# Supplement to Meteoritics & Planetary Science, Vol. 42, 9

The Meteoritical Society Newsletter
(September 2007)

*A report of the business carried out by the Society over the past year, edited by Jeff Grossman, Secretary*


## FROM THE PRESIDENT

**President's Editorial** **Joseph I. Goldstein**

I am honored to serve as your president and to work with so many of you to improve our society. We are working hard to increase our membership both in numbers and in representation across the world, to improve the technical quality of our annual meeting, to improve our financial strength, and to enhance the field of meteoritics and planetary science in whatever way possible. We have a terrific flagship journal in *Meteoritics & Planetary Science* (*MAPS*) and the quality of the papers continues to increase. We have had excellent leadership, particularly with our immediate past presidents, Gary Huss and Herbert Palme. Although Gary is no longer on the council, he has continued to work for the society as chair of the Membership Committee and this year's nominations committee. Jeff Grossman is a first-rate secretary for our society and he is the glue that keeps the society functioning. Alan Rubin has really worked hard to implement new approaches to our finances and we are on a much stronger base financially. Our nominees for new officers and the council are also first-rate and will continue to move the society forward.

The end of my first year as president of the Meteoritical Society is approaching and I am pleased to report on some of the major accomplishments of the past year and plans for the future. Reports by the chairs of our major committees follow this editorial, giving you many more details of our activities.

**Annual Meetings**

The 70th annual meeting of the Meteoritical Society took place in the beautiful mountains surrounding the city of Tucson from August 12 to August 16th. We had over 340 registrations and over 300 papers and posters were given. The technical sessions were lively as usual and included special sessions on "Meteor Crater and Other Impacts," "Achievements and Advances in the Study of Cosmogenic Radionuclides," and "Chondrules and Chondrule Formation" in memory of Robert Hutchison. A field trip to Meteor Crater followed the meeting, attended by over 70 people. We thank Tim Jull and Tim Swindle of the University of Arizona for their hard work as chair and co-chair of the meeting.

Next year we will reconvene in Matsue, Japan, July 28 through August 1, 2008. This will be the first meeting in Asia and our Japanese colleagues are working hard to make this one of the best meetings ever. I am really looking forward to this meeting and I expect that we will have an excellent program and good attendance from the society membership. Please reserve the date now on your calendar.

The council has accepted bids for our annual meetings in 2011 and 2012. We will meet in the United Kingdom at the Greenwich Observatory near London in 2011 and in Australia in Cairns, Queensland, in 2012. The meeting in 2013 will be held in the United States and we will be looking for bids from our colleagues in the U.S. These bids will be considered at our spring council meeting, the year after next, in 2009.

**Administrative Changes**

A number of small but important changes have been made in the way the society goes about its business. We have instituted a new fiscal year to better reflect the financial activities of the society and which extends from June 1 to May 31 of the following year. This change necessitated a much shorter 2007 fiscal year (January 1, 2007 to May 31, 2007). We have formed an Audit Committee, chaired this year by Denton Ebel, which will oversee the financial reports on a fiscal year basis. We have purchased non-profit director's and officer's liability insurance and have set up a policy for us to have a reserve fund. A budget for the next fiscal year was discussed and approved by Council and we are able to keep the dues at the same level as the last few years. The Mineralogical Society of America (MSA) will begin its second year of handling our dues, membership renewals, and membership list. Our relationship with MSA has worked out well and has relieved the treasurer of many duties that were very time-consuming. It is now possible for that office to concentrate on issues that only an officer of the society can handle.

**Relationship to the Government of Oman**

The society has discussed in some detail a request from the Omani government to help with their problems relating to the ownership and export of meteorites found in Oman. Unfortunately, we cannot adjudicate legal claims or enforce the export laws of any nation, as this is not a function of a scientific society. We have replied to the Omani government by offering to disseminate information to the public pertaining to the collection and export of Omani meteorites and to invite more scientific interactions with Omani scientists. We will also develop a code of ethics for our society that addresses concerns about the collection and export of meteorites.

**Finances**

I am pleased to report that our finances are in good shape. We have a balanced budget that includes adding a modest amount to our Endowment Fund. We have caught up with our fiscal reporting to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service and have engaged a professional accountant to help us deal with our reporting requirements. Our investments account has a balance of just over $500,000 and oversight is provided by our Endowment Committee headed by Tim Swindle. Our funds are held by A. G. Edwards, with 60% in equities and 40% in stocks. We expect to have about $20,000 in income this fiscal year, which can be used to sponsor special technical symposia, promote membership in the society, support students to attend MetSoc meetings, etc. Proposals for use of these funds are welcome.

The society provides financial support to our journal, *MAPS*. Income from dues is not sufficient to pay the society's cost for the journal and therefore we rely on other sources for support. Unfortunately, there is a deficit in the operating budget for *MAPS* of about $50,000 that must be dealt with in the next few years. A planning committee, led by Rainer Wieler as head of the publications committee, plus the editor of *MAPS*, members of the publications committee, and several officers, will begin the task of laying out a business plan for the journal that includes alleviating the accumulated deficit.

I want to thank those members of the Meteoritical Society who gave a gift to the society. Last year $4200 was collected. Some of this money is used for special purposes on a one-time basis and some is added to the Endowment Fund to develop long-term support for the society. I hope that all of you will consider a gift to the society this year. You can add the gift funds to your dues payment. I think we can easily double or triple the amount that we collected last year. These extra funds give us the flexibility that we need to improve the society and ensure its longevity.

**Membership**

The membership committee, headed by Gary Huss, has been very active this year. Members of the committee have contacted delinquent members directly and as a result have convinced 60 of our colleagues to rejoin. The committee has begun to develop a strategy to market the society at major meetings. In addition, Life Membership has been extended to two of our members, Derek Sears for his decade-long editorship of *MAPS* and William Welbon for his investment and support of the society for over 40 years. Unfortunately, several of our accomplished members have passed away this year, including Eugene Jarosewich of the Smithsonian in Washington and Robert Hutchison of the Natural History Museum in London. They will be missed.

As you all know, the society is truly international and it is a pleasure to know that we can discuss our research activities openly and without political or social bounds. It was unfortunate, however, that at the Tucson meeting, the setting of the annual banquet venue was at the Pima Air and Space Museum where a B-29 bomber was prominently displayed in the banquet hall. Some of our colleagues were upset by the setting and by the date of the event (August 15 was the exact date of the Japanese surrender to the U.S. in 1945). Despite appearances, there was absolutely no intention to recall painful past events. The chair and co-chair of the meeting and I have apologized formally to our Japanese colleagues for this situation. All of us in this society recognize our responsibility to be sensitive to the history and culture of our MetSoc members and we will try our best to promote a culturally diverse membership.

**Society Awards**

It was a great pleasure for me to preside at the 2007 awards ceremony. These awards demonstrate the high quality of research provided by our colleagues. The Leonard Medal was given to Michel Maurette who, unfortunately, could not attend the meeting. The Barringer Medal was presented to Christian Koeberl, the Nier Prize was awarded to Thorsten Kleine, and the Service Award went to John Schutt. The award winners for 2008 will be Ed Scott for the Leonard Medal, Frank Kyte for the Barringer Medal, and Shogo Tachibana for the Nier Prize. These awards will be presented at the meeting next summer in Matsue, Japan.

The success of our award programs depends critically on members taking the time to nominate highly qualified candidates. All of the award committees are looking for strong nominations. If you would like to make a nomination, see below for information on deadlines and procedures.

## METEORITICS & PLANETARY SCIENCE

**Editor's Report** **A. J. Timothy Jull**

**Journal**

I would like to summarize briefly the status of our journal, *Meteoritics & Planetary Science*. The journal is doing well and we are printing more quality papers than ever. For this year, we should set a record for the number of pages printed as well as the number of papers.

Number of papers printed since 2003.

| Year | Number of papers | Pages printed | Pages/paper |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2007 | 87[a] | 1644 | 18.8 |
| 2006 | 132 | 2233 | 16.9 |
| 2005 | 117 | 2187 | 18.7 |
| 2004 | 136 | 2352 | 17.3 |
| 2003 | 127 | 2123 | 16.7 |

[a]The first 8 months, plus 186 pages for supplement.

The cost/page remains relatively static at about $150/page. A plot of price/page against time shows that the printing

costs basically track U.S. inflation of 3–4% per year and are slightly lower than in prior years. We estimate the costs will be similar to 2005 but we hope to constrain the charges for running over the contracted print limit. Currently, the printer is being flexible about charges for longer volumes.

Some salary adjustments and mandated increases were effective in Spring 2006 and August 2007 for staff. Other sources of increased cost are an increase in the university's administrative charges (now at 6.5%) and the rapid inflation of employee-related benefit costs, which is common to most U.S. institutions at the current time. These costs continue to increase. Although costs have increased, revenue has also increased. We hired a third copy editor to help with the increased workload, but she has recently left. We propose to hire a part-time person and some students to compensate.

We currently have 193 institutional subscribers, a number that has continued to decline slowly over the last 5 years.

*MAPS* institutional subscribers.

| | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 (est.) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| U.S. institutions[a] | 149 | 140 | 147 | 139 | 132 |
| Overseas | 62 | 55 | 62 | 57 | 55 |
| No cost | 12 | 12 | 7 | 6 | 4 |
| Mandated | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| Total | 226 | 210 | 219 | 205 | 193 |

[a]About 48 overseas institutions subscribe through U.S. agents.

There are two mandated subscriptions (to the Library of Congress and Chemical Abstracts). We no longer provide a print copy to ADS (Harvard) as they are provided with electronic files.

**Delays**

The July/August issue was delayed due to its size, some 24 papers with a total of 420 pages. We hope to make up any lost time over the next months.

We are concerned about the build-up in the number of submissions, which may lead to some publication delay in future.

We have some reports of mail-related delays in specific locations (mostly Germany and Belgium); we are working to eliminate these problems with our mail forwarding service.

**Budgetary Matters**

We anticipate a budget of about $370,000 for 2008. The budget is approximately the same for the last 2–3 years. We have offset some increases in employment costs by keeping staff down; printing costs have been kept fairly constant. I note that:

- We have introduced the page charge discussed at the last meeting in Houston. This appears to be working well and we estimate that we have generated an additional $16,000 in revenue.
- The council has agreed to an increase of $100 per institutional subscription.
- The contribution from the treasurer, obtained from individual subscriptions, remains at $98,200 per year.
- We have increased the number of pages substantially this year. Due to combining two large issues, costs have not increased substantially for printing.
- We are investigating new approaches to reduce our typesetting and printing costs, in conjunction with the Publications Committee.

**Impact Factor**

The impact factor for *MAPS* is currently about 2.52, which is a very coarse estimate of citations to the journal for the preceding 3 years. The impact factor is typical of several specialist earth science journals.

We look forward to a successful year for *MAPS* in 2008.

## SOCIETY AWARDS AND HONORS

**New Award Winners**

The Meteoritical Society has four awards, which are presented annually, and jointly sponsors the Pellas-Ryder Award for best student paper in planetary science. In addition, the society elects fellows in years divisible by two.

The Leonard Medal honors outstanding contributions to the science of meteoritics and closely allied fields. It was established to honor the first president of the society, Frederick C. Leonard. In 2008, the Leonard Medal will be presented to Edward R. D. Scott for his development of an understanding of the chemical variations within groups of iron meteorites, as well as significant contributions regarding a wide variety of other meteorite topics ranging from components of chondrites to Martian meteorites.

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 Barringer Medal and Award honor the memory of D. Moreau Barringer and his son, D. Moreau Barringer, Jr., and are sponsored by the Barringer Crater Company. At the annual meeting in 2008, the Barringer Medal will be presented to Frank T. Kyte for his work on the geochemistry and petrology of asteroid impact deposits and his investigations of mass-extinction boundaries in the geological record.

The Nier Prize recognizes outstanding research in meteoritics and closely allied fields by young scientists. Recipients must be under 35 years old at the end of the calendar year in which the council selects them. The award honors the memory of Alfred O. C. Nier, and is supported by an endowment given by Mrs. Ardis H. Nier. The 2008 Nier Prize will be presented to Shogo Tachibana for his contributions in both the area of short-lived radionuclides and solar system chronology and the area of isotope diffusion and fractionation thermodynamics and kinetics.

The Service Award honors members who have advanced the goals of the society to promote research and education in meteoritics and planetary science in ways other than by conducting scientific research. Examples of activities that could be honored by the award include, but are not limited to, education and public outreach, service to the society and the broader scientific community, and acquisition, classification, and curation of new samples for research. Winners are granted lifetime membership in the Meteoritical Society. The 2007 Service Award went to John Schutt, whose long-term involvement in the ANSMET program as a mountaineer and field team leader has led to many dramatic and scientifically valuable new meteorite recoveries, enhancing our understanding of the solar system.

The Pellas-Ryder Award for best student paper on planetary sciences is jointly sponsored by the Meteoritical Society and the Planetary Geology Division of the Geological Society of America. It is given to undergraduate or graduate students who are first authors of a planetary science paper published in peer-reviewed scientific journals. The prize includes a plaque and a cash award of $500. Topics considered for this award include asteroids, comets, craters, interplanetary dust, interstellar medium, lunar samples, meteors, meteorites, natural satellites, planets, tektites, and the origin and history of the solar system. The first author must have been a registered student at a degree-awarding institution at the time when the paper was submitted. This year's award for best paper submitted in 2006 went to Alice Toppani for her first-authored, peer-reviewed paper entitled "Laboratory condensation of refractory dust in protosolar and circumstellar conditions" (*Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* 70:5035–5060, 2006).

**Award Committees**

The Leonard Medal Committee, which nominates awardees for the Leonard Medal and the Nier Prize as well as society fellows, was chaired in 2007 by Tim Swindle. The other members were Monica Grady, Tim McCoy, Frank Podosek, and Christian Koeberl. Frank Podosek will be the new chair for 2008.

The members of the Barringer Medal Selection Committee this year were Dieter Stöffler (chair), Natalia Artemieva, Nadine Barlow, and Bernd Milkereit. Next year Bernd Milkereit will chair the committee.

The Membership Committee is charged with administering the Service Award. In 2007, the members were Gary Huss (chair), Addi Bischoff, Hasnaa Chennaoui, Candace Kohl, Caroline Smith, and Akira Yamaguchi. In 2008, the committee will again be chaired by Gary Huss.

The Committee for the Pellas-Ryder Award was chaired this year by Paul Hardersen, representing GSA. The other members were Meenakshi Wadhwa, Mike Weisberg, and Ian Sanders (MetSoc), and Eric Grosfils and Tom Watters (GSA). Meenakshi Wadhwa will chair the 2008 committee, which will select the best student paper submitted in 2007.

**Nominations**

Members are strongly urged to nominate candidates for the society's awards. Below are the procedures to follow.

*Leonard Medal and Nier Prize, Deadline January 15, 2008*

Nominations for the Leonard Medal and Nier Prize should include: (a) a formal letter of nomination, (b) a biographical sketch of the candidate, (c) a list of publications covering the work to be considered for the award, (d) additional substantive information, such as statements as to the importance of the nominee's research to the field of meteoritics and/or to the research of others, and (e) one seconding letter in support of the nomination (additional letters are encouraged). Nominations for the Nier Prize should also include the candidate's birth date. If the research for the Nier Prize was performed and published with a research advisor or with multiple authors, a statement must be included that describes the nominee's leading role in the research. Electronic submissions are preferred, and should be sent to Dr. Frank Podosek (fap@levee.wustl.edu), Department of Earth & Planetary Sciences, Washington University, St. Louis, MO 63130, USA.

*Society Fellows, Deadline January 15, 2008*

Nominations for fellows should include a summary of the candidate's accomplishments (suggested length: ~150–200 words) together with a list of 5–10 of the candidate's most significant publications, including titles. Nominations should be sent to Frank Podosek at the address given just above.

*Barringer Medal, Deadline January 15, 2008*

Nominating letters should include: (a) a biographical sketch of the candidate, (b) a summary and evaluation of the accomplishments of the candidate and the importance of the candidate's work, (c) a list of publications covering the work to be considered for the award, and (d) one or more seconding letters. Please send nominations to Dr. Bernd Milkereit (bm@physics.utoronto.ca), University of Toronto, Department of Physics, 60 St. George Street, Toronto ON M5S 1A7, Canada.

*Service Award, Deadline January 31, 2008*

Nominating letters should include a biographical sketch of the candidate and additional substantive information, such as statements as to the importance of the nominee's activities to the field of meteoritics and/or to the research of others. One or more seconding letters in support of the nomination are strongly encouraged. Send nominations to Dr. Gary R. Huss (ghuss@higp.hawaii.edu), Hawai'i Institute of Geophysics and Planetology, University of Hawai'i at Manoa, 1680 East-West Road, POST 504, Honolulu, HI 96822, USA.

*Pellas-Ryder Award, Deadline January 31, 2008*

Nominations should include the full citation of the paper and a brief description of the significance of the paper. Two letters of certification are required, one from the student's department head attesting that the individual was a student at the time of paper submission to the publishing journal, and another from the student's advisor detailing the portion of the work done by the student and contributed by others including the advisor. Send nominations to Dr. Meenakshi Wadhwa (wadhwa@asu.edu), School of Earth and Space Exploration, Arizona State University, Box 871404, Tempe, AZ 85287–1404, USA.

## ANNUAL MEETINGS

**2007 Tucson, Arizona** **Tim Jull and Tim Swindle**

The 70th annual meeting of the society was held last August in Tucson, Arizona. This was a well-attended meeting with over 370 participants from all over the world. The meeting was held at the Starr Pass Marriott Resort and Spa in the Tucson Mountains just west of the city of Tucson. The beautiful location was appreciated by many participants. There were over 200 scientific talks, 116 posters, and 2 special lectures during the course of this meeting. The Leonard Medal was presented to Michel Maurette, who was represented by Cecile Engrand, the Barringer Medal was presented to Christian Koeberl, and the Nier Prize was presented to Thorsten Kleine.

Travel grants were awarded to 13 students thanks to the generosity of the Barringer Crater Company and Planetary Studies Foundation. Twelve U.S. students received support from the NASA Cosmochemistry Program.

We also had a number of special events during the meeting, including a pre-conference field trip to Patagonia, Arizona, for bird watching, a star-watching event on the hotel lawn after the welcome party, and various mid-conference excursions to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, Tombstone, Arizona, and the San Xavier Mission. The banquet was held at the Pima Air and Space Museum after some time to tour the museum.

The post-conference field trip consisted of an excellent tour of Meteor Crater and other sites of geological and archaeological interest in northern Arizona, which was very ably led by Dave Kring (LPI). Field trip participants filled two buses, and we enjoyed the beautiful and unique scenery and geology of this region.

We look forward to the next meeting of the society in Matsue, Japan.

**2008 Matsue, Japan** **Keiji Misawa**

The 71st annual meeting of the Meteoritical Society will be held July 28–August 1, 2008, in Matsue, Japan. Matsue, a city of great antiquity, is located about 650 km to the west of Tokyo and is the prefectural capital of Shimane. Matsue is surrounded by water and blessed with an abundance of beautiful natural scenery. The venue for the meeting is the Kunibiki Messe, Shimane Prefectural Convention Center, which is located along a river connecting Lakes Shinji and Nakanoumi, and is within walking distance from all hotels in the city center.

Matsue is served by Izumo (IZO) and Yonago (YGJ) Airports. There are convenient flights to Izumo or Yonago Airports from Haneda (HND) or Central Japan (NGO) Airports. If you are coming from overseas, we strongly recommend flights arriving at Narita Airport (NRT) in mid-afternoon because you have to transfer to Haneda Airport by limousine bus. From Izumo and Yonago Airports, it will take about half an hour to the city center of Matsue by shuttle bus. If you want to travel in Japan after or before the meeting, you may wish to buy a Japan Rail Pass. Note that you have to buy the pass before coming to Japan and qualify for "temporary visitor" entry status (see http://www.japanrailpass.net).

Matsue offers plenty of hotel rooms, and many of them offer very reasonable rates. Three hotels are holding 170 rooms for this meeting (6,500–9,600 JPY for single occupancy, including breakfast and taxes). The meeting Web site (http://www.metsoc2008.jp) will provide information on booking, emphasizing low- and mid-priced hotels.

The rainy season in Japan usually ends in the middle of July. After a seasonal rain, the front goes north and the weather becomes stable and hot. High temperatures are approximately 30–35 °C (86–95 °F) and lows are around 20 °C (68 °F).

Registration will start on the afternoon of Sunday, July 27, and will be followed by a welcome reception at the Kunibiki Messe. Oral sessions will be held from Monday morning to Friday at noon, and a poster session is scheduled for Tuesday evening. Wednesday afternoon is reserved for an excursion to the Izumo Oyashiro, the oldest shrine in Japan, as well as the Adachi Museum of Art and its Japanese garden. The banquet will be held Wednesday evening at Matsue Vogel Park inside an air-conditioned greenhouse with flowers.

Registration fees are 25,000 JPY for members and 30,000 JPY for non-members (at mid-October 2007 exchange rates, 25,000 JPY = US$220 or €150). The student rate will be 13,000 JPY and the guest rate will be 10,000 JPY. Travel grants will be made available to qualified students, recent Ph.Ds, and a number of scientists from countries with limited financial resources who are members of the Meteoritical Society. More information will be included in the second announcement.

A Nippon Travel Agency help desk will assist meeting participants in planning activities in the city and to many attractive destinations (sightseeing tours of the city, e.g., Matsue Castle Samurai residences, Lake Shinji, and the Shimane Art Museum). We are planning a one-day post-conference field trip to the Iwami Ginzan silver mine, which was recently officially added to the World Heritage List. We will visit the archaeological remains of the large-scale mines,

the smelting and refining sites, and the mining settlements worked between the 16th and 20th centuries.

The first announcement of the meeting will be mailed in November 2007 by the Lunar and Planetary Institute. For more information, including information on abstract submission, please see the Matsue meeting web site (http://www.metsoc2008.jp) or contact Keiji Misawa (keiji.misawa@nipr.ac.jp).

*Important dates:*

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|---|---|
| March 26, 2008 | Indication of interest deadline; second announcement online at LPI Web site. |
| May 7, 2008 | Deadline abstracts submission. |
| June 18, 2008 | Final announcement, program, and abstracts online at LPI Web site. |
| July 28, 2008 | 70th annual meeting of the Meteoritical Society begins. |
| August 2, 2008 | Post-conference excursion to the Iwami Ginzan silver mine. |

**MetSoc Meeting Calendar**

| Year | Dates | Location | Contact |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2008 | July 28–Aug. 1 | Matsue, Japan | Keiji Misawa |
| 2009 | July 13–18 | Nancy, France | Marc Chaussidon |
| 2010 | July 25 or Aug. 1 | Toronto, Canada | Gopalan Srinivasan |
| 2011 | | Greenwich, UK | Gretchen Benedix |
| 2012 | | Cairns, Australia | Trevor Ireland |

## ELECTION

A new council will take office in January 2009, with Hiroko Nagahara as President and Joe Goldstein as Past President. The Nominating Committee, chaired by Gary Huss, with members Addi Bischoff, Trevor Ireland, Marvin Killgore, Makoto Kimura, Ian Sanders, and Meenakshi Wadhwa, has submitted the following slate to stand for election:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Vice-President: | Ed Scott | U.S. | (President-elect) |
| Secretary: | Jeff Grossman | U.S. | 3rd term |
| Treasurer: | Alan Rubin | U.S. | 2nd term |
| Councilors: | Rhian Jones | U.S. | 2nd term |
| | Gopalan Srinivasan | Canada | 2nd term |
| | Mark Thiemens | U.S. | 2nd term |
| | Rainer Wieler | Switzerland | 2nd term |
| | Gretchen Benedix | U.K. | |
| | Harold Connolly | U.S. | |
| | Alex Deutsch | Germany | |
| | Keiji Misawa | Japan | |

According to the constitution of the society, nominations for other candidates require a petition signed by at least 3% of the society's members and should be submitted to the Secretary by February 15, 2008. If no candidates are nominated other than those listed above, the Secretary will declare these candidates elected by affirmation.

Brief biographies of the nominated officers and councilors:

*Gretchen Benedix* is a researcher in the Meteorites Division of the Department of Mineralogy at the Natural History Museum in London. Her research focuses on the petrology and geochemistry of meteorites to understand planet formation. She has been a past member of the Meteorite Working Group and is presently a member of the Nomenclature Committee.

*Harold Connolly* is an associate professor of earth and planetary sciences in the Department of Physical Sciences, Kingsborough Community College of CUNY, graduate faculty in Earth and Environmental Sciences at the Graduate Center of CUNY, adjunct associate professor of planetary sciences at the LPL, University of Arizona, and a research associate at the AMNH. His research focuses on constraining the origins and evolution of primitive planetary materials through combining petrologic investigations with astrophysical modeling.

*Alex Deutsch* is a professor at the Institute for Planetology, University of Münster. His research interests focus on various aspects of impact processes, ranging from isotope geology and shock experiments to the petrology of impactites.

*Jeff Grossman* is a research chemist at the U.S. Geological Survey in Reston, Virginia. He is doing research on the nature of the most primitive chondrites, focusing on distinguishing primary nebular features from those that formed during parent body processing. He is the current secretary of the society, former editor of the Meteoritical Bulletin, and editor of the online MetBull Database.

*Rhian Jones* is an associate professor in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences at the University of New Mexico. Her research is directed toward understanding the early history of the solar system through petrological and isotopic studies of chondritic meteorites.

*Keiji Misawa* is an associate professor at the Antarctic Meteorite Research Center, National Institute of Polar Research, Japan. His research focuses on isotopic signatures of differentiated meteorites, including Martian and Moon rocks, to understand evolutional histories of inner planets.

*Alan Rubin* is a research geochemist at UCLA. His recent research concerns the nature and origin of chondrules and fine-grained matrix material, shock effects in meteorites, and aqueous alteration processes in carbonaceous chondrites. He is the current treasurer of the society and a former chairman of the Meteorite Nomenclature Committee.

*Ed Scott* is a planetary scientist in the Hawai'i Institute of Geophysics and Planetology at the University of Hawai'i and an associate editor of *Meteoritics & Planetary Science*. His research focuses on petrologic studies of all kinds of meteorites to understand the origin and evolution of asteroids and planets.

*Gopalan Srinivasan* is on the faculty of the Department of Geology at the University of Toronto. His research focuses on understanding the formation and evolution of the solar system through chemical and isotopic studies of meteorites.

*Mark Thiemens* is dean of the Division of Physical Sciences at UCSD and a professor at UCSD's Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. Professor Thiemens is an atmospheric chemist who conducts research on atmospheric aerosols and strategies to detect bioterrorist agents on aerosols. He has served as chair of UCSD's Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry and is founder and director of the university's Center for Environmental Research and Training.

*Rainer Wieler* is a professor of planetary sciences in the Department of Earth Sciences at ETH Zürich. His research in cosmochemistry is mainly focused on noble gases in meteorites and lunar samples.

Statement from Ed Scott: I am honored to be nominated to be Vice-President of the Meteoritical Society and would be delighted to serve as President in 2011–12 if elected. I have served on the council twice before, most recently as secretary from 1999 to 2004, and greatly appreciate the role the society has played in the success of our field. Meteoritics has expanded beyond the study of rocks from space and their effects on Earth to include studies of near-Earth and Main Belt asteroids, comets and cometary dust, the origin, evolution, and impact history of Mars, the Moon, and other planets, as well as star formation and nucleosynthesis. Our challenge is to ensure that the society continues to serve its members, for example, by attracting top researchers in related fields to our meetings, keeping *Meteoritics & Planetary Science* at the forefront of planetary science journals, developing opportunities for younger members, and explaining our research discoveries to scientists in other fields and to the public who pays for our studies. Unlike most scientific societies, we are fortunate to have a significant fraction of members who, although they are not professional research scientists, nevertheless contribute significantly to the society's goals, for example, by identifying unusual samples and informing the public about the importance of meteoritics. I look forward to working with the council for the future development of the society

## FINANCES

### Treasurer's Report — Alan Rubin

#### *End-of-Year Closeout: Abridged 2007 Fiscal Year*

The abridged 2007 fiscal year lasted from January 1, 2007 until May 31, 2007. During this period, the society took in $59,950 in dues, $5942 in gifts, $7740 in GCA subscriptions (an amount that was paid out again), $56,811 in royalties from Elsevier, an $11,000 repayment from the Zürich meeting, and a transfer of $7100 from the endowment to cover the Nier Prize, 2006 Logo contest, and Casablanca workshop.

One of the principal expenses was the quarterly payment to *MAPS* for $24,550 (paid on or about 3/31, 6/30, 9/30, and 12/31 of each calendar year). We also paid $14,000 to help run the GCA office; this is a double payment. The payment is normally $7000 per annum, but the bill was not paid in 2006 and was carried over. A total of $2952 was paid for the manufacture of new Leonard Medals. We paid out $6725 to the Mineralogical Society of America (MSA), which now manages our membership list and dues collection. A major expense was $10,000 paid to our CPA to complete back tax returns. Even so, the abbreviated fiscal year ran a surplus of $76,000. This is due to the collection of dues (which occurs early in the year) and to the receipt of the royalty check from Elsevier (which comes sporadically, but happened to arrive in this period).

No costs to the society were incurred for the operation of the treasurer's office.

#### *Current Fiscal Year*

The current 2007–08 fiscal year began on June 1, 2007. We estimate receiving $82,000 in dues, $7500 in gifts, and approximately $56,000 in royalties from Elsevier. The estimated amount of $11,000 for GCA subscriptions will be paid directly out again, so there is no net cost (or financial benefit) to the society.

Fixed costs for the society include $98,200 per year for *MAPS*, $7000 for GCA office support, and support for various committees, awards, bank fees, travel support, tax assistance, tax-return filing fees, liability insurance, and Web site costs. I project a budget surplus of about $19,000 for the fiscal year.

#### *Assets*

As of July 11, 2007, the society's total assets were $667,000. This includes $506,000 in the investments account (now a single account at A. G. Edwards) and $161,000 in two checking accounts. The Nier Fund, which stood at $50,000 at this date, is part of the investments account.

#### *Gifts*

We thank the 129 society members who have generously contributed gifts over the past year. These funds add to our endowment and help support workshops, awards, and student travel. In particular, we thank Bill Welbon and Thornton McElvain for their generosity this year. The following members have also contributed $100 or more during the past year: Scott Brey, Ghislaine Crozaz, Nicolas Dauphas, Paul De Carli, Henry Deyerle, Jr., Bevan French, Joseph Goldstein, Jeff Grossman, Othmar Jentsch, Jörn Koblitz, Roderick Leonard, Ursula Marvin, William McDonough, Edward Olsen, Robert Pepin, Thomas Rodman, Timothy Swindle, Gerald Wasserburg, John Wasson, and Toru Yada.

**Endowment Committee Report** **Tim Swindle**

The members of the Endowment Committee are Frank Kyte, Tim Swindle (chair), Candace Kohl, Drew Barringer, and Greg Herzog, with Treasurer Alan Rubin (ex officio). The committee has three principal responsibilities: finding ways to increase the size of the Meteoritical Society's endowment, overseeing the investments of the society, and recommending ways to use the income of the endowment. For 2007, we have focused on the last two; we hope to do more work on the first in the coming year.

The society's Endowment Fund (slightly more than $400,000) is invested with the A. G. Edwards financial firm in a Russell Funds account. This account is designed to be more conservative than an equity-based account, so it should underperform the stock market when the market is rising fast, and outperform it in down times. In a little more than a year with this investment, we have received an annualized return of slightly more than 12%, which is a healthy return but just slightly below that of the stock market. We met with an A. G. Edwards representative at this year's Annual Meeting.

In addition, the endowment has supported one activity this year, with the society being a sponsor of an American Chemical Society Symposium on "Chemical Evolution I: Chemical Change across Space and Time," as part of ACS Division of Chemical Education. The symposium was co-organized by Meteoritical Society member Jon Friedrich of Fordham University. We have been supporting roughly one outreach activity of this sort annually for the last several years. Requests for support of such activities should be directed either to the Endowment Committee chair or one of the society officers. During the next year, we hope to circulate to the membership a set of guidelines for such requests.

## METEORITE NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE

**Report of the Chair** **Jutta Zipfel**

In 2007, the Nomenclature Committee approved names and information for about 3000 meteorites, which were published in two issues of the Meteoritical Bulletin (MB 91, *MAPS*, 42, 413–466 and MB 92, 1647–1694). Among these are 900 finds and 6 falls from outside Antarctica. The committee's business went smoothly this year. A decision made last year that the editor and AEs may approve most equilibrated OCs without a vote by the entire committee successfully reduced the processing time.

As in former years, valuable information on meteorite nomenclature, instructions, and templates for reporting new meteorites may be found on our home page at http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=pub_bulletin.

I welcome new committee members S. V. Murty from India, M. Weisberg from the U.S., and ex officio member and Vice-President, H. Nagahara from Japan. They replace J. N. Goswami, J. N. Grossman, and J. Goldstein. I would like to thank all these departing members for their service on our committee. J. N. Grossman in particular deserves gratitude and acknowledgment for his work from the whole society. He has served a total of 13 years on this committee, first as editor of the Meteoritical Bulletin, later as chair, Web master, and full member for the committee. It is my opinion that his commitment and love for meteorite nomenclature is unmatched so far. Jeff, in many ways, has shaped and influenced this committee and is mainly responsible for its current structure. His database on meteorites, which he is constantly improving, best reflects his dedication. It includes the latest releases from the Meteoritical Bulletin and within two years has become the major source of information for all persons interested in meteorites.

In 2007, the Meteoritical Bulletin celebrated its 50th anniversary. Up-to-date information about more than 9000 meteorites has been published. A brief overview of its history was presented at the 70th annual meeting of the Meteoritical Society in Tucson (Zipfel et al. 2007). Setting up and maintaining a system that assures that each meteorite is recognized as an individual specimen, gets a unique name, and has type specimens available for research has been a major accomplishment of past editors and committee members. The meteorite community has greatly benefitted and still benefits from this system. Continuing this service is the responsibility of the members of the committee, but also of our society. This is especially true because constant interaction with amateurs, collectors, dealers, and scientists makes the committee the window of our society to the public.

## MEMBERSHIP

**Report of the Membership Committee** **Gary Huss**

At the 2005 meeting in Gatlinburg, the council created the Membership Committee with the charge of finding ways to increase society membership and increasing the value of membership to the members. The current incarnation of the Membership Committee is: Gary Huss (chair), Addi Bischoff, Hasnaa Chennaoui, Candace Kohl, Caroline Smith, and Akira Yamaguchi. As discussed above, the membership of the society is now being administered by the Mineralogical Society of America under a contract with the society. A major task of the Membership Committee has been to recover members who have dropped out of the society, either intentionally or unintentionally, through nonpayment of annual dues. Many of you have been contacted by the Membership Committee about your membership. We also work with MSA to resolve problems with memberships, so if you have a problem, feel free to contact one of us.

Our effort to recover missing members has had some success. As of the last newsletter, the society had 778 members in good standing (current with their dues payments), including 594 regular, 109 student, 69 retired, and 6 life members. Now, near the end of 2007, we have 886 members

in good standing, including 664 regular, 97 student, 116 retired, and 9 life members. Many of the "new" members are actually previous members who have rejoined. But we do have quite a few first-time members, who are listed below. The drive to recover previous members has now concluded, and the Membership Committee will be turning our efforts toward recruiting new members.

Efforts to attract new members include preparation of a brochure describing the society and the benefits of membership that can be used to advertise the society at meetings such as LPSC, AGU, Goldschmidt, etc. A poster with a similar theme will also be designed. Of course, we encourage each of you to extol the virtues of membership in the Meteoritical Society to your colleagues.

The Membership Committee is the selection committee for the society's new Service Award. This award, established in 2005, honors members who have advanced the goals of the society in ways other than by conducting scientific research (see Awards section). Two very worthy people have received this award: Jörn Koblitz, the creator of MetBase, the most complete database of information about meteorites available, and John Schutt, who has guided teams of the Antarctic Search for Meteorites across the Antarctic ice cap in search of meteorites for many field seasons. There are certainly other worthy candidates for the award among our members, but they must be formally nominated to receive consideration. Please go to the society Web site for instructions on preparing a nomination and nominate your favorite candidate! The deadline for the next award is January 31, 2008.

The society has put in place several new features accessible from the society Web site (http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org). You can use the new Web site to look up contact information for other members (you can opt out of this capability for your own contact information if you wish). You can now join the society and renew your membership online, paying by credit card through our secure Web site. Mastercard and Visa are accepted by the site, but we cannot accept American Express or Discover. Please report problems with the membership portion of the Web site to Business@meteoriticalsociety.net.

Renewal notices for 2008 have already gone out electronically to the membership. If you have not already done so, please renew now while you are thinking of it. Renewal is easy—it can be done in a few minutes on the Web site. In the past, the society was not able to closely track who renewed and who did not, and many people were on the active membership list without having paid dues. Those days are gone. With the new professional membership administration provided by MSA, we know exactly how many members we have on any given day and we also know who paid and who didn't. If dues for 2008 are not received by March, your subscription to *MAPS* will stop. It can be restarted immediately upon payment of late dues, but you will not receive the issues that you missed without making special arrangements with the *MAPS* office and paying the costs of sending them. While this seems harsh compared to the way it was before, it is necessary in order to manage the finances of the society. Avoid problems; renew your membership now!

**List of New Members**

Daniel Apai, Maricruz Banda, Adrian Bankewitz, Taylor Barton, Andrew Beck, Djelloul Belhai, Maitrayee Bose, Abdallah Boushaba, Frank Brenker, Elmar Buchner, Ted Bunch (well, back after a long absence, anyway!), Karina Cervantes de la Cruz, Louise Coney, Sarah Conolly, Crystal Donnelly, Shingo Ebata, Cecil Eisler, Joe Fandrich, Winslow Farrell, Sherry Fieber-Beyer, Nick Foster, Asa Frisk, David Gheesling, Steven Goderis, Eddy Hill, Liliane Huber, Shoichi Itoh, Kimberly Knight, Hollis Kovach, Monika Kress, Ae-Yeon Lee, Robert Martinchek, Phillip McCausland, William McDonough, John McHone, Howard McLean, Keith Milam, Bernd Milkereit, Yasunori Miura, Kazuhide Nagashima, Taishi Nakamoto, Hiroshi Naraoka, Itoyuki Nishioka, Ilaria Pascucci, William Reach, James Richardson, Jr., Helmut Roos, Surya Rout, Naova Sakamoto, Matthew Sanborn, Thomas Schepker, Christian Schroeder, Toni Schulz, Vivi Vajda, and Scott Whattam.

**Membership News**

On December 6, 2007, STS-122 Space Shuttle Atlantis will blast off into space with the primary mission of working on the International Space Station. A member of STS-122 is society member Stan Love. Stan received his Ph.D. from the University of Washington, advised by Don Brownlee. Stan then took a post-doctoral position with Klaus Keil at the University of Hawai'i in 1994, followed by an O. K. Earl fellowship at CalTech working with Tom Ahrens in 1995. Stan joined the research staff at JPL in 1997 and finally the U.S. Astronaut Core as an astronaut candidate in 1997. For several years, Stan worked as CAPCOM in Mission Control for various missions. He has worked on a variety of problems within meteoritics, including the potential for meteorites from Mercury to be found on Earth and the nebular shock wave model for the formation of chondrules. Stan is married and has two sons. We wish Stan and the other astronauts all the best for a successful mission and a safe return.

**Deaths**

*Dorrit Hoffleit*

Dorrit Hoffleit, an astronomer at the Harvard College Observatory, was elected in 1939 as a Fellow of the Society for Research on Meteorites (renamed the Meteoritical Society in 1946). Dorrit paid her dues until 2006. The following year, she died on April 9, 2007, at the age of 100. During the 1950s and 1960s, she served the Society for four years (1950–54) as a councilor, four (1954–58) as a vice-president, and six years (1962–68) as the editor of *Meteoritics*. In 1961, she hosted a meeting of the Society at Nantucket Island in Massachusetts

where she was Director of the Maria Mitchell Observatory. Dorrit's primary interests lay in astronomical phenomena. In 1938, she earned her Ph.D. with a thesis on stellar spectra. But she also studied meteors, and in 1933, she published the first paper describing an apparent correlation between meteor light curves and meteoroid velocities. During World War II, Dorrit took leave from Harvard to work at the Army's Ballistics Research Laboratory in Aberdeen, Maryland, where she applied her expertise in calculating velocities and orbits of natural and artificial projectiles. At the war's end, she went to White Sands Proving Ground to help analyze the performance of the newly acquired German V-2 rockets. In 1948, Dorrit returned to Harvard in a tenured position and resumed independent research. But in 1956, she accepted the Directorship of the Maria Mitchell Observatory with an arrangement to spend summers on Nantucket and winters at the Department of Astronomy at Yale. In that same year, 1956, *Meteoritics* ceased publication; a year later Frederick Leonard retired as the editor and urged Dorrit to replace him and provide the Society with a journal again. She resisted doing so until 1961 when Daniel Moreau Barringer, Jr. offered financial help for the journal from the Barringer Crater Company. Working alone, Dorrit issued *Meteoritics* volume 2, number 1, in 1962. It was dedicated to the memory of Frederick Leonard, who had died in 1960, and it also carried the obituary of D. M. Barringer, Jr., who died in December of 1962. His commitment to the Society was assumed by his brother, Brandon. Dorrit continued to publish *Meteoritics* until 1968. By that time, the Society had been transformed by an influx of scientists pursuing space-age research. They wanted a widely read and respected journal with no dependence on private funding in which to publish their results. In response, at the annual meeting in 1968, the Council abruptly appointed a new editor with access to a university press. Dorrit accepted her dismissal with good grace, but wrote later that she felt she had made a mistake in responding to Leonard's entreaties to help the Society survive after its earlier journal died. Dorrit thrived in her summer projects training college women to make astronomical observations and calculations at Nantucket and winter schedules at Yale, where she compiled several catalogues of selected zones of the sky for which she made all the astrometric measurements. Dorrit earned a measure of fame and numerous honors from the international astronomical community. She attended no meetings of the Meteoritical Society after 1968, but she must have forgiven the Society for its callous dismissal of her. Dorrit continued to pay her dues for the next 38 years!

Ursula Marvin
Cambridge, Massachusetts

*Robert Hutchison*

Prominent member of the Meteoritical Society, fellow since 1976, councilor in 1973–74, and long-term curator of meteorites at the Natural History Museum in London, Robert Hutchison died suddenly on January 26, 2007. Robert was born in Glasgow and attended the University of Glasgow for his B.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees. After short periods at the Universities of Keele and Leeds and with the Geological Survey in Nigeria, he held his position at the museum from 1969 until his retirement in 1997. Even after retirement he continued research, publishing his second book entitled *Meteorites: A Petrologic, Chemical, and Isotopic Synthesis* in 2004, his first book, *The Search for our Beginning*, having been published in 1983. For most of his tenure at the museum, Robert was also the main author of the *Catalogue of meteorites*, a standard reference for all meteorite researchers. Robert played an important part in the discovery that SNCs have young crystallization ages, a pivotal observation in the realization that they are from Mars, but he is best known for his work on chondrules. Throughout his life, Robert advocated a planetary origin for chondrules, a view widely rejected at the time, but now gradually gaining popularity. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Marie, also a Scot, and also a very popular participant at Meteoritical Society meetings.

Derek Sears
Fayetteville, Arkansas

*Eugene Jarosewich*

The meteoritics community lost a unique treasure last spring when Eugene Jarosewich died at his home on April 30, 2007. Gene joined the Smithsonian Institution's Department of Mineral Sciences in 1964, where he soon became Head Chemist. He retired several years ago, but remained active as Chemist Emeritus. He was an expert in the instrumental analysis of rocks and minerals, and in pursuing these interests he developed the Department's analytical laboratories into a world-class facility for the analysis of geological materials. Gene produced superb wet chemical analyses of meteorites, probably the best ever done, and developed the world's only meteorite whole-rock standard (the Allende reference powder). Working with specimens from the National Mineral Collection, Gene and his co-workers developed a set of standards for electron microprobe analysis in the 1970s, which to this day are distributed and used worldwide. These accomplishments are lasting legacies of a distinguished career. Although best known to members of the Meteoritical Society and the Microbeam Analysis Society, Gene also cooperated broadly within both the Smithsonian Institution and the international scientific community.

Glenn MacPherson
Washington, D.C.

*James Kriegh*

The society is saddened by the passing of Professor James Kriegh, who was a key figure in the renaissance of meteorite search and discovery in Arizona. He was particularly well-known for his discovery of the Gold Basin strewn field, which

represents a shower of debris created by a multi-kiloton asteroid collision during the late Pleistocene. Because the debris field can potentially provide a measure of the strength of an impacting asteroid and thus help mitigate the hazards of future impacting asteroids, he painstakingly mapped the locations of thousands of meteoritic stones with his friends Ingrid Monrad and John Blennert. To preserve the scientific integrity of the Gold Basin site, that team worked largely at its own expense for approximately two years before making the find public. Jim collected meteorites with appropriate permits, provided abundant material to the national meteorite collection at the Smithsonian Institution, and sent representative samples to other museums and researchers.

Jim was an Emeritus Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Arizona who, once retired, developed a deep interest in meteoritics. He became a valued collaborator and good friend. Jim was known for his integrity and gentleman's civility, two attributes often considered old-fashioned, but welcome in the field of meteoritics. I was heartened to see his repeated successes. While working on Gold Basin, he and his colleagues discovered several other meteorites. He used the notoriety of those discoveries to help educate others in the community, including K–12 students, about the scientific value of meteorites and the excitement of scientific discovery. In addition to his meteorite discoveries and years of teaching, he co-founded a town north of Tucson and is commonly known as the Father of the Town of Oro Valley (incorporated in 1974); he helped organize the Oro Valley Historical Society (2005); and was a major force behind the town's successful bid to obtain the historic Steam Pump Ranch (2007), which was built in the 1870s. Jim Kriegh enriched his community both in Arizona and in the international field of meteoritics.

David A. Kring
Houston, Texas