INVITATION TO 2011 ANNUAL MEETING

The 74th meeting of the Meteoritical Society will be held in London, United Kingdom, August 8–12, 2011. The organizers invite you to attend the meeting and visit marvelous London. We expect to have a wide variety of interesting sessions. In addition to an exciting program of science, the early results of the Dawn mission in orbit around asteroid 4 Vesta will just be coming back. We are pleased to announce that Martin Rees, the Astronomer Royal (and current president of the Royal Society), will deliver the Barringer Lecture. Wednesday afternoon will also be available for sight-seeing or an organized outing. There may also be a field trip before the meeting in the highlands of Scotland.

The meeting will be held at the University of Greenwich, located in southeast London. Accommodation will be provided by local hotels and on-campus housing. Greenwich is easily accessible from the center of London and the five airports that serve the greater London area. Full details given in the first announcement are available on the Lunar and Planetary Institute (LPI) website (www.lpi.usra.edu), and more information is available on the meeting website (www.metsoc2011.org).

For information not available on the websites, please contact the organizers, Gretchen Benedix (g.benedix@nhm.ac.uk), Phil Bland, Sara Russell, or Caroline Smith.

CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

Please consider nominating a colleague for one of the Society’s awards. Nominations for Meteoritical Society awards should be sent by January 15 (January 31 for the Pellas-Ryder Award), preferably by e-mail with electronic attachments, to the incoming secretary, Greg Herzog (herzogsec@rutchem.rutgers.edu); Dept. Chemistry, Rutgers Univ., 610 Taylor Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854, USA). For more information and details on how to submit a nomination for any of these awards, please see the latest newsletter on the Society website or e-mail the secretary.

The Leonard Medal honors outstanding contributions to the science of meteoritics and closely allied fields.

The Barringer Medal and Award recognize outstanding work in the field of impact cratering and/or work that has led to a better understanding of impact phenomena.

The Nier Prize recognizes outstanding research in meteoritics and closely allied fields by young scientists (under 35).

The Service Award honors members who have advanced the goals of the Meteoritical Society to promote research and education in meteoritics and planetary science in ways other than by conducting scientific research.

The Paul Pellas – Graham Ryder Award is given for best student paper in planetary science and is awarded jointly by the Meteoritical Society and the Planetary Geology Division of the Geological Society of America.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW!

If you do not renew by March 31, 2011, a $15 late fee will be assessed. Renew online at http://metsoc.meteoriticalsociety.net

2010 WINNERS OF SOCIETY AWARDS

NIER PRIZE: This year’s winner is Danny Glavin. Danny received the award for his excellent work identifying and analyzing amino acids in planetary samples, including primary amines in the Stardust samples, and the enantiomeric excess (D/L ≠ 1) of isoaline in Murchison.

SERVICE AWARD: Joel Schiff is the winner of this year’s Service Award. Joel received this award for his creation and continued publication of Meteorite magazine, which successfully bridges the divide between researchers, dealers, amateurs, and collectors of meteorites.

GORDON Mckay Award: This year’s award, given for the best oral presentation by a student at the annual meeting of the Meteoritical Society, is awarded to Rachel Smith of UCLA for her talk entitled “New 13CO/12CO Observations in Young Stellar Objects and Molecular Clouds: Implications for 13C/12C in the Early Solar Nebula.”

Paul Pellas – Graham Ryder Award: This year’s winner is Vishnu Reddy of the University of North Dakota for his paper entitled “Composition of 298 Baptistema: Implications for the K/T Impactor Link,” published in 2009 in Meteoritics and Planetary Science (44: 1917-1927).

IN MEMORIAM

Ardis Nier (1921–2009)

Ardis Nier was a great friend of the Meteoritical Society. Ardis, who worked in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Minnesota, was married to Alfred O. Nier, a major player in the development of mass spectrometry and a meteoriticist. After her husband’s death in 1994, Ardis established the Nier Prize for young scientists in the area of meteoritics, which was first awarded at the Berlin meeting in 1996. Ardis was “by nature curious, intelligent, and good spirited.” She traveled to many of the Meteoritical Society meetings to meet the winners of this award, which has become a significant achievement for young meteoriticists. Ardis will be much missed by the members of the Meteoritical Society.