The Geochemical News

Newsletter of the Geochemical Society

Number 81 Fall 1991

Inquiries and announcements regarding *Geochemical News* should be sent to S.B. Shirey, Carnegie Institution of Washington, 5241 Broad Branch Rd., NW, Washington, DC 20015 USA.

In this issue:

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Nov. 8-20, 1991 *Low Temperature Metamorphic Processes in Contrasting Geodynamic Settings:* IGCP Project 294, International Symposium, Auckland, New Zealand. Sponsors: IGCP Project 294; Royal Society of New Zealand. (P.R.L. Browne or S.F. Simmons, Geothermal Institute, University of Auckland, Private Bag, Auckland, New Zealand; Ph: 64-9-737999; Fax 64-9-371183.)

Nov. 16-18, 1991 *Global Change and the Human Prospect: Issues in Population, Science, Technology, and Equity,* Washington D.C. Sponsor: Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society. (Nancy Berry, Forum Coordinator, Sigma Xi, P.O. Box 13975, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709; Ph: 919 549-4691; Fax 919 549-0090.)

Nov. 18-22, 1991 *Dissertations Symposium on Chemical Oceanography,* Honolulu, Hawaii. Sponsors: NSF; ONR; NOAA. (M.F. Thompson, DISCO, Special Science Programs, American Institute of Biological Sciences, 730 Eleventh St., N.W., Washington, DC 20001; Ph: 202 628-1500; Fax 202 628-1509.)

Dec. 6-8, 1991 *The Physics and Chemistry of Magma Oceans from 1 Bar to 4 Mbars,* San Francisco, California (LeBecca Simmons, Lunar and Planetary Institute, Program Services Department, 3303 NASA Road 1, Houston, TX, 77058. Ph: 713-486-2158)

Dec. 9-13, 1991 *AGU Fall Meeting,* San Francisco, CA USA. (AGU, 2000 Florida Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20009. Ph: 202-462-6900, Fax: 202-328-0566)

February 18-20, 1992 *The 8th Annual U.S. Geological Survey V.E. McKelvey Forum on Energy and Mineral Resources,* Houston, TX (Reg. information, Jan W. Kernan, BAI, 8700 First Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Ph: 301-588-4177. Tech. information, Christine Turner USGS. Ph: 303-236-1561)

March 16-20, 1992 *23rd Lunar and Planetary Science Conference,* Houston, TX USA. (Pam Jones, Lunar and Planetary Institute, Program Services Department, 3303 NASA Road 1, Houston, TX, 77058. Ph: 713-486-2150)

April 5-10, 1992 *203rd National Meeting of the American Chemical Society*, San Francisco, CA USA. (ACS Meetings Department, 1155 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036. Ph: 800-227-5558 or 202-872-6059)

May 8-10, 1992 *3rd V.M. Goldschmidt Conference*, Reston, VA USA (Geochemical Society, Donna Ricketts, Conference Coordinator, 409 Keller Conference Center, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802. Ph 814-863-1743)

May 11-15, 1992 *AGU, MSA, and CGU Spring Meeting*, Montreal, Canada. (Meetings, AGU, 2000 Florida Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20009; Ph: 202 462-6900; Fax 202 328-0566.

May 22-24, 1992 *Pan-American Current Research on Fluid Inclusion (PACROFI IV)*, Lake Arrowhead, Calif. (Michael A. McKibben, Department of Earth Sciences, University of California, Riverside, CA 92521-0423;; Ph: 714 787-3444; Fax 714 787-4324)

May 25-27, 1992 *Geological Association of Canada/Mineralogical Association of Canada Joint Annual Meeting*, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada. (Aubrey Fricker, General Secretary, Atlantic Geoscience Centre, Bedford Institute of Oceanography, P.O. Box 1006, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada, B2Y 4A2; Ph: 902 426-6759; Fax 902 426-4465)

June 21-24, 1992 *Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists (SEPM)*, Calgary, Alberta. OGD members of the GS note the symposium on "Molecular and Isotopic Stratigraphic Records of Paleoenvironmental Change" to be held at this meeting. (Contact Lisa Pratt, Biogeochemical Labs, Geology Building, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405, Ph: 812 855-5610, Fax: 812 855-7899)

June 28-July 1, 1992 *North American Paleontological Congress V*, Chicago, IL. OGD members of the GS note the symposia on "Biomolecular and Isotopic Paleontology" and "Molecules in the Fossil Record" to be held at this meeting. (Contact John Hayes, Biogeochemical Labs, Geology Building, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405, Ph: 812 855-5610, Fax: 812 855-7899)

July 13-18, 1992 *Symposium on Water-Rock Interaction*, Park City, Utah. Sponsors: AGU; U.S. Geological Survey (Yousif Kharaka, Secretary-General WR1-7, U.S.G.S., MS 427, 345 Middlefield Rd., Menlo Park, CA 94025, Ph. 415 329-4535; Fax: 415 329-5110)

Aug. 24-Sept. 3, 1992 *29th International Geological Congress*, Kyoto, Japan. (Secretary General, IGC-92 Office, P.O. Box 65, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305, Japan; Ph. 81-298-54-3627; Fax : 81-298-54-3629)

Aug. 31-Sept. 2, 1992 *International Conference on Large Meteorite Impacts and Planetary Evolution*, Sudbury, Ontario, Canada. Sponsors: Ontario Geological Survey; Lunar and Planetary Institute; IUGS Commission on Comparative Planetology. (Sudbury 1992, c/o B. Dressler, Ontario Geological Survey, 77 Grenville St., Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M7A 1W4; Ph. 416 965-4817; Fax 416 324-4933)

Sept. 9-15, 1992. *Transition from Basalt to Metabasalt: Environments, Processes, and Petrogenesis*, Davis, Calif. Sponsors: IGCP Project 294; others. (Peter Schiffman, Dept. of Geology, University of California, Davis, CA 95616; Ph. 916 752-3669)

GEOCHEMICAL SOCIETY SPONSORED LECTURE TOUR

Dr. Stephen Moorbath, Professor at Oxford University and an International Director of the Geochemical Society, completed a Geochemical Society sponsored lecture tour following the AGU meeting in June of 1991. Dr. Moorbath spoke on "The Interaction of Crust and Mantle in Continental Magmatism" at Brown University, Providence; The University of Washington, Seattle; the U.S. Geological Survey, Menlo Park; the University of California, Santa Cruz; the University of California, Los Angeles and New Mexico State University, Las Cruces. In addition to the lectures, Dr. Moorbath's visit included mini-symposia on related topics, organized by host universities, field trips, dinners and receptions. Dr. Moorbath's lecture tour is part on an ongoing GS effort to bring internationally-known scientists to North American universities at minimal expense. Dr. Moorbath will be undertaking another lecture tour in the Spring of 1992. If interested in co-sponsoring such a visit by an International Councilor in the future, please contact Julie Morris, International Secretary, Dept. of Terrestrial Magnetism, 5241 Broad Branch Rd, N.W., Washington DC, 20015, (202)686-4391.

INTERNATIONAL GIFT MEMBERSHIPS

The Geochemical Society would like to make membership in the Society, with subscription to Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta, available to scientists in countries where severe financial limitations and/or non-convertible currencies make it impossible for the scientist to subscribe directly. If you are interested in contributing a gift membership in the Society to this program in general, or to a specific colleague in particular, please contact Julie Morris, International Secretary for further details.

GS OFFICERS NOMINATED FOR 1991

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EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF GEOCHEMISTRY MEETING AND 4TH GOLDSCHMIDT CONFERENCE SET FOR EDINBURGH, 1994

Following the success of the first major Eurpopean Association of Geochemistry (EAG) Meeting in Paris in 1988, it was intended to hold the second Meeting in 1992. However, since that would be in the same year as the V.M. Goldschmidt Meeting in the USA, it has been agreed that the EAG will sponsor the V.M. Goldschmidt Meeting in Reston, VA, USA in 1992, and that there will be a major Geochemical Meeting in Europe in 1994. The second major EAG Meeting will therefore be held at Edinburgh on Sunday 28 August - Saturday 3 September 1994, under the auspices of the EAG and the Geochemical Society, and this will also be the fourth V.M. Goldschmidt Meeting. The convenor is Dr. B. Harte, Department of Geology and Geophysics, Grant Institute, University of Edinburgh, West Mains Road, Edinburgh, EH9 3JW. The Third V.M. Goldschmidt Conference will be held on May 8-10, 1992, Hyatt Town Center, Reston, VA. Chairman: Dr. B.R. Doe. See details in larger announcement below.

GEOCHEMICAL SOCIETY AWARDS FOR 1991

The **V.M. Goldschmidt Award** will be given to A.E. Ringwood, Research School of Earth Sciences, The Australian National University. The Goldschmidt Award Committee cited Ringwood for his major contributions in understanding the composition and mineralogy of the mantle, high-pressure research, lunar petrogenesis and origin of the moon and the Earth's core. Ringwood was unable to attend the awards luncheon which was held at the 1991 GSA Meeting where the the Clarke and Treibs Awards were presented. The Goldschmidt Award will be conferred at the Third Goldschmidt Conference, May 10-13 in Reston, VA. The **F.W. Clarke Award** has been awarded to David Sherman, US Geological Survey, Menlo Park for his unique contribution to geochemistry and cosmochemistry through the use of quantum geochemistry, in particular his application of qualitative molecular orbital energy level calculations to transition metal geochemistry. The award citation was made by Roger Burns, Department of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences, MIT. The **Treibs Medal**, conferred by the Organic Geochemistry Division of the GS, has been awarded to Jan Willem de Leeuw, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands. The Treibs Award Committee cited his revolutionary contributions to the field of organic geochemistry, giving as examples his development of a revised view of the kerogen structure and his elucidation of the chemical structures of fossil organosulfur compounds. The award citation was made by Simon Brassell, Department of Geology, Indiana University, Bloomington.

SPRING MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GEOCHEMICAL SOCIETY

At the present time, the 1992 spring meeting of the Board of Directors of the Geochemical Society is scheduled for just after the end of the 3rd Goldschmidt Conference in Reston, VA on Sunday May 10, 1992 from 1-4pm at the Hyatt Reston Town Center.

THIRD GOLDSCHMIDT CONFERENCE

The Third Goldschmidt Conference will be held May 8-10, 1992, (Friday to Sunday noon) at the Hyatt Town Center in Reston, Virginia. The Hyatt Town Center is about 12 km from Dulles Airport, 1.5 km from the U.S. Geological Survey, and roughly 40 km from downtown Washington, D.C. (with bus access). The hotel will pick up people from Dulles Airport at no charge. The hotel room charge will be $86/night (including tax). The Goldschmidt Conference will close on the Sunday noon before the American Geophysical Union spring annual meeting in Montreal to permit those who so wish to continue on to the AGU Meeting.

The Geochemical Society is the organizing sponsor of the meeting. Cosponsors are the Association of Exploration Geochemists (AEG), the American Chemical Society/Geochemistry Division (ACS/GS), the Society of Environmental Geochemistry and Health (SEGH), the International Association of Geochemistry and Cosmochemistry, the European Association of Geochemists, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the Geochemical Society of Japan. Three cosponsoring societies will also hold symposia. If you wish additional information, please contact Donna Ricketts, Conference Coordinator, 409 Keller Conference Center, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802 (Tel. 814/863-1743).

The meeting is shaping up well. The hotel rooms at the new Reston Hyatt will be $10 a night less than the 1990 Goldschmidt Conference (including tax)! There will be an honorary lecture on Saturday afternoon at the U.S. Geological Survey and the Goldschmidt Medal will be awarded to Ted Ringwood followed by a reception for all and the Goldschmidt banquet for those who register for it. We are restricting the field trips to two careful selections just before the meeting that are of broad interest - one involving low-temperature geochemistry and the other involving igneous petrology. There are thirteen symposia that have received many favorable comments. Poster sessions are available for submitted open papers.

Field Trips (May 7, 1992)

1. **Igneous rocks of the Eastern Mesozoic Basins.** The leaders are Albert Froelich (703/648-6950) and David Gottfried (703/648-6310), U.S. Geological Survey, 926 National Center, Reston, VA 22092 and Richard Tollo (202/994-6190) Department of Geology, George Washington University, Washington, DC 20052. This one-day field trip will concentrate on the Culpeper basin. The continental tholeiites of the early Mesozoic Culpeper basin include (1) two extensive systems of diabase sheets, (2) three systems of chemically distinct diabase dikes, and (3) three series of multiple basalt flows. The early part of the trip stops at exposures of basalts intercalated with Jurassic strata. The stops on the later part of the trip will show lateral variations in a high-titanium, quartz normative diabase sheet. A traverse across the Rapidan sheet provides a cross section that includes a hornfels floor and roof, chill margins, gabbro cumulates, and orthopyroxene diabase; granophyre and ferrogabbro differentiates contiguous to the Rapidan sheet may represent products of lateral flow differentiation. The U.S. Geological Survey study of these basins is being concluded and an Open File Report of more than 900 chemical analyses should be available. The data will also be available on floppy disks for registrants who want it.
2. **Geochemistry of small drainage basins.** The leader is Owen Bricker, U.S. Geological Survey, 432 National Center, Reston, VA 22092: (703) 648-5824. The one-day trip will concentrate on two contrasting small water sheds in the Mill Run drainage basin of Virginia. Both water sheds are underlain by Upper Silurian-Lower Devonian rocks: one water shed is underlain by clastic sediments, mainly quartzites, with a water pH of about 4.5; the other is underlain by limestone with a water pH of about 7. Handouts will be included on these thoroughly studied water sheds.

Symposia and Principal Organizers (May 8 - 10, 1991)

1. **Symposium in Honor of H.D. Holland:** Dr. H. Ohmoto, Department of Geosciences, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802: (814)865-4074, (814)865-3191 (Fax).
2. **International Geochemical Mapping (EAG).** Peter Davenport, Department of Mines and Energy, P.O. Box 8700, St. Johns, Newfoundland, CANADA A1B 4J6: (709)729-2171, (709)729-3493 (Fax).
3. **Environmental Geochemistry and Health (SEGH).** Dr. Bobby Wixson, Dean, College of Sciences, Clemson University, 120 Kinard Lab., Clemson, SC 92634-1901: (803)656-3472, (803)656-0245 (Fax).
4. **Geochemical and Isotopic Record of Global Change.** Milan Pavich, U.S. Geological Survey, 908 National Center, Reston, VA 22092: (703)648-6963, (703)648-6941 (Fax).
5. **Isotopic and Trace Element Modeling.** Robert Zartman, U.S. Geological Survey, Box 25046/DFC/MS 963, Denver, CO 80225: (303)236-7908, (303)233-7984 (Fax).
6. **Ocean Ridge Magmatic Processes.** Emily Klein, Department of Geology, 317 Old Chemistry Bldg., Duke University, Durham, NC 27706: (919)684-5965, (919)484-5833 (Fax).
7. **Advances in Laser- and Ion-Probe Mass Spectrometry.** Wayne C. (Pat) Shanks III, U.S. Geological Survey, 954 National Center, Reston, VA 22092: (703)648-6336, (703)648-6684 (Fax).
8. **Ab-initio Methods.** Tony Lasaga, Department of Geology and Geophysics, P.O. Box 6666, Yale University, New Haven, CT 06511: (203)432-3127, (203)432-3134 (Fax).
9. **Diagenesis of Clay Minerals in Sedimentary Basins.** Lee Kump, Department of Geosciences, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802: (814)863-1274, (814)865-3191 (Fax).
10. **Surface Chemistry of Natural Materials (ACS/GS).** James A. Davis, U.S. Geological Survey, Mail Stop 465, 345 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025: (415)329-4484, (415)329-4463 (Fax).
11. **Measurement and Estimation of Kinetic and Thermodynamic Data for Low-Temperature Geochemistry.** J. Donald Rimstidt, Department of Geological Sciences, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, VA 24061: (703)231-6589, (703)231-3386 (Fax).
12. **Geochemistry of Accessory Minerals.** E. Bruce Watson, Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY 12180-3590: (518)276-6475, (518)276-6003 (Fax).
13. **Trace Element Chemistry/Crystal Chemistry of the Rock Forming Silicates.** J.J. Papike, Department of Geology & Inst. of Meteoritics, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131: (505)277-1644, (505)277-3577 (Fax).

For additional information on symposia, please contact the organizers.

Bruce R. Doe
General Chairperson

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR GEOCHEMICAL SOCIETY AWARDS

This is a reminder that nominations are being accepted for the three awards that the Geochemical Society will confer: the ***V.M. Goldschmidt Award***, the ***F.W. Clarke Award*** and the ***Alfred Treibs Award.*** The Goldschmidt Award, consisting of a gold medal and a certificate, will be made yearly for major achievements in geochemistry or cosmochemistry (nomination deadline: 12/15/91). The Clarke Award, consisting of a medal and a certificate, will be made yearly to a young scientist for a single outstanding contribution to geochemistry or cosmochemistry, published as either a paper or a series of papers on a single topic. The award must be received no later than the year of the recipient's thirty-fifth birthday (nomination should be received as soon as possible). The Treibs Award consisting of a gold-filled medal and a certificate, shall be awarded every odd-numbered year for major achievements, over a period of years, in organic chemistry. The nomination deadline for the 1993 award is 10/15/92. Those interested

in making a nomination for any of these awards should consult April, 1991 *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, p. 1121 and contact directly the appropriate person listed below:

V.M. Goldschmidt Award:
Dr. Nobu Shimizu
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute
Department of Geology and Geophysics
Woods Hole, MA 02543 USA
Ph: 508 457-2000 Fax: 508 457-2187

F.W. Clarke Award:
Dr. P.R. Buseck
Department of Geology
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ 85287 USA
Ph: 602 965-3945 Fax: 602 965-8102

Alfred Treibs Award:
Dr. Michael J. Whiticar
School of Earth and Ocean Sciences
P.O. Box 1700
University of Victoria
Victoria, B.C. CANADA
Ph: 604 721-7334 Fax: 604-721-7715

GEOCHEMICAL AND METEORITICAL SOCIETIES NEGOTIATE NEW FIVE-YEAR CONTRACT WITH PERGAMON PRESS FOR PUBLICATION OF GEOCHIMICA ET COSMOCHIMICA ACTA

The new contract agreement is for the period January 1, 1992 through December 31, 1996. Some of the major provisions of the new contract are as follows:

- The general quality of printing, paper, binding, figures and half-tones shall be at least equivalent to the standards adhered to by Pergamon's other leading Journals in the interest of maintaining the prestige of the Societies (refers to the Geochemical Society and the Meteoritical Society)
- Pergamon will appoint a production manager who will be responsible for overseeing the technical aspects of production and will provide a liaison link between the Editorial Office and the Printer.
- 50 off-prints of each paper will be provided free of charge to the first named author.
- The subscription rate for members of the Societies shall be held at US $70 for 1992-1996.
- A student rate equal to one-half members' rate shall be available to all qualified individuals.
- The Societies shall receive from Pergamon, per annum, a royalty of 7.5% of the total subscription income received by Pergamon in the previous calendar year net, excluding subscription income received from members of the societies. The minimum guaranteed annual royalty shall be US $70,000. All royalty payments are to be shared between the Geochemical Society and the Meteoritical Society on a two-thirds/one-third basis respectively.

GEOCHEMICAL SOCIETY TO JOIN WITH AMERICAN GEOPHYSICAL UNION & MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA IN SPONSORING SPRING MEETING

Beginning Spring 1993 the Geochemical Society will co-sponsor the Spring meeting with A.G.U. and M.S.A. The arrangement is structured as follows.

G.S. would hold a Spring Meeting concurrently with the AGU's Spring Meeting as a "Cooperating Society." AGU would give GS visibility within the structure of the overall meeting. The joint nature of the meeting would be well defined in the advance promotion. AGU would send a call for papers, registration, and housing information to all GS members, as well as a second registration opportunity. These mailings might well be in the form of the relevant copies of EOS. GS would agree to include information about the joint meeting in its newsletter and/or other mailings. There would be a single registration fee set by AGU for the meeting, GS members would pay at the same rate as AGU members. AGU's format for abstract forms, fees for submitting abstracts, and deadlines would apply to all abstracts offered to the meeting. GS members may sponsor abstracts from non-members whether for a GS organized session or any other. The GS program chairman will have the same authorities as AGU section program

chairmen have to reject unsuitable contributions. The scientific benefits of this new arrangement are that it will bring more geochemistry to the Spring Meeting, give the Geochemical Society a larger role in shaping the program and help strengthen the Spring Meeting.

ALVIN J.COHEN 1918-1991

Alvin J. Cohen, an emeritus professor of geochemistry who taught in the Department of Geology and Planetary Science of the University of Pittsburg from 1963 to 1988 died on October 2. He was 73. He devoted much of his career to mineralogy and had a deep interest in meteorites and tektites. A 1940 graduate of the University of Florida, Cohen worked as a chemist with the Tennessee Valley Authority's Wilson Dam Project in Alabama in 1941. From 1943-1946 he served in the Atlantic and Mediterranean as an officer with the U.S. Navy, rising to the rank of lieutenant commander. In 1949 he received a Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from the University of Illinois. He worked as a chemist with the Mellon Institute in Pittsburg before joining the University of Pittsburg's Geology and Planetary Sciences Department in 1963. Cohen is survived by his wife Selja and four children.

DOUGLAS G. BROOKINS 1936-1991

On April 30, 1991, a heart attack unexpectedly cut short the versatile and prolific career of Douglas G. Brookins at its peak of productivity. Doug was a native Californian, born at Healdsburg in 1936, the son of Rex and Ellyn (Hitt) Brookins. He began his geological and geochemical studies at Santa Rosa Junior College and then transferred to the University of California at Berkeley, where he played baseball and graduated summa cum laude in 1958. Graduate studies took him to M.I.T., where he earned his Ph.D. in 1963. His academic career began at Kansas State University, where he advanced from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor between 1963 and 1970. In 1971, Doug came to the University of New Mexico as full Professor and remained there for the rest of his life. His many contributions to University affairs included service as Department Chairman (1976-1979), Faculty Senator for three terms, and member of the Water Management Interdisciplinary Program since 1987. He held many other consultancies and staff appointments and was a part-time Research Scientist at the Argonne and Oak Ridge National Laboratories at the time of his death.

Doug's approach to geochemistry was eclectic. Throughout his career, he continued to develop new interests and new specialities, all of them based on a thorough understanding of isotope systematics and chemical equilibria. Thus equipped, he would apply his knowledge to whatever problem was prominent at a given time. A lifelong interest in Rb-Sr isotope systematics began at M.I.T., where he studied under the pioneers, P.M. Hurley, H.W. Fairbairn, and W.H. Pinson. His Ph.D. dissertation dealt with Rb-Sr geochronological investigations in the Middle Haddam and Glastonbury quadrangles of Connecticut; in subsequent years he applied Rb-Sr chronology and Sr-isotope variations to geologic problems in New England, Montana, northern Michigan, Israel, Alaska, and New Mexico.

Although Doug Brookins' research interests were worldwide, he concentrated on the three geographical areas most closely connected with his professional career: New England, Kansas, and New Mexico. Prior to his arrival in Kansas, his work had mainly been in igneous and metamorphic rocks. Finding them scarce in Kansas, he turned his interests to kimberlites and related carbonatites, meteorites, and (with S. Chaudhuri) the Rb-Sr systematics of sedimentary rocks. Even before moving to New Mexico, he had begun studies of young basalts of the Southwest, with A.M. Kudo and A.W. Laughlin.

By 1972, Doug's interests in sedimentary rocks directed him to sandstone-hosted uranium deposits of the Colorado Plateau. His work included radiometric dating and Eh-pH constraints on the stability of uranium minerals. This led to studies of uranium resources, including active participation in NURI, the National Uranium Resources Inventory. This, in turn, opened several other broad areas of interest, including mineral, energy, and water resources and the management of radioactive wastes. He remained a fervent advocate of nuclear energy but was well aware of its potential hazards. He became an international authority on methods to contain radioactive wastes from mine dumps and reactors. From studies of the dispersal of radioactive elements under natural geologic conditions, he derived predictions as to their behavior in mine dumps and other disposal sites, including the Waste Isolation Pilot Project (WIPP) site in Permian salt deposits near Carlsbad, New Mexico. This approach led him to a study of the Oklo phenomenon in Gabon,

central Africa, where a natural uranium deposit had become critical in Precambrian time. He was among the first to recognize that natural radon emissions could pose health hazards under special conditions. Because of his varied interests, Doug's name appears on over 500 publications, including several books. Many of his graduate students became his coauthors.

Much of his work necessarily involved Doug in controversies, ranging from the safety of nuclear energy and the non-hazards of asbestos to the extent of Paleozoic magmatism in New Mexico. Regardless of whether or not his stands were popular, he defended them with passion and conviction. He was a superb teacher to students on all levels, from freshmen to Ph.D. candidates. In 1971, Kansas State University honored him as the outstanding graduate teacher-researcher of the year. A large and loyal following of graduate students was launched by Doug into successful professional careers. To support his students, his mass spectrometer laboratory, and his varied research interests, he raised over $3 million in grant funds.

Doug Brookins was a Fellow of the Geological Society of America, the American Institute of Chemists, the Mineralogical Society of America, and the Explorer's Club and an active member of numerous national and regional societies. He served as President of the Albuquerque Geological Society in 1973 and as Councilor in the New Mexico Section, American Institute of Chemists, in 1974-1975. His many achievements won him listings in Who's Who in the World and Who's Who in America. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa (President of Alpha Section, Kansas, 1967-1968) and Sigma Xi.

In all his work, Doug Brookins displayed impressive scholarship. At meetings, he would amuse himself by taking notes in Cyrillic script, to the amazement of onlookers. He was always willing to share his knowledge with others, from beginning students to faculty colleagues. Doug cared deeply about education at all levels. From 1980 to 1983, he served on a Science Advisory Curriculum Committee, established jointly by the Albuquerque Public Schools and the University of New Mexico. For ten years he participated in a tutorial program for high-school students holding summer internships, sponsored by the Albuquerque Public Schools Career Enrichment Program. Only a few days before his death he chaired a symposium on Geoscience Education for Teachers at a meeting of the Rocky Mountain and South-Central Sections, Geological Society of America, in Albuquerque.

In spite of heavy professional obligations, Doug still found time for civic affairs and sports. He served on the Board of Temple Albert, a Reform Jewish Congregation, for 15 years and as its President from 1985-1987. His deep concern about human relations was reflected by service on the Jewish community council of Albuquerque (1974) and as Secretary of B'nai B'rith (1974-1975). A friend wrote that "his passion for softball far exceeded his common sense, so that every season found him playing with cracked ribs, a bad back, or injured knees." He lived life to the fullest and will be sorely missed by his daughters, Rachel Brookins and Laura Johnson, his friends, his colleagues, and his present and former students. A Douglas G. Brookins Memorial Scholarship has been established by the University of New Mexico Foundation.

Selected Bibliography of D. G. Brookins

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Wolfgang E. Elston, University of New Mexico
(Published concurrently in *American Mineralogist*)

AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY GEOCHEMISTRY DIVISION SYMPOSIA AT ACS MEETING

The Geochemistry Division is sponsoring the following symposia at the 203rd National Meeting of the ACS in San Francisco, California, on April 5-10, 1992. Abstracts (200 words, on special ACS forms) are due to the respective symposium chairman by November 15, 1991. For further information or abstract forms, contact the Geochemistry Division Program Chairman, Dr. James

A. Davis, U.S. Geological Survey, 345 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025, (415) 329-4484 or symposium chairman.

Symposia:

- **Structure, Bonding, and Kinetics at Mineral Surfaces:** C. Eggleston and S. Brantley, 209 Deike Bldg., Department of Geosciences, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802, USA (814) 863-1739.
- **Surface Precipitation and Solid Solutions at the Mineral/Water Interface:** D. Dzombak, Department of Civil Engineering, Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, USA (412) 268-2946 or P. Glynn, USGS, 432 National Center, Reston, VA 22092, USA (703) 648-5823.
- **Biogeochemistry of Terrestrial Systems:** W. Orem, US Geological Survey, 923 National Center, Reston, VA 22092, USA (703) 648-6273.
- **Microbial Catalysis in Metal Biogeochemistry:** G. King, Darling Marine Center, University of Maine, Walpole, ME 04573 USA (207) 563-3146 or D. Lovley, US Geological Survey, 430 National Center, Reston, VA 22092, USA (703) 648-5825.
- **Compound Specific Isotope analysis in Organic and Petroleum Geochemistry:** M. Schoell, Chevron Oil Research Co., P.O. Box 446, La Habra, CA 92631, USA (213) 694-7863.
- **Chemistry and Physics of Petroleum Explusion:** A. Burnham, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, P.O. Box 808, L-207, Livermore, CA 94551, USA (415) 422-7304.
- **Environmental Aspects of Aquatic and Surface Photochemistry:** G. Helz, Department of Chemistry, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, USA (301) 405-6829.
- **Oxidation-Reduction Transformations of Inorganic and Organic Species in the Environment:** M. Reinhard, Department of Civil Engineering, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305, USA (415) 723-3505 or J. Westall, Department of Chemistry, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331, USA (503) 737-2591.
- **Exploration, Characterization, and Utilization of Heavy California Fossil Fuel Resources:** J. Reynolds, Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, Livermore, CA 94551, USA (415) 422-6028.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Donald B. Dingwell, of the Bayerisches Geoinstitut has been awarded the Viktor-Moritz-Goldschmidt Prize of the German Mineralogical Society for his work on relaxation in silicate melts and perspectives on the glass transition. Owen P. Bricker, of the USGS, Reston, VA has been awarded the Meritorious Service Award, the second highest award given by the US Department of the Interior, for his exceptional contributions to water-resources research programs of the USGS.

SPECIAL ISSUE OF COMPUTERS AND GEOSCIENCES DEVOTED TO GEOCHEMISTRY

The Geochemical Society and the editors of the journal, *Computers and Geosciences* are planning a special issue of *Computers and Geosciences* in 1992 that will be devoted exclusively to geochemistry. Interested Geochemical Society Members are urged to submit to this special issue. Contact D.F. Merriam, the editor of *Computers and Geosciences* for details. His address is : D.F. Merriam, Kansas Geological Survey, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66047, Ph: 913-864-3965, Fax: 913-864-5317, E-Mail: Merriam@UKANVAX.BITNET.

SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS SERIES

Stable Isotope Geochemistry: A Tribute to Samuel Epstein

This volume is presently at the printer and is expected to be ready for distribution in late December. It consists of 39 papers covering seven different aspects of stable isotope geochemistry (e.g., experimental isotope fractionation studies, the hydrosphere and ancient oceans, climatology and glaciology). The editors are H.P. Taylor, Jr., J.R. O'Neil, and I.R. Kaplan. The book will be about 500 pages in length, double-column format, and hardbound in the same style as previous volumes in this series. Members of the Society will have the opportunity to purchase the book at a pre-publication price of $25 (regular price to members will be $45; the price to non-members and institutions will be $65). THE PRE-PUBLICATION OFFER WILL BE DISTRIBUTED WITHIN SIX WEEKS.

Victor Moritz Goldschmidt: Father of Modern Geochemistry

This volume is the biography of the world's greatest geochemist written by (probably) the last person to start (but never complete, because of the War) graduate work under his direction - Brian Mason. It covers Goldschmidt's life and work in fascinating detail, augmented by about 60 photographs, which capture his greatness and complexities. The volume is presently in the final stages of editing. Comments from the four reviewers have been uniformly glowing. This may well turn out to be the most widely read biography of any earth scientist. The pre-publication price for this volume to members of the Society has been set at $18. This 250 page (est.) book will be available at the Goldschmidt Conference in May at which time Brian Mason will be available to autograph copies purchased there. THE PRE-PUBLICATION OFFER WILL BE DISTRIBUTED IN MARCH TO THOSE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE.

THE FUTURE OF THE SOCIETY'S JOURNAL: AN OPEN LETTER TO GEOCHEMICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS

Introduction and Background

As most Geochemical Society Members know, Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta (GCA), the official journal of the Geochemical and Meteoritical Societies, is one of the premier journals today in geochemistry. In fact, a major benefit of membership in the Geochemical Society (GS) is a relatively low-priced subscription to GCA. Our journal is the main vehicle by which the Society accomplishes its goals: "to encourage the application of chemistry to the solution of geological and cosmological problems".

GCA is presently published by a commercial, for-profit publisher, Pergamon Press, which is now a wholly-owned subsidiary of Elsevier. GCA is run by the Executive Editor, Gunter Faure, from the editorial offices at Ohio State University, with the assistance of Associate Editors around the world. Decisions about GCA are made by the editorial office and a Publications Committee that reports to both the Geochemical and Meteoritical Societies. Except for the marketing of the journal to libraries, virtually 100% of the effort of putting out GCA is carried out by the editorial office and the Publications Committee. It is truly a journal run by geochemists for the scientific community.

As many in the Society may not know, Pergamon owns the journal's title. The reasons for this are historical. Nonetheless, we are one of the very few major earth science societies that does not own title to its own journal. In an era of escalating journal costs, eroding quality, and tight library budgets, this has the potential for causing many problems for the Society. As discussed below, the Geochemical Society recently signed a new five-year publishing contract with Pergamon. Even after months of arduous negotiation which produced the best contract that could be obtained from Pergamon (Elsevier), we still have little control over subscription rates for libraries, and much less control over editorial policy and the future of GCA than is desirable. This situation effectively renders our Society hostage to decisions made by Pergamon (Elsevier) with which we do not agree. In consequence, the Publications Committee and Board of Directors have been discussing alternatives to continuing publication of GCA by Pergamon (Elsevier). While opinions differ significantly, all agree that the society should eventually have full control over its journal which should be published in a not-for-profit manner.

The Issues Involved

About a year ago, Pergamon submitted to us a new contract for the publication of GCA which differed markedly (and unfavorably) from the one under which we have been operating for the past ten years. In addition, Pergamon has recently been purchased by Elsevier, giving Elsevier a virtual monopoly on geochemical journals. These events have led the Directors of the GS* to reconsider our long-term relationship with Pergamon and other issues concerning the publication of GCA.

The present contract between Pergamon (Elsevier) and the Meteoritical and Geochemical Societies for the publication of GCA has been in effect since 1981, and is due to expire at the end of December, 1991. It is quite favorable to the Societies because it allows Pergamon an agreed-upon overhead and profit, but permits the Societies to set member and library subscription rates to accomplish this, and also gives us considerable control over many other matters, such as the quality of printing, etc. One of the obvious results of this contract is that GCA is a flagship journal for Pergamon, at a per-page price to libraries about one-third that of the next lowest priced comparable Pergamon journal.

Negotiations between Pergamon (Elsevier) and the Publications Committee over the new contract began over a year ago. The initial draft contract offered by Pergamon (Elsevier) at the start of negotiations was a radical departure from the existing one, and was clearly inadequate. It removed all financial and other control by the Societies over GCA except for editorial aspects, and offered no benefits in return. After several rounds of negotiations, Pergamon offered Royalties to the Societies, but would not yield on the matter of financial controls. Fearing rapidly rising library and member subscription rates, the Publications Committee in early January of this year recommended that the Societies should pursue a contract with a non-profit publisher for publication of their journal.

However, there was a considerable difference of opinion among the Directors and also among some Society members about the wisdom of having a Society journal without the GCA title. Contacts with Pergamon made it clear that they would not sell the title to the Societies at any price we could afford. Accordingly, the Publications Committee, aided by an ad hoc committee composed of a number of Society members with considerable publications experience, pursued a dual strategy: to continue to negotiate with Pergamon for more satisfactory terms, and simultaneously to make preparations for publication of a "new" journal with a non-profit publisher, beginning in January 1992.

At their May 28, 1991 Board Meeting the Directors considered the proposal to start a new journal in January, 1992 that was recommended by the Publications Committee, and decided narrowly against it. This decision was taken because the Directors felt that such a change in GCA could not be made without input of the membership, the time available for implementing this proposal was very short for such an important move, and the financial risks were thought to be high given the financial resources available to the Society at this time.

Accordingly, the Directors directed the Publications Committee to negotiate a new version of the draft contract with Pergamon (Elsevier) that was as favorable as possible. After months of arduous bargaining, a new, somewhat more favorable contract was obtained. This has now been approved by the Directors and signed by the Presidents of the Societies. It will be in effect for five years, beginning in January, 1992. Details of this contract are given in a separate section of the newsletter.

At the same meeting in Baltimore, however, the Directors (with some regret and sadness because of our long association with Pergamon and GCA) voted unanimously to approve the following motion: "The Board of Directors agrees in principle that in five years, the Geochemical Society will have its own journal and that preparations to this end shall begin forthwith". It is the intent of this motion that the Geochemical Society will own all aspects of its official journal, including the title. If the title, "Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta" cannot be purchased from Pergamon (Elsevier) for a reasonable sum, then it is the intent of the Board to start a new journal, equivalent to or better than the current GCA, which will become the official journal of the Society. Because the Society's journal is of such vital concern to our members, a major purpose of this letter is to inform you of the basis for this motion, to poll your wishes and to request suggestions for resolving this matter.

If we are to start a new journal in five years, it is important to begin making plans now. Your early input can be a key part of those plans.

The Move to a Journal whose Title is Owned by the Geochemical Society

The new contract with Pergamon (Elsevier) stipulates that we must notify them by July 1, 1995 if we do not intend to sign a new contract with them for the period beginning January 1, 1997. The time between now and then must be used to lay the groundwork for beginning a new journal, assuming that the title to GCA cannot be purchased from Pergamon (Elsevier). A major fraction of the royalties guaranteed in the new contract will be set aside as a "war chest" to start a new journal and cushion the Societies from financial risk.

It is likely that one of two options will be followed. The first is to contract with a non-profit publisher such as The University of Chicago Press, The American Chemical Society or the American Geophysical Union. The second would be to publish the journal "in house", contracting only with a printer. This is the procedure used, for example, to publish American Mineralogist and Meteoritics. In either case the Societies would own title to the new journal and

would have control over subscription rates and matters of journal quality. It is our intent that the new journal will be identical to GCA in content, equal to or better in quality than GCA, more responsive to the Societies and to changes in our profession, and substantially lower in price than comparable commercially published journals. If all these goals can be met, this new journal would rather quickly become one of the premier journals in geochemistry.

A new journal will succeed only if a majority of the membership supports it, publishes in it and insists that our libraries subscribe to it. Indeed, it is just such support that has enabled GCA to become such an important geochemical journal. It is our hope that strong member and author enthusiasm will allow the new Society-sponsored journal to supplant GCA as the premier journal in our field. It will be especially important to convince librarians of this logic, because we assume that Pergamon will try to continue to publish GCA without our help, and our new journal will therefore represent a new subscription for them. It is our intent to hold journal subscription prices as low as possible. The Mineralogical Society of America, for example, is able to hold subscription rates to American Mineralogist to a very low rate by publishing it themselves.

Geochemical Society Member Input Needed

It is critical at this stage to get membership input. How do you feel about these issues described above? Is the status quo with Pergamon (Elsevier) worth preserving just to keep the name GCA, especially if it leads to 15-20% per year increases in prices and decreasing control over the journal? Do you agree with the Directors stand that we should start a new journal? How should we go about it? Are we overlooking some issue that the membership considers important? Your ideas and guidance are urgently needed. If received before January 15, 1992 your response will be included in Publications Committee deliberations and will influence their report at the next Board Meeting May 10, 1992 just after the 3rd V. M. Goldschmidt Conference, in Reston Virginia. Please send your comments to Doug Macdougall, chairman of the publications committee. Please also take a moment to fill out and return the enclosed form in the newsletter.

Sincerely,

Donald H. Lindsley
President, Geochemical Society
J. Douglas Macdougall
Chairman, Publications Committee
James J. Papike
Past-President, Geochemical Society
Steven B. Shirey
Secretary, Geochemical Society

*In 1990, the Geochemical Society Incorporated in the State of Texas. This necessitated some changes in terminology. What was formerly known as the "Council" of the Geochemical Society became the "Board of Directors" and "Councilors" became "Directors".

GEOCHEMICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP SURVEY ABOUT THE FUTURE OF OUR JOURNAL

What is your preference for the official journal of the Geochemical Society?

____a. Start a new journal to which the Society owns title. As described in the newsletter, the aim would be that this journal would be similar to the present GCA, and could supplant a Pergamon-owned GCA as the premier journal in geochemistry. This course would involve some risk because Pergamon would presumably try to continue to publish GCA.

____b. Maintain our affiliation with Pergamon in order to keep the title Geochimica et Cosmochimica, even if the terms are deemed unfavorable to the Geochemical Society

What is your preference for publishing a new journal? (Note: this is a complex question with considerable financial ramifications. We ask your opinion on an "other things being equal" basis. The Directors and the Publications Committee will gather information on the pros and cons of each of these choices over the next few months.)

____a. Own journal title and use a non-profit publisher such as University of Chicago Press, American Chemical Society or AGU. The journal would function essentially as it does now, with the publisher financing the operation of the editorial office, contracting with the printer, advertising, etc. We would have almost total control over financial and other aspects of the journal (assuming we set prices so as not to run a large deficit) and would pay the publisher overhead (probably 10 to 15% of sales). This option holds less financial risk but perhaps also a little less independence.

____b Have the Society assume the role of publisher. This is the model used by the Mineralogical Society of America. It provides more independence, but substantially more financial risk because all expenses must be met by the Society up front (setting up editorial office, advertising, permanent staff, etc.).

____c. Negotiate a contract with another commercial publisher under which we would own title and have some financial say in the running of the journal.

____d. Agree with whatever choice Directors and Publications Committee deem best.

If we start a new journal that replaces GCA as the official journal of theSociety, how is this likely to affect your Geochemical Society membership?

___a. Strengthen your ties to the Society ___b. Weaken your ties to the Society. ___c. Indifferent.

Would you be willing to lobby your library to subscribe to the new journal from the very first issue if it is packed with superb papers?

____a. Yes ____a. No

Would you still lobby your library to subscribe to the new journal even if it meant that your library had to cancel another journal subscription?

____a. Yes ____a. No

Would you be willing to submit your own best papers to the new journal in order to insure its success?

____a. Yes ____a. No

Would you be willing to campaign with your non-GS colleagues to submit their best geochemical papers to the new journal?

____a. Yes ____a. No

Do you have any suggestions for the name of this new journal? If so please write them below:

Other comments:

Please tear off and return by January 15, 1992 to Prof. J. Douglas Macdougall, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UC San Diego, La Jolla, CA 92093-0220, Fax No. 619 534-0784

IDEAS FOR GEOCHEMICAL SOCIETY SESSIONS AT AGU AND GSA MEETINGS NEEDED

It is not too soon to think of a topic that would serve as a theme session or symposium for the 1992 Geochemical Society meetings, Spring in Montreal with AGU, 11-15 May 1992, and Fall in Cincinnati with GSA, 26-29 October 1992. This year, the GS is a fully participating member in the Spring AGU meeting with the opportunity to hold our own session and to sponsor jointly sessions with MSA and AGU sections. Please consider symposium topics for this meeting. Each symposium, according to AGU policy, must have two chairmen/women. Peter Gromet is the GS's delegate to the AGU program committee. Peter's E-Mail address is lpg@avalon.geo.brown.edu. Please contact him with your ideas for session topics for the joint AGU-GS meeting. The first call for session topics will appear in EOS, AGU's weekly newspaper, shortly after their Fall meeting in December.

The joint GS-GSA meeting will be held in Cincinnati, October 26-29. The GSA meeting provides two special formats in addition to the volunteered technical session. One is the symposium, which consists entirely of invited papers. The presentations can be either oral or poster, but not mixed and are organized by the conveners. Symposia are sponsored by GSA sections and associated societies. The second format is the theme session. The theme session consists entirely of volunteered papers and is designed to arrange abstracts into interdisciplinary sessions. Theme sessions have an advocate, someone who will encourage the submittal of abstracts to the session and will act as liaison to the Joint Technical Program Committee. The theme session will fall under one or more (but no more than three) categories listed on the right-hand side of the abstract form. Any abstract not included in the theme session is then considered in the selected category. The Geochemical Society is soliciting topics for its symposium and for theme sessions. If you have an idea for a topic or would like to be an advocate for a theme session under the geochemistry category, please contact Ted Labotka at the Department of Geological Sciences, University of Tennessee, Knoxville 37996-1410, 615-974-2366, Fax 615-974-2368, E Mail LABOTKA @ utkvx.utk.edu. If you are interested in advocating a theme session, he can send you the necessary information and forms. The deadline for submitting symposium and theme session proposals to JTPC is 2 January 1992.

GSA MEETING NEWS

The 1991 GSA Joint Technical Program Committee (JTPC) met in early August in Boulder to arrange the program for the 1991 Annual meeting in San Diego. The Geochemical Society was represented by Geochemical Society Program Committee members L. Peter Gromet (chair), Theodore Labotka, and John W. Valley. Pre-meeting abstract reviews for the "Geochemistry, Aqueous" and "Geochemistry, Other" review categories were provided by the above plus Program Committee member Brian K. Popp, and Geochemical Society members Susan L. Brantley and Lukas Baumgartner.

The committee handled over 200 abstracts, plus those associated with Geochemical Society Symposium. The abstracts were organized into 9 half-day (or part thereof) Technical Sessions, 3 Poster sessions, one Theme session, and the Geochemical Society Symposium. The San Diego meeting received an all-time record number of submitted abstracts. This large number required the GSA Technical Program Chairs to enforce a small percentage cut in accepted abstracts. This contrasts to the past several years, where such mandatory cuts were not implemented. The program committee regrets that all abstracts could not be accepted, especially within the oral sessions.

Members should be aware that time limitations surrounding the Annual Meeting with GSA and associated societies over the last couple of years has required GSA Technical Program Chairs to limit the number of oral presentations. This year, they allotted somewhat fewer oral slots per discipline than the number of abstracts submitted for "Oral" presentation mode, and they considered all abstracts submitted under the "Either" category to be destined for presentation as Posters. The result is that for every Geochemistry abstract marked "Either" that was deemed by our committee to be best placed within an oral session for programmatic reasons, one abstract marked Oral had to be scheduled as a Poster to compensate. The committee found such decisions difficult to make, and rarely made them. Please keep in mind when you chose a presentation mode in the future, that selection of the "Either" category will not result in an equal chance of being scheduled as an oral presentation; indeed, it will almost certainly result in your paper being scheduled as a Poster, due to the preliminary scheduling and sizing of session blocks by the JTPC chairs. Therefore, if you generally prefer to give an oral presentation, select "Oral" and just don't check the "withdraw" box that follows it.

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