



THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

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May 1974

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA:

This is the first of two newsletters to the membership anticipated during 1974. Your responses to the first two sent out by Joe Smith indicate that this is a worthwhile manner of distributing Society news and that the practice should be continued.

1. Winter meeting in Tucson. The Society sponsored a winter mineralogical meeting jointly with Friends of Mineralogy, Mineral Museums Advisory Council, Tucson Gem and Mineral Society, and the University of Arizona. The meeting was timed to coincide with the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show during February 10-11. For those of you who have not seen the Tucson Show, it is a very worthwhile experience. Minerals on display or for sale run the entire gamut from collector's items for the beginner to choice museum quality specimens.

The mineralogical meeting was so successful that the Society undoubtedly will wish to consider similar winter meetings in the future. There were 210 registrants for the three technical sessions, which consisted of two symposia on "Mineralogy and Paragenesis of Porphyry Copper Deposits" and "Mineral Nomenclature, Terminology and Systematics," plus a General Session. Two all-day field trips to Bisbee and to the Esperanza-Sierrita Copper Mine south of Tucson provided a good blend of geological information and mineral collecting opportunity. The Society is indebted to the Local Chairman John Anthony and his assistants for superb organization, to Spencer Titley as Program Chairman, John Guilbert as Field Trip Chairman, and Phelps-Dodge and Duval Corporations for courtesy tours and permission to collect specimens. Spence Titley, Cliff Frondel, Joe Finney, and Peter Buseck served ably as Technical Session Chairmen. The abstracts for the meeting will be published in The American Mineralogist.

2. 1974 Annual Meeting, Miami Beach. We are coming off a successful 1973 Annual Meeting in Dallas and are looking forward to the meeting next November in Miami Beach. More details will appear in the September-October Newsletter, but I want to remind you here that the GSA Abstract Deadline has been changed to June 15. MSA is opposed to this change and will work toward a later deadline for future years, but please be forewarned if you plan to present a paper this year. MSA will be sponsoring a special symposium on "Solid Solutions in Metamorphism" with Derrill Kerrick as organizer. The MSA Luncheon on November 19 will feature presentations of the Roebling Medal to Ralph Grim and the MSA Award to James Papike. The nominating speeches will be made by Haydn Murray and Tibor Zoltai, respectively.

3. Award Committees. In case you missed the formal announcement in the January-February issue of The American Mineralogist, the Society solicits your recommendations for worthy candidates for next year's Roebling Medal and MSA Award recipients. Please send your nominations to the Secretary at the above address prior to June 1 along with the appropriate vital statistics. Adequate documentation is essential in order to assure fair consideration for your candidate. Nominations for Fellowship status and for Society officers also are welcome. The committees that work on these awards and offices want to consider all worthy candidates and will appreciate any input from the membership.

4. 1974 Ballot. Sometime in August a ballot will be mailed to the membership for the 1974 slate of officers and councilors, as follows:

President: Arnulf Muan, The Pennsylvania State University
Vice-President: E-an Zen, U.S. Geological Survey
Treasurer: George W. Fisher, The Johns Hopkins University

Councilors - two to be elected:

Iris Y. Borg, Lawrence Radiation Laboratory
W. Barclay Kamb, California Institute of Technology
Cornelis Klein, Jr., Indiana University
Richard A. Yund, Brown University

5. Membership Drive. MSA needs more members not only in order to keep dues at the present level but to maintain its quality publications and to expand its services to the profession and the membership. Examples of these services are the Short Courses to be started this November, cooperation with the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain to maintain Mineralogical Abstracts, cooperation with Friends of Mineralogy and Mineral Museums Advisory Council to preserve mineral localities and to catalogue museum holdings, special joint meetings with other societies, publication of Special Papers and Notes for Short Courses, and student scholarships.

By means of this Newsletter I am asking each of our members to recruit one new member, regular or student, for 1974. I ask that each of you search your immediate geographic area or your circle of acquaintances to find people who are not members but might profitably benefit from membership. The MSA Membership Directory will be of assistance to you, and a membership form is attached for your convenience.

6. Short Courses in Mineralogy. Several years ago Joe Smith set up a series of three Short Courses under the auspices of the American Geological Institute. The topics covered were feldspars, pyroxenes and amphiboles, and layer silicates. As a result of your responses to the questionnaire attached to the last Newsletter, MSA Council has agreed to set up a new series of Short Courses. Paul Ribbe is organizing the first Short Course on the subject of the crystal chemistry and phase relations of sulphide minerals to be given November 16-17 just prior to the November GSA meeting. Lecturers will include James Craig (Virginia Tech.), Charles Prewitt (SUNY, Stony Brook), Steven Scott (Toronto), and Bernhardt Wuensch (MIT). The course lecture notes will be published and made available for sale by the Society. Watch for further details of enrollment in Geotimes, the May-June issue of The American Mineralogist, and the September-October Newsletter.

7. Student Awards. MSA Council has voted to give the first \$1,000 grant from the Edward H. Kraus Crystallographic Research Fund to Mr. Shu-cheng Yu. Mr. Yu is a graduate student at The Pennsylvania State University, and the grant is intended to defray expenses connected with his dissertation research on defects in pyroxene structures. This award will be made approximately every three years as interest from the Fund accumulates. Two \$500 awards have been made from the MSA Charitable Fund to Jeffrey K. Greenberg of the University of Kentucky and Michael S. Fulp of the University of Tulsa.

The Charitable Fund depends entirely on the membership for donations. It is intended that the money on hand will be expended each year, unless a sizeable donation

suitable for investment is received. The Society gives thanks to the 38 members listed below who have contributed a total of approximately \$1,000 to date. I hope that many more of you will consider donations in the future. Please remember that this is a worthy cause and that your donation is tax-exempt. We would especially appreciate larger donations that might permit us to finance scholarships and research grants entirely from interest rather than principal. As mentioned in the last Newsletter, we badly need additional endowment funds to do the sorts of things for the profession that we think the Society should be doing, as well as for the inflation of the normal expenses of Society operation.

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| A. B. Anderson | G. H. Espenshade | F. H. Pough |
| J. W. Anthony | J. H. Fang | P. Robinson |
| T. Araki | N. Herz | O. Sardi |
| G. Arrhenius | F. A. Hummel | A. F. W. Schroder |
| S. W. Bailey | H. C. Lee | M. Seal |
| L. G. Berry | D. H. Lindsley | P. Seel |
| M. E. Bickford, Jr. | T. S. Lovering | K. Servos |
| Iris Y. Borg | B. H. Mason | J. V. Smith |
| D. A. Brobst | Katharine Mather | T. W. Stern |
| M. F. Carman, Jr. | D. McConnell | L. A. Taylor |
| Joan R. Clark | L. R. Page | T. P. Thayer |
| John R. Clark | J. W. Peoples | A. M. Wellnitz |
| P. L. Drummond | A. J. Perrotta | |

8. Investment Policy. It is pertinent at this point to mention that the Society intends to continue to invest the funds that it does have with prudence. Since 1944-45 the Society funds have been managed wisely and capably by Ed Henderson and an advisory committee including John Marble, Marjorie Hooker, Charles Christ, William Pecora, Arthur Montgomery, and Tom Stern. With the retirement of this committee in 1972 and in the absence of other well-qualified and willing investment counselors within the membership, MSA Council and its Treasurer have decided to entrust management of its funds to the firm of Ruane, Cunniff & Stires, Incorporated of New York City. MSA Council will set the goals to be achieved by investment, and the management firm is to make quarterly reports to the Society that will be monitored by our Financial Advisory Committee under Hatten Yoder. The MSA Treasurer and the Chairmen of the Committees on Management and Publications are included in the Financial Advisory Committee in order to facilitate long-range financial planning for the Society. The Endowment Fund, the Revolving Fund (for general publications), the Membership Assistance Fund, and a portion of the Operating Reserve have been combined into a Consolidated Fund for investment purposes, with interest and capital gains accruing to each in proportional amount.

9. Mineral Heritage Stamps. The U.S. Postal Service has announced issuance on June 13 of a set of four ten-cent Mineral Heritage stamps. The stamps feature specimens of amethyst, rhodochrosite, tourmaline, and petrified wood from the Smithsonian Institution. The stamps will have an unusual diamond-shaped format and will be printed in eight colors. I have seen the designs and can certify that they make an unusually colorful and appealing display. Because of anticipated interest by mineralogists in these stamps, MSA plans to have 1,000 first-day cover cancellations available for sale. Each cover will contain all four stamps, the first-day-of-issue cancellation from Lincoln, Nebraska, and the seal of the Mineralogical Society of America. You may order them as long as the supply lasts at \$1.00 per cover from MSA at the address above, limit five per customer and first-come, first-served. You may want to send some to friends abroad.

10. New Associate Editors. MSA Council in April voted to increase the number of Associate Editors to 12, but to decrease the term of office from five to four years. The newest appointees are Charles W. Burnham, Jen Ho Fang, and William D. Johns. We count heavily on our Associate Editors to assure continuing quality for our journal and to ease the burden on the Editor. We are pleased to welcome these new additions.

11. Publication Facts. The Publications Committee under George Fisher has come up with detailed data to show that MSA members, subscribers, and authors are getting their money's worth. In a comparison with leading geology-mineralogy journals The American Mineralogist is above the mean in all three categories of 1) hundreds of words of science per dollar dues, 2) hundreds of words of science per dollar subscription, and 3) page charge dollars per 100 words. Only one journal (heavily endowed) is ahead of us in all three categories. The committee analysis of the page charge system of our journal showed that 1) a majority of authors are able to pay page charges, 2) a broad spectrum of institutions are now paying page charges in a significant percentage of cases, and 3) the loss of financial support of the page charge system would require a 38% increase in membership dues or a 24% increase in subscription fees. In the future a letter will be sent to each author outlining these data and our need to retain the system, but emphasizing also that we recognize not all authors have page charge funds and that determination of publication or rejection of a submitted manuscript will be based solely on its scientific merit. The reprint charge schedule presently in effect favors authors of long articles at the expense of authors of short articles. Beginning in 1975 an average figure of \$5.00 per page for 100 reprints will be charged, regardless of length. We hope this change will stimulate shorter papers and simplify cost calculations for authors.

12. Non-receipt of Journal. We recognize that in the change of our business office to professional management and the computerization of our mailing lists we have missed some of our members. If you have paid dues but not received the journal recently, please write to our business office as listed on the first page of the Newsletter and enclose a copy of both sides of your cancelled check. We will take immediate action. Let me state also that overall we have been very pleased with AGU management of our business office. A few perturbations are to be expected in any such drastic change of operation, but these have proven minimal.

In conclusion, I want to thank all of the past officers, councilors, and committee members who worked so hard to make 1973 a successful year for the Society. Joe Smith, in particular, was an unusually active and innovative President. We will be working hard this year to implement and consolidate his new ideas. Thanks go also to the new and continuing officers, councilors, and the committee members who have accepted assignments for the Society in 1974. We count on our members to help run the affairs of the Society, and we welcome volunteers.

Sincerely yours,

S. W. Bailey
President

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Enclosure