



Mineralogical Society of America



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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Minerals fascinate all of us with their beauty—there is such a diversity of colors, shapes, and luster created by nature! This diversity was brought home to me during my visit to the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show in February. There were aisles and aisles of minerals with booths for almost every mineral you can think of! At MSA, we continue to think of ways to expand our engagement with mineral enthusiasts and collectors. The Tucson show is a wonderful place to do

this. We have a booth at the show each year, which attracts a lot of visitors who learn more about minerals and about the Society (FIG. 1).



FIGURE 1 An overhead view of the MSA booth at the 2025 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show (joint with Mineralogical Association of Canada) with Ann Benbow staffing the booth. PHOTO: J. ALEX SPEER.

In addition to the booth, we have held mineral workshops at the show over the past couple of years, with giveaway cards, coloring sheets, and information about specific gems/minerals. These are held in the afternoon on the second-to-last day of the show (FIG. 2). These are highly interactive with lots of kids (and parents!) excited about the mineral specimens we show, the coloring activities, and stickers we have to give away.



FIGURE 2 (LEFT TO RIGHT): Kyle Dayton, Donna Whitney, and Sarah Penniston-Dorland presenting at the mineral workshops at this year's Tucson Gem and Mineral show. PHOTO: J. ALEX SPEER.

We are considering different options for expanding the MSA presence at next year's show. One idea is to have "Breakfast with a Mineralogist" on the last day of the show. This would be a fun way for members to attend and interact with mineral enthusiasts. We are also considering adding a new membership category for mineral enthusiasts and collectors. This category would have different membership benefits from an academic "regular" membership and would allow us to engage more directly with this community. Stay tuned for more about these ideas in upcoming MSA communications!

Sarah Penniston-Dorland

NOTES FROM CHANTILLY

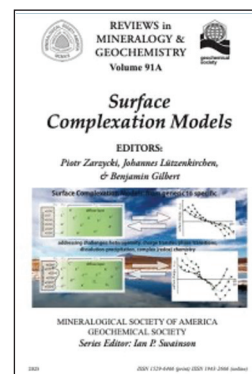
■ **Renewal Season!** It is not too late to renew your memberships for 2025, as well as subscriptions to MSA's publications. Member dues are: Regular Members and Fellows (\$90); Early Career Members (\$50); Student Members (\$20); Senior Members (\$0); Sustaining Members (\$240 – membership plus a \$150 contribution to support MSA's many activities). You can renew via the home page of MSA's website: www.msaweb.org. At that time, we hope that you will also make a contribution to one or more of MSA's funds. These funds support our student research grants, lecture series, websites, education and outreach activities, awards, and much more.

AWARDS AND FELLOWS NOMINATIONS 2025 DEADLINE

June 1, 2025 is this year's deadline for Awards and Fellows nominations. For more information on how and where to submit your nominations, please check the Awards section of the MSA website at <https://msaweb.org/awards-grants/>.

REVIEWS IN MINERALOGY & GEOCHEMISTRY (RIMG) VOLUME 91A: "SURFACE COMPLEXATION MODULES"

The latest volume in the *RiMG* series is now available both in print and online. The editors of "Surface Complexation Modules" are Piotr Zarzycki, Johannes Lützenkirchen, and Benjamin Gilbert. The Editor of the *RiMG* series is Ian Swainson, and the Managing Editor of production is Christine Elrod. For more information and how to order, visit <https://msaweb.org/volume-91a-surface-complexation-models/>.



CONTRIBUTIONS

Many members donate to MSA by including a contribution with their annual dues and/or by responding to special appeals. The MSA Annual Fund supports MSA's infrastructure. Depending on the wishes of the member, contributions are deposited with the principal of the MSA Endowment, the J. Alexander Speer Outreach Fund, MSA Mineralogy/Petrology Fund, J. B. Thompson Fund, Edward H. Kraus Crystallographic Research Fund, F. Donald Bloss Fund, or the Peter R. Buseck Lecture Fund. The income of these funds is used to support MSA's research grants in crystallography, mineralogy, and petrology; the MSA Undergraduate Prizes; the Mineralogical Society of America Award; the Distinguished Public Service Award; the Dana Medal; the Roebling Medal; the website; and the Distinguished Lecturer program. If you have not done so previously, please consider contributing at the next opportunity. Your contribution is tax-deductible, as MSA is a 501c3 nonprofit organization.