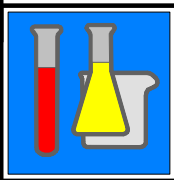




THE SOCIETY FOR ORGANIC PETROLOGY



NEWSLETTER

Vol. 25, No. 1

March, 2008

ISSN 0743-3816

**The 25th Annual TSOP Meeting with ICCP will be in
Oviedo, Asturia, Spain,
September 21-27, 2008.**



Playa de Barro,
Asturian Coast, Spain.

Playa de Vega, Asturian Coast, Spain.



Playa de la Griega,
Asturian Coast, Spain.



Coastal strata at Puerto de Tazones, Asturias, Spain.

Meeting information available at

www.incar.csic.es/iccp_tsop

**25th Annual TSOP Meeting with ICCP
September 21-27, 2008
Oviedo, Spain
See pages 11-13**

Conference Themes Include:

- **Advances in Organic Petrology and Organic Geochemistry.**
- **Applied Organic Petrology to Coal utilization and coal by-products.**
- **Organic Petrology in the context of Clean Coal Technologies**
- **Organic Petrology and Environment**

Meeting details at the website below:

www.incar.csic.es/iccp_tsop

Planned Schedule Includes:

Sunday, September 21:

Ice Breaker and ICCP Council Meetings

Monday September 22:

ICCP Commission Meetings

Tuesday, September 23:

ICCP Commission and Council Meetings

Wednesday, September 24:

ICCP Commission and Plenary Meetings

TSOP Council Meeting

Thursday, September 25:

TSOP Technical Sessions and Business Lunch

Joint TSOP-ICCP Science Session

Friday, September 26:

TSOP Technical and Poster Sessions

Evening Conference Dinner

Saturday, August 27:

Field Trip to Asturian Jurassic and Museum

The Society for Organic Petrology

TSOP is a society for scientists and engineers involved with coal petrology, kerogen petrology, organic geochemistry and related disciplines. The Society organizes an annual technical meeting, other meetings, and field trips; sponsors research projects; provides funding for graduate students; and publishes a web site, this quarterly Newsletter, a membership directory, annual meeting program and abstracts, and special publications.

Members may elect not to receive the printed Newsletter by marking their dues forms or by contacting the Editor. This choice may also be reversed at any time, or specific printed Newsletters may be requested.

Members are eligible for **discounted subscriptions** to the Elsevier journals *International Journal of Coal Geology* and *Review of Paleobotany and Palynology*. Subscribe by checking the box on your dues form, or using the form at www.tsop.org. You will then be billed by Elsevier. Contact Paul Hackley <phackley@usgs.gov> if you do not receive a bill or have any other problems with a subscription. For the best prices on subscriptions to **AGI's Geotimes**, see their web site at www.geotimes.org/current

TSOP is a Member Society of AGI and an AAPG Associated Society.

The Society for Organic Petrology Newsletter

ISSN 0743-3816 published quarterly

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**DEADLINES: June Issue: June 5, 2008
September Issue: Sept. 5, 2008**

Writers, Photographers and Associate Editors Needed!

GUIDELINES:

The TSOP Newsletter welcomes contributions from members and non-members alike. Readers are invited to submit items pertinent to TSOP members' fields of study. These might include meeting reports and reviews, book reviews, short technical contributions including those on geologic localities or laboratory methods, as well as creative works such as poems, cartoons and works of fiction. Color illustrations may be possible in some issues.

Please do not embed **graphics** or **photos** in word processor files. You can provide photos or other graphics as slides or prints (which will be returned after being scanned) or as digital files (300 dpi preferred) via email or on cd or dvd. Low resolution images are discouraged as they cannot be reproduced well in print. **Text** is preferred in Microsoft Word, RTF or plain text formats.

Contact the Editor:

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Address Changes

Please report any changes in address or contact information to:

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956 National Center
Reston, VA 20192 USA
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Society Membership

The TSOP Newsletter (ISSN-0743-3816) is published quarterly by The Society for Organic Petrology and is distributed to all Society members as a benefit of membership. Membership in the Society is open to all individuals involved in the fields of organic petrology and organic geochemistry. For more information on membership and Society activities, please see:

www.tsop.org

For purposes of registration of the TSOP Newsletter, a permanent address is: The Society for Organic Petrology, c/o American Geological Institute, 4220 King St., Alexandria, VA 22302-1520 USA

Contents

Archivist's Reminder	3
Call for Research Subcommittees	4
Email Updates.....	4
Spackman Award Announcement.....	4
Call for Participation in the ICCP Accreditation Programs	5
Laudation for Aureal Cross, John Castaño Honorary Membership Award, Sept. 2005	6
Letter from Aureal Cross	7
PEATWARM Project Article.....	7
Erupting Volcano Cake Recipe.....	9
TSOP Publications List – Super Sale!	10
2008 Meeting of TSOP and ICCP.....	11
Call for Papers, Registration, Venue	11
Accommodations	12
Preliminary Schedule... ..	13
AAPG Annual Convention	14
North American Coalbed Methane Forum	14
ASTM Spring Meeting	14
Pyrolysis 2008 Meeting	14
Calendar of Events	15
Back Page Photo – Oviedo from Google Earth	16

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Cover photos of the Asturian coastline of Spain, location of the upcoming 2008 TSOP and ICCP Meeting.

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Officers and Committee Chairs are reminded to provide their records to Ken Kuehn, **TSOP Archivist**. Please contact Ken at kenneth.kuehn@wku.edu for further information.

* * * * *

Call for Research Subcommittee Proposals

After being active for several years the two research subcommittees sponsored by TSOP are nearing completion of their work. The Research Committee is therefore calling for proposals for new subcommittees. Sponsorship by TSOP of a research proposal has advantages. Among them are the following: 1) having an international network of colleagues to consult and assist 2) the potential to receive grants from TSOP of up to \$1000 US per year to pursue the research and 3) the prestige of having one's project officially sponsored by an international scientific society.

Starting a Research Subcommittee:

Starting a Research Subcommittee is a straightforward process. New subcommittees may be initiated at any time. A proposal is submitted to the Research Committee Chairman using the one page form provided for that purpose. With the endorsement of the Research Committee Chairman, the proposal is submitted to Council for approval at its mid-year or annual meetings. Monetary grants (\$1000 US per year) are available through Council to pursue subcommittee activities. A subcommittee chairman (a member of TSOP) will be nominated by the Research Committee Chairman (generally the principle investigator) and approved by Council. A subcommittee is discontinued when there has been no activity for two years. There is presently no limit on the number of years a subcommittee may exist as long as there is progress on the research. The proposal form is located on the TSOP website under "TSOP Activities, Research Committee: Propose a Project" or the form is available from Suzanne Russell at sjruss@sbcglobal.net.

* * * * *

Email Updates Needed!

Just a friendly reminder to TSOP Members to make sure they have an up-to-date email address on file with TSOP. Email is an important and useful method for the TSOP Council to contact members and disseminate information and receive notice that the latest issue of the Newsletter is available.

If you have changed email addresses recently, please remember to send the new email address to the Editor at rwalker@coalpetrography.com.

To check whether TSOP has your current email

address, please consult your current copy of the TSOP Membership Directory.

* * * * *

2008 Graduate Student Grant Program Spackman Award

The Society for Organic Petrology (TSOP) invites applications for graduate student research grants, the Spackman Award. The purpose of the grants is to foster research in organic petrology (which includes coal petrology, kerogen petrology, organic geochemistry and related disciplines) by providing support to graduate students from around the world, who demonstrate the application of organic petrology concepts to research problems.

Size of the Spackman Award:

Monetary awards up to a maximum of \$1,000.00 US will be granted. TSOP will also provide Merit Awards, in the form of certificates redeemable for TSOP publications, to top-ranking applicants not receiving grants. The program awards a maximum of two grants each year. All applicants are invited to enjoy a year's free student membership in TSOP.

Use of the Spackman Award:

Grants are to be applied to expenses directly related to the student's thesis work, such as summer fieldwork, laboratory analyses, etc. A portion (not to exceed 25%) of the funds may be used to attend TSOP Annual Meetings. Funds should not be used to purchase capital equipment, to pay salaries, tuition, room, or board during the school year. Funds must be spent within 18 months of receipt of the award.

Application Deadline:

TSOP Spackman Award application deadline is **May 15, 2008**. Grants will be awarded in September, 2008.

Detailed information and an application form are on the TSOP web site www.tsop.org/grants.htm or applications may be obtained from:

Suzanne J. Russell,
2218 McDuffie St. Houston,
TX 77019-6526
U.S.A.
e-mail: sjruss@sbcglobal.net

* * * * *

Call for Participation in the ICCP Accreditation Programs (Round 2008-2009)

The International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology (ICCP) is pleased to invite you to participate in the next Accreditation round. At present the ICCP has three Accreditation Programs:

- **Single Coal Accreditation Program (SCAP)** for both maceral group and vitrinite random reflectance analyses. In this program the ability of an analyst to identify and quantify the maceral groups and to identify and measure the vitrinite reflectance of a coal sample according to ISO standards is tested.
Organizer: Kimon Christanis

(christan@upatras.gr)

- **Dispersed Organic Matter Vitrinite Reflectance Accreditation Program (DOMVR)**. In this program the ability of an analyst to identify and measure the reflectance of vitrinite occurring as dispersed vitrinite in rocks such as carbonaceous shales or hydrocarbon source rocks is tested.

Organizer: Alan Cook

(alanccook@ozemail.com.au)

- **Coal Blends Accreditation Program (CBAP)**. In this program the ability of an analyst to identify the number of coals in a blend and their petrographic characteristics such as vitrinite reflectance and maceral group composition according to ISO standards is tested. Organic petrology is the only technique able to yield information of the individual component coals within a coal blend.

Organizer: Isabel Suárez-Ruiz

(isruiz@incar.csic.es)

The ICCP offers discounts for those participating in more than one accreditation program and has established a procedure to facilitate payments in which a single invoice will be produced. This requires that you contact the organizers of the programs before the **end of April** in order expedite the procedures. In addition the timing of the exercises has been spaced to reasonably distribute the analytical load of the participants along the year. The expected timing is summarized as follows:

SCAP:

- **Feb 2008- May 2008** - Announcement, call for participants, invoicing.
- **Apr 2008-June 2008** - Sample Distribution and analysis.
- **July 2008-Sep 2008** - Evaluation of results.
- **Oct 2008-Dec 2008** - Certificate issuance.
- Certificate Validity - 1.1.2009 to 31.12.2010

DOMVR:

- **July 2008-Sep 2008** - Sample Distribution and analysis.
- **Oct 2008-Dec 2008** - Evaluation of results.
- **Jan 2009-Mar 2009** - Certificate issuance.
- Certificate Validity - 1.1.2009 to 31.12.2010

CBAP:

- **Oct 2008-Dec 2008** - Sample Distribution and analysis.
- **Jan 2009-Mar 2009** - Evaluation of results.
- **Apr 2009-June 2009** - Certificate issuance.
- Certificate Validity - 1.07.2009 to 30.06.2011

New participants entering the SCAP or DOMVR programs or those who have lapsed for a round will be required to analyse six samples, whereas continuation in the program requires the analysis of two samples. CBAP beginners are expected to analyse two samples and continuation requires the analysis of a single sample.

No participation of automatic systems will be allowed in this round.

The samples for the exercises will be distributed once the organizer has been informed by the treasurer about the reception of the corresponding fee. The fees for the next Accreditation Round are in the following table. In addition, for participation in two ICCP accreditation programs a **10% discount** will be applied in the two of them and for participation in all three accreditation programs a **20% discount** will be applied in the three of them.

Fees for the current ICCP Accreditation Programs

Currency USD	SCAP	
	Entry	Continuing
Non-Members	\$ 150.00	\$ 100.00
Members	\$ 80.00	\$ 50.00
	CBAP	
	Entry	Continuing
Non-Members	\$ 240.00	\$ 200.00
Members	\$ 120.00	\$ 100.00
	DOMVR	
	Entry	Continuing
Non-Members	\$ 120.00	\$ 80.00
Members	\$ 60.00	\$ 40.00

Further details on the Accreditation programs and evaluation procedures can be found at the ICCP website (www.iccop.org) and can be also received by contacting the respective program organizers.

* * * * *

**Laudation for
The Society for Organic Petrology
John Castaño Honorary Membership
Award**

Aureal T. Cross

September, 2005

(Compiled by Rachel Walker using material from T.L. Phillips 'Bibliography of Aureal T. Cross', Int. J. Coal Geology, 2007, Vol. 69, 1-2, p.1-20, along with material supplied by members of the Society's Honorary Membership Selection Committee.)

The Society for Organic Petrology (TSOP) selected Aureal T. Cross to receive the John Castaño Honorary Membership Award for 2005. The Castaño Award, named after one of the founders of the Society, is the highest honour provided in the Society's By-Laws. It is awarded to persons who are truly distinguished in a scientific discipline of significance to the Society, in recognition of contributions in research, education, or service to TSOP. This award recognizes Aureal Cross' outstanding contributions through teaching and research in different aspects of coal geology over the past 60 years.

Graduating from Coe College in 1939 with an honors thesis on pollen analysis, Aureal completed his Masters in 1941 and a PhD thesis in 1943 at the University of Cincinnati with J. H. Hoskins on Pennsylvanian age plants from coal-balls. During 1942–1946 he taught premedical U.S. Navy students at the University of Notre Dame with a 1943–1944 leave as a National Research Council Fellow. His assignment was to work with James M. Schopf at the U.S. Bureau of Mines Central Experiment Station, Pittsburgh, to find additional coking coals nearer existing steel mills for the WWII effort. Using an untried method of examining crushed raw coal samples microscopically under oil, they were able to determine coking coals in Colorado, Utah, Oregon and Washington before the war ended.

Aureal and Christina Aleen Teyssier met during 1943 in Pittsburgh and married in 1945. Aureal replaced K. E. Caster, his paleontology mentor, for three and a half years (1946–1949) in the Geology Department at Cincinnati, and did field mapping for the Ohio Geological Survey during the summers. Cross established productive graduate training and research programs in the West Virginia University Geology Department and the West Virginia Geologic and Economic Survey where he had dual appointments (1949–1957). His move to Exploration Geology, at Amoco's Pan American Petroleum Corporation Research Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma (1957–1961), permitted him to develop and supervise a major palynological research group.

Aureal returned to academia in 1961 at Michigan State University in East Lansing, resulting in one of the most comprehensive graduate training programs in paleobotany, palynology, biostratigraphy and paleoecology in North America. Over his teaching career, he has graduated a total of more than 70 students, many of whom have gone on to be major contributors in the field. These include Ralph Gray, himself a previous recipient of Honorary Membership from the Society. Although Aureal Cross officially retired in 1986, he has continued research projects, publication of manuscripts, attends professional meetings with his wife Aleen, and has kept in touch with several generations of his students as well as with many colleagues. He has received numerous awards, none more deserved than those recognizing his outstanding contributions as a teacher, coal geologist, and paleobotanist.

The Society's Honorary Membership Selection Committee was unanimous in the selection of Aureal T.

Cross as the 12th recipient of the John Castaño Honorary Membership Award. The award was presented at the 22nd Annual Meeting of the Society, held in Louisville, Kentucky, 11th - 14th September, 2005.

* * * * *

Letter from Aureal Cross and Family

(Adapted from letter sent to Rachel Walker, Editor)

Aureal currently maintains an office and lab in the Natural Science Building at Michigan State University as Professor Emeritus of both Geological Sciences and Botany. He is almost done packing his extensive collections of thousands of fossils, rocks, prepared research samples, books, papers and maps, along with more than 200 field notebooks. The research materials include most of the samples and research notes, reports and the 50-60 theses (Ph.D. and M.S.) written under his direction or partial guidance over the extent of his teaching career. They are being sent to the Field Museum in Chicago for permanent research or display.

Aureal's health is good at 91, and he is still doing research on fossil plants, coal and past climates. Most of his time is spent with his wife, Aleen, who has Parkinson's disease, requiring much care. Aleen has been his companion for 63 years, and Aureal attributes his career success to her presence, stating that "I couldn't have done all of this without her."

Aureal considers himself 'first and foremost a teacher' and greatly enjoys finding opportunities to reacquaint with past students and colleagues from his almost 70 year long career. He is grateful to have been chosen to receive this prestigious award from TSOP.

* * * * *

Peatlands and Climate Change: Carbon Sink or Source?

Fatima Laggoun-Défarge

The project PEATWARM (*Effect of moderate warming on the functioning of Sphagnum peatlands and their function as carbon sink*) is funded by the French National Agency for Research under the "Vulnerability: Environment - Climate" program (ANR-07-VUL-010). PEATWARM began in January 2008 and will run for 4 years.

Scientific Context and Objectives:

The debate on the effects of climate warming on

global stocks of carbon (C) in soil is front page news. One scenario is the accelerated decomposition of organic matter (OM) and the resulting increase in the CO₂ concentration in the atmosphere. However, biogeochemical models of OM decomposition have so far been established for "mineral" soils with a moderate to low OM content, and there are very few available data on wetlands, especially peatlands. Peatlands are now recognised as valuable pools of sequestered C. Their response to climate changes becomes crucial in predicting potential feedbacks on the global C cycle. In addition to the high C pools, ombrotrophic peatlands are of great interest for climate issues since they are hydrologically independent of groundwater, and consequently their substrate moisture is directly related to atmospheric conditions. To our knowledge, to date no study has addressed the entire range of effects of increased temperature on *Sphagnum* peatlands, including responses of biodiversity, community structure and ecosystem function. There is an urgent need to understand the link between these key compartments in peatlands, particularly in relation to C cycling in the face of global change.

Within PEATWARM, our aim is to use peatlands as a model and to analyse their vulnerability in the context of climate change using an experimental system that simulates an *in situ* increase in annual temperature. The underlying idea is to determine to what extent climate warming can modify the functioning of peatlands in temperate regions, thus deteriorating their carbon sink function.

We will particularly determine how a moderate temperature increase affects:

- (1) the major plant functional groups
- (2) the balance of above- and belowground C fluxes (especially by the isotopic signature of respired CO₂)
- (3) the microbial diversity and activity in *Sphagnum* mosses and below-ground peat
- (4) the dynamics of labile and recalcitrant organic matter of below-ground peat.

The ultimate objective is the creation of a biogeochemical model of C coupled with N and S cycles that includes interactions between these key compartments and that attempts to extrapolate changes to the system over the next two decades.

Strategy:

The warming device consists in the use of *in situ* fiberglass Open Top Chambers (OTC) based on a standardised protocol from the ITEX (International Tundra Experiment) systems. ITEX is a scientific network of experiments focusing on the impact of climate change on selected plant species in tundra and alpine vegetation. OTCs have particularly been used for

subarctic peatland ecology.

Within PEATWARM the studies that will be conducted on the control sites and the heated plots (OTC) will use complementary techniques never before used together: peatland ecology, plant ecology and ecophysiology, microbial ecology, isotopic and molecular geochemistry, organic petrology, paleoecology and C cycle modelling. PEATWARM will not only consider the effect of temperature increase on surface plant biodiversity but will also look at the effect on the below-ground biodiversity in terms of microbial populations and the labile carbon dynamics.

The Selected Site and Experiments:

The project will use both field studies (controls and warmed plots) and experiments in climatic chambers under controlled laboratory conditions (temperature, humidity and nutrients) to test threshold effects.

The selected site, Frasne bog situated in the Jura Mountains (France), is an undisturbed ombrotrophic *Sphagnum* peatland protected by the EU Habitat Directive of the Natura 2000 and which has been classified as a Regional Natural Reserve for more than 20 years. The OTCs are placed in two sites of the peatland: a transitional *Sphagnum*-dominated poor fen site and an open bog site with typical hollows and hummocks. The project management will be supported by the local site manager and the French Peatlands Relay Agency.

After Peatwarm: A Network For Global Warming and Peatlands :

Beyond the duration of PEATWARM project, we plan to maintain the warming devices (OTCs) in the site for at least the next two decades in order to monitor gas emissions as well as abiotic parameters (water table depth, pH, temperature...). This will enable us to monitor *long-term* controls of peatland C turnover in the face of global change. With the same aim in view, we are initiating a French network for research related to "Global Warming and Peatlands". The goals are (i) to develop integrated and inter-disciplinary research within one or few instrumented sites (ii) to gather data and build a common database for sharing knowledge and experience and (iii) to transfer this knowledge to managers and peatland-owners. The peatland of Frasne will be proposed as a pilot site for the network as the peatland is well equipped with monitoring devices.

Ultimately, our goal is to compare our data and model with those obtained on sites equipped with the same ITEX systems. To design suitable models for testing scenarios, a relevant comparison might be carried out with peatlands occurring at high latitudes, i.e. boreal and sub-arctic peatlands, where the effect of warming is

expected to be more marked. Such cooperation could fruitfully be developed within a EU Network. The creation of a Network for European sustainable peatland management against the threat of global warming will contribute to the development of current and future legislation for the protection of these key ecosystems.

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Photo 1: View of the Frasne peatland (Jura Mountains, France) in October 2007. Photo: F. Laggoun-Défarge



Photo 2: Members of the PEATWARM consortium at the 1st meeting in January 2008 in Orleans (France). About 30 scientists, technical staff and PhD students are involved in PEATWARM in 8 French and Swiss laboratories. The project is coordinated by Fatima Laggoun-Défarge supported by 6 partners responsible of the workpackages: Daniel Gilbert (Montbéliard, France), Daniel Epron (Nancy, France), André-Jean Francez (Rennes, France), Valéry Catoire (Orléans, France), Laurent Grasset (Poitiers, France) and Alexandre Buttler (Besançon, France and Lausanne, Switzerland). Photo: T. Cantalupo.

Erupting Volcano Cake

(Courtesy of Finkbuilt, www.finkbuilt.com)

Whether you're having a groundbreaking celebration for the construction of your new subterranean evil lair, or throwing a 5 year-old a birthday party, an erupting volcano cake is always the perfect pastry choice.

The magic in this cake comes from 2 special effects: The dry ice in the magma chamber, and the hard candy lava streaming down the sides of the volcano.

We constructed our volcano using 3 separate cake sections:

- Bundt cake base
- Dome cake middle (baked in medium bowl)
- Inverted cupcake peak

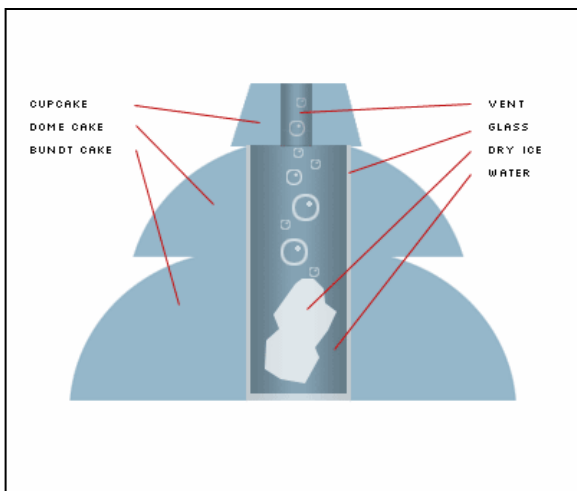


Diagram of Volcano Cake cross-section.

We used a small juice glass to first cut out the center of the middle layer before stacking it on top of the bundt cake base. Next, insert the glass into the cavity. This is your magma chamber.

Cut a vent through the center of the cupcake peak section. Frost both the main cake and the cupcake peak, but don't put the top on just yet.

To make the candy lava you'll need:

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup Karo syrup
- 1/4 cup water
- Red food coloring

Combine these ingredients and bring to a boil in a saucepan. Heat to 300 deg F. Remove from heat. Pour candy lava into the desired shapes onto a foil-lined baking sheet. Allow to cool.

Just before you are ready to serve the cake, drop a chunk of dry-ice into the glass, and pour in some warm water. Put the top piece onto the volcano and arrange the candy lava on the sides.

If you want your cake to actually bubble over with oozing lava, then add sweetened, colored egg white to the dry ice in the magma chamber rather than water. We didn't think that sounded very appetizing, but it sure would look cool. Here is the recipe for the oozing goo:

- 1 egg white
- 2tbsp sugar
- food coloring

Dropping that into your volcano will result in a nice eruption that should last for a few minutes. Finally, bask in your guest's delight.



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TSOP PUBLICATIONS

TSOP No.	Name of Publication	Price (USD) (includes shipping)
1.	<i>Fluoreszenz von Liptiniten und Vitriniten in Beziehung zu Inkohlungsgrad und Verkokungsverhalten</i> - (in German with photomicrographs) M. Teichmüller, 1982.....	\$5
2.	<i>Fluorescence - microscopical changes of liptinites and vitrinites during coalification and their relationship to bitumen generation and coking behavior</i> , TSOP Special Publication No. I (English translation by Neely Bostick, without photomicrographs) M. Teichmüller, 1984.....	\$5
3.	<i>Influence of Kerogen Isolation Methods on Petrographic and Bulk Chemical Composition of a Woodford Shale Sample</i> , TSOP Research Committee Report, October 1989.....	Sold Out
4.	<i>Fluorescence Microscopy Workshop Lecture Notes</i> , 1989 TSOP Meeting.....	Sold Out
5.	<i>Organic Geochemistry</i> , 2nd TSOP Meeting, Houston, TX, 1985; Vol. 11, No. 5, 1987.....	\$5
6.	<i>Organic Geochemistry</i> , 3rd TSOP Meeting, Lexington, KY, 1986; Vol. 12, No. 4, 1988.....	\$5
7.	<i>Organic Geochemistry</i> , 4th TSOP Meeting, San Francisco, CA, 1987; Vol. 14, No. 3, 1989.....	\$5
8.	<i>Organic Geochemistry</i> , 5th TSOP Meeting, Houston, TX, 1988; Vol. 17, No. 2, 1991.....	Sold Out
9.	<i>Organic Geochemistry</i> , 6th TSOP Meeting, Urbana, IL, 1989; Vol. 17, No. 4, 1991.....	\$5
10.	<i>Organic Geochemistry</i> , 7th TSOP Meeting, Calgary, Alberta, 1990; Vol. 18, No. 3, 1992.....	\$5
11.	<i>Organic Geochemistry</i> , 8th TSOP Meeting, Lexington, KY, 1991; Vol. 20, No. 2, 1993.....	\$5
12.	8th TSOP Meeting Field Trip Guidebook, Lexington, KY, 1991.....	\$5
13.	<i>Organic Geochemistry</i> , 10th TSOP Meeting, Norman, OK, 1993; Vol. 22, No. 1, 1994.....	\$5
14.	<i>Energy & Fuels</i> , ACS symposium on kerogen/macerals; Vol. 8, No. 6, 1994.....	\$5
15.	12th TSOP Meeting Field Trip Guidebook, The Woodlands, TX, 1995.....	Sold Out
16.	<i>Organic Geochemistry</i> , 11th TSOP Meeting, Jackson, WY, 1994; Vol. 24, No. 2, 1996.....	\$5
17.	<i>International Journal of Coal Geology (IJCG)</i> , 12th TSOP Meeting, The Woodlands, TX, 1995; Vol. 34, Nos. 3-4, 1997.....	\$5
18.	IJCG, 13th TSOP Meeting, Carbondale, IL, 1996; Vol. 37, Nos. 1-2, 1998.....	Sold Out
19.	IJCG, Special Issue: Appalachian Coalbed Methane; Vol. 38, Nos. 1-2, 1998.....	Sold Out
20.	IJCG, 14th TSOP Meeting, Lexington, KY, 1997; Vol. 39, Nos. 1-3, 1999.....	\$5
21.	IJCG, Special Issue: Applied Topics in Coal Geology; Vol. 41, Nos. 1-2, 1999.....	Sold Out
22.	IJCG, 15th TSOP Meeting, Halifax, Nova Scotia, 1998; Vol. 43, Nos. 1-4, 2000.....	Sold Out
23.	IJCG, 16th TSOP Meeting, Snowbird, Utah, 1999; Vol. 46, Nos. 2-4, 2001.....	\$5
24.	IJCG, 17th TSOP Meeting, Bloomington, Indiana, 2000; Vol. 47, Nos. 3-4, 2001.....	\$5
25.	IJCG, 18th TSOP Meeting, Houston, Texas, 2002; Vol. 54, Nos. 1-2, 2003.....	\$5

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**The ICCP-TSOP Joint Meeting, 2008
September 21-27, 2008 in Oviedo, Spain.**

The ICCP-TSOP Joint Meeting in 2008 (60th Annual Meeting of The International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology – ICCP, and the 25th Annual Meeting of the Society for Organic Petrology – TSOP) will be held at the Auditorium Prince Philip, in Oviedo (Spain), September 21-27. This Meeting is organized by the Instituto Nacional del Carbón (INCAR-CSIC, www.incar.csic.es)

1- **Key Conference Themes** will include:

- **Advances in Organic Petrology and Organic Geochemistry**
- **Applied Organic Petrology to Coal utilization and coal by-products.**
- **Organic Petrology in the context of Clean Coal Technologies**
- **Organic Petrology and Environment**

2- **Call for Papers:** Submit Abstracts for Technical Oral and Poster Presentations by **April 15, 2008** via Email to:

Dr. Isabel Suarez-Ruiz.
Email: isruiz@incar.csic.es

Address:
Instituto Nacional del Carbon (INCAR-CSIC)
Francisco Pintado Fe, 26
33011-Oviedo. SPAIN

Phone: +34985119090 / +34985118981
Fax: +34985297662

Abstracts must be 250-300 words maximum, sent as Microsoft Word or Text files. Figures, Tables, or special formatting are not required. In the e-mail indicate whether an Oral or Poster presentation is preferred.

After review and notification of acceptance, authors will also be invited to submit their papers for a special issue of the International Journal of Coal Geology.

3- **Registration, Conference Dinner and Field Trip Fees:**

Full Registration includes the participation in both ICCP and TSOP sessions, the ice-breaker party, Business Luncheon and Meet the TSOP Council Event, and coffee breaks.

Registration:

Delegate members : 160 Euro.
Non- members: 200 Euro
Meeting Students: 60 Euro
Meeting Guests: 85 Euro

Conference Dinner: 50 Euro

Field Trip to the Asturian Jurassic Formations: 60 Euro

(All fees must be paid **in cash** at the meeting upon registration)

Additional information about the ICCP-TSOP Joint Meeting is available at: www.incar.csic.es/iccp_tsop

4- **Meeting Venue**

Oviedo is the capital of the Asturias Principality (North Spain) and is the administrative and commercial centre of the region. Its history can be traced back over 12 centuries. Oviedo is one of the most outstanding cities in Spain, successfully contrasting the modern features and services with its many corners just brimming with history, which are there to be enjoyed by one and all. Oviedo is also characterized by its rich architecture reflected in its Cathedral, Churches, Town Hall, etc. Some of the Oviedo Monuments were declared UNESCO World Heritage since 1985.

More information about Oviedo available at the Website: www.ayto-oviedo.es/en/theCity/theCity.php

The Joint Meeting will be at the Auditorium Prince Philip in Oviedo: A modern building with a neoclassical style erected upon the foundations of old water deposits, whose unique stone structure can be appreciated in various places throughout the edifice.

More information about the meeting venue center available at the Website:
www.ayto-oviedo.es/en/areas/culture/princePhilipAuditorium/princePhilipAuditorium.php

5- Accommodation

A series of hotels from 2 to 5 stars are recommended. These hotels are located in Oviedo downtown close to the Conference venue that may be reached by walking. Delegates must make their own reservations.

Hotel Ramiro I (4 stars): 83 €(single room)- 127 (double room) €plus 7% taxes.
Calvo Sotelo, 13. Oviedo
Phone: +34985232850 /+34902303555
Website: www.hotelramiro.com/.

Hotel Fruela (3 stars): 80 €- 150 €plus 7% taxes
Fruela, 3. Oviedo
Phone: +34985208120
Website: www.hotelfruela.com

Hotel NH Principado (3 stars): 131 €- 175 €plus 7% taxes
San Francisco, 6. Oviedo
Phone: +34985217792
Website: www.nh-hotels.com/

Hotel Occidental de La Reconquista (5 stars): 175€- 220€plus 7% taxes
Gil de Jaz, 16. Oviedo.
Phone: +34985241100
Website: www.hoteldelareconquista.com/

Hotel Santa Clara (2 stars): 50 €- 85€plus 7% taxes
Santa Clara, 1. Oviedo
Phone: +34985222727, Website: www.hscoviedo.com/

Hostal Romero (2 stars): 36 €- 54 €plus 7% taxes
Uria 36-38, 2°. Oviedo.
Phone: +34985227591
Website: www.hostalromero.net/
Email: hostalromero@telecable.es

Accommodation inquiries:

Begoña Ruiz Bobes (begorb@incar.csic.es)
Jose Ramón Montes Sánchez (joseramon@incar.csic.es)

For more information and general inquiries about the Joint Meeting:

Isabel Suarez-Ruiz
Email: isruiz@incar.csic.es
phone: +34985119090 / +34985118981
Fax: +34985297662

Joint ICCP-TSOP Meeting, September 21-27 (Sunday-Saturday) 2008. Oviedo (Spain)

Instituto Nacional del Carbón (INCAR - CSIC)

MEETING SCHEDULE

Time	Sunday September 21	Monday September 22	Tuesday September 23	Wednesday September 24	Thursday September 25	Friday September 26	Saturday September 27
8:30 - 9:00		Registration	Registration		ICCP	TSOP	Field trip
9:00 - 9:30			ICCP	ICCP	Pl. Session		
9:30 - 10:00	Council Meeting	Welcome & ICCP General Assembly	Commission Meeting	Commission Meeting	Joint Scientific Session	Technical Session	
10:00 - 10:30					ICCP-TSOP		
10:30 - 11:00	ICCP				TSOP Technical Session		
11:00 - 11:30					Business Luncheon and Meet the TSOP Council Event		
11:30 - 12:00							
12:30 - 13:00							
13:30 - 14:00	Lunch break	Lunch break	Lunch break	Lunch break		Lunch break	
14:00 - 14:30							
14:30 - 15:00							
15:00 - 15:30							
15:30 - 16:00	Council Meeting ICCP	ICCP	ICCP	ICCP		TSOP Technical Session	
16:00 - 16:30							
16:30 - 17:00		Commission Meeting	Commission Meeting	Commission Meeting Plenary Session		Poster Session	
17:00 - 17:30							
17:30 - 18:00							
18:00 - 18:30	Registration & Ice-Breaker Party						
18:30 - 19:00							
19:00 - 19:30							
19:30 - 20:00			Council Meeting ICCP	Council Meeting TSOP			
20:00 - 20:30							
20:30 - 21:00							
21:00 - 21:30							
21:30 - 22:00							
22:00 - 22:30							
22:30 - 23:00							
23:00 - 23:30							
23:30 - 24:00							

AAPG Annual Convention

April 20 – 23, 2008
San Antonio, Texas, USA

Deliver the Conventional; Pursue the Unconventional! This year's program addresses the critical importance of new technology and the advanced knowledge needed to exploit old plays and discover new energy resources. Featured session topics include:

- Paleoclimate: Implications for Stratigraphic Interpretation and Modern Climate Change,
- Economics of Natural Gas and Alternative Energy,
- AAPG Interactive Forum on Global Climate Change,
- Hydrocarbons from Shale and Coal.

For more information on the meeting, along with registration materials, please visit:
www.aapg.org/sanantonio/intro.cfm

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**North American Coalbed Methane Forum
Spring Session**

April 29 - 30, 2008
Canonsburg, PA, USA

The North American Coalbed Methane Forum, Inc. will hold its Spring Session from April 29-30, 2008 at the Hilton Garden Inn at Southpointe near Canonsburg, PA, USA. In conjunction with the session, the forum has arranged a one day short course on Coalbed Methane Well Completions: Principles and Best Practices. The short course will be held on Tuesday, April 29 at the Inn.

For additional information please contact:
Ihor Havryluk @ havryluk@zoominternet.net,
ph:(412-445-5803)
or
Dr. Kashi Aminian @
kashayar.aminian@mail.wvu.edu,
ph:(304-293-7682 ext. 3406).

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ASTM Spring Meeting

May 4 – May 7, 2008
Hyatt Regency Denver Convention Center
Denver, CO, USA

ASTM technical committees meet once or twice a year. Most meetings are held during a 'Committee Week', which is a clustering of committees that meet the same week at the same location. The meeting for ASTM Committee D5 - Coal and Coke will be held from May 4-7, 2008 in Denver Colorado. For information on the schedule and registering, go to www.astm.org and look up meetings in the website menu.

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**18th International Symposium on
Analytical and Applied Pyrolysis**

May 18 – 23, 2008
Costa Teguis - Lanzarote
Canary Islands, Spain

Special emphasis will be given to front-line developments in laboratory and industrial applications with a wide spectrum of subjects involving:

Analytical pyrolysis in environmental sciences and geosciences; biological, medical, forensic, food and agricultural applications; polymer analysis and pyrolysis in industrial processes including bio-fuels.

For more information, please visit: www.pyr08.org/

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Calendar of Events

2008

April 6 - 10, 2008: American Chemical Society Spring national meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA. www.chemistry.org

April 13 - 18, 2008: European Geosciences Union General Assembly 2008, Vienna, Austria. Abstracts due by Jan. 14, 2008. <http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2008/>

April 20 - 23, 2008: AAPG Annual Convention and Exhibition, San Antonio, Texas, USA. www.aapg.org/sanantonio/

May 4 - 7, 2008: ASTM Spring Meeting, Denver, CO, USA. Committee D5 - Coal & Coke. www.astm.org

May 18 - 23, 2008: 18th International Symposium on Analytical and Applied Pyrolysis (PYR08) Lanzarote, Canary Islands, Spain. www.pyr08.org

July 13 - 18, 2008: American Carbon Society Carbon 2008 Conference, Nagano, Japan. <http://endomoribu.shinshu-u.ac.jp/carbon2008/>

July 13 - 18, 2008: Goldschmidt 2008, Vancouver. Session 12d: Sedimentary basins: fluids, energy and metallic resources. www.goldschmidt2008.org/themeView?theme=12

August 6-14, 2008: 33rd International Geological Congress, Oslo. Special Session 'Organic Geochemical Archives of Paleoenvironmental Conditions in Sediments of the Deep and Coastal Ocean, Lakes, and Rivers' and 'Organic-Rich Marine Sediments: climate records from anoxic oceans linked to process-based modeling of petroleum source rock.' www.33igc.org

August 17 - 21, 2008: American Chemical Society Fall national meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA. www.chemistry.org

August 30 - September 6, 2008: Joint Congress of the 12th International Palynological Congress and the 8th International Organization of Paleobotany Conference and the 41st AASP Annual Meeting. Bonn, Germany. www.palynology.org

September 7 - 10, 2008: The 12th International Nanoplankton Association (INA) meeting, Lyon, France. Studies based on lipid biomarkers/organic geochemistry are welcome. <http://ina2008.univ-lyon1.fr>

September 29 - October 2, 2008: 25th International Pittsburgh Coal Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, USA. www.engr.pitt.edu/pcc/2008%20Conference.htm

September 22 - 28, 2008: TSOP and ICCP Joint Annual Meeting, Oviedo, Spain. www.incar.csic.es/iccp_tsop

October 5 - 8, 2008: Geological Society of America Annual Meeting, Houston, Texas. Celebrating the International Year of Planet Earth! www.geosociety.org/meetings/

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Calendar Updates Invited!

If you have information on an upcoming meeting that is not currently in the Calendar of Events, please send the information to the Editor at rwalker@coalpetrography.com

Meeting Reports invited!

Reports and photographs from meetings of interest to TSOP members are needed for inclusion in the newsletter. Please refer to article submission guidelines on page 3 and send any reports or pictures to the Editor at rwalker@coalpetrography.com

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Satellite image of Oviedo, Spain
from an ‘eye altitude’ of 11,416 feet (3480 meters).
(Courtesy of Google Earth)

