



MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

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March 1976

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA:

This is the first of two planned Newsletters for 1976, to brief you on Society matters of interest.

1. The 1976 ballot for the Council and Officers will be sent out sometime in late summer. The slate will be: F. Donald Bloss (VPI), President; Peter J. Wyllie (Chicago), Vice-President; Malcolm Ross (USGS/Reston), Treasurer; and these four candidates for Councilors (2 slots): Arden L. Albee (CalTech), Subrata Ghose (Washington), Gerald V. Gibbs (VPI), and Paul B. Moore (Chicago).

2. Annual meeting The 1976 Annual Meeting of the MSA will be held with the GSA again, in Denver, Colo., Nov. 8-11. You will receive notices in future mailings. MSA will sponsor a symposium on "Magma genesis in the mantle" to be organized by John Carman. The deadline for voluntary abstracts for the meeting will be July 1. I urge you to send in your abstract early to absorb postal-service delays! A bit of bad news is that GSA has decided to charge \$20 per abstract submitted; the money will be returned if the abstract is rejected. You may wish to consider submitting abstracts for the poster sessions; this does not obviate the need for \$20 but does provide a more leisurely and possibly more scholarly forum for discussion.

3. The Roebling Medalist for 1976 will be Professor Carl W. Correns of the University of Göttingen. The MSA Award will go to Dr. Friedrich A. Seifert of Kiel University. The awards will be made at the time of the Denver meeting. Incidentally, the Council invites nominations from members for these awards; please consult the Jan/Feb 1976 issue of the American Mineralogist for details. Send your nomination to Secretary Larry W. Finger (address until July, Dept. of Earth Sciences, SUNY at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, N.Y. 11794; after that, the Geophysical Laboratory, 2801 Upton St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008). Those submitted before May 1 will be considered this year.

4. Preceding the 1975 Annual Meeting, the MSA sponsored our second and very successful Short Course, organized by Paul Ribbe, on "Feldspar mineralogy". Lecturers were Ribbe, J.V. Smith, D.B. Stewart and R.A. Yund. The lecture notes are available as Vol. 2 of the MSA Short Course series at \$5 a copy from our Business Office. This year we will have another short course to precede the Denver meeting, on "Mineralogy and petrology of rock-forming oxide minerals", to be held at the Green Conference Center, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colo., Nov. 5-7. Invited lecturers will be: Ahmed El-Goresy, S.E. Haggerty, D.H. Lindsley, and Douglas Rumble. Topics will include crystal chemistry, structure, and magnetic properties; phase equilibria; igneous, metamorphic, lunar and meteoritic petrology and alteration paragenesis. The lecture notes will be published in the Short Course Notes series. Prospective registrant should contact Doug Rumble, the Geophysical Laboratory, 2801 Upton St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008.

5. If you have ideas on a future short course or its organizer, please contact our Short Course Committee (Derrill Kerrick, Penn. State Univ., Chairman; James J. Papike, SUNY Stony Brook, and Louis Cabri, Geological Survey of Canada, Ottawa), or Larry Finger. Also, if you have ideas on what might be a good subject for a MSA-sponsored symposium or its organizer, send that to Larry as well. The Council has decided that henceforth there will be a symposium at each annual meeting, and that the subject matter will alternate between mineralogy/crystallography and petrology. Thus the 1977 symposium will be mineralogical/crystallographic.

6. On February 14-15 the second biennial joint meeting of the Friends of Mineralogy and the MSA was held in Tuscon, Arizona. These meetings were followed by field trips to mineral localities. Twenty-three technical papers were given, with stress on crystal-field theory. Attendance was over 200 and the meetings were, from all reports, enjoyable as well as informative. Dick Erd was elected the new President of Friends of Mineralogy. The Tuscon Gem and Mineral Society, William Panczner, Program Chairman, and Paul Moore, Technical Sessions Chairman and MSA representative to the joint meeting, are much to be commended for the excellent meeting.

7. In 1975 the MSA was a cosponsor of two conferences: (a) A Gordon Research Conference in Inorganic Geochemistry, convened by J. B. Thompson and A. B. Thompson, was on the subject of "Thermochemistry in petrology"; over half of the attendees were MSA members. Special tribute was paid to David R. Waldbaum, a former Fellow, who bequeathed a sum of money to the MSA for conference-related expenses. (b) An International Conference on Geobarometry and Geothermometry, held in University Park, Pa., in early October, organized by a committee headed by A. L. Boettcher. The papers proceeding from this conference will, after selection by our normal editorial procedure, be published as a dedicated issue of the American Mineralogist in 1976.

8. The MSA and the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland signed a formal Agreement last December for the joint ownership and publication of the Mineralogical Abstracts. The Agreement is for renewable three-year terms. The Mineralogical Abstract is an important reference journal in the earth sciences and has a world-wide circulation. We of the MSA are pleased to contribute to its well being.

9. The Smithsonian Institution has an on-going program whereby documented mineralogical samples will be accepted for curating and for future research use. Our Editor, Brian Mason, will be asking contributing authors to consider submitting portions of their samples (such as those used in atomic site-occupancy determinations or those having measured thermochemical data), along with documentation, to the Smithsonian for this purpose. This could be a mutually beneficial arrangement to all concerned; I urge you to give this service careful consideration.

10. The Council has appointed a three-person ad hoc group (D. E. Appleman, Joel Arem, Edwin Roedder) to prepare and review ideas for educational films in the mineralogical sciences. The outline for the first film on the general topic of "mineralogy" has been prepared. The films will be made under the agreement between the American Geological Institute and the Encyclopedia Britannica Educational Films, Inc. The MSA as a co-sponsor with AGI will have veto power over the release of any film with which we are involved if it does not meet our scientific standards. The endeavor costs MSA no money and we make none; but it does provide us with fine opportunities in public education to large audiences of high school and university students, interested laymen, amateurs,

and professional earth scientists. If you have ideas or talents to contribute, please contact one of the three persons mentioned above. Their addresses are in the MSA Directory.

11. Our Secretary, Larry Finger, hopes to receive your nominations for Fellowship in the Society. Qualifications are prior membership and significant contributions to "the advancement of mineralogy, crystallography, or petrology" or in which mineralogical data or studies have been used.

12. I am happy to report that, despite the recent economic recession, the fiscal status of the MSA remains sound, thanks to a large measure to the vigilant management and supervision by our Financial Advisory Committee. We have a new Investment Councilor, the William G. Campbell & Co. We look forward to another competent source of professional counsel and management of our portfolio. While I am on the topic of financial matters, one of our members has made a proposal for an ambitious endowment program. This is being scrutinized for feasibility. I urge all members to send their ideas to us on ways to strengthen the long-range financial health of the Society, or, short of that, send a tax-deductible contribution to our Endowment Fund or one of the special-purpose funds. We were not able to provide scholarship aid to worthy students this year, as we did last year, for lack of contributions from members. Remember, your talents, thoughts, or money is always in bad need!

13. Calendar. (a) MSA ANNUAL MEETING, Denver, November 8-11; SHORT COURSE, November 5-7.

(b) An International Conference on the occurrence, properties and utilization of natural zeolites under MSA cosponsorship, Tuscon, Arizona, June 6-14, 1976; F. A. Mumpton, Department of Earth Sciences, State University College, Brockport, New York 14420.

(c) A Penn. State Univ. extension course on Bonding theories and sulfide minerals, University Park, Pa., June 1976; Deane K. Smith, Department of Geosciences, 210 Deike Building, University Park, Pa. 16802.

(d) Mineralogical Association of Canada Annual Meeting, Edmonton, Alberta, May 19-21, 1976; Short Course on microprobe analysis, May 17-18; General Chairman, GAC/MAC Annual Meeting, Department of Geology, University Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2E3.

(e) Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland - General Meeting, theme on "Volatiles," London, June 3; General Meeting, theme on "Automation of mineralogical measurements," London, November 11.

(f) International Mineralogical Association 10th General Meeting, Sydney, Australia, August 16-25.

(g) Third European Crystallographic Meeting, Zurich, Switzerland, September 6-10, Dr. Rita Grieb, ECM-3, Inst. für Kristal., ETH, Sonneggstrasse 5, CH 8006, Zurich.

14. If you know of a mineralogical paper in the Russian language that you feel particularly deserves translation and publication, contact Thomas F. Rafter, Jr., Director of Publication, AGI.

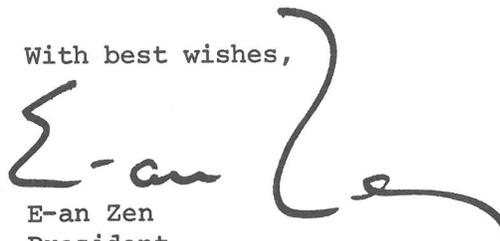
15. Brian Mason informed me that the Norwegian government recently issued a set of four commemorative stamps honoring four geochemists/petrologists: J. H. L. Vogt (0.65 kr), V. M. Goldschmidt (0.85 kr), Th. Kjernulf (1.00 kr), and W. C. Brøgger (1.40 kr). The stamps may be purchased from Postens Filatelitjeneste, Kirkegata 20, Oslo 1, Norway.

16. I regret to report the death of Professor Walter F. Hunt, who for 34 years (1922-1956) was the dedicated Editor of the American Mineralogist.

17. This year we not only have a new President but a new Secretary, a new Editor of the American Mineralogist (Brian Mason), and a new Managing Editor (Ann Garlington). If we seem occasionally to be feeling our way, please bear with us. The competent action of previous Councils and Committees have led to our present state of relative well being, administratively, financially, and editorially. I hope we can use this respite from pressing problems to think more about long-range welfare of the Society and its role in mineralogy. If you have thoughts, critical or otherwise, please let the Council hear from you. If you have time and talents that you are willing to contribute, we'd be even more delighted. The Society can only be as strong as its members make it to be, and our journal, the American Mineralogist, can be a quality journal of broad appeal only if authors contribute the right papers. Please also help to attract new members to the Society; membership forms are available from our business office. To speed things up and save overhead, ask the candidate to send his dues with the completed application form (\$20 per year; bona fide students with certification from teacher, \$6).

18. Last but certainly not least, I want to take this opportunity to thank all the good people who helped the Society in many ways, by serving on Committees, by working on projects or various activities related to the annual meeting, by convening short courses and symposia, by volunteering to do odd chores big and small, and by your comments and contributions of money. My and the Society's indebtedness to all of you goes beyond a simple "thank you."

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E-an Zen". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a large loop at the end.

E-an Zen
President