



Mineralogical Society of America



web

www.minsocam.org

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Michael Brown,
MSA President

My, oh, my; how time flies!

As we age, time seems to go by more quickly. Is it really time to write my sixth and last President's Letter? It is early August, so I have three months left. My major task during this period is to complete the hire of a replacement for Alex Speer who will retire as Executive Director of the Mineralogical Society of America (MSA) at the end of 2019. At the time of writing, the search remains open and the Search and Selection Committee is working hard to identify a strong short-list of candidates.

Although this task is not finished, I do want to take this last opportunity to thank Nancy Ross (Chair), David Bish, Barb Dutrow, John Ferry, John Hughes, and Rodney Ewing for serving on the Search and Selection Committee. The Executive Committee and Nancy Ross, as Chair of the Search and Selection Committee, will conduct interviews during October at the MSA offices in Chantilly, Virginia, and choose a successor to Alex before the last council meeting of 2018, which will take place in early November. Hopefully, the next MSA President, Mickey E. Gunter (Department of Geological Sciences, University of Idaho, USA) will be able to let you know the outcome of this process early in the New Year of 2019.

In this final letter, I want to promote the MSA short courses and workshops. By the time this is published, the short course entitled High Temperature Gas-Solid Reactions in Earth and Planetary Processes will have passed, but the Reviews in Mineralogy and Geochemistry (RiMG) volume will be available for purchase from the MSA web site (<http://www.minsocam.org/msa/RiM/Rim84.html>). If you are interested in organizing a short course, then information for prospective organizers is also available (<http://www.minsocam.org/msa/SC/#organizingSC>). The MSA also sponsors workshops, but these have been infrequent. I think we should offer more workshops. Maybe you are interested in organizing a workshop rather than a short course? If so, information for prospective organizers can be found at the society's web site (<http://www.minsocam.org/msa/SC/#organizingWrkshp>).

If you are reading this and you are not a member of MSA, please become one; if you are a member, please encourage your students and colleagues to become members! Membership is the lifeblood of any learned society. The MSA has about 2,250 members *sensu lato*, of whom about one-half are members *sensu stricto*, the other half being made up of seniors, fellows, and students. Membership fluctuates, of course, and recently our membership has varied from <2,000 in 2000 to >2,750 in 2010. It is important for the future of the MSA that students in crystallography, geochemistry, mineralogy, and petrology of Earth and planetary materials not only become members while students but also continue their membership during their professional careers. In this endeavor, we should both set an example and provide encouragement.

The end is in sight! I thank the fellows and members of the MSA for the opportunity to serve as President of the society on the eve of its centennial year. No man is an island, and I am grateful to MSA officers and councilors for their advice and support during the past year. A special thanks goes to Executive Director Alex Speer: you made my job as MSA President more effective by providing sage advice. In closing, I want to return to the theme of my first letter and thank our professional and volunteer workforce: it is through your efforts that MSA runs smoothly year in, year out. On Tuesday, 6 November 2018 I will pass the gavel to Mickey Gunter. However, I look forward to serving the MSA in different roles for many years to come.

Michael Brown, 2018 MSA President

NOTES FROM CHANTILLY

- **2018 Election Results** – The 2018 President of the society is Mickey Gunter, the Vice President is Carol D. Frost, and Past President is Michael Brown. Bryan Chakoumakos remains in office as Secretary. Thomas Duffy was re-elected Treasurer. New councilors are Mark J. Caddick and Adam C. Simon, joining continuing councilors Sarah Carmichael, Sarah C. Penniston-Dorland, Jay Ague, and Donna Whitney. The outgoing councilors are Rajdeep Dasgupta and Peter Nabelek.
- MSA 2019 membership renewals starts in September, with notices being sent electronically. This will be followed by several electronic reminders before a paper copy is sent to those who do not renew online by the end of October. Members who renew and pay online before 10/31/2018 will receive a \$5 dues discount; the discount reflects cost savings to MSA from members who renew early online. There will be several electronic reminders before a paper copy is sent during November to those who do not renew online by the end of October.
- Members and Fellows who are in the senior, honorary, and life categories are sent renewal notices. They need not pay dues but are sent notices as the best way to prompt an update of membership information, particularly mail and e-mail addresses.
- MSA Council voted an increase in 2019 dues for members (from \$80 to \$85). Student membership remains the same (at \$20), and all members will have access to the electronic versions of both the *American Mineralogist* and *Elements*. Sustaining memberships will remain at \$150 + regular dues.
- Council approved, on a trial basis, a membership rate lower for early career members. Early career is here defined as three years beyond being a student; the membership rate would be \$45.
- Member subscription rates to the print version of the 2019 *American Mineralogist* will increase. The print subscription price to US members will be \$135 (currently \$125); to foreign members it will be \$145 (currently \$135). The subscription price (paper and electronic) to US institutional members will increase to \$1,150 (from \$1,100); for foreign institutions it will be \$1,175 (from \$1,125). Institutional electronic-only subscription will increase to \$1,050 (from \$1,000). These prices represent increases of 4%–8%. Included in the institutional subscription are all current-year (2019) print issues of *American Mineralogist*, *Reviews in Mineralogy and Geochemistry*, *Elements*, as well as access to the electronic versions of these publications on the MSA website starting with volume 1, number 1. GeoScienceWorld institutional subscriber prices for archival print copies of *American Mineralogist* and the *Reviews* are \$200 and \$250, respectively. The MSA offers institutional subscriptions to print + electronic [\$315 (US) and \$335 (non-US)] or electronic-only (\$275) versions of the *Reviews*.
- Council approved a 20% surcharge for institutional subscribers renewing after January 15. Such late institutional subscriptions are an extra expense that requires the purchase of extra inventory, plus the processing and packing of back issues, and needing to ship at rates higher than the usual bulk shipping for periodicals.
- If you subscribe to other journals through MSA—*Gems & Gemology*, *Journal of Petrology*, *Mineral News*, *Physics and Chemistry of Minerals*, *Mineralogy and Petrology*, or *Rocks & Minerals*—please renew early. The MSA needs to forward your renewal to those publishers before your subscription runs out.

J. Alex Speer
jaspeer@minsocam.org

AWARD NOMINATIONS

Nominations Sought for 2020-2021 Awards

NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 1 JUNE 2019

The **Roebbling Medal** (2020) is MSA's highest award and is given for eminence as represented by outstanding published original research in mineralogy.

The **Dana Medal** (2020) is intended to recognize continued outstanding scientific contributions through original research in the mineralogical sciences by an individual in the midst of their career.

The **Mineralogical Society of America Award** (2020) is given for outstanding published contribution(s) prior to 35th birthday or within 7 years of the PhD.

The **Distinguished Public Service Medal** (2021) is presented to an individual who has provided outstanding contributions to public policy and awareness about mineralogical topics through science.

Society **Fellowship** is the recognition of a member's significant scientific contributions. Nomination is undertaken by one member, with two members acting as cosponsors. A form is required. Please contact committee chair or MSA home page.

Mineralogical Society of America

Submission requirements and procedures are on MSA's home page: <http://www.minsocam.org/>

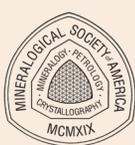
RESEARCH GRANTS

The Mineralogical Society of America
2019 Grants for**RESEARCH IN CRYSTALLOGRAPHY**

from the Edward H. Kraus Crystallographic Research Fund
with contributions from MSA membership and friends

**STUDENT RESEARCH IN MINERALOGY
AND PETROLOGY**

from an endowment created by MSA members



Selection is based on the qualifications of the applicant; the quality, innovativeness, and scientific significance of the research of a written proposal; and the likelihood of success of the project. There will be up to three US\$5,000 grants, with the restriction that the money be used in support of research.

Application instructions and online submission are available on the MSA website, <http://www.minsocam.org/>. Completed applications must be submitted by 1 March 2019.



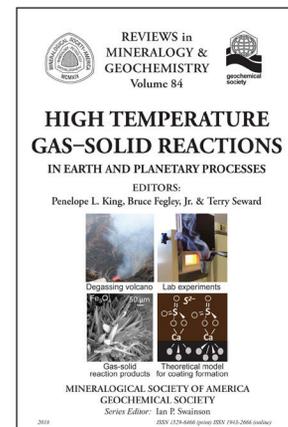
The 2019 16-month calendar showcases Gold, published by Lithographie, LLC, in cooperation with MSA. It is available from MSA: <http://www.minsocam.org/>.

NEW PUBLICATION AD

Reviews in Mineralogy and Geochemistry Volume 84: High Temperature Gas-Solid Reactions in Earth and Planetary Processes 2018. Editors: Penelope L. King, Bruce Fegley, Jr. and Terry Seward. i-xiv + 514 pages. ISBN 978-0-946850-00-3

Gas mixtures play a crucial role in distributing elements between different parts of the Earth and of planet-forming systems over a range of settings and temperatures. Despite the fundamental role of gases in geochemical cycles and their prevalence both in the crust and in the early solar system, we are unaware of any reviews on this topic. This volume arose from an interest in promoting further research into the role of gases in geologic systems on Earth and beyond, with an aim of illuminating the gaps in our knowledge. The focus is on high-temperature interactions because at low temperatures, the low density, very low dielectric constant gas mixtures only rather loosely "physisorb" onto natural materials. In contrast, at higher temperatures, solids volatilize and condense, they lose/gain volatile components, and heterogeneous chemisorption reactions can occur between gases and solid surfaces. These reactions have previously been paid very little attention, but recent research has laid some foundations for understanding the processes involved and their applications to Earth and planetary environments.

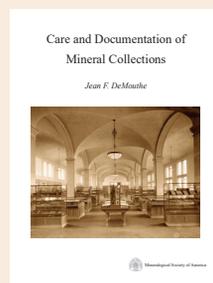
The volume is divided into five main topics: (1) Experimental and analytical approaches to characterizing gas-solid reactions; (2) Modelling approaches to examining gas-solid reactions; (3) Terrestrial volcanic systems; (4) Planetary systems; (5) Industrial processes.



Description and ordering online at www.minsocam.org or contact Mineralogical Society of America, 3635 Concorde Pkwy Ste 500, Chantilly, VA 20151-1110 USA phone: +1 (703)652-9950 fax: +1 (703) 652-9951 e-mail: business@minsocam.org. Cost is \$45 (\$33.75 members MSA, GS, CMS).

Care and Documentation of Mineral Collections

Jean F. DeMouthe, i-vi+ 94 pages. ISBN 978-0-939950-99-7



This work is an attempt to provide information and guidance on all aspects of caring for and documenting mineral collections. It is aimed at professionals and amateurs alike and is dedicated to everyone who shares a love of minerals and those who care for and about collections. The ten chapters are: Collection Organization; Documentation; Ancillary Collections; Preventive Conservation; Storage; Hazards, Safety, and Risks; Administrative Policies; Private Collections; and Bibliography and Resources.

Description and ordering online at www.minsocam.org or contact Mineralogical Society of America, 3635 Concorde Pkwy Ste 500, Chantilly, VA 20151-1110 USA phone: +1 (703) 652-9950 fax: +1 (703) 652-9951 e-mail: business@minsocam.org. Cost is \$30 (\$22.50 members MSA, GS, CMS).