

What's Your Membership Resolution for 2020?

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When it comes to professional societies, the more you put into your membership, the more you will get out of it. As we enter membership renewal season here at TMS, I encourage you to consider what you hope to achieve with your TMS membership in the coming year—and what steps you'll take to reach your goal.

When you receive the reminder in your inbox (or your mailbox) to renew for 2020, consider making a new year's resolution of sorts—a new membership year's resolution—that will help you meet one of your professional goals over the next 12 months. Make it a clear, specific goal of how you'll use your membership to further your career, improve your research, or build your network.

Nothing coming to you? Let me offer a couple of suggestions to get you thinking:

Reach out to TMS members who live near you to initiate an informal gathering.

Did you know that you can search the online TMS membership directory by location? Use this tool to help you connect with other members in your community. E-mail a small group of members who live near you and propose an informal meeting at a restaurant or coffee shop to begin building a network of colleagues and collaborators close to home. Pick a date and location, search the directory, and hit send on an e-mail. Maybe a half-hour's work could grow into a valuable network of local colleagues. The membership directory is found at members.tms.org and is available only to members.



Pick a technical committee and attend a meeting.

Maybe you haven't been a member for very long or maybe putting yourself forward for a position just isn't in your nature. Regardless, I encourage you to take this one simple—and pretty painless—step toward venturing off the sidelines and into the thick of TMS activities. Joining a committee is a great way to meaningfully connect with other members of the Society. And because technical committees are divided into technology areas, you'll be connecting with people who share your interests. If you want to see big results from your TMS membership, joining a committee is an easy way to get started. If you'll be with us at the TMS 2020 Annual Meeting & Exhibition (TMS2020), plan to join us at an in-person committee meeting. (Meeting schedules will be posted on the TMS2020 website early next year.) If you can't travel to San Diego next year, contact volunteer@tms.org and ask to be added to a committee roster. A complete list of technical committees can be found at www.tms.org/Committees.

