



# MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

2000 FLORIDA AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, D. C. 20009 202-462-6913

1 9 8 2 NEWSLETTER # 1

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

This newsletter should help bring you up to date regarding the status and operations of our Society. It covers our publications, awards, meetings, short courses— and the necessity of raising dues, beginning in 1983.

## MEMBERSHIP STATUS

The Society continues to grow: at last count we had 1647 members, 571 fellows, 547 student members, and 9 Honorary Fellows. The total membership of 2767 is an increase of 156 over the previous year, growth that proclaims the vigor of our Society as well as of our science. Please help us continue to grow by encouraging a colleague or student to join (a application form is included).

## DUES INCREASE

It is my sad duty to inform you that we must raise our dues, effective in 1983. Our last increase, in 1973, resulted in a surplus of income over expenses for seven years. This surplus, together with one-half the dividends and interest on our endowment, was invested in our General Operating Fund and provided a cushion for the past three years during which expenses have exceeded our income. That cushion will be more than exhausted during 1982, and prudence dictates that we increase our income while cutting expenses as much as possible. The Council has taken a number of steps to accomplish this:

1. Member and Fellow dues are raised from \$20 to \$30 per year, beginning in 1983— still a bargain!!
2. Student dues go up from \$6 to \$10 per year. The \$10 is based on the incremental expense of printing another volume of the American Mineralogist, and it too remains a bargain.
3. Subscriptions (to non-members and libraries) are raised to \$85 per year, plus an additional \$5 for overseas postage when applicable.
4. Page charges for the American Mineralogist will be raised as soon as possible to \$40, but remain voluntary. New charges for reprints, author's alterations in typeset copy, and back issues will be announced in the Mineralogist.
5. To reflect actual costs to the society, late renewals of membership will be assessed a \$5 penalty, but ONLY after the third notice. There will likewise be a \$5 service charge for each subscription to non-MSA journals (currently Journal of Petrology, and Physics and Chemistry of Minerals) handled through the Society.

The most rapid increases in expenses have been in printing and postage costs for the Mineralogist (these are mainly unavoidable), and in the charges made by the American Geophysical Union for handling our business affairs. The Council is working with the AGU staff to keep these charges as low as possible.

Joint Technical Program Committee will be Gordon Brown, Dean Presnall, and Timothy Grove. Tim will also be soliciting topics for the symposium at the 1983 meeting. Since the 1981 and 1982 symposia both involved mineralogical topics, we would prefer a symposium with a more petrologic theme for 1983. But whatever the field, submit your ideas to Tim Grove, Dept. of Earth and Planetary Sciences, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 02139.

Also of interest to some mineralogists (though not officially sponsored by MSA) is a planned workshop on the use of the JCPDS powder diffraction files. Those interested should contact Dr. Clayton Ruud, Materials Research Lab, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16803.

MSA's portion of the 1981 program in Cincinnati was ably organized by Steve Huebner, Gordon Brown, and Dean Presnall. We thank them as well as those who helped to review the abstracts: Fred Anderson, Steve Bohlen, Maryellen Cameron, Robert Christiansen, Maria Crawford, Tim Grove, David Harris, Kase Klein, Gary Lofgren, Gail Hahood, Alexander McBirney, Gordon Nord, Tony Philpotts, Jack Rice, and George Rossman. Of 182 abstracts reviewed in the fields of mineralogy, crystallography, and petrology, 119 were accepted for oral presentation and 31 for poster presentation—approximately 20% of the total GSA program.

#### ROEBLING MEDAL and MSA AWARD

The Roebling Medal—our Society's highest honor—will be presented to Joseph V. Smith, and the MSA Award will go to Robert Hazen at our MSA Luncheon in New Orleans. I hope you will be able to attend and help us honor these eminent mineralogists.

We will soon begin to select the awardees for 1983. Please send your nominations (preferably with a vita or other supporting material) by July 1, 1982. Nominations for the Roebling Medal should be sent to James J. Papike, Institute for the Study of Mineral Deposits, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, Rapid City, SD 57701. Nominations for the MSA Award should go to Donald R. Peacor, Department of Geological Sciences, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109. In making nominations for the MSA Award, please bear in mind the age restrictions: the recipient must be younger than 38 when the award is made, and the research being recognized must have been published before the awardee turned 35.

#### MINERALOGY-PETROLOGY RESEARCH AWARD

Our Society offers, in alternate years, two research awards of \$1500 to young scientists. The winner of the 1982 Kraus-Glass Crystallographic Research Award will be announced shortly after the May 1982 Council Meeting. Applications are being accepted now for the 1983 Mineralogy-Petrology Research Award; application forms are available from the MSA office (2000 Florida Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20009). Recipients must be between the ages of 25 and 36 at the time the award is made. Applications should include a one or two-page research proposal, together with a statement of other funding available and of how the award would make the proposed research possible. This information should be sent before Sept. 1, 1982, to: Charles W. Burnham, MSA Research Grant Committee, Department of Geological Sciences, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138.

Despite a number of generous contributions made last year in memory of C. L. Christ and J. J. Fahey, the Mineralogy-Petrology Research Award remains underfunded. Several thousand dollars more is needed to endow this award at a minimum level. I urge all MSA members to consider making contributions - large

## OFFICERS - PRESENT AND FUTURE

Most of you probably know by now that the Society elected Edwin Roedder as Vice President, and Jim Papike and Don Peacor as Councillors for 1981-84. Candidates for the upcoming election are:

President: Edwin Roedder

Vice President (one to be elected):

Bernard W. Evans

Charles T. Prewitt

Treasurer: Odette B. James

Councillors (two to be elected):

James R. Craig

Alexandra Navrotsky

Robert M. Hazen

Daniel F. Weill

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The success of our Society depends largely on the effectiveness of many committees - and that, in turn, depends upon the willingness of our members to serve. If you would like to help, please contact Ed Roedder (Mail Stop 959, U. S. Geological Survey, Reston, VA 22092) who heads our Committee on Committees. Last year we were able to place about one-half of the volunteers on committees; I will turn the names of the others over to Ed so that they can be considered in the coming year. So if you volunteered and were not chosen - take heart: we need you and will try to use your talents soon!

Speaking of volunteers, AGI has asked us to designate someone who will check the mineralogical terms in the new AGI Glossary. If you would be willing to serve in this way, please let me know.

## DECADE OF NORTH AMERICAN GEOLOGY

The GSA has invited us to help it celebrate its upcoming centennial by participating in the Decade of North American Geology Series. Our contribution might be one or more volumes on appropriate mineralogical topics. Suggestions to date include ophiolite suites, the mineralogy of the Black Hills, thermal energy flow through the crust, and mineralogy and health. Please let me know your ideas regarding appropriate topics - and authors. Pete Palmer, the science coordinator for DNAG, says there are several possibilities as to the form of the publication. A volume might be published by GSA as part of the formal DNAG series, or MSA might publish it with the inscription that it was dedicated to the GSA centennial.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Society has formally endorsed and invites your participation in the following:



# MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

2000 FLORIDA AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, D. C. 20009 202-462-6913

1982 NEWSLETTER # 2 (August 16)

TO MEMBERS AND FELLOWS OF THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA:

The main purpose of this newsletter is to announce the MSA-sponsored portion of the program for the GSA meeting to be held October 18-21 in New Orleans. A number of you had requested that this information be made available before the preregistration and housing deadline of September 17. (Registration and housing forms are being sent under separate cover.) The program looks like a fine one, and we should all thank our representatives to the Joint Technical Program Committee - Gordon Brown, Dean Presnall, and Tim Grove - for the many dedicated hours they spent on it. We also thank those who assisted in reviewing the abstracts: Bill Bryan, Tom Casadevall, Ian Carmichael, Howard Day, Bob Dymek, Mike Garcia, Jim Hawkins, John Holloway, Derrill Kerrick, Bob Newton, Charles Prewitt, Dave Veblen, and Glenn Waychunas. This large number of reviewers is mandated by GSA's insistence that every abstract be reviewed by four people. In my opinion this is excessive, and undoubtedly contributes to the unconscionably long lag time between the deadline for submitting abstracts and the meeting date. How do you feel? Should our Society try to persuade GSA to relax this rule?

Our representatives handled 255 volunteered abstracts and were able to schedule 71% of them in oral or poster sessions. (The overall GSA rejection rate was 33%, our smaller rate showing the superiority of our members' work!) Even so, our rejection rate of 29% was dishearteningly larger than last year's 17%, and is apparently a tribute to the drawing power of New Orleans as a meeting site. As usual, there are too many competing sessions, but be assured that this results from GSA-mandated schedules, rather than choice on the part of our representatives.

Tim Grove also is in charge of recommending a topic for a half-day MSA-sponsored symposium for 1983. Because the last two symposia will have had a crystallographic flavor, we would prefer a more petrologic topic for the next one. If you have ideas for a symposium, contact Tim [Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, MIT, Cambridge, MA 02139; (617) 253-2878].

Our Society is suffering from success! So rapidly has our membership grown that we didn't print enough American Mineralogists to go around (Jan.-Feb. 1982 issue). These are being reprinted, and will be distributed; you may be assured that our press runs are being increased to keep up with our growing numbers of members and subscribers. We apologize to all who have been inconvenienced.

Many of you have also experienced difficulties in obtaining volumes of the "Reviews in Mineralogy" series. There are several causes of the problem. First, during the past year we sold out of several volumes, and there were some delays while we reprinted them. Next, there have also been problems in our business office (managed by AGU) in handling the orders. Finally, Volume 9B, which was scheduled for the 1981 Amphibole Short Course, and which we have therefore been advertising for nearly a year, simply hasn't been completed. (Rumor has it that the delinquent author is an officer of our Society; perhaps we've been keeping him too busy with