



MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

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NEWSLETTER NO. 13

March 1980

Dear Members of the MSA:

Your society is moving forward into the Eighties with continuing--even increasing--vigor, but with the same uncertain future faced by all scientific groups. An appropriate kickoff to the decade will be the IMA meetings in Orleans, France, July 5-8, 1980; we have applied to the NSF for travel support and anticipate funding at a modest level. The MSA short courses are alive and well and multiplying like rabbits; we plan to start holding one at the time of the AGU eastern national meeting, commencing in 1981. And our symposia at the GSA annual meetings, as well as the short courses, are unqualified successes. As part of AGI, we will be sponsoring a Congressional Science and Engineering Fellow starting September 1, 1980. Brian Mason, doughty editor of the American Mineralogist, wishes to step down at the end of the year, but may be prevailed upon to continue into 1981 if necessary; it will be very hard to replace him. Our financial, publishing and administrative combination with the AGU has been effected, but bugs still remain to be worked out.

IMA Block Travel Grant

If our NSF request is authorized, travel support on the order of \$600 per person will be available to help defray air fare to Paris. Applications for travel grants may be obtained from Meredith Ann Compton, MSA Headquarters. Please submit your request by April 15, 1980. An MSA panel (J. Ganguly, B. W. Evans, D. R. Peacor) will review the applications, final decisions being provided to applicants by about May 15, 1980.

MSA Short Course on Pyroxenes

The short course will be held November 13-16, 1980, at Emory University, prior to the Atlanta GSA meeting. The convenor is C. T. Prewitt. See the enclosed announcement.

MSA Symposium, Atlanta GSA Meeting; Pyroxene Research--Today and Tomorrow

This is our special topical study which is part of the GSA program. J. S. Huebner has organized a very stimulating, "frontiers of mineralogy"-type invited paper symposium. Should a large number of abstracts involving pyroxene research be received by the Joint Technical Program Committee, we hope to have yet another half day devoted to this subject at Atlanta.

AGI Congressional Science and Engineering Fellowship

This fellowship is funded through AAAS and AGI, with modest support from the MSA. By working for one year, beginning September 1, 1980, as a special legislative assistant on the staff of a Member of Congress or congressional committee, the AGI Fellow will have an opportunity to contribute to the public policy-making process within Congress. The program includes an orientation on congressional and executive branch operations and a year-long seminar program on issues involving science and public policy. A prospective Fellow must demonstrate exceptional competence in some area of geology; be cognizant of many non-scientific areas; be flexible, and articulate; and have a strong interest or some experience in applying scientific knowledge toward the solution of societal problems. Applicants must be a member of one of AGI's member societies (MSA, for instance). The stipend is \$19,500 annually. Up to an additional \$1,500 is available for travel and relocation expenses. Deadline for receipt of applications is March 15, 1980. The award recipient will be announced by mid-May.

For further details, including application information, write: Dr. A. G. Unklesbay, American Geological Institute, 5205 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, Virginia 22041.

Newly Elected MSA Fellows

The following 23 individuals were elected to fellowship at the MSA Council meeting, November 4, 1979.

Barnes, Hubert L.	Rossmann, George R.
Burt, Donald M.	Rucklidge, John C.
Eggler, David H.	Salotti, Charles A.
Ganguli, Jibamitra	Scott, Steven D.
Langer, Klaus	Smith, D. G. W.
LeMaitre, Roger W.	Smith, Douglas
Lyons, John B.	Steele, Ian M.
Mumme, William G.	Vaughan, David J.
Mysen, Bjørn O.	Vernon, Ronald H.
Newton, Robert C.	Virgo, David
Potter, Robert W. III	Wilkins, Donald W. T.
Presnall, Dean C.	

Appointment of a New Editor for the American Mineralogist

We are in the business of communicating scientific information, and there is no more important MSA function than that of Editor. Brian Mason has done a terrific job, and we owe him a debt of gratitude. The outstanding quality of the American Mineralogist testifies to his abilities. E-an Zen heads our search committee, and I urge you to write or call him with your advice. Volunteers? See the accompanying announcement.

Harrangue of the Membership

Nothing succeeds like success, and our membering is increasing. Belonging to the MSA represents a very good value, and for students it is incredible to

be able to receive a year's issue of the American Mineralogist for \$6.00. Do write for application blanks if you need more (one is enclosed in this Newsletter).

While I am reminding you of good deals, remember that the short course notes are still available and may be purchased by writing the MSA Headquarters.

Thirdly, you will recall that last year D. R. Wones instituted a new Petrology Award for young researchers. Endowment will be needed to provide a meaningful level of support, and I encourage you to send \$20 to the MSA as your one-time, tax-deductible contribution. I did!

Finally, this society is run by the membership. As you know, it is endemic with organizations of all sorts that a small group tends to do most of the running. However, we are always trying to bring in fresh (or at least different) blood on the committees. If you would be willing to serve, please volunteer your services to the chairman of our Committee-on-Committees, the current Vice President, G. V. Gibbs (Department of Geological Sciences, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia 24061). It is your society, so help to the extent you feel able.

Best regards,



W. G. Ernst
MSA President

P.S. Those of you subscribing to Physics and Chemistry of Minerals need to know that Springer-Verlag is running behind publication schedule, hence the first 1980 issue will appear in April or May of this year.

ANNOUNCEMENT

As many of you know, Brian Mason has requested that he be relieved of the editorship of the AMERICAN MINERALOGIST in late 1980. The Society accepts his resignation with deep regret, and solicits your suggestions for his successor.

Please send the names of potential candidates--as well as your reasons for support of the candidate--to the Chairman of the Editor Search Committee.

Dr. E-an Zen
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Reston, Virginia 22092
Phone: (703) 860-6621

Your help in filling this important post will be greatly appreciated.