

## Sixty Years of Geophysica

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Sixty years have passed since the first volume of *Geophysica* was printed. It was said to be "the first number of a series to be published, at irregular intervals, by the Geophysical Society of Finland". The beginning was, to be sure, very irregular, as the second volume was not published until 1947. This volume is the 31st one, and the irregularity has been greatly reduced but by far not totally eliminated. One volume per year is published, either as two issues or as one double issue.

The role of geophysicists in making *Geophysica* is, of course, crucial - as writers, editors, referees and as paying subscribers. The journal is, however, dependent of financial support from non-geophysicists. In fact, the past irregularity was determined by the availability of government subsidy. On the other hand, the present relative regularity is due to the rules of the subsidy, given to a certain volume published in a certain year.

Financial resources are limited, but this fact has not always been the only cause of delays. Sometimes there has been a shortage of writings. In such situations, we must ask whether scientists should pay more attention to scientific writing, both qualitatively and quantitatively. But we must also ask whether *Geophysica* is an attractive forum of publication. There can be several reasons for publishing a paper somewhere else.

Publishing in a leading international journal is a good idea if the paper is of high quality and of general interest, and if the timetable of the writers is flexible enough. The alternative is, however, often publishing in the series of one's own institute. Such series are not always adequately evaluated. The scope of the series is, of course, an important criterion. A specialized series, or a series with a problem-oriented identity, may be a better alternative for many writers, while others will find it more useful to publish their papers in a journal like *Geophysica*, likely to get into the hands of several kinds of geophysicists.

Most geophysicists have multiple identities as scientists. It may be assumed that those who publish in *Geophysica* have some kind of general geophysical identity. Most of the writings can, however, be easily identified as belonging to one of the traditional fields of geophysics. Some others belong to none or several of them and would be out of the scope of more specialized journals.

*Geophysica* has survived several crises during its lifetime. During the last years there have been difficulties with the timetable. In connection with the introduction of the system of anonymous evaluation of papers, the publication was delayed. After efforts by the editorial staff (and compelled by the government subsidy regulations) the delay has now been eliminated. The inflow of papers is now good, but the financial resources are currently not sufficient to guarantee a continuous publishing of two issues per volume. We must find additional financing, possibly in the form of announcements.

The papers published in the first 30 volumes are listed below. Copies of papers or entire volumes can be ordered from the editor.

### *GEOPHYSICA 1935-1994*

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**Angervo, J.M.:** A Proposition for the More Accurate Definition of the Course of the Barometric Curve in Weather Reports

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