

The Fruits of Volunteerism



As I reflect on what we accomplished in 1989, I find myself immediately wondering "How did we do it?" First, allow me to summarize what we achieved this year and identify some key people, and then I'll tell you how we did it.

Academic Affairs—Barry E. Scheetz, chair, Academic Affairs Committee; Aubrey L. Helms Jr., chair, Educational Materials Subcommittee.

Two new University Chapters, Northwestern University and Alabama, were added to our Society this year. The University Chapters are engaged in many exciting activities; the Alabama A&M Chapter, for example, organized the student session and poster sessions of the Alabama Materials Research Conference.

Awards—John E.E. Baglin, chair, Awards Committee; D. Wayne Goodman, chair, New Awards Subcommittee; Kathleen C. Taylor, chair, Student Awards Subcommittee.

We are implementing a new contest format for the student awards at the 1989 Fall Meeting to give the students more opportunities to present their achievements. Working with Mike Quick, newly appointed Presidential Adviser on Development, the Awards Committee is also making plans to develop new awards for the Society.

Continuing Education—Carol M. Jantzen, chair, Continuing Education Committee; Vivienne Harwood Mattox, MRS Short Course manager.

Due to the efforts of this committee and Vivienne Harwood Mattox we have seen an increase in the number of on-site short courses presented this year. We've also seen continued improvement in the quality of short courses offered at our own meetings. In an effort to foster continuing education, MRS, working with the Materials Education Committee, will broadcast Symposium X for the first time on the PBS and National Technical University stations to both universities and industries.

Corporate Participation—L. Michael Quick, chair.

The committee has accelerated its interactions with the corporate community. The result has been a decided increase in the number of MRS Corporate Affiliates. A new brochure explaining the MRS Corpo-

rate Affiliates program has just been completed.

External Affairs—Kathleen C. Taylor, chair, External Affairs Committee; Elton N. Kaufmann, chair, Public Affairs Subcommittee; Gordon E. Pike, chair, Domestic Activities and Affiliated Organizations Subcommittee; C.W. White, chair, International Relations Subcommittee.

Through the efforts of this committee, an Affiliated Organization program was developed to foster cooperation among societies and organizations with materials research interests. The International Materials Research Committee, whose purpose is to promote the interdisciplinary approach to materials research worldwide, will hold its inaugural ceremony during the Boston Meeting. An MRS representative participated in the first informal discussions on the formation of a "Materials Institute" among materials-related societies. Plans are also proceeding for MRS to provide further service to the materials community by establishing a viable presence in Washington, DC.

Finance—J. Francis Young, chair, Finance Committee.

As reported by treasurer Sue Kelso, we continue to enjoy a large cash flow. Since it is wise to put aside some cash reserves each year, this practice has started in 1989. The Treasurer's Report appears elsewhere in this issue.

Long Range Planning—John E.E. Baglin, chair, Long Range Planning Committee.

MRS's future always seems to arrive sooner than we anticipate, so this committee is busy developing a new long-range plan covering the next 5-10 years for the Society.

Membership—Lynn A. Boatner, chair, Membership Committee; Daryush Ila and M.J. Kelley, chairs, MRS Sections Subcommittee.

By the end of 1989, MRS will have about 10,000 members. A retired member category was established this year, and new membership benefits are being developed. An MRS Section was chartered in Washington, DC.

Nominations—John E.E. Baglin, chair, Nominating Committee.

Nominating candidates for future MRS

A letter from the President...

officers and councillors is always a very important task. Without exception, this committee again produced an impressive slate of candidates for the MRS membership to choose from. You will find the results of this year's elections announced elsewhere in this issue.

Programs—S. Thomas Picraux, chair, Program Committee; Paul Percy, chair, Subcommittee on Program Development.

The Program Committee and the 1989 Meeting Chairs put together two of the largest meetings to date. Through their efforts, MRS was able to organize, at the very last minute, a successful session on "cold fusion" during the Spring Meeting. For the Fall Meeting, Gary McVay, Jim Mikkelsen Jr. and Bob Nemanich are using optical fiber links between the Marriott and the Weston Hotels, another MRS first. Plans are under way for two international topical conferences in 1990, one on electronic materials and the other on diamonds. Plans for the 1990 Spring Meeting, which will take place in the new San Francisco Marriott, are already complete and include 23 exciting symposia! And the 1990 Fall Meet-

ing program is almost complete.

Public Relations and Publicity—June D. Passaretti, chair, Public Relations and Publicity Committee. This committee's activities have significantly enhanced the visibility of our Society in the scientific community. At the past Spring Meeting we introduced a press breakfast that was quite successful. Publicity efforts are being expanded at the Boston Meeting this fall.

Publications—Peter P. Pronko, chair, Publications Committee; Walter L. Brown, Editor in Chief, *Journal of Materials Research*; Elton N. Kaufmann, chair, *MRS BULLETIN* Subcommittee; Paul Percy, chair, Journals Subcommittee; Syd R. Wilson, chair, Books Subcommittee.

Journal of Materials Research, which will publish monthly issues starting January 1990, has added two Associate Editors, Shigeyuki Sōmiya and Werner Lutze. They will work closely with Editor in Chief Walter Brown in managing the Journal's activities in Asia and Europe. Starting in 1990 the *MRS BULLETIN* plans to cover more materials research activities from our sister societies around the world. And 1989 was

the first year that MRS's book publications exceeded 50 new titles, including a new videotape series and International Conference Proceedings series.

Executive Committee—R.P.H. Chang, president; John E.E. Baglin, immediate past president; Russell R. Chianelli, first vice president; James B. Roberto, second vice president; Julia M. Phillips, secretary; Susan M. Kelso, treasurer.

The Executive Committee's year has been a busy one, with many hours expended in overseeing ongoing Society operations and also implementing new programs and activities.

What is the secret to our fruits of success?

The secret, I believe, is the *enthusiastic involvement of our volunteers*—the mainstay of MRS—who continue to offer us challenging new ideas every year, and who work with Headquarters staff to implement those ideas as soon as possible. It is this MRS spirit, with us since the beginning, that will propel us into the 1990s.

R.P.H. Chang


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*FS. Becker, D. Pawlik, H. Anzinger, and A. Spitzer
J. Vac. Sci. Technol. B5 (6), pp. 1555 (Nov/Dec 1987)

Please visit Booth No. 305 at the MRS Show
in Boston, November 28-30, 1989.