

Supplement to the  
*Journal of Paleontology*, 70(6), 1996

# THE PALEONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY

## Membership Directory

### 1996



# THE PALEONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY

**Overview.**--The Paleontological Society is an international organization devoted exclusively to the advancement of the science of paleontology. The Society was founded in 1908 in Baltimore, Maryland, and was incorporated in April 1968 in the District of Columbia. The Society is a nonprofit organization exempt from taxes under section 501(c)(3) of the United States *Internal Revenue Code*. At the end of 1995, the Society had approximately 1,600 members in several membership categories, including Member, Student Member, Retired Member, Emeritus Member, and Spousal Member. Representing 40 countries, members are professional paleontologists, academicians, explorationists, science editors, earth-science teachers, museum specialists, land managers, students, amateurs, and hobbyists. Among the professionals are specialists in all major taxonomic groups--invertebrates, vertebrates, fossil plants, pollen and spores (palynomorphs), microfossils, nannofossils, and trace fossils--who are studying the origin and evolution of life, biostratigraphy, global change, paleoclimatology, paleoecology, depositional environments, paleobiogeography, taxonomy, and phylogeny. The Society subscribes to a *Code of Fossil Collecting* (published below), which was overwhelmingly adopted by vote of membership in 1993. The latest *Constitution and By-Laws of the Society* was published in the January 1987 issue of the *Journal of Paleontology*, but they are under revision and will be voted upon by the membership in the early fall of 1996.

**Sections.**--The Paleontological Society has five geographic Sections--*Pacific Coast Section* (March 1911), *North-Central Section* (founded May 1974), *Northeastern Section* (March 1977), *Southeastern Section* (November 1979), *Rocky Mountain Section* (October 1985), and the *South-Central Section* (November 1988)--and a number of working groups. The Society holds an Annual Meeting, which is ordinarily in the fall at the same time and place as the Annual Meeting of The Geological Society of America (GSA). The Sections also hold meetings, which are usually in the spring at the same time and place as comparable Sections of the GSA. At the meetings, members present volunteered papers and poster sessions; the Society normally hosts an invited speaker symposium. Field trips are occasionally offered. At the Annual Meeting, a short course is presented, and the Society has its Annual Luncheon, Awards Ceremony, and Business Meeting.

**Society Council.**--According to the current *Constitution and By-Laws* (rev. Jan. 1987), Council of the Society consists of the following Officers: President, President-Elect, and Past-President, each of whom serves a one-year term; Secretary and Treasurer, both of whom serve a three-year term, renewable once; two Councilors (one at large and one under 40 years of age), each a nonrenewable two-year term; Managing Editor of the *Journal of Paleontology*, Editor (or Co-Editors) of *Paleobiology*, and Special Publications Editor (or Co-Editors), all of whom serve a three-year term, renewable once; and a Program Coordinator, who serves a three-year term, renewable once. The Officers listed above are elected by vote of the full membership. In addition, each of the Section Chairs is a voting member of Council, but their terms are irregular and are determined by the *Constitution and By-Laws* of the individual section. A list of current Council Members is published frequently on the interior cover of the *Journal of Paleontology* and appears on the PalSoc Home Page.

**Publications, Membership, and Home Page.**--To become a member of The Paleontological Society, one must subscribe to the *Journal of Paleontology*, which is published six times annually and has a current world-wide circulation of 2,545 copies. The Society also publishes *Paleobiology*, which is released quarterly and currently has 1,832 subscribers. The Society also publishes, on an irregular basis, *The Paleontological Society Memoirs* (issued as supplements to the *Journal*). The Society's *Short Course Notes* and *Special Publications* are being discontinued as of the fall of 1996 but comparable materials will be published under a new copyrighted series, *The Paleontological Society Papers*. The Society's newsletter, *Priscum*, is published twice a year and is available to the membership free-of-charge. A PaleSoc Home Page is also available on the InterNet, in which items of interest to paleontologists and the Society are posted at the following address:

<[HTTP://www.uic.edu/orgs/paleo/homepage.html](http://www.uic.edu/orgs/paleo/homepage.html)>

The Paleontological Society is one of several societies that sponsors the production and revisions of the multi-volume *Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology*, published and copyrighted by the Geological Society of America (GSA) and the University of Kansas Press.

For additional information about membership in The Paleontological Society or subscription to one of the journals, contact the Business Manager of the Society:

Dana Forio  
The Paleontological Society  
P.O. Box 1897  
Lawrence, KS 66044-8897

1-800-627-0629 (Ask for Dana Forio)

The Society's *Special Publications* and *Short Course Notes* (and new *The Paleontological Society Papers*) are managed by the following person:

Barbara Pitman  
Paleontological Society Special Publications  
Carnegie Museum of Natural History  
4400 Forbes Ave.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-4080

Phone: 412-622-1947 Fax: 412- 622-8837 E-mail: [pitmanb@clpgh.org](mailto:pitmanb@clpgh.org)

**Awards and Medal.**--The Society recognizes distinguished accomplishments through three awards, one recognized by a medal, the other two by inscribed plaques normally presented annually. Other awards for distinguished service to the Society or to paleobiology are presented as warranted and recommended by Council or the President. The three formally established awards follow. **The Paleontological Society Medal**, the most prestigious honor bestowed by the Society, is awarded to a person whose eminence is based on advancement of knowledge in paleontology. **The Charles Schuchert Award** is presented to a person under 40 whose work reflects excellence and promise in the science of paleontology. **The Harrell L. Strimple Award** is given for contributions to paleontology by an amateur--that is, by a person who does not derive his/her livelihood from the study of fossils.

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## **THE PALEONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY** ***CODE OF FOSSIL COLLECTING***

The *Constitution* of The Paleontological Society (Article I) states that:

"The sole purpose of the Society shall be, and all of its assets and earnings shall be exclusively devoted to, the advance of the science of Paleontology."

In order to pursue this goal, the Society recognizes that:

1. The principal importance of fossils is for scientific, scholarly, and educational use of both professionals and amateurs.
2. The numbers of specimens of fossils vary widely but certain fossils in all taxonomic groups are rare and that conserving and making available for study significant fossils and their contextual data is critical.
3. To leave fossils uncollected assures their degradation and ultimate loss to the scientific and educational world through natural processes of weathering and erosion.

The Society therefore adopts the following practices associated with the collection and curation of fossils:

1. Prior notification will be made and permission or appropriate permits will be secured from landowners or managers of private or public lands where fossils are to be collected.
2. All collections will be in compliance with federal, tribal in the case of Native American lands, state, and municipal laws and regulations applied to fossil collecting.
3. The collector(s) will make every effort to have fossil specimens of unique, rare, or exceptional value to the scientific community deposited in or sold to an appropriate institution that will provide for the care, curation, and study of the fossil material.

The Paleontological Society adopts this *Code of Fossil Collecting* in keeping with the goals of the Society's *Constitution*.

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