



# ASP Newsletter

## The American Society of Pharmacognosy

VOLUME 21, NUMBER 1

February 1985

### FROM THE EDITOR

The contributions to the Newsletter are increasing steadily. Thanks to all who have contributed, particularly to Lynn Brady and Paul L. Schiff, Jr. for their additions to the last issue. Please continue to send your letters to the editor, selected editorials, grant information, grants received, new positions, position openings, and any other information which may be of interest to our readers. This material should be sent to:

Joy B. Reighard, Ph.D., Editor

ASP Newsletter

Temple University School of Pharmacy

3307 N. Broad St.

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Material for the next issue should reach my office no later than March 31, 1985.



JOHN P. N. ROSAZZA



PAUL L. SCHIFF, JR.

### ROSAZZA AND SCHIFF HONORED BY THE ACADEMY OF PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

Two distinguished members of our Society were honored by the Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the Academy's annual awards banquet on October 31, 1984 in Philadelphia, Pa.

John P.N. Rosazza, professor and head of the Division of Medicinal Chemistry and Natural Products of the College of Pharmacy at the University of Iowa received the 1984 APhA Foundation/APS Research Achievement Award in Natural Products.

The award is presented biennially and is intended to recognize and encourage outstanding and meritorious achievement in substances of biological origin. The award is sponsored by the FMC Corporation's Food and Pharmaceutical Products Division.

Dr. Rosazza's primary research interests focus on microbial and enzymatic transformations of organic compounds. His major emphasis has been on the microbial transformation of naturally occurring antitumor compounds, microbial systems as models for mammalian xenobiotic metabolism, and the development of microbial and enzymatic systems for use in organic synthetic processes. This research has resulted in more than 78 publications.

The APS section of Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacognosy sponsored a natural products symposium on microbial transformation in honor of Dr. Rosazza on the morning of the

banquet. In addition to Dr. Rosazza, several of his colleagues joined him at the podium: Dr. Robert V. Smith, Drug Dynamics Institute, College of Pharmacy, University of Texas at Austin, Dr. Patrick J. Davis, Division of Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry, College of Pharmacy, University of Texas at Austin, and Dr. Carl E. Cerniglia, National Center for Toxicological Research, FDA. The symposium was very exciting for all in attendance.

Paul L. Schiff, Jr., Professor and Chairman of the Department of Pharmacognosy, School of Pharmacy, University of Pittsburgh, was awarded Fellow status by the Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the same awards banquet in Philadelphia.

Academy Fellows are members of unusually high distinction who are recognized as outstanding contributors and acknowledged leaders in the advancement of the pharmaceutical sciences.

To achieve Fellow status, candidates must be recommended by an APS member of a Section and then be approved by at least two-thirds of the Academy Fellows Selection Committee. The committee's recommendations must then be approved by a majority vote of the Academy Executive Committee. This year nine members were awarded Fellow status.

Dr. Schiff's primary research interests focus on the isolation and characterization of the alkaloids from West African medicinal plants and from the genus *Thalictrum*. His major emphasis has been on the isolation and characterization of bisbenzylisoquinoline alkaloids. This research has resulted in over 50 publications.

Congratulations, Jack and Paul for a fine job!

### THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PHARMACOGNOSY THE FIRST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to make some remarks about the development and the history of the American Society of Pharmacognosy over the past 25 years.

While a graduate student at the University of Connecticut in the mid 1950's, I had numerous opportunities to visit with Dr. Arthur Schwarting and to learn of his desire to see the formation of an organization of pharmacognosists and other colleagues interested in natural product research. At a meeting of the Plant Science Seminar held at Ferris Institute (now Ferris State College) in 1958, Dr. Schwarting first made a proposal for the formal organization of such a society. The Society was intended to "promote the growth and development of pharmacognosy, to provide the opportunity for association among the workers in that science and related sciences, to provide opportunities for presentation of research achievements, and to promote the publication of meritorious research." Those objectives first suggested by Schwarting have certainly been achieved over the last 25 years.

It should be noted that, prior to 1959, many persons interested in pharmacognosy, primarily from academia, had been meeting annually for years as a very informal organization called the Plant Science Seminar. Those meetings often included families and there was considerable socializing and almost always some type of botanical field trip. One of the events common to each meeting was a watermelon feed.

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Following Schwarting's recommendation, the American Society of Pharmacognosy was formally organized at a meeting held at the University of Illinois at the Medical Center in Chicago in 1959. An election of officers was held at the meeting, with Varro Tyler being elected President; Norman Farnsworth, Vice President; Frank Mercer was chosen Secretary; and Frank Crane, the Treasurer. Elected as members of the executive committee were Edward Claus, Carl Johnson, and myself. For organizational purposes, Varro Tyler and Norman Farnsworth were asked to serve a second term. In 1961 Norman became the second president and henceforth each present served a one-year term. Frank Mercer served only one year as Secretary and Rolf Westby replaced him.

In contemplating the contributions of the ASP over the years, two in particular seem most significant. First was the Society's acquisition of *Lloydia* and its subsequent recognition as an outstanding natural products journal. Second has been the steadily improved quality of annual meeting programs, and particularly the symposia which have attracted scientists of many disciplines and given them the formal and informal opportunity to discuss research of mutual interest.

Perhaps the most outstanding contribution made by the ASP occurred when the Society signed an agreement with the Lloyd Library and Museum to jointly publish *Lloydia*, later known as the *Journal of Natural Products*.

The journal *Lloydia* had been published for 23 years by the Lloyd Library and Museum in Cincinnati, and shortly after the ASP was formally organized it negotiated with that organization and the trustees of the Lloyd estate to jointly publish the journal. Those successful negotiations were due largely to the efforts of a committee chaired by Norman Farnsworth with much support by Tip Tyler and Art Schwarting.

In March of 1960, only one year after the Society's formal organization, Arthur Schwarting's name first appeared as Editor of *Lloydia*. One year later, in March of 1961, the ASP-Lloyd Library affiliation was recognized and the cover of the journal became green in color. Art Schwarting served as Editor of *Lloydia* for seventeen years, several of which included Bill Kelleher as Associate Editor. In 1977 Jack Beal became editor and Jack's wife Earlene served as his valuable assistant. This year Jim Robbers assumed the editorship and he in turn has already made significant contributions. You might be interested to know that the March 1961 issue of *Lloydia* had 54 pages and ASP membership dues were 8 dollars, including a subscription to *Lloydia*. The most recent issue had 187 pages and now there are six issues per year rather than the original four. In March 1970, the name of the journal was changed from *Lloydia* to the *Journal of Natural Products*. All ASP members owe much to the present and past editors of *Lloydia* for we can be justly proud of our journal.

With respect to membership, the Society started with considerably less than 100 members. Today it numbers in excess of 650, and a significant part of the membership is comprised of our colleagues from countries outside of the United States.

Honorary membership has been conferred on 13 individuals "whose scientific contributions have been extensive and their research and scholarly efforts have significantly contributed to the advancement of pharmacognosy." Those so honored were: Heber W. Youngken, Sr., John Seibert, Richard Wasicky, J.J. Willaman, R. Hegnauer, Jonathan Hartwell, F. Santavy, Tatsuo Kariyone, Albert Hofmann, Kurt Mothes, Arthur E. Schwarting, Heber W. Youngken, Jr., and Jack Beal.

Of the 25 annual meetings of the Society, 21 have been held on college campuses. The meetings at Washington, D.C. (1971), Jekyll Island (1973), Chicago (1974), Telemark (1976), and Seattle (1978) were not actually held on a campus. Two meetings have been held in Europe, at the University of Vienna (1970) and the University of Strasbourg (1980). Each of those meetings were jointly organized with European societies who shared interests similar to those of ASP members.

On three occasions we have held back-to-back meetings with the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. There have been three joint meetings with the Pharmacognosy Section of the

Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences, two with the Society of Economic Botany, one with the F.I.P., and one with the Phytochemical Society of North America.

Lynn Brady and I, the only two members who have attended all of the annual meetings, have discussed the programs held over the years and we agree that each provided something memorable. However, time does not permit discussion of each. Certainly the first meeting held at the University of Illinois at the Medical Center should not be forgotten for that's where it all began. Anyone attending that meeting will recall the enthusiasm of seeing a new society being organized, the high temperatures, and the lack of an air-conditioned dormitory.

Few can forget the first meeting in Pittsburgh in 1964. Our first major symposium was held there. It considered all aspects of Vinca research including the development of the Vincatini. The mid-60's found us meeting at three Big Ten universities, Minnesota, Michigan, and Iowa. There have been two meetings on the west coast, at Corvallis in 1969 and Seattle in 1977.

Those fortunate to attend the first meeting outside of this country will readily recall the 1970 meeting at the University of Vienna, with a pre-meeting in Munich.

The meetings at Jekyll Island (1973) and at Telemark (1976) were unique for they were held at resort areas. In each case, the strong scientific and social programs provided memorable experiences. In 1980 we returned to Europe for an excellent meeting at Strasbourg; and now we have returned to Texas for a second time, having met at the University of Houston in 1961.

While it's always enjoyable to reminisce and recall the fine scientific program and the special "entertainment" provided by the ASP's yearly meetings, it's more important to look to the future. The ASP has come a long way in a quarter century and its progress has only come about through generous and dedicated members. With this solid foundation, we can all look forward to the future with confidence and anticipation.

From remarks delivered by David Carew at the 25th Annual Meeting of the ASP in Austin, Texas, on August 22, 1984.

## THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PHARMACOGNOSY AFTER 25 YEARS A MISNOMER?

During the ASP business meeting in Austin, there were some familiar lamentations about the plight of "pharmacognosy" in pharmacy schools. A remark was made that in another few years there will be neither graduate students nor available academic positions in "pharmacognosy".

"Pharmacognosy", named as such, as an academic discipline in undergraduate pharmacy school curricula, is becoming, indeed, rare. However, the subject matter (the natural medicinal products such as antibiotics, vaccines, biologicals, hormones, alkaloids, etc.) cannot be ignored and must be included somewhere if pharmacists are to be educated as real experts in drug knowledge. People with our expertise will always be best equipped, and, thus, should be needed to teach this material.

It seems that the stigma (an obsolete association with microscopy and "weeds and seeds") that shackles pharmacognosy simply cannot be shaken no matter how hard we try. Maybe we should change the term? We could disguise pharmacognosy under some fancy new title and silence the critics. We wouldn't be the first to pull this modernization maneuver, e.g., pharmaceutical chemistry is now called medicinal chemistry, physical pharmacy is now biopharmaceutics and pharmacokinetics, pharmacology is now therapeutics, and dispensing pharmacy is now clinical pharmacy or pharmacy practice. In some pharmacy schools the name "natural products" seems to be working; in others departmental combination with Medicinal Chemistry has strengthened the discipline.

An individual's survival and success in academia today is absolutely guaranteed by one major criterion, i.e., the generation of outside research funding to conduct meaningful research. The subject matter of "pharmacognosy" can too easily be taught to undergraduates by those who have this grant-getting ability,

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assume academic positions traditionally occupied by pharmacognosists, but conduct their research in some other field of endeavor, e.g., synthetic medicinal chemistry. The purpose of the ASP is to promote research in the field of natural products. Of course, the Society is concerned that a number of academic positions have been lost, but it is only through one avenue, i.e., the promotion of research, that our members in academia can expect help from the ASP. When academic administrators realize that they may be missing out on possible research monies by not hiring someone in natural products, then the jobs will open up. Through our scientific meetings, starter grants, travel awards, the ASP Research Achievement Award, etc., the Society will do everything in its power to promote research and, thus, support those member pharmacognosists and other natural product researchers in academia. Those who wish to influence pharmacy education in other ways should support the Biological Sciences Section of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.

All of our Society members should recognize two important facts; accordingly, we must adjust our future actions and activities-

The American Society of Pharmacognosy is now a misnomer; it is (1) no longer just an **American** Society and (2) no longer a Society of just pharmacognosists.

A demographic perusal of our current active membership (full members) list shows that only 319/588 (54%) of us reside in the United States and only 190/588 (32%) of us are associated with schools of pharmacy (actually, many of these are foreign and/or not pharmacognosists *per se*).

The "American" title seems to be of little serious consequence as a misnomer, e.g., the American Chemical Society also enjoys an extensive foreign membership. We meet only one year out of ten in countries other than the United States; and we still have a majority of members from the western hemisphere.

However, rather than pharmacognosy (natural medicinal products), the common bond of our current membership has broadened to include all of natural product research. Much of the newly expanded interest in the Society can be attributed to our *Journal of Natural Products*, which has become recognized internationally as a premiere publication in this field; we must realize that our *Journal* can sell and is selling the Society to a potential membership that far exceeds the market in pharmacognosy alone.

Indeed the name "pharmacognosy" is very likely an impediment to the continued expansion of our membership rolls to these new natural product researchers who are only being confused by this term which is parochial to just pharmacy. Fortunately, we have many loyal members who have somehow discovered us and tolerate us in spite of this name. We thank them for their patience. Several have even become elected as officers in the Society. But must we stubbornly cling to this name which now has meaning to less than two-thirds of our members? Some expansion or alteration of the Society's name is in order to correct this misnomer. Several have suggested the American Society of Pharmacognosy and Natural Products (ASPNP). Such an alteration would both preserve the old name and still reflect the interests of our newer members. A palatable, undivisive, correction of the misnomer could very well strengthen the Society as we progress through the next 25 years.

Jerry L. McLaughlin, Ph.D., Professor of Pharmacognosy  
Department of Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacognosy  
Purdue University

## SOCIETY BUSINESS

### NOMINATIONS FOR THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PHARMACOGNOSY RESEARCH AWARD

The American Society of Pharmacognosy announces the establishment of a new research award to recognize members of the Society for their outstanding contribution to research in the field of natural products.

The American Society of Pharmacognosy Research Award will be presented every third year at the Annual Meeting of the Society

with a special honorarium of \$2,500 and travel expenses sufficient to attend the meeting. It is anticipated that the first award will be presented at the Annual Meeting to be held in North Carolina in 1985. The recipient is required to present the keynote lecture, which will be published in *Journal of Natural Products* as a special feature.

A nomination may be made by any member, and it must include a curriculum vitae of the nominee, a list of publications, and a statement emphasizing the nominee's accomplishments and their significance. Attachment of representative reprints may be helpful. Honorary members of the Society would normally be excluded from consideration since their achievements have been already acknowledged by the Society.

Nominations will be reviewed by the Research Award Committee consisting of Yuzuru Shimizu, chairman, University of Rhode Island; Laurence H. Hurley, University of Texas; and John M. Cassady, Purdue University.

Nominations and inquiries should be directed to: Yuzuru Shimizu, Chairman, Research Award Committee, College of Pharmacy, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island 02881. Telephone Number (401) 792-2751, not later than April 30, 1985.

## NEW ASP RESEARCH AWARDS PROGRAM

In addition to the ASP Research Achievement Award outlined above, the American Society of Pharmacognosy is pleased to announce the initiation of its new research awards program. To help stimulate interest in all phases of natural product research, the ASP is offering the following Grants and Awards:

### 1. ASP Travel Grants for Active Members:

Members of the Society within the first five years of assuming their first professional position are eligible for a \$500 Grant to present the results of their research at an American Society of Pharmacognosy Annual Meeting. Four such awards will be provided annually. Members may apply by submission of (1) a copy of the Abstract of the paper to be presented, (2) a letter of justification for the request and (3) a Curriculum Vitae. Applications are due by May 1, 1985.

### 2. ASP Travel Grants for Graduate Students:

Graduate Students under supervision of a Society Member are eligible for a \$250 Grant to present a paper at an American Society of Pharmacognosy Annual Meeting. Four such awards will be made annually. Students may apply by submission of (1) a copy of the Abstract of the paper to be presented and (2) a letter of recommendation by the student's advisor. Applications are due by May 1, 1985.

### 3. ASP Undergraduate Research Awards:

Undergraduate students interested in investigating a career in natural products research are eligible for a Research Award to study under the direction of a Society Member on the faculty of an American college or university. A maximum of two such awards (\$1,500 to the Student and \$500 to the Advisor) will be provided annually. No overhead monies will be provided by the ASP to the grantee institution. The research project is to be accomplished during the summer previous to the last year of the student's academic program leading to the B.S. or Pharm.D. Degrees. Applications in the form of a brief research proposal are due by March 1, 1985.

Address inquiries and submit applications to:

Joseph E. Knapp, Ph.D.  
Chairman, Awards Committee  
American Society of Pharmacognosy  
University of Pittsburgh  
School of Pharmacy  
512 Salk Hall  
Pittsburgh, PA 15261

## FUTURE MEETINGS

### FUTURE ASP MEETINGS

1985-Chapel Hill, North Carolina, July 7-12. This is a joint meeting of the ASP, the Association Francaise pour l'enseignement et la Recherche en Pharmacognosie, the Gesellschaft für Arzneipflanzenforschung, and the Phytochemical Society of Europe and is known as the International Research Congress on Natural Products. The scientific program committee has planned a symposium entitled, "Biologically Active Natural Products: Structure, Biosynthesis, and Synthesis." The symposium includes nine renowned speakers on the three topics. Special events lined up by the local committee include a tour of Raleigh, North Carolina, the state capital, a southern barbeque and jamboree with a blue-grass band and square dancing, and a tour of old Salem/Winston-Salem, North Carolina. For further information contact: David G.I. Kingston, Ph.D., Department of Chemistry, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA 24061 U.S.A. Phone: (703) 961-6570

### POSSIBLE CE AT THIS SUMMER'S MEETING

The ASP, under the ACPE providorship and in cooperation with U.N.C. School of Pharmacy, anticipates the offering of CE credit to members attending the symposia lectures of this coming summer's International Research Congress on Natural Products. This CE program will be provided in accordance with ACPE criteria. Individuals who hold practitioner's licensure in states requiring mandatory CE are urged to register for the program at a special table that will be set up in the registration area of the meeting. While no fee has been decided on at this writing, it is hoped that only a nominal fee will be needed. The Ad-hoc Education Committee consisting of Joe Schradie (Toledo), Audrey Bingle (Illinois), and Bob Krueger (Chair, Ferris State) is organizing the program in conjunction with Claude Paoloni, Ph.D., Director of Continuing Education, U.N.C. School of Pharmacy. If any one has questions about the program, write Bob Krueger (School of Pharmacy, Ferris State College, Big Rapids, MI 49307 U.S.A.). Details of the program will be forthcoming in the next Newsletter.

- 1986-University of Michigan
- 1987-University of Rhode Island
- 1988-University of Utah
- 1989-University of Puerto Rico

### Phytochemical Society of Europe Future Meetings

Plant Products and the New Technology, April 16-18, 1985, University College of Swansea, Wales. For details contact Dr. J.R. Gallon, Department of Biochemistry, University College of Swansea, Singleton Park, Swansea SA2 8PP, U.K.

### Phytochemical Society of North America Future Meetings

Shikimate Pathway, Recent Deveopments, June 12-16, 1985, Asilomar Conference Center, Pacific Grove, California. For further information contact: Bock G. Chan, Plant Protection Phytochemistry, WRRR, ARS, USDA, 800 Buchanan Street, Albany, California 94710 U.S.A. Phone: (415) 486-3408.

### Other meetings of interets:

Gordon Research Conference on Natural Products, July 23-27, 1985, New Hampton School, New Hampton. For details contact Alexander Cruickshank, Director, Gordon Research Conferences, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island 02881 U.S.A. Phone: (401) 783-4011.

Third International Congress of Systematic and Evolutionary Biology, July 4-10, 1985, University of Sussex, United Kingdom. For further information contact: Professor Barry Cox, ICSEB Congress Office, 130 Queen's Road, Brighton, Sussex BN1 3WE, U.K.

45th International Congress of Pharmaceutical Sciences of the International Pharmaceutical Federation (F.I.P.), September 2-6, 1985, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. For details contact: Professor Jacques Gagne, Doyen, Faculte de Pharmacie, Universite de Montreal, C.P. 6128, Succursale A, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3C 3J7.

## MEETING REPORTS

### INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON CHINESE MEDICINAL MATERIALS RESEARCH

This symposium, held June 12-14, 1984 in Hong Kong, proved to be an important meeting between over 200 Eastern and Western scientists. It was organized by the Chinese Medicinal Materials Research Centre and the Chinese University of Hong Kong and held at the Regal Meridien Hotel. Sponsors included several major international pharmaceutical and food companies as well as numerous local organizations interested in supporting research and awareness of the vast potential of Chinese natural products.

The scientific program started with a coverage of the general approach to studies of Asiatic drugs from Nature and proceeded into several simultaneous sessions (eight in total) which covered recent developments (computerization of Chinese medicinal information, toxicity and side effects of some Chinese medicinal herbs, etc.) as well as specific topic areas including, Chinese drugs used in treating liver diseases, trichosanthin and related abortifacient proteins, general processing and Chinese prescriptions, immunostimulants and anti-allergic drugs, anti-cancer drugs, modern studies on the chemistry and pharmacology of ginseng, drugs used in improving microcirculation and gossypol research. In general all sessions (posters as well) provided high level studies being conducted throughout the world, but mainly in Asia on Chinese materia medica. Of particular interest was the differing approach and skill levels noted between the various parts of the world (U.S., Asia, Main Land China, Hong Kong, Europe, Korea, etc.) in handling research in pharmacognosy.

The session on ginseng provided an excellent update on the chemistry of *Panax* spp., including newer methods of analysis, and both biochemical and pharmacokinetic studies of ginsenosides in the mini-pig. New neuropharmacological and immunological studies were reported from Japan and China. One study focussed on the influence of a standardized ginsenoside concentrate on human physical performance. The poster sessions showed work on ginseng tissue culture and *Panax trifolius* chemistry, among others.

Other prime events of the symposium included a visit to the Chinese University of Hong Kong Science Centre and Computer Centre, an opening ceremony dedicating one of the new labs, and finally a concluding symposium dinner held at the Peiking Garden Restaurant which featured a multi-course Chinese meal.

A complete publication of all the papers presented at the symposium will be available as one book within a year or so.

Submitted by Ara DerMarderosian, Ph.D., Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, Philadelphia, PA 19104

## COLLECTION OF BIOLOGICALS AVAILABLE

A biological collector, located in central Alabama, is available to fulfill your requirements of botanical and zoological (invertebrate) materials for use in your laboratories.

Mr. Edmund H. Sallee is an experienced biological collector who will supply plant material native to the Southeast portion of the Untied States and will collect virtually any available species. He is also willing to travel to any geographical location necessary when it is economically feasible. Mr. Sallee is fluent in the language of Spanish having done extensive work throughout the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico and Central America as far south as Costa Rica. He would also be able to do some types of field studies and photographic work as needed. References are available upon request.

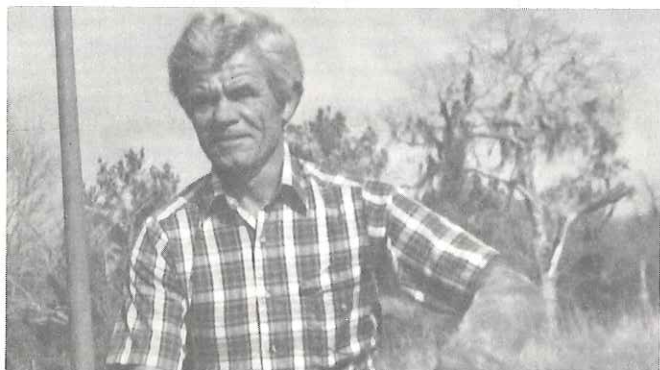
Past experiences of Mr. Sallee include:

- 1) The supplying of large quantities of insects (mostly *Hymenoptera*) for the manufacture of extracts and pure venoms for allergy immunizaiton purposes. This includes six species of *Polistes* (paper wasps), *Vespula* (yellow jackets), and *Solenopsis* (fire ants).
- 2) In the 1960's, the collection of marine invertebrates, insects, and so on, for biological supply companies.

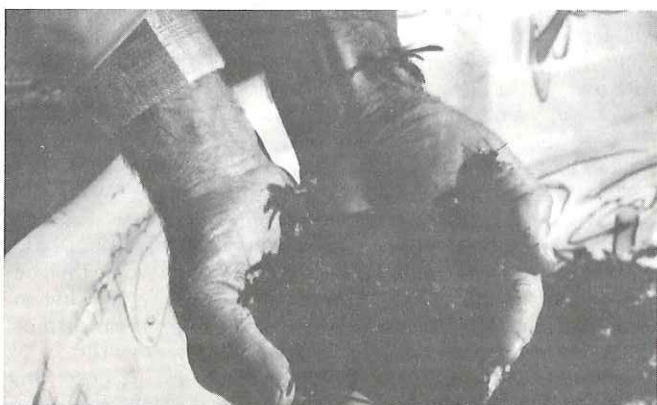
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- 3) From 1972-1977, under contract with the United States Department of Agriculture, he collected numerous species of plants endemic to Mexico for cancer research.
- 4) In 1977 he did a field study for a pharmaceutical firm to determine the feasibility of utilizing existing supplies of a specific species of plant native to Central Mexico as a drug source. This involved a mapping of the supply of the species over six states as well as collecting herbarium specimens, taking photographs, and gathering ecological data.
- 5) He has also accompanied a professor of ornithology into the Mexican tropics as an aide and interpreter, while gathering data for a bird book which has since been published.

If you have need of any of these services or have any questions, please call: Mr. Edmund H. Sallee at (205) 227-4533 at any convenient time, or write: P.O. Box 38, Letohatchee, Alabama 36047 U.S.A.



MR. SALLEE



COLLECTION OF POLISTES WASPS

### MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the American Society of Pharmacognosy is recognized in several categories:

#### Full Membership

Full membership is open to any scientist interested in the study of natural products. Dues are \$35.00 per year. If airmail is requested, the dues are \$60.00.

#### Associate Membership

Associate membership is open to students of pharmacognosy and allied fields. These members are not accorded voting privileges, and dues are \$25.00 per year.

#### Honorary Membership

Honorary members are selected by the Executive Committee of the American Society of Pharmacognosy on the basis of meritorious service to pharmacognosy. Present Honorary Members are:

- Dr. Jack L. Beal, Ohio State University
- Dr. Jonathan L. Hartwell, Washington

## SOCIETY NEWS

### OBITUARY

The Society was saddened to learn of the death of one of our members, Dr. Kazys Martinkus on January 13, 1984. Dr. Martinkus received his Ph.D. in pharmacognosy from the University of Connecticut in 1982 and accepted a postdoc at Rockefeller University. Dr. Martinkus was admired by all who knew him and will be sadly missed. He is survived by his parents and one sister, all from Chicago.

### ASP COMMITTEES - 1984-85

#### ASP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

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 Paul L. Schiff, Jr.,  
 Immediate Past-President  
 Geoffrey A. Cordell, Vice President  
 Larry W. Robertson, Secretary  
 David J. Slatkin, Treasurer  
 James E. Robbers, Editor,  
*Journal of Natural Products*  
 Donald E. Nettleton (1982-85)  
 Joseph E. Knapp (1983-86)  
 David G.I. Kingston (1984-87)

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 John H. Cardellina, II  
 William L. Lasswell

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 Paul L. Schiff, Jr.

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 Charles H. Phoebe, Jr.  
 Chris M. Ireland  
 David J. Slatkin, *ex officio*

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Joy B. Reighard, editor

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 David G.I. Kingston  
 Jerry L. McLaughlin  
 Members of the Advisory Board

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 S. William Pelletier  
 John P. Rosazza

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 Larry W. Robertson

##### SCIENTIFIC:

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 John P. Rosazza  
 John M. Cassady  
 Steven J. Gould  
 Jack K. Wier  
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##### EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

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 Audrey S. Bingel  
 Joseph Schradie

##### TELLERS COMMITTEE:

Larry W. Robertson, Chair  
 Others selected by chair

##### RESEARCH AWARD COMMITTEE:

Yuzuru Shimizu, Chair  
 Laurence H. Hurley  
 John M. Cassady

- Dr. R. Hegnauer, Leiden, Netherlands
- Dr. Albert Hofmann, Switzerland
- Dr. Arthur E. Schwarting, Florida
- Dr. Heber W. Youngken, Jr., University of Rhode Island

#### Patron, Sustaining, and Benefactor Memberships

These memberships are open to any person or organization wishing to support the aims and objectives of the Society. Dues are as follows:

- Patron Member - \$200.00 per year
- Sustaining Member - \$500.00 per year
- Benefactor Member - \$1,000 per year

Additional information about memberships may be obtained by writing to the Treasurer of the Society.

David J. Slatkin, Ph.D., Treasurer  
 The American Society of Pharmacognosy  
 Department of Pharmacognosy  
 512 Salk Hall  
 University of Pittsburgh  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15261 U.S.A.

## NEW MEMBERS

The ASP is pleased to welcome the following new members:  
New Full Members:

Michael D. Bentley  
University of Maine

New Associate Members:  
Youssef Ibrahim Aly  
University of Pittsburgh

John W. Blunt  
University of Canterbury

Jocelyn W. Burke  
Ohio State University

Ilia Brondz  
University of Oslo

Shoei-Sheng Lee  
Ohio State University

Mark Cushman  
Purdue University

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## BOOKS OF INTEREST

"Alkaloids: Chemical and Biological Perspectives," S. William Pelletier, Editor. Vol. 1 redefines and examines the nature of the alkaloid, 398 pp., 1983, \$59.95. Vol. 2 reviews important aspects of alkaloid research including the application of x-ray crystallography, 448 pp., 1984, \$59.95. Vol. 3 will include pyridine and piperidine alkaloids as well as total synthesis of the pentacyclic Aspidosperma alkaloids, 380 pp., March, 1985, \$59.95, John Wiley and Sons.

"Secondary Metabolism in Microorganisms, Plants and Animals," Martin Luckner, Veb Gustav Fischer, Verlag Jena, G.D.R., 576 pp., 1984.

"Advances in Chinese Medicinal Materials Research," H.M. Chang, H.W. Yeung, W.W. Tso, and A. Koo, Editors, 600 pp., \$60.00, World Scientific Publishing Company, Singapore.

"The Alkaloids: Chemistry and Pharmacology," Vol. 22 A. Brossi, ed., 342 pp., \$50.00, Academic Press, 1983.

(Continued on next column)

## Books of Interest *Continued*

"The Leukotrienes: Chemistry and Biology," L.W. Chakrin, and D.M. Bailey, eds., 308 pp., \$52.00, Academic Press, 1984.

"Chinese Herbal Remedies," Albert Y. Leung, Universe Books, New York, 1984.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

As tropical forests are destroyed, countless plant species face certain extinction. Many of these species are unknown to science; their potential benefits therefore remain unknown and unrealized.

One particular cost-effective method of identifying potentially useful tropical plant species is the science of ethnobotany, the study of the use of plants by aboriginal peoples who have an intimate knowledge of these forests and the useful products that they contain. By studying the ethnobotanical lore of these people, we can find new and useful plant species, while generating important economic data for emphasizing the importance of tropical forest conservation.

In recognition of the importance of ethnobotany as a means of demonstrating the inherent value of tropical plant diversity, WWF-U.S. initiated a project entitled "Conservation and Ethnobotany in Tropical South America" in September of 1981. One of the major components of this study has been the development of a standardized format for organizing the wealth of available data on useful plants of lowland South America. Prior to the initiation of this project, much of this information was widely scattered throughout the literature and was consequently unavailable to conservationists and development planners. To date, a catalogue of over 1000 useful species has been compiled, including data on Latin and vernacular names, distribution, aboriginal use, culture and cultivation, and chemical composition. Nevertheless, it is increasingly clear that the magnitude of the information available requires the collaboration of the scientific community, if we are going to organize the data in a meaningful way.

At a meeting of the Ethnobotany Project Advisory Group (Dr. T. Lovejoy, World Wildlife Fund-U.S., Chairman; Dr. H. Eshbaugh, Miami University of Ohio; Dr. R.A. Mettermeier, World Wildlife Fund-U.S.; Dr. T. Plowman, Field Museum of Natural History; and Dr. G.T. Prance, New York Botanical Garden) in February of 1984, it was decided to publish a sample of the standardized format which has been developed and invite other researchers to adopt their data to this format which would then be computerized at the Species Conservation Monitoring Unit in Cambridge, England during the following year. For further information or to request copies of this form, please write:

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## ASP Newsletter American Society of Pharmacognosy

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