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GCA SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR GS MEMBERS

For those members who paid 2011 *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* subscription dues in advance – **thank you** for your lengthy patience. It has been a long negotiation period, but an agreeable contract for the GCA journal was reached between Elsevier, the Geochemical Society, and the Meteoritical Society in May 2011. The Geochemical Society and Meteoritical Society boards both agreed to the contract in mid-June, and subscription services were resumed shortly thereafter. All back issues for the year are also being sent. Subscribers who have not received their issues or their access should report this to Seth Davis (seth.davis@geochemsoc.org). Starting in 2012, only GCA online subscriptions will be available to members.

Members interested in purchasing a GCA subscription and/or online access may do so directly through Elsevier. Their contact information is as follows:

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GEOCHEMICAL CAREER CENTER

If you are looking for a job or have a job you want to post, come to the Geochemical Career Center at www.geochemsoc.org.

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2012 GS AWARDS – CALL FOR NOMINATIONS



The V. M. Goldschmidt Medal is awarded for major achievements in geochemistry or cosmochemistry.



The F. W. Clarke Medal is awarded to an early-career scientist for a single outstanding contribution to geochemistry or cosmochemistry.



The C. C. Patterson Medal is awarded for a recent innovative breakthrough in environmental geochemistry.



The Alfred Treibs Medal is awarded for major achievements in organic geochemistry.



The GS/EAG Geochemical Fellows Award is bestowed upon outstanding scientists who have made a major contribution to geochemistry.

Make a nomination at

www.geochemsoc.org/awards/makeanomination.htm.

Nomination Deadline: October 15, 2011.

Why Nominate?

Awards reward and recognize major achievements in geochemistry. Awards document outstanding performance within a research group. Awards help to inspire others to do their best. Awards set the bar for others to match and/or exceed.

Your participation in the awards program by being a nominator or by writing a supporting letter of recommendation not only benefits the nominee, it also benefits the geochemical community.

Please take the time to consider the accomplishments of your valued colleagues by nominating them. With your help, we can ensure that the award committees have a diverse and deserving pool of candidates to consider.

OBITUARY: GEORGE TILTON (1923–2010)



George Tilton at DTM's Centennial Symposium, October 2004. PHOTO: STEVEN SHIREY

George Tilton passed away on October 20, 2010, in Eugene, Oregon, USA. His death marks the passing of one of the early pioneers of common Pb and U/Pb dating. George was the youngest of four children brought up in a railroad family in Danville, Illinois. He started his formal education at Blackburn College, but this was dramatically cut short when he was called up for active duty during World War 2. George served as a runner handling dispatches during the Ardennes Offensive, but he was wounded by enemy fire, an injury that earned him a Purple Heart.

In the early days of research into radioactivity, George's doctoral dissertation at the University of Chicago focused on the uranium contents of meteorites, with Harrison Brown as his supervisor. He worked at the Carnegie Institute in Washington and later took a position at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Perhaps his best-known and oft-cited paper was the one on volume diffusion as a model for Pb loss in zircon, published in the *Journal of Geophysical Research* in 1960. George maintained his interest in meteorites throughout most of his career, especially those aspects that related to the age of the Earth and terrestrial differentiation.

Those of us working outside the United States were always puzzled as to how George survived the cut and thrust of American science. However, he had brilliance on his side, and his kindly disposition and care for other people gained him many friends. Throughout my twenty-year association with him, I never heard George criticize other people or their work. His most critical comment would be that there might be another way of looking at things. Some have said that he was a humble person, but this smacks of condescension. Perhaps self-effacing is more appropriate.

Throughout his career George gained many honors. He was an AGU fellow, a fellow of the National Academy of Sciences, president of the Geochemical Society, and the recipient of an honorary doctorate from ETH in Zürich. Although his interests were wide ranging, his last fourteen or so papers dealt with the Pb isotope composition of carbonatites, starting with a mention about them in his presidential address published in *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* in 1983. George's fascination with carbonatites led to his modeling of the evolution of the subcontinental, depleted mantle over 3.0 billion years and the relationship between carbonatites and plume magmatism. Many of the samples he analyzed from the Canadian Shield were collected in the wilds of northern Quebec and Ontario, and, in spite of his training as a chemist, George was a physical force to be reckoned with in the field.

For those lucky enough to coauthor a paper with him, every word was weighed, every sentence was carefully parsed, and every idea was given just the right amount of gestation. In his deep-thinking mode, George would stick out his chin, chew on his pencil, and then, after a minute or so of complete silence, would invariably come up with a new approach or, better still, a novel solution to the problem at hand.

George's interests outside of science included singing, listening to classical music, and backpacking. He was always concerned with politics, with an outlook that was colored by his growing up during the depression years. He could be quite outspoken about social injustices, about

political fairness, and about policies that he felt reflected badly on the United States. On such issues, his quiet determination, commonly overlooked, came through.

George will be remembered by a host of graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and international collaborators. He is survived by Elizabeth, his wife of sixty-two years, and other family members.

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The 22nd V.M. Goldschmidt Conference Earth in Evolution

24-29 June 2012 | Montréal, Canada

Call for Sessions: 12 September 2011

List of Sessions Finalized: 30 November 2011

Abstract Submission Opens: 1 December 2011

Abstract Submission Deadline: 1 February 2012

Online Registration & Housing Opens: 16 January 2012

Early-bird Registration Deadline: 20 April 2012

www.vmgoldschmidt.org

A conference of the Geochemical Society and
the European Association of Geochemistry,
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