Cocoa Beach Meeting Spotlights Geography in Action

Shown here are landscape scenes that signify the various types of land use found in the East Central Florida Area. February's meeting of the Florida Society of Geographers will focus on both the geographic aspects of the space effort as well as on the place geographers will play in planning for the future of the dynamic Cape Kennedy area.

Geography in Action

by Alex Chamberlin

The Kennedy Space Center will be the focal point of the third annual meeting of the Florida Society of Geographers. The East Central Florida Regional Planning Council and the Brevard County Planning Department will host the meeting to be held on February 25th and 26th at the Carriage House Motel in Cocoa Beach. The feature of the meeting will be a Friday afternoon tour of the Space Center conducted by NASA employees. U. Wright Kerns, NASA Community Services Officer, will discuss "The Geographic Significance of U. S. Space Efforts" at the banquet Friday evening.

The general theme of the meeting will be Geography in Action. In addition to the geographic aspects of U. S. space efforts, emphasis will be directed to the use of geographers in planning for the future of the dynamic Cape Kennedy area. Among the speakers will be employers of geographers who will be available for a first hand accounting of the strengths and weaknesses of existing geographic training.

Since it was mentioned at earlier meetings that many Florida Geographers are unfamiliar with East Central Florida, a determined effort is being made to correct this weakness. Subjects presently scheduled are "The Role of Geographers in the Regional Planning Process," by Robert H. Doyle, Executive Director of the East (See Action, p. 2)
EXECUTIVE VIEWS

Tempus fugit. It seems somehow difficult to believe that our Florida Society of Geographers is now two years old. And although the incumbent president has been relatively inactive over the past year, the organization itself appears to be strong and healthy, with interest among the members wavering as high as ever. There is no doubt in my mind that Florida geographers have demonstrated ample interest, enthusiasm and energy to sustain the FSG on a permanent basis.

Now it is time to channel these resources into definite, constructive outlets for the good of the profession.

At the forthcoming meeting in Cocoa Beach, charter president Bob Fuson will offer the recommendations of his projects committee for specific FSG program objectives. In view of this, it may be a little premature for me to speculate on the subject, but I would like to comment on one or two observations. First, assuming that two heads are better than one and that several geographers jointly can stimulate each other to action better than a lone geographer can work up similar enthusiasm in himself, it appears that we need to get a committee system functioning more effectively. Each major project could then be assigned to a separate committee rather than a single overworked individual, as is now largely the case. As a second thought, it seems to me that we should work toward some type of regular professional publication, to provide a medium for the exchange of useful information which otherwise might remain generally unavailable. Having such an appropriate outlet might even stimulate some of our scholars to commit the fruit of their labors to that all-important written word. Perhaps the FSG could eventually establish a library of Florida geography at some suitable location.

It has been suggested that the FSG consider aligning itself with other geographic organizations espousing similar objectives in order to better further the cause of geography. I had an appointment with AAG officials in Washington on February 7, and, among other things, explored informally, the possibilities for mutually advantageous relationships with that organization.

This may be my last opportunity to formally express my very great appreciation to those individuals who have kept the Society going during the past year. At the risk of omitting some equally deserving, I would like to single out several, such as Bob Fuson, for his continuing guidance and inspiration; Jim Latham, for his dependable hackstopping as vice-president and for the excellent Boca Raton program; Bob Marcus, for devoting practically full time to his secretarial duties; Joan (DuBuis) Carter, for keeping us solvent and for marrying an attorney so we could have free legal advice; Ed Pernald, for challenging the titans of the journalism field with our ever-improving newsletter; Alex Chamberlin, for his dedication to the Society and willingness to tackle any assignment; John Davis, for doing most of the work the president should have done; and Jim Anderson, Allison Horton and Banks Vest, of the Executive Committee, who were always available and willing to help, had I just called on them more often.

Finally, I would like to thank each loyal member—for believing in the Society, for supporting it with your interest, actions and attendance at meetings, and for honoring me with the opportunity to serve the Society as its second president.

We have an outstanding program, an important business meeting and a lot of fun waiting for us at Cocoa Beach on February 25-26. I sincerely urge each of you to attend, and look forward to seeing you there.  

(Action from p. 1)


Another feature of the meeting will be a cartographic display in which both members of the Society and non-members are being invited to participate. In connection with this display a representative of a large commercial map company will make a presentation on "Cartographic Techniques Used by Commercial Map Producers."

Capping a full agenda is the Business Session which will include election of officers, committee reports and awards.
GEOGRAPHY IN FLORIDA
University of South Florida

The Department of Geography has added a third member to its faculty—Dr. Stuart C. Rothwell, who joins the staff as an Assistant Professor from Wisconsin State University at Eau Claire. Dr. Rothwell had previously also taught in Florida at Rollins College and the University of Miami, and he is also a charter member of the Florida Society of Geographers. Dr. Alfonso Gonzalez, Chairman of the Department of Geography, was promoted to Associate Professor effective September 1965. Dr. Robert H. Fuson, the first president of the FSG, is the other member of the staff.

The geography curriculum at USF has been completely reorganized and the new curriculum becomes effective beginning with Trimester III, in April 1966. We have felt that practically all of our upper undergraduate courses were very frequently modified introductory courses because of the lack of pre-requisite training for admission to these courses. In our new curriculum, Introduction to Geography (3 hrs.), followed by Systematic Geography (5 hrs.) are pre-requisites for all higher undergraduate courses. Beyond these two fundamental courses, we now offer only four courses (Physical Geography, Cultural Geography, Regional Geography, and Geographic Techniques & Methodology) which will vary in both topical content and credit hours from time to time and may be repeated for credit (as topics vary). Our new curriculum has, therefore, the following objectives:

1. much greater flexibility to compensate for changing conditions, combined with an absolute minimum of course changes or additions;
2. this flexibility is attained not only without the addition of new course offerings but by the reduction of the number of undergraduate courses from 18 to 6;
3. the upper division courses will be upgraded significantly so that they will be more meaningful to both majors and non-majors alike;
4. will remain in keeping with the universal desire to avoid course proliferation.

Florida Atlantic University

The Commission on College Geography of the Association of American Geographers met at Florida Atlantic University at Boca Raton from Friday, January 21st, to Sunday, January 23rd. Sixteen members were present, including all present officers and the Executive Secretary of the AAG. The Commission is chaired by Dr. Saul Cohen of Clark University and directed by Dr. John Lounsbury of Eastern Michigan University. During the three days of working conferences the Commission took time out for an orientation on FAU's modern teaching facilities, the program of the Geography Department, and also participated in video-taped press conferences and a class lecture. A luncheon and a patio supper with deans and chairmen of the University were very successful social occasions. During the Christmas holidays Dr. James Latham traveled to Berkeley where he chaired a Symposium on the Remote Sensing of Environment which he had organized for the American Association for the Advancement of Science. An overflow audience attended this first AAAS program on remote sensing, and a press conference preceding it led to nation-wide coverage of the possibilities of remote sensing of geographic phenomena.

Assistant Professor Bob Tata has had his paper on industrial concentrations around Mexico City accepted for presentation at the Regional Meeting of the International Geographical Union which will be held in Mexico City in August of 1966. He is also participating in an interdisciplinary research program sponsored by the State Department which will evaluate the contribution of AID programs to the Dominican Republic.

"Using Stream Gravels as Geomorphic Indicators" was the topic of a paper presented by Instructor Richard Witmer at the Southeastern Division Meetings of the AAG which met in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, in November.

University of Florida

An NDEA summer institute in geography for teachers and supervisors, will be held at the University of Florida from June 17 to August 5, 1966. Forty participants will be trained in the study of resource use and conservation, comparative regional studies, in the use of educational media in teaching resource use and conservation. Dr. J. R. Anderson is the Institute Director with Dr. C. I. Cross as Assistant Director.

Undergraduate enrollment in geography has increased significantly this year over 1964/65. Twenty-four graduate students are currently working for their degrees on campus while seven are completing the dissertation while holding teaching positions. During the Fall trimester, Dr. Blick, from the College of the Pacific, Stockton, Calif., held a post doctoral fellowship in the department.
Dr. Anderson will take part in a special media institute for directors of NDEA summer institutes. He received a special invitation from Resources for the Future, Inc., to participate in a Symposium on Environmental Quality, to be held March 8 and 9 in Washington, D.C. He is also working as a consultant for the National Atlas of the USA. His responsibilities are in regard to the section on agriculture. His work with the Italian Atlas of World Agriculture progresses satisfactorily, and he hopes that volume II, which contains maps of the Americas, will be published in 1967. In December Dr. Anderson travelled to Jamaica, where he helped William Found set up field research for the latter's doctoral dissertation.

Dr. Crist participated in meetings held in Paris (Conference on the Agrarian Problems in Latin America) and Cornell University for the Conference on the Potentials of the Hot-Humid Tropics in Latin American Rural Development. He presented papers at both meetings.

Dr. Clark J. Cross was reappointed by Governor Burns to the Florida Resource Use Education Committee. He was first appointed to this committee in 1959. In November, Dr. Cross was a participant in a Conservation Meeting held in the Virgin Islands. Recently, he completed a study of landforms in the Lake Wales area, the findings of which will be published in the near future.

Dr. John Dunkle, who is Assistant Dean in the University College, completed his map of Florida. The wall map, which will be published by Denoyer-Geppert this spring, is a topographic map in shaded relief, with insets on population and economic activities. Dr. E. E. Hegen's dissertation will be published in the monograph series of the U. of Fla. Center for Latin American Studies.

Dr. Robert B. Marcus presented a paper, "Two Case Studies of Water Pollution," at the meeting of the National Council of Geographic Education, which was held on Nov. 26 in New York. He was one of four invited guests from the U. of Fla. participating in a meeting at Boca Raton held by the Division of High Education—Florida Education Association, November 19/20. Mr. Marcus is a member of the Committee for the Second Florida Junior Science, Engineering, and Humanities Symposium, which will be held at the U. of Fla. in May. In the two trimesters of the current academic year, Dr. Marcus' course on the Geography of Florida has had an enrollment of 130 students.

Jacksonville University

Beginning in the Fall term of 1966 Jacksonville University will offer an undergraduate major in geography. New courses to be instituted for the program will be Anglo America, Latin America, Africa, Cartography, and an Individual Study.

Herb Padgett has recently received acceptance for publication of his paper entitled "Some Physical and Biological Relationships to the Fisheries of the Louisiana Coast." The paper will appear in the ANNALS of the Association of American Geographers.

Padgett has engaged in fisheries research for several years and, for the past two years, has assisted the Federal Bureau of Sport Fisheries, Sandy Hook, New Jersey, in their Bluefish tagging program along the Atlantic coast. At the present time an effort is being made to stimulate local support and interest for a Marine Laboratory at Jacksonville University. An Oceanography course is now offered and it draws lecturers from several disciplines, including Padgett from geography.

Florida State University

The second NDEA summer institute in geography has been approved for 1966. Dr. William R. Brueckheimer will again serve as Director, assisted by Prof. B. J. Allen of the Dept. of Social Studies Education. The instructional staff will include Prof. Edward A. Fernald of F.S.U. and Dr. Eugene C. Kirchner of Western Michigan University.

Dr. Brueckheimer was one of five experienced administrators invited to serve as consultants for a Media Institute, for directors of NDEA geography institutes, held at Michigan State University Feb. 7-11. He performed a similar function at the workshop for directors of prospective NDEA geography institutes held in Chicago on Feb. 12, under AAG sponsorship.

Dr. Brueckheimer, as Chairman of the Executive Committee, presided over the meeting of the Florida Resource-Use Education Committee in Perry, Jan. 28.

Dr. Morton D. Winsheng is the recipient of a grant from the Agricultural Development Council of the Rockefeller Foundation for the support of research in Argentina during the coming summer. He is investigating the diffusion of pure-bred cattle in that country.

Dr. Burke G. Vanderhill was re-elected Treasurer and Membership Chairman of the Southeast Division, AAG, for 1966-67 at the annual meeting held in Chapel Hill, N.C., in November.
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Geographical Materials

Estelle Ardrey, map librarian for the Florida State University Strozier Library, provides the following information on new maps and other materials of geographic interest:

A new map series (United States Maps, GE-50) published by the Geography Division of the Bureau of the Census combines color and a graphic attractiveness often lacking in statistical representation. The maps (Approx. 23 x 39 in.) may be ordered from Supt. of Documents, Gov't. Print. Off., Washington, D.C. 20402. $5.00 each.

2. Standard metropolitan statistical areas in the United States and Puerto Rico.
3. Congressional Districts of the 89th Congress.

Of interest to geographers and a valuable addition for libraries of any institution interested in geography and related materials is the Bulletin of the Geography and Map Division of Special Libraries Association (Annual subscription $4.00 from Sec-Treas. John A. Wolter, 374 Jackson Hall, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota).

"The Bulletin is published quarterly as a medium of exchange of information, news, and research in the field of geographic and cartographic bibliography, literature, and libraries." In addition to articles of general and professional interest, regular features include New Maps (3-5 pages), compiled by Charles W. Buffum, Senior Map Cataloger. Library of Congress. Book Reviews (2-4 pages), edited by Catherine I. Bahn, Head, Acquisitions Division. Library of Congress. New Books (2-4 pages), compiled by Robert C. White, Librarian. Map and Geography Library, University of Illinois, and Meetings, Conferences and Institutes.

Samplings from the December 1965 issue are: articles on the American Geographical Society's publishing activity. Geography at Greasewood Boarding School at Granado, Arizona, an elementary school for Navajo Indians which is operated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs; and from the book reviews: The Vinland Map and the Tartar Relation, and A Glossary of Ocean Science and Undersea Technology Terms.

The editor needs news from your school or organization.

Editor's Space

Congratulations are in order to the outgoing officers of the FSG. On behalf of the entire membership I would like to commend each one for a job well done as you have helped our youthful and spirited organization get on its feet. We appreciate the time you have given and the many constructive ideas you have developed on the behalf of geography and geographers in our State. We are also aware of the challenge your service has presented to the incoming slate of leaders and, I for one, am secure in the knowledge that from the group of outstanding nominees we are sure to have firm leadership in the future.

Bob Marcus has reminded me that many memberships need to be renewed. You may either get in line behind me at the Cocoa Beach meeting or send your dues to Bob, Dept. of Geography, U. of F., Gainesville.

WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY. However, we need to recognize it if we are to make our weight felt for geography. Three new junior colleges are being opened in the fall. They are: Alachua-Bradford, Duval County and Tallahassee Jr. College. What geography will be offered in these new schools? We have members in each of these areas who should look into this. A letter adopted by the membership might also be in order.

Miami has set a good example for the other geography departments in the state. This spring they will conduct a geography institute for Social Studies teachers in Dade County. It is my understanding that the county will support the project. More county-university cooperation of this type is desirable.

Geography units for the high school are being developed by NCGE on the topics of Urban Geography: Inter-city Analysis, and Fresh Water Resources. As the Florida Coordinator for NCGE I have been receiving information on these projects and I feel that they will be valuable not only in the development of Geography courses but also in existing courses, such as Problems of Democracy, American History and Civics.

Please notice the addition of advertising in our Newsletter. The Executive Committee and the Editor feel that this is a desirable step in that it helps the Society publish the Newsletter and it places the advertising directly into the hands of geographers. Our efforts will be extended for the next issue. The Editor hopes that you will show your appreciation to the advertisers both verbally and by your patronage.
CURRENT OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF FSG

President—Ney C. Landrum, Director, Florida Outdoor Recreation Committee
Vice-President—James P. Latham, Florida Atlantic University
Secretary—Robert B. Marcus, University of Florida
Treasurer—Miss Joan Duhois, Orange County Public Schools
Executive Committeemen—James R. Anderson, University of Florida; Allison N. Horton, Orlando Junior College; Banks B. Vest, Hillsborough County Planning Committee
Editor of Newsletter—Edward A. Fernald, Florida State University
Membership Committee—John F. Davis, Florida Outdoor Recreation Committee; William R. Brueckheimer, Florida State University; Paul D. Whippo, Florida State University
Nominating Committee—Eddie Cass, Orange County Public Schools; Edward A. Fernald, Florida State University; Sidney Mordes, Chipola Junior College

State Social Studies Coordinator

John Ritter, formerly the social studies supervisor of Pinellas County, has been appointed State Coordinator of Social Studies and Economics by the State Department of Education. As Coordinator, Ritter will be in a position to influence the teaching of geography in the public schools of Florida. He has stated that he would like to see a world regional geography course in the ninth or tenth grades of our secondary schools.

Ritter, who assumed the position of Coordinator about February 1, commented that a newly appointed course of study committee is beginning a new study of the whole range of the secondary curriculum. To what extent the new group will recognize the 1960 report of the last committee is not known. The 1960 report recommended geography as the common ninth grade course in Florida. At this time there are only two counties that have implemented this recommendation. They are Dade and Brevard. Several other counties have allowed individual schools to establish pilot programs.

Other news from the State Department states that both the seventh and ninth grade geography textbooks are up for adoption this year. Decisions of the textbook committees will be made by early spring. The primary requirement for the geography texts is that they be regional in approach.

Encourage Professional Growth

Professional growth is a solid characteristic of Florida's geographers and geography teachers. At this time we would remind you that you can increase this growth and help to improve the teaching of geography by becoming a member of the National Council for Geographic Education.

What Is the National Council?

The National Council for Geographic Education was organized in 1914 to promote and advance geographic education in the public schools and colleges of the United States.

To achieve its purpose the NCGE has sponsored and will continue to sponsor many worthwhile projects. The organization particularly wishes to improve instruction in geography and the social studies and to encourage research in all phases of geographic education.

By carrying out its program, the Council hopes to foster geographic understandings and to increase the effectiveness of the teaching of geography.

Why Should You Belong?

1. To work for the improvement of geographic education at all levels of instruction in order to promote a better understanding of the world.
2. To receive the JOURNAL OF GEOGRAPHY and other publications of the NCGE available to members from time to time.
3. To take part in the projects and programs of the NCGE.
4. To keep in touch with the work of colleagues in the field of geographic education.
5. To give support to the work of geography teachers and teachers in related fields throughout the country.
6. To become acquainted with the contributions that geographic education makes to programs in the social studies and natural sciences.

How Does the National Council Aid Teachers?

The Council aids teachers through its publications and meetings. The JOURNAL OF GEOGRAPHY is published monthly from September through May. It contains articles that are stimulating, suggestive and practical for teachers of elementary schools, as well as social studies teachers in high schools and colleges.

The Time to Act Is Now!

Annual membership is $5.00 and may be sent, with your name and address, to:
Thomas G. Caud, Secretary
National Council for Geographic Education
Indiana State College
Indiana, Pennsylvania 15701
or
Journal of Geography
A. J. Nystrom and Company
3333 Elston Avenue
Chicago 18, Illinois
Areas of Opportunity

Areas of opportunity for geographers were discussed by John Fraser Hart, of the University of Indiana, at the Coordinator's Breakfast during the annual meeting of the NCGE. The minutes of that meeting show that Hart emphasized the need to recognize five major areas in which geographers can make a major contribution and in which geographic education can make a major gain. These areas are summarized as follows:

1. A N A N . . . representing the combined efforts of the National Council for Geographic Education, Association of American Geographers, and National Academy of Science. This group is currently involved in the preparation of a series of regional monographs, the first of which deals with New England.

2. A committee on geography has been newly arranged for the National Academy of Science. This group would be in a position to make a major contribution.

3. N A S A . . . is looking to geographers for help (although it might be said that they are very much in the air as to what kind of help). It is reported that there is as much as $1,500,000 a year available for research in the area of geography in space.

4. NSF . . . is involved in support of the High School Geography project. Research support is available to this project at the rate of approximately $1,000,000 a year. Much is expected from this study.

5. Office of Education . . . is felt by many to be the outstanding source of support for research and study of all types in Washington. In fact, Dr. Hart felt that the U. S. Office of Education represented an almost unlimited resource for geographers, providing they were aware of the various possibilities.

Dr. Hart continued by drawing attention to a major problem—who can we get to do all of the things indicated by these programs? He stated that there is presently a real crisis in manpower, specifically qualified manpower. He concluded his remarks by stating that a new emphasis is needed in 1) undergraduate programs, where there is need for better recruitment of brighter minds for geography specialization, and 2) education. Dr. Hart asked, "Is there adequate communication between coordinators, colleges and school people?" He felt that a major problem was poor liaison all the way around.

Welcome New Members

Since the membership roster was made out we have had a few new members added to our number. It is with pleasure that these members are welcomed and they are encouraged to become active participants in the programs of the Society. It is hoped that you will all attend the meeting in Cocoa Beach.

The members are as follows:
Mr. Clifford N. Currier, Box 22, Cape Coral, Florida
Mr. William B. Farley, P. O. Box 608, Deerfield Beach, Florida
Mr. Arthur Alexander, 6401 Grant Street, Hollywood, Florida
Mr. Kenneth D. Hoyt, 411 Ellendale Drive, Winter Park, Florida
Mr. William E. Baker, 4617 Bonganvilla Drive, Lauderdale-by-the-Sea, Florida
Mr. Forrest Shenks, 3671 S. W. 23rd Court, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Mr. Ronald R. Schultz, 2360 Wilton Drive, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Mr. Thomas M. Tofitz, 325 NW 40th Street, Boca Raton, Florida
Mr. Walter M. Tofitz, 3751 - 20th Street North, St. Petersburg, Florida
Mr. Richard E. Witmer, 541 N. E. 43rd Street, Boca Raton, Florida
Mr. Fred J. Wysor, Jr., 5445 Mariner Street, Suite 311, Tampa, Florida