Meteoritics 29, 753–756

From the Editors

Some thoughts to end another year...

The end of the year rushes towards us. Final examinations, private (and not so private) deadlines assault us, and the editor of *Meteoritics* takes stock of another year. This is the first year in its 40-year lifetime in which *Meteoritics* has published 6 issues. Every issue has been one with which the Society can be pleased. One is somewhat nervous about citing highlights for the year because the matter is so subjective and because there have been so many. But I will try, with apologies to those I miss: the paper by Podosek and Cassen on the lifetime of the solar nebula and the catalog of Antarctic meteorites by Jeff Grossman in the January issue; the paper by Stöffler and Langenhorst on shock metamorphism of quartz, the trio of papers by Rubin and Kallemeyn, Bischoff *et al.* and Schulze *et al.* concerning the new Rumuruti class, and the papers on Divnoe by Petaev *et al.* and on ALH84001 by Mittlefehldt in the March issue; in the May issue, the Invited Review by Deutsch and Shärer and the papers on Apollo samples by Wentworth *et al.* and Neal *et al.* The September issue will long remain as the largest in the history of this journal and contains a particularly large number of important papers.

The November issue seems to have several unofficial themes: Mars (with Hap McSween's Invited Review and the papers by Drake and coauthors on the martian atmosphere and Wentworth and Gooding's paper on aqueous processes on Mars), Chinese meteorites (a paper on fatal meteorite falls by Yau *et al.* and Chen and Wang's catalog), interstellar components (with two major papers by Huss and Lewis) and fractionated objects (Lee and Greenwood's paper on CAI in Murchison, the paper by Takeda *et al.* on Lodran-like meteorites, Treiman and Berkley's research on ureilites and Nyquist *et al.* on LEW86100 and Angra dos Reis).

Of course, all this represents an enormous amount of work for the authors, but we should also thank the associate editors whose names appear with the articles and the legions of reviewers who all played an important part in helping authors communicate successfully with their colleagues. Their names appear below.

The editorial board continues to be pleased with its achievements but strives to do more. In Prague, we made a couple of decisions that should be communicated to the readers. The first was to revert to the practise under John Wasson's editorship of reserving the "Reports" section of the journal for short papers that describe new meteorites of well-known classes or for papers submitted specifically to that section. Our reasons for enlarging the Reports section were described in the January editorial. Whether this was a bad idea or an idea whose time has not yet come was not discussed. We just believed that it was impossible to administer sensibly! The second decision was to implement a program for actively pursuing important papers for the journal. In the future, associate editors who attend various meetings will identify two or three papers that they consider especially interesting and will pass on the details to the editor for solicitation on the board's behalf. Such papers will be subject to all the normal review and revision procedures (just as Invited Reviews are), but the author will have the knowledge that the board already judges their work as especially valuable.

I doubt that we will ever be satisfied with the role of the journal and will always seek better ways to contribute to our collective research efforts. As editor, I enjoy interacting with my friends and colleagues in this fashion, and I encourage any reader to write to me with suggestions for improving the journal and our procedures. In the meantime, I want to thank those who funded particular articles this year (the Johnson Space Center, the

Reviewers for *Meteoritics* in 1994 were:

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