

The 1992 September issue of *Meteoritics* is issue number four of the year since the abstract volume for the annual meeting became number three. The participants of the meeting in Copenhagen are to be thanked for their cooperation in bringing about this change in *Meteoritics*. We made greater changes to the rules and procedures for abstracts this year than ever attempted in a single step, and yet almost all were submitted in the format required by the journal and its printers. We can only offer apologies to those few authors whose abstracts we had to modify and to those very few we had to contact. This year was somewhat experimental, and with minor changes—a more economic reference format and separate student award applications—next year will be even better. In connection with issue three, I am also grateful to Clark Chapman, who made it possible for *Meteoritics* to score a “scoop” with the second and best close-up photograph of an asteroid ever taken.

Most of the articles (90%) in this issue are being published within 11 months of submission. We are close to our target of publishing 75% of the accepted papers within nine months of receipt. We are doing considerably better than the major monthly journals. I am grateful to the authors, associate editors and reviewers who make this possible. In the June issue we encouraged authors to request accelerated review for especially important and timely papers. *Meteoritics* is also keen to publish papers dealing with particularly controversial and innovative ideas.

The cover of this issue draws attention to Bill Reach's very imaginative paper on the origin of interplanetary dust, but also to the increasingly interdisciplinary study of small Solar System objects. Like Galileo's pictures of Gaspra, Giotto's images of Halley's comet provide us with unequalled insights into the geology of a traditionally “astronomical” object, and it is becoming increasingly difficult (and unnecessary) to distinguish between astronomical and laboratory studies. This is a major reason for *Meteoritics* to broaden its areas of interest.

We are particularly fortunate to have Cyrena Goodrich's major Invited Review on ureilites in this issue. I am appreciative for the hard work of the author; the associate editor, Klaus Keil; and the external reviewers. They worked on a very tight schedule without any drop in standards. Dr. Goodrich provides a broad and objective review of these bizarre meteorites, which are examples of rocks with both “nebula” (*i.e.*, chondritic) and planetary (*i.e.*, achondritic or igneous) properties.

Within each category, papers are being published strictly in order of acceptance, but as it turned out the next two research articles by Mittlefehldt *et al.* on Wabar impact melts and Howard *et al.* on nucleosynthesis products associated with Xe-H are the subjects of Scientific Editorials by Richard Grieve and Frank Podosek. The third Scientific Editorial by Ludolf Schultz provides some background to the Garrison *et al.* paper on cosmogenic nuclides in the large Chico chondrite. Also in this issue, Premo and Izett discuss isotopic data on the Haitian tektites found at the Cretaceous-Tertiary boundary; Berkley and Boynton show that while the mineral composition of howardites and diogenites is very similar, the two classes come from separate magma bodies; Lavielle *et al.* place upper limits on the existence of ^{248}Cm in the early Solar System; Cintala and Hörz describe a meticulous series of shock comminution experiments designed to elucidate the history of the lunar regolith; Burbine *et al.* describe spectral reflectivity data for two asteroids that may resemble CO or CV chondrites; Ikeda and Kimura use mass distributions to compare pairing in the U.S. and Japanese Antarctic collections; and von Engelhardt *et al.* present a scholarly account of part of the Araguinha crater. What a marvelous range of topics—nucleosynthesis and cosmogenic isotopes, asteroids and comets, lunar regolith and craters, tektites at the K-T boundary, achondrite geochemistry and meteorite recovery!

The six notes in this issue describe several ordinary chondrites, including four in the Monnig collection, an H3 breccia, a IIIAB iron meteorite, a massive newly rediscovered fragment of the Santa Catharina ataxite, and new thermoluminescence estimates for the age of the Roosevelt County stranding surfaces which change the authors' earlier ideas of influx rates.

The 1992 December issue also promises to be very exciting. The Invited Review on Antarctic meteorite stranding surfaces by Cassidy *et al.* is well on schedule for that issue. It will include geographical and other data for all Antarctic meteorite find sights, including a spectacular color computer-enhanced satellite image of the Allan Hills. There are, also, many excellent Research Articles and Notes in the pipeline.

Derek Sears
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