



MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

1909 K STREET, N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006 202-331-0383

February 1979

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA:

The activity by members of M.S.A. at the Toronto meeting indicates the vitality of our science. Mineralogists are contributing not only to our classic disciplines of crystallography, mineralogy and petrology, but also to problems of resource exploration and management and nuclear waste disposal. I fully expect the next Annual Meeting will continue this activity. Our major purpose is to enhance communication among crystallographers, mineralogists, and petrologists, and the Annual Meeting and publication of the American Mineralogist are our primary efforts to that end.

Annual Meeting

This year's annual meeting will be held in San Diego, Nov. 5-8, 1979. Our society will present a symposium "Properties of Silicate Liquids" organized by Bjorn Mysen of the Geophysical Laboratory. We will cosponsor a symposium with the Geochemical Society, "Hydrothermal Alteration of Oceanic Crust (or Deeper?)" organized by Debra S. Stakes and Michael J. Mottl. We received an additional request for a symposium on granitic rocks. As G.S.A. will sponsor a symposium on that topic, we forwarded our request to L. T. Silver. M.S.A. may cosponsor that symposium, if such sponsorship meets the approval of the Joint Technical Program Committee.

Short Course for 1979

Roger G. Burns is organizing a short course on "Marine Mineralogy" for the fall meeting in 1979. This seems especially appropriate as we are meeting in San Diego and are cosponsoring the Symposium on "Hydrothermal Alteration of Oceanic Crust." The council elected not to run a short course on "Orthosilicate Minerals" at the Toronto meeting as our colleagues from M.A.C. were conducting a short course on Uranium Minerals. However, Paul Ribbe and his colleagues hope to have a volume on "Orthosilicates" prepared this spring. Those of you considering organizing a short course should contact either Paul Ribbe or Larry W. Finger.

Medalists

W. H. Taylor of Cambridge University is the Roebling Medalist for 1979. The M.S.A. award will be presented to H. K. Mao of the Geophysical Laboratory. Nominations for the 1980 award should be sent promptly to our secretary: Larry W. Finger, Geophysical Laboratory, 2801 Upton St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008.

Slate of Officers

Council decided that the time has come for a contested election for Vice-President (President-elect). The candidates for this year's election are Joan R. Clark and Gerald V. Gibbs. M. C. Gilbert is the nominee for secretary, and W. C. Luth, B. A. Morgan, Paul Ribbe and Peter Robinson are the four nominees for the two positions of Councilor.

Biennial Crystallographic Research Award

Council has combined the assets of the Edward H. Kraus Crystallographic Research Fund and the Jewell J. Glass Memorial Legacy into a single fund to support the Biennial Crystallographic Research Award. This award is made for research in crystallography, preferably directly related to mineralogy and petrology. The award, in the amount of \$1500, will be next given in 1980 and in even numbered years thereafter. The nominee will be chosen by the M.S.A. Council at the annual fall meeting prior to the award year. The choice will be based on recommendations from a committee appointed by the President. The only restriction on eligibility for the award is that the successful applicant must have reached his or her 25th birthday but not have yet reached his or her 36th birthday on the date of the award. There are no restrictions on how the award money is to be spent.

Application forms for the 1980 award can be obtained by writing to the M.S.A. Business Office, Mineralogical Society of America, 1909 K Street, N.W., Suite 1000, Washington, D.C. 20006. Completed applications should be returned to the Business Office by September 1, 1979.

Mineralogy-Petrology Research Award

A recent gift by Fred Barker and his colleagues at the U.S. Geological Survey of royalties on the recent volume "Trondhjemites, Dacites, and Related Rocks" will form the nucleus of a second fund for a research award, similar to the Crystallographic Research Award. This award would be offered in alternate years in the fields of either mineralogy or petrology. I feel that such a research award makes a public statement that the Society supports promising young researchers in the fields of mineralogy and petrology. I hope other members of the Society will consider the possibility of contributing also to this research award fund. We would like to begin presenting this award in the near future.

Student Members - The Future of Mineralogy

I urge all of you who are members to encourage promising students in the earth and planetary sciences to become student members of M.S.A. The dues are only \$6.00/year, the best buy that I know of in regards to publications and professional societies.

Mineralogical Abstracts

I wish to thank Dick Dietrich for his service to the Society in being the organizer for our contributors to Mineralogical Abstracts. It is a most useful and usually unsung job. Dick has kept it moving ahead, and leaves the job with the project well organized.

I am pleased to announce that Karl Riggs of Mississippi State University has taken over this important activity. Any of you who wish to be abstractors should contact Karl promptly as I am sure he can use your services immediately:

Professor Karl A. Riggs
Mississippi State University
Department of Geology and Geography
Mississippi State, MS 39762

Meeting of Associated Society Presidents with G.S.A. Council

The meeting, held February 1, 1979, proved to be quite productive. G.S.A. Council has appointed a committee, chaired by W. R. Dickinson, to investigate the problem of organization and practices of the annual meeting. I stated that M.S.A. would prefer that the Joint Technical Program Committee be chaired on a continuing national basis rather than by local committees, that we wish to see the meetings lengthened to four or five days, and that each society would like to have a block of time to organize as they see fit. This represents a major change in practice for G.S.A. Their council is genuinely interested in helping us meet your needs, and I am hopeful that we will see an evolution of the organization of the annual meeting.

L. T. Silver, President of G.S.A., requested that we urge the members of the associated societies to support the G.S.A. Bulletin. As most of you know, the G.S.A. Bulletin is being published in a dual format, with two to four page summaries in conventional paper hard copy, and the full length paper in microfiche. This is probably the future for most publications, and we should consider the merits of that style. For maps and photographs, it represents a major opportunity. I ask that you all examine this style and give it a fair trial.

Finally, G.S.A. requests our support for their centennial celebration in 1988. Silver suggested that the theme should be "the next 100 years." I solicit your comments on an appropriate contribution of M.S.A. to G.S.A.'s centennial.

Committee on Committees

W. G. Ernst, Vice President, is the current chairman of the Committee on Committees. Any of you who wish to volunteer for service on a committee, or to recommend another member for committee service, should contact Gary as soon as possible.

The committees are the place where most of the Society's effort takes place. I wish to thank all committee members for their work on behalf of the Society.

Conferences of Interest to M.S.A. Members

Tucson-Area Porphyry Copper Deposits. April 3-6, 1979.

A field conference of the Society of Economic Geologists will be held in and near Tucson by arrangement of the University of Arizona Department of Geosciences, ASARCO Inc., Duval Corporation, Minerals Exploration Company, and others.

Conference applications or inquiries should be sent to:

SEG Conference 602-616-1232
Judith Brown, Room 1201
1717 E. Speedway Blvd.
Tucson, AZ 85705

Prompt application is recommended because it may be necessary to apportion registration acceptances. Further information will be in the second announcement.

NATO Advanced Study Institute: "Advanced Chemical Methods for Soil and Clay Minerals Research." July 23 - August 4, 1979, University of Illinois.

Nine internationally prominent scientists will lecture and share their expertise on the applications of Mossbauer, ESR, ESCA, NMR, and neutron scattering to clay and soil minerals. The course is directed toward graduate students and recent post-doctoral scientists, as well as to senior scientists desiring more understanding of these topics. Applications are especially encouraged from interested persons in all the NATO countries, although members of non-NATO countries are also welcome. The Institute Directors are J. W. Stucki and W. L. Banwart, Department of Agronomy, University of Illinois.

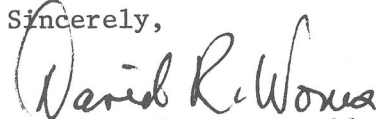
Applications received prior to March 30, 1979, are assured consideration. Anyone interested whose application may not be received by the deadline should contact the conference coordinator immediately to determine availability of space in the course.

For brochure and application information contact:

Carol Holden 217-333-2883
ASI Conference Coordinator
116 Illini Hall
University of Illinois
725 S. Wright Street
Champaign, IL 61820

I thank all of you for your support and contributions to the Society and to Mineralogy. I look forward to seeing you in San Diego next fall.

Sincerely,



David R. Wones, President