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## Mineralogical Society of America

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER



#### *Mineral Madness Month*

In our world of proliferating professional meetings, it is difficult to choose which we will attend. MSA's vision is to participate in several meetings, in part to reflect the diversity of our membership. One such "meeting" is the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show—the largest gathering of mineralogists, gemologists, and collectors in the world. The most difficult aspect of this "meeting" is deciding how long to stay.

For those of you who haven't had the pleasure of visiting this show, it occurs over a four-week period beginning in late January. Thousands of mineral, gem, rock, and fossil dealers and collectors from around the world descend on Tucson, Arizona. Hotel rooms are transformed into mineral galleries, parking lots into showcases, and restaurants into bargaining rooms. Mineral madness month culminates with the official Tucson Gem and Mineral Society (TGMS) Show held in the convention center in mid-February. Dealers move their wares from hotels onto the convention floor and are joined by nearly 100 museums, educational institutions, and private collectors who bring awe-inspiring specimens to dazzle spectators. Our colleagues arrive from around the world. For some, it is eye candy at its finest and for others, an exquisite field area. Every type of mineral is available, as is every price range—including a \$2 million quartz and tourmaline specimen!

This year MSA had the pleasure of presenting our Distinguished Public Service Medal at the TGMS banquet (described in the April issue, *Elements* 3: 88). Over 300 people attended the awards ceremony, including many of our

members. Marie Huizing, our medalist and 30-year managing editor of *Rocks & Minerals*, is well known and dearly admired by this community. When I presented the medal to her, there was a standing ovation and such noise I had to yell into the microphone. The applause lasted for minutes. It was an awesome sight to see this level of enthusiasm for our medal and our winner, and to look out over a sea of clapping hands and standing colleagues. After her acceptance speech as she was stepping down from the stage, she received an even longer standing ovation! MSA gained much visibility and appreciation from the mineral-collecting community. And we netted a few new members, including the premier mineral photographer and dealers from Australia! This venue helped raise awareness about our society to an important group of (mostly) non-members.

Our next event will be the presentation of the 2007 Dana Medal to Dr. Frank Spear at the "Frontiers in Mineral Sciences" meeting in Cambridge, England, in late June. I look forward to seeing many of you there, and as enthusiastic as at TGMS.

**Barb Dutrow**  
2007 MSA President

### NOTES FROM CHANTILLY

- Balloting for the 2007 election of MSA officers and councilors is underway. The candidates are Peter Heaney for president; Nancy Ross and Jeffrey Post for vice president; Mickey Gunter and Phil Brown for secretary; and Bruce Marsh, Carol Frost, Lee Groat, and Peter Burns for the two councilor positions.
- MSA members should have received voting instructions at their current e-mail addresses. Those who do not wish to vote online can request a paper ballot from the MSA business office. As always, the voting deadline is August 1. Individuals elected to office decide on the direction of the Society. Voting is an important responsibility for all MSA members.
- If you have not been getting the few e-mail announcements from MSA about new issues of *American Mineralogist* online, voting, your renewal, or confirmation of your online orders, either we do not have a working e-mail address for you or your system is blocking messages from MSA. Consider rectifying the situation. Otherwise, you will need to keep watch on this column or the MSA website to keep abreast of these matters.
- The MSA staffed a booth at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, Tucson, AZ, on 8–11 February 2007. MSA will share a display with other societies at the "Frontiers in Mineral Sciences" meeting, Cambridge, UK, on 26–28 June 2007. MSA will have a booth at the GSA meeting, Denver, CO, on October 28–31, 2007. During that meeting MSA will also hold its Awards Lunch, MSA Presidential Address, Joint MSA–GS Reception, annual business meeting, Council meeting, and breakfasts for the past presidents and associate editors. Do not forget the lectures by the Roebbling Medalist, Gordon E. Brown, and the MSA Awardee, Richard John Harrison. More information is available on the MSA website.
- Reports by the MSA secretary and the MSA treasurer presented at the 2006 MSA annual business meeting and detailing events for the members in 2006 are available on the MSA website by selecting "Officer Reports" under "The Society." Under the same heading you can find the minutes of the Council meeting by selecting "Council Minutes."
- All 2005 and 2006 MSA members have been contacted by mail, electronically, or both about renewing their membership for 2007. If you have not renewed your MSA membership, please do so. If you have not received a notice by the time you read this, please contact the MSA business office. You can also renew online at anytime.

**J. Alex Speer**  
MSA Executive Director  
[j\\_a\\_speer@minsocam.org](mailto:j_a_speer@minsocam.org)

**VOTE**  
**2007 MSA ELECTIONS**

*Mineralogical Society of America and Geochemical Society*  
*Short Course Announcement*

### FLUID-FLUID EQUILIBRIA IN THE CRUST

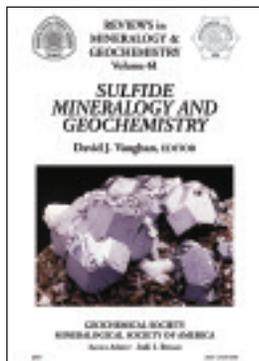
August 16-17, 2007  
University of Cologne, Germany  
(before Goldschmidt 2007)

Convenors:  
Axel H. Liebster,  
University of Berlin  
and  
Christoph A. Heinrich,  
ETH Zurich

Supported by DOE

More information and registration: <http://www.minsocam.org>

**SULFIDE MINERALOGY AND GEOCHEMISTRY**  
 REVIEWS IN MINERALOGY & GEOCHEMISTRY VOL. 61

**Mineralogical Society of America  
and Geochemical Society**


An up-to-date review with emphasis on crystal structure and classification, electrical and magnetic properties, spectroscopic studies, chemical bonding, high- and low-temperature phase relations, thermochemistry, and stable isotope systematics of metal sulfides. Where appropriate for comparison, there are brief discussions of the selenide or telluride analogs of the metal sulfides and sulfosalt minerals. There are major sections on sulfide mineral surface chemistry and reactivity, formation and transforma-

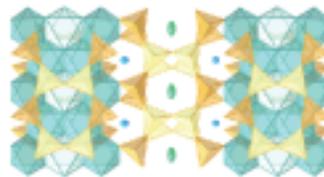
tion of metal-sulfur clusters and nanoparticles, modeling of hydrothermal precipitation, and sulfides in biosystems. Volume 61, 2006, David J. Vaughan, (ed) i-xiii and 714 pp. ISBN 093995073-1.

US\$40

For more description and table of contents of this book, and online ordering visit [www.minsocam.org](http://www.minsocam.org) or contact Mineralogical Society of America, 3635 Concorde Pkwy Ste 500, Chantilly VA 20151-1125 • USA  
Tel.: +1 (703) 652-9950, Fax: +1 (703) 652-9951  
E-mail: [business@minsocam.org](mailto:business@minsocam.org)

**Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei and Mineralogical Society of America organise a Short Course on AMPHIBOLES**

Rome, 29–31 October 2007



Lectures will focus on the main topics of relevance for the understanding of the crystal chemistry of the amphiboles and their role in petrologic and geochemical studies as well as of risks for human health due to

exposure to fibrous amphiboles. The approach and the general expertise will be of interest for people involved in studies of mineral crystal-chemistry and structure–property relations.

In addition to the invited lectures, the short course will provide time for oral and poster contributions by the attendees. A new volume of the RIM&G series will be prepared and distributed, and manuscripts will be collected for a special issue of the European Journal of Mineralogy.

**SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE:** R. Oberli, F. Cámara (CNR-IGG), C. Cipriani, A. Mottana (ANL), G. Della Ventura (Univ. Roma Tre), M.E. Gunter (Univ. of Idaho), F.C. Hawthorne (Univ. of Manitoba), W. Maresch (Ruhr Univ. Bochum), R.F. Martin (McGill Univ.), J.C. Schumacher (Univ. Bristol), M.D. Welch (Natural History Museum, London).

**CONVENORS:** G. Della Ventura, F.C. Hawthorne, A. Mottana, R. Oberli

**Info:** [www\\_crystal.unipv.it/Amphiboles/home.htm](http://www_crystal.unipv.it/Amphiboles/home.htm)

**Publications available through MSA**

New title in the Mineralogical Society Series - **Phoscorites and Carbonatites from Mantle to Mine: the key example of the Kola Alkaline Province**. Edited by F. Wall and A.N. Zaitsev (2004).

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The European Mineralogical Union (EMU) launched its series Schools and accompanying Notes (ISSN 1417 2917) in 1997:

**Volume 6 Spectroscopic Methods in Mineralogy**. Anton Beran and Eugen Libowitzky, eds. (2004) 670 pp. ISBN 963 463 662 4 US\$40

**Volume 5 Ultrahigh Pressure Metamorphism**. D. A. Carswell, and R. Compagnoni, eds. (2003) 508 pp. + CD-ROM ISBN 963 463 646 US\$40

**Volume 4 Energy Modelling in Minerals**. Carlo Maria Gramaccioli, ed. (2002) 465 pp. ISBN 963 463 566 0 US\$36

**Volume 3 Solid Solutions of Oxide and Silicate Systems (of Geological Importance)**. Charles Geiger, ed. (2001) 425 pp. ISBN 963 463 13X X US\$36

**Volume 2 Environmental Mineralogy**. D. J. Vaughan and R. A. Wogelius, eds. (2000) 434 pp. ISBN 963 463 133 9 US\$36

**Volume 1 Modular Aspects of Minerals**. Stefano Merlino, ed. (1997) US\$36

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From Almaz Press

**Kimberlites, Orangeites, Lamproites, Melilitites, and Minettes: A Petrographic Atlas** (1997) US\$100

**Perovskites; Modern and Ancient** (2002) US\$70

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For more description and table of contents of these books, and online ordering visit [www.minsocam.org](http://www.minsocam.org) or contact Mineralogical Society of America, 3635 Concorde Pkwy Ste 500, Chantilly VA 20151-1125 • USA, Tel.: +1 (703) 652-9950, Fax: +1 (703) 652-9951, e-mail: [business@minsocam.org](mailto:business@minsocam.org)

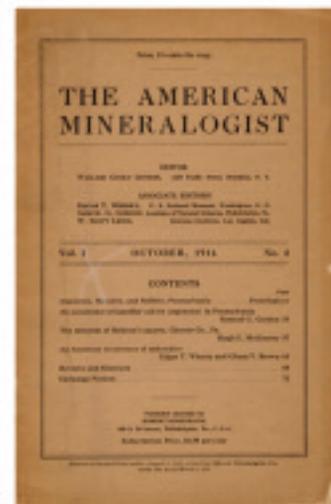
**Have one of these in its plain brown wrapper?**

MSA has a set of *American Mineralogist*.

However, what we have before 1925 are bound reprints made by Kraus Reprints in the 1960s, and a mere handful of original journal issues.

The covers and inside front and back non-scientific pages of these early issues were not reproduced in the Kraus reprints. These pages contain much pre-society and society information that was not recorded elsewhere. No doubt it was assumed that anyone could find the information in their issues of the journal.

After years of attrition through disposal or binding, these pages are seldom seen. MSA would like to obtain these early issues. If you have copies of the journal in plain brown wrappers and would consider donating them to the society, we would much appreciate them. Even if you have but one issue, perhaps not in great shape, it would still be useful.



After years of attrition through disposal or binding, these pages are seldom seen. MSA would like to obtain these early issues. If you have copies of the journal in plain brown wrappers and would consider donating them to the society, we would much appreciate them. Even if you have but one issue, perhaps not in great shape, it would still be useful.

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