



## THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

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October, 1974

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA:

1. *1974 Annual Meeting, Miami Beach.* I will look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our annual meeting November 18-20, 1974. Deane Smith, our representative to the Joint Technical Program Committee, reports that 77 papers were submitted for presentation in the area of petrology and 43 papers in mineralogy-crystallography. Of those submitted, 61 papers were accepted in petrology and 41 in mineralogy-crystallography. These figures include 19 petrology papers and 7 mineralogy-crystallography papers that were assigned to the new method of poster presentation, in which the important data are available visually on large posters in an assigned area throughout the day. The author(s) are to be present at a specified time to answer questions and to provide additional details to interested parties. The other oral presentations will be included in three petrology sessions and two and one-half mineralogy-crystallography sessions. In addition there will be a special symposium, organized by Derrill Kerrick, on "Some Modern Concepts in Metamorphism". The Society is indebted to Deane Smith, John Carman, Derrill Kerrick, Peter Buseck, Gerald Gibbs, Paul Ribbe, James Craig, Charles Prewitt, Larry Finger, Eugene Williams, Warren Forbes, Myron Best, and Charles Thornton for review of abstracts.

Other events at the annual meeting that will be of interest to members include the MSA Business Meeting, Presidential Address, and Luncheon. At the luncheon the Society will honor James Papike and Ralph Grim with our awards: the MSA Award to Papike who will be introduced by Dave Stewart, and the Roebling Medal to Grim, who will be introduced by Haydn Murray. Luncheon tickets for \$5.50 will be on sale at the registration area. The times and tentative places for these events and for the technical sessions of interest are listed below. Also, look for our booth in the exhibits area with a display showing how *The American Mineralogist* is assembled. Mary Holliman, Managing Editor, will look forward to meeting you there.

## Monday, November 18

0830-1200 Mineralogy-Crystallography--Carillon Hotel, Empire Room.  
 1300-1630 Petrology I: Metamorphic--Carillon Hotel, Baroque Room.  
 Evening Mineralogy Discussion Paper--Carillon Hotel, Empire Room.

## Tuesday, November 19

0830-1000 Mineralogy II--Carillon Hotel, Empire Room.  
 1000-1030 MSA Business Meeting--Carillon Hotel, Empire Room.  
 1045-1145 MSA Presidential Address by S. W. Bailey, "Cation Ordering and Pseudosymmetry in Layer Silicates"--Carillon Hotel, Empire Room.  
 1200-1400 MSA Luncheon and Presentation of Awards--Deauville Hotel, Richelieu Room.  
 1300-1700 Petrology III: Igneous--Carillon Hotel, Empire Room.  
 1330-1700 Petrology II: Sedimentary--Carillon Hotel, Baroque Room.

## Wednesday, November 20

0830-1200 Mineralogy III--Carillon Hotel, Empire Room.  
 0900-1145 MSA Symposium, "Some Modern Concepts in Metamorphism"--  
 and 1930-2130 Carillon Hotel, Baroque Room.  
 1330-1700 Petrology IV: Igneous-Experimental--Carillon Hotel, Empire Room.

2. *Short Course.* A short course on sulfide mineralogy, organized by Paul Ribbe, will be presented November 15-17 immediately preceding the annual meeting. The course will be a fundamental review of the crystal chemistry, phase equilibria, bonding, and physical and chemical properties of sulfide minerals. Topics to be included are: basic and derivative structures, polymorphism, polytypism, non-stoichiometry, and exsolution; phase equilibria of mineralogically important systems, experimental techniques, kinetics, and thermochemistry; crystal field, molecular orbital, and band theory applied to sulfides. Lecture notes will be distributed to participants and subsequently will be made available for sale by MSA. Lecturers include J. R. Craig, C. T. Prewitt, S. D. Scott, and B. J. Wuensch, with additional contributions from P. B. Barton, Jr. and V. Rajamani. The course will be housed in the Sheraton Four Ambassadors Hotel on Biscayne Bay in Miami, where a package plan of approximately \$50 for lodging and meals will be available to participants. The registration fee is \$50 for regular members and \$20 for student members, slightly more for non-members.

Enrollment is limited to 75, and there are just a few places left. If you wish to register, I recommend you call Paul Ribbe at (703) 951-6880 to make sure you can get in.

Information on the 1975 Short Course will be included in the next Newsletter.

As a logical follow-up to the 1974 Short Course on Sulfide Mineralogy, MSA will be sponsoring a more detailed Penrose Conference on Economic Mineralogy at a later date. C. T. Prewitt of SUNY-Stony Brook is the convenor of this conference. Details will be published when available.

3. *Membership Participation in MSA Affairs.* In the last Newsletter I solicited input from the membership as to recommendations for candidates for the MSA Award and the Roebling Medal, as well as for Society Officers and Committee Members. I appreciate the suggestions of those who have responded to this request. In order to achieve still greater membership participation, I now solicit your views on certain problems facing the MSA Council when it next meets on November 17, 1974. Among the agenda items for that meeting are those listed below. If you have strong views on any of these items, please write to me or to any other MSA Officer or Councillor. It is our job to represent the membership, and therefore it is important that we know your views.

A. *MSA Honorary President.* The Society has successively honored E. S. Dana, C. Palache, and E. H. Kraus by the title of Honorary President. The death of Dean E. H. Kraus during 1973 has posed the question as to whether a successor should be named. Should the title be reserved only for those few associated with the founding of MSA and of *The American Mineralogist*? If not, what criteria should be used for this position?

B. *Roebling Conferences.* Should MSA sponsor its own high-level conferences on topics of mineralogical interest, somewhat analogous to Gordon or Penrose Conferences? It is suggested that such conferences could be designed to be largely self-supporting, if necessary, and would serve both to disseminate the latest knowledge in a given area and to inspire fruitful directions of future research.

C. *Short Courses.* Should each Short Course be presented twice, once prior to the annual meeting in October or November, and again at a later date in a different area of the country or Canada? We will respond to popular demand on this question.

D. *MSA Winter or Spring Meetings*. The successful meeting in Tucson during February of 1974 has raised the question as to whether we should consider additional meetings of this type. Should these be primarily in cooperation with various amateur mineralogy groups, or is more flexibility desirable? In what other ways can we continue fruitful cooperation with amateur organizations?

E. *MSA Annual Meetings*. The large size of our present joint meeting with GSA and the other Associated Societies periodically poses the question of the desirability of a smaller, separate meeting for MSA. There are many *pro* and *con* arguments, and this is not a question that Council will resolve without extensive thought and consultation. Your considered views will help.

F. *Special Symposia*. Suggestions for a topic (and organizer) for the MSA Symposium at the 1975 Annual Meeting at Salt Lake City are now in order. Because this year's topic is petrologic, next year's topic probably should be mineralogic or crystallographic. One suggestion is "Geological Interpretation of Physical Property Measurements of Minerals" (mechanical, electrical, optical, magnetic, etc.).

4. *Geotimes Subscriptions*. The American Geological Institute (AGI) has been under heavy financial pressure for several years. In order to remain solvent and to retain as many as possible of the worthwhile activities in which it is engaged, the AGI Board of Governors has made some difficult decisions designed to increase income and to decrease expenditures by placing as many activities as possible on a self-supporting basis. Two interrelated changes that will affect MSA members directly, as well as members of all other earth science societies, have to do with the AGI publication *Geotimes*.

A. In the past MSA has paid to AGI yearly membership dues in partial support of *Geotimes*, which was then to be sent to all MSA members by direction of the MSA Council. During 1974 *Geotimes* will incur an estimated operating deficit of \$115,000, or \$35,000 more than all earth-science society AGI dues combined! The AGI Board of Governors has decided that in the future it will be necessary to use society membership dues as partial support for the entire program of AGI. This includes such activities as the Education and Manpower program (including Minority Participation), Geoscience Information program (including GeoRef), Public Affairs program, Publication program, and a new Professional Affairs Division, as well as *Geotimes*.

B. Therefore, effective January 1, 1975, *Geotimes* will be available only on an individual subscription basis. The cost to MSA members will be \$6 yearly (compared to \$9 for non-members) with a \$2 surcharge for subscriptions outside North America. It must be emphasized that subscriptions to *Geotimes* will be processed directly by AGI and NOT BY MSA. AGI soon will begin an intensive subscription campaign directly with you.

MSA regrets that *Geotimes* subscription charges have proven necessary. We support whole-heartedly the programs in which AGI is engaged and the concept for which it stands, however, and we respect the judgement of the AGI Board of Governors, on which our Representative is D. B. Stewart, that this is a necessary consequence of professional responsibility and increased costs. For these reasons, we urge members to subscribe to *Geotimes*, which is a worthwhile journal of general news items, and to continue to support AGI in all its activities. MSA expects to continue to support the AGI program with its AGI dues.

5. *AGI Committee on Public Affairs.* Member societies have urged AGI to serve as a clearing house for information on government bills and policies affecting the earth sciences. The AGI Board of Governors has responded by appointing a ten-member Committee on Public Affairs. Although the procedures and goals of this new committee are not yet established, we envision the committee serving both to channel advisory information to the member societies and to transmit needed data and earth-science expertise from us to the Congress and those governmental agencies where they are most needed. The energy crisis and the upcoming raw materials crisis are only two very obvious symbols of the need for cooperation and intercommunication. We are pleased to have Elburt F. Osborn, former MSA President and Roebling Medalist, as the MSA Representative on this committee.

6. *Mineral Heritage Stamps.* Handsome first-day-of-issue covers featuring the MSA logo and all four mineral heritage stamps on a single cover are still available from the MSA Business Office, as announced in our last Newsletter. Price is \$1 per cover. We think you will like them and they will make nice gifts.

7. *Charitable Donations.* You have received a dues statement from MSA recently. This is the ideal time to do that good deed of contributing to the scholarship fund administered by MSA for aspiring but needy young mineralogists. Last May we were able to grant two \$500 scholarships from donations by about 50 members, but there were 59 applicants. If only half of our 2500 members could give as little as \$2 each, we could offer five scholarships next year. I urge your participation so the Society can offer more help to needy students and also to worthy public-service activities involving mineralogy. See the previous Newsletters for examples of things we would like to do.

8. *Remittances to MSA.* During March and April of this year, a number of remittances that were mailed to MSA were never received at the Business Office. This is a reminder that for your own protection you should send all remittances in the form of a check, bank draft, or postal money order, rather than in cash. In this way you will have a record of the transaction, and it can be traced more readily if any question arises.

9. *Business Office Move.* MSA business affairs are handled by the American Geophysical Union, which is moving into a new building sometime in October or November of this year. Effective at that time our business address will change to 1909 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

10. *Membership Drive.* In May I asked each member to help MSA stay healthy by surveying his or her acquaintances to see if any of them might profit by MSA membership. The success of this operation cannot be evaluated until the return of dues notices later this year, because new members must be balanced against those who drop out, but I can tell you that we have 142 new members so far this year. In the meantime I urge all of you to continue recruiting for the benefit of the Society. This is the best way to insure keeping dues at the present level despite inflation. A membership application is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

S. W. Bailey  
President

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