



International Mineralogical Association

www.ima-mineralogy.org



The METEORITICAL SOCIETY SERVICE AWARD is given this year to **Ursula Marvin**. Ursula receives this award for her excellent service toward documenting the history of the Meteoritical Society. Ursula was also instrumental in establishing personal histories of some of the most influential people in meteoritics and planetary science. The citation was given by Derek Sears.



The GORDON MCKAY AWARD, for the best oral presentation by a student at the annual meeting of the Meteoritical Society, is given to **Maartje Hamers** of Utrecht University, the Netherlands, for her talk in Cairns entitled "Shocked quartz in the SEM: Distinction between amorphous and healed PDFs." The award comes with a prize of US\$1000 and a certificate.

WILEY-BLACKWELL AWARDS, worth US\$500 each and provided by Wiley-Blackwell, publishers of *Meteoritics and Planetary Science*, were given for outstanding presentations by students at the 75th annual meeting of the Society in Cairns. The four winners (left to right, below) were **Evan Groopman** (Washington University, St. Louis) for his talk entitled "Ti-XANES and EELS of presolar TiC subgrains within low-density supernova graphite," **Matthew Huber** (University of Vienna) for his talk entitled "Distribution of meteoritic material in Sudbury ejecta," **Reto Trappitsch** (University of Chicago) for his talk entitled "Solar cosmic-ray irradiation of the solar nebula," and **Kelsey Young** (Arizona State University) for her talk entitled "The age of Haughton Impact Structure as determined by zircon (UTh)/He thermochronology."



CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

Please consider nominating a colleague for one of the Society's awards. Nominations should be sent to Secretary Greg Herzog (herzogsec@rutchem.rutgers.edu) by January 15 (January 31 for the Pellas-Ryder Award and the Service Award). For more information and details on how to submit a nomination for any of these awards, please see the latest Newsletter at the Society website or e-mail the secretary.

ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE

- 2013: Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, July 29–August 2
- 2014: Casablanca, Morocco, September 7–14
- 2015: Berkeley, California, USA, July 27–31
- 2016: Berlin, Germany, dates to be announced

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW!

Please renew by March 31, 2013; after that date, a \$15 late fee will be assessed. You can renew online at <http://metsoc.meteoriticalsociety.net>.



MINERALOGICAL ACTIVITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA



The South African mineral poldervaartite, a hydroxyl nesosilicate, associated with red andradite garnet, from the Wessels mine, Kalahari manganese field, South Africa. Specimen width 2.6 cm. BRUCE CAIRNCROSS COLLECTION AND PHOTOGRAPH

In 2014, the quadrennial International Mineralogical Association conference will be held in South Africa and hosted by the Mineralogical Association of South Africa (see call for session proposals on page 479). MINSA, as the Association is more commonly called, was formed in 1979 as a specialist division of the Geological Society of South Africa (GSSA) with the primary aim of promoting interaction amongst mineralogists, particularly in the fields of mineralogy, petrology and geochemistry. Applied mineralogy is a current strong focus. MINSA organises various

ad hoc lectures by local and overseas experts, symposia, short courses, workshops, conferences, laboratory visits and ever-popular field excursions. Regular visits to laboratories based mainly in the Gauteng region of South Africa enable local mineralogists to keep abreast of the latest instrumentation and techniques available in the country. One-day and weekend excursions to mines and other areas of geological, palaeontological or archaeological interest are popular. Such trips have included visits to the caves of the Cradle of Humankind, site of many important palaeoanthropological fossil finds; the Mapungubwe historical site; and chrome, diamond, gold and platinum mining operations. Longer excursions have been undertaken to regions further afield in southern Africa, such as the Richtersveld, Namibia and Lesotho. Field excursions to other countries, such as Tanzania, where the mining operations around tanzanite were a highlight, and the French volcanic island of Réunion in the Indian Ocean, have also been a success.

Ongoing education for mineralogists is provided in the form of courses and workshops on such subjects as coal petrology, metallurgy for geologists, mineralogy for metallurgists, X-ray diffraction and Rietveld refinement, fluid inclusions, sulfide mineralogy, clay mineralogy, optical mineralogy, acid mine drainage and applied mineralogy.

The planning and organisation of all events are undertaken by a committee made up of a chair, vice-chair, secretary and three elected members, together with usually 20–25 co-opted committee members drawn from industry and academia throughout South Africa, all of whom give of their time on a voluntary basis. The Association currently consists of more than 100 members, and includes students as well as mineralogists outside South Africa's borders. Anyone interested in joining MINSA can do so by downloading a membership form from the website www.minsoc.org.za.

Dr Jill Richards, MINSA Secretary
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