



Mineralogical Society of America

www.minsocam.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT

People Make MSA Great



John Brady

Becoming an officer of MSA has opened my eyes to the character and contributions of the extraordinary people who serve our society. Let me begin with our business office in Chantilly, Virginia. For a member of MSA, the behind-the-scenes workings are easy to ignore. Like a well-oiled machine, the jobs get done competently, quickly, and with little fanfare. Some of the work we see directly (dues collection, news postings, book

sales, etc.), but much of it we do not see (meetings and short course organization, inventory management, finances, legal requirements, etc.). We are fortunate indeed to have Alex Speer as our executive director. His management abilities, professionalism, experience, and memory make MSA run smoothly and well. In addition to keeping MSA on track, Alex shares his expertise and time with the Clay Minerals Society (which shares space with the business office), the Geological Society of Washington, *Elements*, and the new Mineralogy, Geochemistry, Petrology, and Volcanology Division of GSA. Alex is well supported in his management by Everett Johnson and Michael Harris, both staff members in the business office, whose skill and good work make the office hum.

American Mineralogist, which is the most visible and identifiable product of MSA, seems to magically appear eight times each year. However, the magic is the result of hard work and dedication by many individuals, including authors, reviewers, associate editors, editors, and especially the editorial and production staff in Chantilly. The team has too many players to name them all (see www.minsocam.org/MSA/AmMin/aes/aelist.html), but I must mention with admiration the editors, Jennifer A. Thomson, Dana T. Griffen, and Bryan C. Chakoumakos, and now Martin Kunz, who somehow are able to complete their enormous editorial tasks on top of their regular jobs. The editors are guardians of the scientific quality of *American Mineralogist*, and their importance to MSA cannot be overstated. Once the content is approved, the material goes to managing editor Rachel Russell and her assistants, Christine Elrod, Jane Watson, and Kris Herzog, whose competent work and high standards ensure that the authors' words and figures become the masterful journal layout that makes *American Mineralogist* the pride of MSA.

The public face of MSA is also strongly influenced by the excellent work of Gordon Nord, our webmaster, and Jodi Rosso, Reviews series editor. Gordon keeps our society connected through an easily navigated website, online services, the MSA-Talk listserv, and in general all things electronic. Jodi works with short course conveners, providing quality book-length products on tight schedules. She is also digitizing older Reviews volumes to broaden their utility and impact. MSA would also like to claim a part of Pierrette Tremblay, managing editor of *Elements*, whose talents have a lot to do with the great success of this new publication.

In the balance, of course, it is MSA members who make the society. Our membership, now over 2700 strong, ranges from mineralogy students and mineral collectors to top scientists in the fields of mineralogy, crystallography, petrology, and geochemistry. Well over 100 members contribute many hours of their time to MSA each year by serving as officers and committee members and by organizing short courses, representing MSA, reviewing papers, writing papers, giving lectures, nominating others for awards, and much more. You can see some of their names on the MSA website (www.minsocam.org/MSA/Committees.html), but many others are hidden from view. MSA could not function without their service to the community. Member support also includes donations of money. About 25% of MSA members generously contribute amounts from a few dollars to hundreds of dollars each year. These donations help fund a number of MSA programs, in turn keeping dues low.

The Mineralogical Society of America is a wonderful organization indeed. Thank you, members, for all that you do to make MSA strong.

John Brady (jbrady@smith.edu)
2010 MSA President

NOTES FROM CHANTILLY

- All 2008 and 2009 MSA members have been contacted by mail, electronically, or both about renewing their membership for 2010. 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.
- The slate of candidates for the 2010 MSA Council elections is:

President: **David L. Bish**

Vice President: **George E. Harlow; Michael F. Hochella Jr.**

Treasurer: **Darrell Henry**

Councillors (two to be selected): **Jay J. Ague, Pamela C. Burnley, Guy L. Hovis, Kevin M. Rosso**

Mickey Gunter continues in office as secretary. Continuing councillors are Penelope L. King, Marc M. Hirschmann, Wendy A. Bohrson, and Sumit Chakraborty. Election materials will be available to MSA members in April, in time for the voting deadline of August 1, 2010.

J. Alex Speer, MSA Executive Director
jaspeer@minsocam.org

IN MEMORIAM

HAYMO HERITSCH – Honorary Fellow, 1965

BRIAN H. MASON – Life Fellow 1944

ARTHUR E. SMITH JR. – Member 1960

MINERAL EVOLUTION STARTED HERE:

"Mineral evolution," a review article by Robert M. Hazen, Dominic Papineau, Wouter Bleeker, Robert T. Downs, John M. Ferry, Timothy J. McCoy, Dimitri A. Sverjensky, and Hexiong Yang

American Mineralogist, November-December 2008, volume 93, pp 1693–1720

AND CONTINUED WITH

"Evolution of uranium and thorium minerals," by Robert M. Hazen, Rodney C. Ewing, and Dimitri A. Sverjensky

American Mineralogist, October 2009, volume 94, pp 1293–1311

**NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR 2011 AWARDS
Nominations must be received by June 1, 2010**

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

The **Dana Medal** recognizes continued outstanding scientific contributions through original research in the mineralogical sciences by an individual in the midst of his or her career and who has not previously been recognized as a recipient of the MSA Award.

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

The **Distinguished Public Service Medal** is presented to an individual who has provided outstanding contributions to public policy and awareness about mineralogical topics through science. The next award will be given in 2011.

Society **Fellowship** recognizes a member's significant scientific contributions. Nomination is undertaken by one member, with two members acting as cosponsors. Form required; contact committee chair or visit MSA home page.

Mineralogical Society of America

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

**The Mineralogical Society of America
2011 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 as outlined in a written proposal; and the likelihood of success of the project. There are three US\$5,000 grants, with no restrictions on how the funds may be spent as long as they are 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 June 1, 2010.

Mineralogical Society of America
and Geochemical Society
Short Course Announcement

**DIFFUSION IN MINERALS
AND MELTS**

December 10–12, 2010
Napa Valley Marriott Hotel & Spa
Napa, CA, USA
(before Fall AGU Meeting)

Convenors

Youxue Zhang
University of Michigan

Daniele Cherniak
Rensselaer Polytechnic
Institute

This short course will focus on diffusion at high to moderate temperatures in minerals and silicate melts. Although theoretical aspects will be covered, the emphasis will be on fundamental details of diffusion for direct application to geological problems, including (1) experimental methods, (2) analytical techniques, (3) a summary and assessment of diffusion data in minerals and melts (including the data and equations).

More information and registration: www.minsocam.org

PACROFI X 2010
Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

June 7–10

on the University of Nevada, Las Vegas campus

Premeeeting field trip to the Carlin gold deposits

**Postmeeeting field trip to the Colorado River
Extensional Corridor**

**Premeeeting short courses by Drs. Bob Bodnar
and Steve Becker**

Information and registration at
<http://geoscience.unlv.edu/PACROFI2010.html>

**We invite all fluid and melt inclusion
researchers.**

