIS
UPCOMING MEETINGS
REPORTS OF MEETINGS
SUPPORT FOR ACTA PALAEOBOTANICA
PUBLICATION ANNOUNCEMENTS
NEW REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
HELP DEVELOP A NEW IOP WEB SITE
TEMPORARY COLLECTIONS CLOSURE
OBITUARY

The views expressed in the newsletter are those of its
correspondents, and do not necessarily reflect the policy of IOP.

President: Else Marie Friis (Sweden)
Vice Presidents: Muriel Fairon-Demaret (Belgium), Zlatko Kavzek (Czech Republic), Sun Ge (China)
Secretary: Gar Rothwell (USA)

THE W.H. JONGMANS AWARD TO HARALD WALTHER

During the IOP meeting at the 6th European Paleobotany-Palynology Meeting in September, Dr. Johan Van der Burgh announced the third recipient of the W.J. Jongmans Medal would be Prof. Dr. Harald Walther. The following was excerpted from Dr. Van der Burgh's presentation, and a laudatio written by Hans Kerp and read by Volker Musburger.

The W.J. Jongmans award was established eight years ago by the foundation of Paleontology and Geology to honour a distinguished European palaeobotanist or palynologist and, at the same time, to commemorate the life and work of Prof. Dr. W.J. Jongmans. It is supported by the Royal Dutch Academy of Science, the Netherlands Organisation of Applied Scientific Research (TNO) and several Dutch universities. The first medal was awarded to the late Prof. Remy, a palaeobotanist of the classic profile, the second medal went to Prof. Streefling, a palynologist with a great scientific record.

Today, it is my pleasure and honour to announce, and on behalf of the Foundation, that the award will again go to a distinguished European Palaeobotanist. This palaeobotanist is Prof. Dr. Harald Walther from Dresden. Unfortunately he is not able to attend this conference, but in his absence his successor in Dresden, Dr. Kunzmann, has agreed to bring the medal home and present it to Prof. Walther.

Harald Walther was born on the 17th May 1929 in Chemnitz as the son of Adolf Curt and Gertruda Johanna Walter. His father was a bookseller. He grew up in the Erzgebirge near the border of Saxony and Bohemia. Like for most others of his generation, the second world war was a difficult period. During and after the war it was impossible for him to study medicine and natural history, as he originally desired. After three years of manual labour he started teaching biology and chemistry in 1948 at various schools near Chemnitz and Zittau. In 1956 he began his studies at the universities of Dresden and Halle-Wittenberg. In 1963 he passed his final exams and he was formally appointed as highschool teacher. A year before, in 1962, Harald, his wife Helga and their children moved from Seiffhennersdorf to Dresden, where he became scientific assistant at the State Museum for Mineralogy and Geology. His first contacts with the museum date back to 1954, when he became a voluntary collaborator. In 1968 he obtained

his Ph.D. from the Technical University in Dresden on a thesis on Tertiary *Acer* species in Central Europe. In 1974 he became senior assistant, and in 1979 he was appointed as curator and head of the museum's palaeontology division. In 1984 he obtained his Dr. habil. degree at the Humboldt University in Berlin with a thesis on the Late Eocene and Oligocene floras of the Weißenfelser Basin. This project was carried out in collaboration with his colleague and long-time friend Dieter H. Mai, with whom he published many joint papers on Tertiary floras from Central Europe. Harald Walther formally retired in 1994 but this was by no means the end of his active career. Also after his retirement he continues working at the museum and he keeps publishing.

Although the above may sound as a pretty straightforward career, this is by no means the case. The political situation in the GDR strongly hampered his scientific career. Being regarded to be an unreliable citizen by the GDR authorities, Harald Walther was under permanent surveillance and for many years, and contacts with foreign scientists were almost impossible. Despite these severe restrictions he was able to visit India, the U.S.A. and Austria. One of the highlights was the realisation of a special joint exhibition of the State Museum for Mineralogy and Geology in Dresden and the National History Museum in Vienna on 350 million year long history of forests in 1986. This highly successful special exhibition was also on display in several museums in western Germany.

Harald Walther's scientific interests are very broad and his palaeobotanical work focuses on Tertiary floras from Central Europe, particularly on the major floral changes during the Eocene-Oligocene. He published well over 150 papers on Tertiary leaf floras. His systematic contributions, which virtually always included detailed studies of fossil cuticles, form the basis for his palaeoclimatological and palaeoecological work. His so-called "Florenbilder" of Tertiary floras are widely known and his monographs have become standard literature for every Tertiary worker. Harald Walther always tried to collaborate with other colleagues. Many studies were carried out in close cooperation with Prof. Dr. Dieter H. Mai (Berlin), whose carpological studies complement Harald Walther's leaf studies. Other long-time cooperation partners include Prof. Dr. L. Stuchlik (Krakow) and Prof. Dr. Z. Kvacek (Prague).

Over the years Harald Walther has built up an enormous collection of Tertiary fossils that is housed in the museum in Dresden. This collection is very valuable because many of the localities are no longer accessible. This material will be a very valuable source for further studies for many years to come. As a museum curator he always spent much time for the popularisation of science. Together with G. Krumbiegel he wrote a popular book entitled "Fossilien" that was printed in several editions and translations. He also published several museological contributions. Most recently he was scientific advisor for the realisation of a Tertiary forest in one of the now abandoned browncoal pits near Leipzig.

Harald has lectured at various universities, e.g., Dresden, Freiberg and Greifswald. With his characteristic loud and clear voice he introduced several generations of geology and biology students into palaeobotany. His courses were very well received by his students and his openness and supportive attitude were always highly appreciated. His great enthusiasm inspired a whole generation of younger students. In 1995 at the age of 66 he started to teach at the University of Leipzig, where he received an honorary professorship in 1999. He supervised several M.Sc. and Ph.D. students. He really regretted that he had to give up teaching because of his severe health problems.

Harald Walther is elected correspondent of the Natural History Museum in Vienna (1986) and the *Senckenbergische Naturforschende Gesellschaft* in Frankfurt am Main (1989). He is elected honorary member of the *Naturwissenschaftliche Gesellschaft Isis* in Dresden (1995) and the *Palaontologische Gesellschaft* (1996).

THE POLAR MEDAL TO JANE FRANCIS

Best congratulations to UK-based palaeobotanist Jane Francis! She has recently been awarded the Polar Medal for her contribution to research in the polar regions and in recognition of her work on fossil plants and ancient climates of both the Arctic and Antarctic.

The Polar Medal, dating back to 1857, was founded as an Arctic Medal to honour explorers who had died discovering the North West Passage in the Arctic. Following the exploration of the Antarctic in the early 1900s the medal became known as the Polar Medal. Famous recipients of the medal have included great

explorers such as Scott and Shackleton, and more recently Fuchs and Hilary. These days the medal is awarded as a recognition for individual distinction in polar exploration.

Jane Francis has, in search of fossil plants and the clues they contain about ancient polar climates, undertaken ten polar field seasons. Four of these have been carried out in the Arctic (on Ellesmere and Axel Heiberg islands and on Svalbard), and the remaining six in Antarctica (either in the Transantarctic Mountains or on the Antarctic Peninsula). Through time Jane is one of few women who have participated in polar explorations. Of the 4000 or so Polar Medals that have been awarded Jane is only the 4th woman ever to be awarded this prestigious medal. She received the medal from H.M. the Queen in March at an investiture ceremony at Buckingham Palace.

- A fitting reward for all those long months of living in a cold tent, unwashed and eating dried food, says a happy Jane.

Helena Eklund,
School of Earth Sciences
University of Leeds

UPCOMING MEETINGS

VII IOPC ARGENTINA 2004

The VII IOPC has been scheduled for March 21-26, 2004, in Bariloche, Argentina. The local organizing committee has selected the Llao Llao mega-resort in North Western Patagonia to host the international paleobotanical community. This resort features a wide range of facilities and activities for the conference as well as accommodations, meals and special programs for accompanying members. These will be offered to participants through a special package that will include domestic air transportation from Buenos Aires to Bariloche and back. The opening ceremony will take place Sunday March 21st during the evening. Academic sessions will run Monday through Friday, with a day off on Wednesday. The sessions will be divided into symposia and general presentations. Symposium presentations will be by invitation from the symposium organizers. Financial support is being planned for those participating in each symposium.

The attendance of graduate students will be particularly encouraged from the IOPC organizing committee. A special program will be offered to students willing to attend IOPC, including special discounts in registration and accommodation rates and, if possible, travel assistance.

A series of field trips will be part of the scientific program. Two pre-conferences and three post-conference excursions are currently scheduled. In the first case, a major field trip (5 days) to north western Argentina visiting Carboniferous through Triassic plant localities will be organized. A second 3 day trip, an Andean botanical transect, has also been scheduled (this excursion will also be included as post-conference field trip). Two more post-conference field trips will be available as well. One of them will be specially dedicated to visit Paleogene plant localities in central Patagonia during 5 days. The second (8 days) will be directed to visit late Paleozoic and Mesozoic plant localities along the entire Patagonia region, including several tourist areas.

Beginning in December, 2002, detailed information regarding VII IOPC will be available through the conference web site (www.IOPC2004.org). An electronic first circular will be posted by early November. In case earlier information is required please contact the General Coordinator (N.R.Cùneo) at <rcuneo@mef.org.ar>.

An International Plant Taphonomy Meeting in Bonn--will be held in the Goldfuss Museum, Institute of Paleontology, University of Bonn, Germany, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 9, 2002. The meeting will feature three round-table discussion sessions on taphonomic issues in regard to 1) climatic signals from wood (led by Imogen Poole, Utrecht), 2) climatic signals from leaves (led by Rike Wagner and Wolfram Kurschner, Utrecht), and 3) climatic signals from pollen (led by Thomas Litt, Bonn). There also will be short oral presentations and posters on any aspect of plant taphonomy.

The registration fee is 10 Euros, and includes a program with abstracts, lunch, and all-day coffee and tea. Abstracts for oral and poster presentations are due October 15, 2002.

If you are interested in attending the meeting, please contact Carole Gee at <cgee@uni-bonn.de> for more information.

Midcontinent Paleobotanical Colloquium--In celebration of its 20th anniversary, the Mid-Continent Paleobotanical Colloquium will be held on Friday 2nd May through Sunday May 4th 2003 at the Field Museum, Chicago. The meeting is being organized by Jennifer McElwain, Yusheng Liu and Rebekah Hines and will open with a mixer buffet reception and registration in Rice Field Hall at the Field Museum at 3pm on Friday 2nd May. There will be opportunities to view recent exhibits and a display of late Triassic-early Jurassic fossil plants recently collected in East Greenland, as well as additional fossil displays from the Paleobotanical Collections of the Field Museum throughout the afternoon. Talks and Posters will be held all day Saturday 4th in Lecture Hall 2, followed by a banquet reception and invited after-dinner speaker in The Founders Room. Poster boards can be mounted on Friday and will be displayed throughout the meeting outside Lecture Hall 2. Student presentations are particularly encouraged.

A Sunday Field Trip to the famous Pennsylvanian Mazon Creek locality is planned for Sunday 5th May. Mazon Creek specimens from the Field Museum collections will also be on display throughout the meeting.

The cost of the meeting will be \$70 for professionals and \$35 for students. This includes registration, buffet reception and banquet. Further details and circulars will be posted on The Field Museum website (http://www.fmnh.org/research_collections/geology/default.htm) in early October.

The 12th Simposio Argentino de Paleobotánica y Palinología--will be held at the Argentine Museum of Natural Sciences, in Buenos Aires, April 7-9, 2003. Besides the ordinary session, a meeting on the relation of Patagonian and Antarctic fossil paleofloras and a special session on Quaternary Palynology are included in the general organization. Participants are invited to send their abstracts before December 15th. The Paleobotanical Collection of this Museum can be consulted during the symposium. A field trip to the Paraná River delta will be organized. Do not lose the chance to visit Argentina and

discuss about fossil floras at a very low rates. See more details on our web site <http://www.macn.secyt.gov.ar/congreso/Index.htm>. We hope to see you in Buenos Aires.

Dr. Silvia Césari (Pres.) and Dr. Georgina Del Fueyo (Secr.) simposio@muanbe.gov.ar

The Rhynie Hot-Spring System: Geology, Biota and Mineralization--An international research conference and workshop on aspects of the Early Devonian Rhynie hot-spring system is being convened at the Department of Geology and Petroleum Geology, University of Aberdeen, on 17 - 20 September, 2003. The meeting will provide a forum for discussion of many new and unpublished features of the system. Topics will include descriptions of new arthropods and plants, significantly increasing the diversity of this important Early Devonian ecosystem. New details of the geological evolution of the area and the hydrothermal mineralisation will be presented. It is aimed to present a balanced programme providing a synthesis of current knowledge on this site of international importance. Workshops will provide opportunities to discuss and compare material, and view cores from the Rhynie area, including cores through the Rhynie cherts.

For further details please contact the convenors, Dr. Nigel Trewin and Dr. Clive Rice at the Department of Geology and Petroleum Geology, Meston Building, King's College, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen AB24 3UE, Scotland. E-mail address is <rhynie@abdn.ac.uk>. Conference news will be posted at a Rhynie web site that may be found at <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/geology/profiles/palaeo/rr6conf.htm>

REPORTS OF MEETINGS

The 5th Meeting of the Palaeobotanical Committee of Palaeontological Society of China

On May 9-12, 2002, a meeting was held on the occasion of the 85th birthday of the senior Chinese Palaeobotanist Professor Li Xingxue. It took place at Lishui, 45km southwest of Nanjing, the capital city of Jiangsu Province, China. Over 80 Chinese palaeobotanists from various affiliations such as universities and colleges, geological institutes, coal and oil companies, museums

and the Chinese Academy of Sciences participated in the meeting.

Twenty five oral presentations reflected current activity within Chinese palaeobotanical circles. Reports titled "New advances in the study on the early angiosperms from Western Liaoning", "Discovery of the earliest Monochasium from Dalazi Formation, Yanbian, Jilin, China", "Palaeoclimatological study on the Miocene flora from Shanwang, Shandong based on foliar phsiognomy analysis" and "Early Cretaceous fossil angiosperms from Wuhe, Anhui" demonstrated the present Chinese work on early angiosperms. "Sporopollen complex of Yixian Formation from Western Liaoning" discussed the age of the early angiosperm plants of Northeast China. Utilizing the density of stomata of plant epidermis to reveal the changes of CO₂ density in the air is one of hot-topics in palaeobotany. "The correlation of the density of Late Mesozoic gymnosperm stomata with the density of CO₂ in the air" reflected the pertinent studies that are ongoing in China. Other work on Mesozoic and Cenozoic plants represent some of the comprehensive studies that are underway on specific regions. These included "Jurassic floras from Tarim and Hami Basins, Xinjiang", "The recovery and diversity of the Late Triassic floras from Northern Hebei and Western Liaoning" and, some plant biological study based on new materials including "New materials of fossil cycads woods from Western Liaoning", "Reproductive study on *Pankuangia*" and "Enigmatic material for Quaternary climatological study – Buried wood".

Reports on Palaeozoic plants included several contributions. "Geographic distribution of Palaeozoic cycads in China" and "Distribution of tree ferns and continental drifts in geohistory" were both comprehensive studies based on many years study. "The anatomy of *Lepidodendron lepidophloides* leaf cushion", "Discovery of Early Permian petrified *Cacadoaculis yunnanensis* gen et sp. nov. from Yunnan, China", "A new species of Lycopod from Junggar Basin, Xinjiang", "*Multifurcatus tenellus* gen. et sp. nov. from earliest Early Carboniferous" and "New investigation on the ultrastructure of the G-type tracheid of early land vascular plants" all were specific studies of plant anatomy using advanced techniques.

"A brief introduction to the systematics of seed plants" reported a revision of the old system of seed plant classification, primarily on the basis of work on extant seed plants. It called for suggestions from

palaeobotanical circles, indicating the necessity of intercommunication between botanical and palaeobotanical circles.

“Neoproterozoic glaciation and Doushantuo Biota”, “Pollen grains record of the past 2000 years from arctic pole and the environmental significance” and “Vertebrate trace fossils around K/T boundary of Northern Shaanxi” put some fresh topics into the meeting and also involved much more discussion. Worthy of note was “Palaeobotanical-geological work in the market economy” which encouraged each member of the Chinese palaeobotanical community to think about how to adapt their work to the new economic circumstances as a social environment in China, in order to continue making good progress in the development of Chinese Palaeobotany.

In addition to the scientific presentations and discussions, the meeting gave birth to a new Palaeobotanical Committee of the Palaeontological Society of China

The officers of this Committee are:

Chair: Zhiyan Zhou
Nanjing Institute of Geology and Palaeontology,
Chinese Academy of Sciences, Nanjing 210008,
China
<paleobot@public1.ptt.js.cn>

Vice Chair: Ge Sun
Research Center of Paleontology, Jilin University,
Changchun 130026
China
<sunge@jlu.edu.cn>

Secretary General: Jun Wang
Nanjing Institute of Geology and Palaeontology,
Chinese Academy of Sciences, Nanjing 210008,
China
<jun.wang@nigpas.ac.cn>

Liu Lujun
Nanjing Institute of Geology and Palaeontology,
Chinese Academy of Sciences,
Nanjing 210008, China,
<Lujunliu@nigpas.ac.cn>

SUPPORT FOR ACTA PALAEOBOTANICA

At the 6th European Paleobotany-Palynology Conference in Athens Greece this September, 2002, Leon Stuchlik announced that Acta Palaeobotanica is in danger of losing its institutional financial support. This important paleobotanical journal has been a vital outlet for many of our studies. A letter of support stressing the importance of Acta Palaeobotanica to the international scientific community is being prepared by the President and Secretary of IOP. Please check to see if your institutional library subscribes to Acta Palaeobotanica, and if not, please urge your librarians to have it added.

PUBLICATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Proceedings of the Fifth European Palaeobotanical and Palynological Conference (June 1998 in Kraków)-- have been published in ACTA PALAEOBOTANICA Supplementum No. 2 (1999). The volume contains contributions from the Palaeozoic (10 papers), Mesozoic (18 papers), Tertiary (20 papers), Pleistocene (11 papers), Holocene (13 papers), and from General Palaeobotany (8 papers), and is edited by L. Stuchlik. This is a 661 page volume with 86 plates of figures, and 41 tables, and is priced at \$48.00 US.

Order forms and copies can be obtained from the Publishing Office. W. Szafer Institute of Botany, Polish Academy of Sciences, Lubicz 46, PL-31-512 Kraków, Poland.

Atlas of Pollen and Spores of the Polish Neogene; Volume 1 - Spores, and Volume 2 - Gymnosperms, edited by L. Stuchlik, are now available. These are the first two of four volumes that are scheduled to appear between 2001 and 2006.

Volume 1 is authored by Leon Stuchlik, Maria Ziembinska-Tworzydło, Aleksandra Kohlman-Adamska, Irena Grabowska, Hanna Wazynska, Barbara Słodkowska and Anna Sadowska. It consists of 158 printed pages, four black and white figures and 42 plates. The price is \$40.00 US, and it may be obtained from IB Publisher, W. Szafer Institute of Botany, Polish Academy of Sciences, Lubicz, 46, PL-31-512 Kraków, Poland.

Volume 2 is authored by Leon Stuchlik, Maria Ziembinska-Tworzydło, Aleksandra Kohlman-Adamska, Irena Grabowska, Hanna Wazynska, and Anna

Sadowska. It consists of 230 printed pages, nine black and white figures, 84 plates of pollen micrographs. The price is approximately 52 Euros, and it may be obtained from the same source as Volume 1.

Woods of the Eocene Nut Beds Flora, Clarno Formation, Oregon, USA - by E.A. Wheeler and S.R. Manchester

IAWA Journal Supplement 3, 2002, 188 pp., illus. – ISBN 90-71236-52-8. Price USD or EUR 45.00 (30.00 for IAWA members). Order from IAWA Office (c/o Nationaal Herbarium Nederlands, P.O. Box 9514, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands), an order form is available at <http://courses.ncsu.edu/classes/wps202001/IAWA/pub.htm>.

This book presents a comprehensive study of the fossil woods of the middle Eocene Nut Beds Flora, Clarno Formation, Oregon, USA, dated at about 44 million years old, a time of global warmth. The Nut Beds locality is one of the most diverse fossil plant assemblages of the northern hemisphere, and contains fruits, seeds, woods, and leaves. The Nut Beds wood assemblage is the most diverse fossil wood assemblage ever described from a single locality. Full descriptions, with illustrations, of 66 genera and 76 species of fossil wood are presented. Thirty-eight genera are assigned to family, an additional seven can only be assigned to order. The affinities of the woods are primarily with extant plants of eastern/southeastern Asia, not with western North America. Some of the exquisitely preserved Nut Beds woods represent the oldest known occurrence of wood similar to that of an extant genus, e.g., *Acer*, *Alangium*, *Betula*, and *Meliosma*. New information on wood anatomical groups within extant *Meliosma* is presented. The Nut Beds wood assemblage is compared to the Nut Beds fruit and seed assemblage and to other Eocene wood assemblages of the northern Hemisphere. The Nut Beds woods provide a dataset useful for systematic, evolutionary, biogeographic, and paleoecologic studies, and complement the data already provided by the rich co-occurring fruit and seed assemblage.

NEW REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

We are delighted to report that three additional people have recently accepted our invitation to act as an IOP Regional Representatives. These are:

China: **Liu Lujun**

E-mail: paleobot@public1.ptt.js.cn

India: **Manju Banerjee**

E-mail: manjubanerjee@rediffmail.com

Russia and the Central Asian Republics:

Lena Goloveneva

lengol@lg175.spb.edu

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Florida Museum of Natural History is currently recruiting for a Coordinator, Museum Operations to act as a Paleobotany Collection Manager for one of the nation's largest paleobotanical collections with more than 250,000 specimens of fossil plants (info: <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/natsci/paleobotany/paleobotany.htm>). The Collection Manager will report to the Curator of Paleobotany. This position will be responsible for the organization and maintenance of the FLMNH Paleobotanical Collection, associated databases and website, and promoting the growth and utilization of this international resource. This position is also responsible for acquisitions and loans, preparation and cataloguing of specimens, maintenance of locality data, and associated computer databases. Additional duties include supervision of hourly staff and volunteers, handling professional and public inquiries, and assisting collection users. We expect to fill this position in January 2003.

Minimum Qualifications: A master's degree in botany, geology, or a related field, or a bachelor's degree in same plus two years of related experience. Preferred candidates will have experience in museum procedures and paleobotanical field and laboratory work.

Application procedure: Submit a cover letter referencing LP#837230, with your resume and the names and contact information for three references to Susan Simpson, Human Resources, PO Box 15002, Gainesville, Florida 32611; fax to (352) 392-7094; or email MS documents to susan-simpson@ufl.edu by September 30, 2002.

For additional information please contact: Prof. Steven Manchester, Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611-7800, ph. (352) 392-1721 ext 495, steven@flmnh.ufl.edu.

OBITUARY

In Memoriam: Henry N. Andrews, Jr.,
Paleobotanist, Educator and Explorer, 1910-2002



Dr. Henry N. Andrews, Jr. 91, Professor Emeritus at the University of Connecticut and member, National Academy of Sciences and Phi Beta Kappa, died March 3, 2002 in Concord, NH. He had lived in Sanbornton, New Hampshire since his retirement in 1975.

Henry was born in Melrose, MA June 15, 1910 and graduated from Melrose High School. He received his BS in Food Technology at MIT in 1934. After becoming interested in fossils because of a course with paleontologist Herve Shimer, Henry then spent a year taking courses in "things he was interested in" (plants and paleontology) under the guidance of Professor Ray E. Torrey at the University of Massachusetts. This led him to become acquainted with Edgar Anderson, who offered Henry support for graduate study in botany at Washington University. He received his MS and PhD degrees in 1937 and 1939, respectively, from Washington University, St. Louis, Mo., under the direction of Dr. Robert Woodson. During that time he also studied at Cambridge University with H. H. Thomas and worked at the British Museum of Natural History. He also studied fossil plants in Belgian coal mines, supported by a Belgian American Educational Foundation fellowship. While at Washington University, Henry met Lib (Elisabeth Ham), whom he married in 1939.

If an accommodation due to a disability is needed to apply for this position, please call (352) 392-4621 or the Florida Relay System at 1-800-955-8771 (TDD). AA/EA/EEO Employer.

HELP DEVELOP A NEW IOP WEB SITE

As part of the ongoing activities to make IOP more accessible and useful to the paleobotanical community worldwide, the organizational web site is being completely redesigned, updated, and several new features are being added. A web design firm has been engaged, and design work will begin in November, 2002. The membership is encouraged to support this effort by making suggestions about useful web site features, and by making financial contributions to this effort. Suggestions for improvements in web site design and content can be e-mailed to the IOP Secretary at <rothwell@ohio.edu>. We estimate that the cost of the new web site will be about \$2,000 US. Please consider making a financial contribution toward this effort. Two members already have contributed \$100 each to this effort. Please send contributions to Gar Rothwell, Secretary, IOP, Department of Environmental and Plant Biology, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701, USA, and make checks payable to IOP Web Site Design.

TEMPORARY COLLECTIONS CLOSURE

The fossil plant collections at The Natural History Museum, London, will be inaccessible (no visits, no outgoing loans) for a period of 3 to 4 months from approximately mid May 2003 to mid August 2003. This temporary closure of the collections is necessary because of a major refurbishment project.

Please make arrangements well in advance if you would like to borrow specimens prior to closure. Contact either Paul Davis (P.Davis@nhm.ac.uk) or Paul Kenrick (P.Kenrick@nhm.ac.uk).

For full details of the building work and how it will effect access to the Earth Sciences Library and other fossil collections, see:

<http://www.nhm.ac.uk/palaeontology/burp.html>

Paul Kenrick, Paul G Davis
Natural History Museum London

Henry was appointed instructor at the Henry Shaw School of Botany at Washington University in 1940, where he established a dynamic and productive research program. He also joined the Missouri Botanical Garden staff as paleobotanist (1947-1964) and served for about five years as assistant to the director. He became the administrative head (The Dean) of the Botany Dept. at Washington University, and also served as a temporary staff member of the U. S. Geological Survey. He was a Fulbright lecturer at Poona University, India. Twice a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellow, Henry also received a special Guggenheim award for exploratory research that led to his Arctic expeditions. Henry left St. Louis in 1964 to become Head, first of Botany (1964-67) and then of the Systematics and Environmental Section of the Biological Sciences Group at the University of Connecticut (1967-1970). He retired in 1975. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences that same year.

Henry made major contributions to the study of Upper Carboniferous coal-ball plants in his earlier years, then shifted to investigating Devonian plants. Along with his students, Professor Andrews studied representative taxa of nearly every major plant group present in the Upper Carboniferous, often presenting a first modern description and assessment of their significance. Similarly, he published ground-breaking papers on first Late, then Early Devonian plants from the US and Canadian Arctic. Henry truly enjoyed natural history and exploration. He was a superb writer and educator. He published numerous papers and authored or co-authored four books, including a popular account about plant fossils, *Ancient Plants and the World They Lived In* (1947), a paleobotany text *Studies in Paleobotany* (1961), a profile of paleobotanists entitled *The Fossil Hunters* (1980), and, with P.G. Gensel, *Plant Life in the Devonian* (1984). Henry also prepared a comprehensive account of fossil ferns for the *Traité de Paleobotanique*, ed. E. Boureau (1971). He compiled and published two volumes of the *Index to Generic names of Fossil Plants* as part of his work with the USGS. In both his teaching and his writing, Henry demonstrated the love of exploration, curiosity and wisdom that marks his work and made his presentations about paleobotany and natural history memorable for students, colleagues and laypersons alike. A bibliography of Henry's work is published in the "Bibliography of American Paleobotany for 2001."

Henry was a member of the Botanical Society of America (recipient of the Merit Award, 1966, Chairman

of the Paleobotanical Section), a Fellow of the Geological Society of America, a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a member of the Torrey Botanical Club (and assistant editor for several years), The New England Botanical Club, Sigma Xi, The Palaeontological Society, and the International Organization for Palaeobotany (served as Secretary and Vice-President). He also was an Honorary member of the Paleobotanical Society of India and a charter member of the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering. He was recognized on several occasions for his volunteer service, involving the interpretation or preservation of natural or historical areas/sites by the State of New Hampshire.

Henry and his wife Lib were well known for their wonderful hospitality wherever they lived, be it Missouri, Connecticut, New Hampshire, India, or England. They generously and graciously shared their knowledge, wisdom, and resources, hosting and helping colleagues, foreign visitors, students, friends, and family, thus touching the lives of many in numerous ways.

Henry is survived by two sons, Hollings T. Andrews of Gainesboro, TN (a botanist) and Henry N. Andrews III of Westfield, NJ; a daughter Nancy Andrews Adams of Sanbornton, NH, grandchildren Eric N. Andrews and Heather A. Pippin, a great-grandson, and cousins, nieces and nephews.

Patricia Gensel
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill