

## From President Tim Drever,

This issue of the *Geochemical News* is appearing at the time of the Goldschmidt Conference in Moscow, Idaho. This is our only paper issue of the year. With the launching of *Elements* we went to three on-line only issues of GN plus the one hard copy. I think the first on-line only issue earlier this year looked really good. The online format offers the editors greater flexibility, particularly in the use of color illustrations. I had some misgivings originally about the change but I am now sold on the advantages of the on-line format. However, we really need feedback from the membership: how do you like this new format? Is there anything we should change? Speaking of *Elements*, you should have received the second issue by now. From what I have seen, it's every bit as good as the first. I hope it represents just a first step towards greater interaction among the various geochemical and mineralogical societies. I just attended the meeting of the GSA Associated and Allied Societies. One of the proposals is to set up an on-line bulletin board for meeting planning. As soon as any preliminary plans are made for any meeting, the information will be posted on the web. This should lead to fewer conflicts and also, perhaps, to joint meetings where two organizations seem to have a common theme.

The Goldschmidt conference has received over 1600 abstracts; it promises to be a great meeting. It also represents the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our society, which is an occasion for serious celebration. The GS Board of Directors meeting will be held on May 20<sup>th</sup>, immediately before the Goldschmidt. If there are any issues you think we should be addressing, please contact me or one of the other Directors. We are here to serve the membership, so let us have your ideas. Several members have suggested that our venerable logo, from the days of Leroy lettering rather than computer graphics, is due for an update. If you have any creative ideas, send them to me! Or offer it as a competition for your students. The winning entry will be suitably rewarded.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Idaho. Remember, you're only fifty once.

*Tim Drever, GS President*



**Tim Drever**

## Editors' Corner

We hope you enjoy this special printed issue of *Geochemical News*, the first since our switch to an all-electronic format with the January issue, and the first of what is planned as an annual hardcopy printing of GN, for distribution at each year's Goldschmidt Conference. Otherwise, following this issue we will return to our new all-electronic and only-electronic format. In the July 2005 issue we plan to showcase news and events from the 2005 Goldschmidt Conference in Moscow, Idaho, so if you are a session organizer or chair, please keep track of the most noteworthy talks, because we'd like to point up the highlights of the upcoming Idaho meeting.

In this issue we are saddened to report the death of Professor Larry A. Haskin, a pioneer in rare earth element geochemistry, a giant in lunar petrology, and the former Ph.D. advisor to one of us (Haas). Larry was greatly respected throughout the geochemical community not only for his prolific scientific accomplishments, but also because he was a truly decent human being of profoundly exceptional character and integrity. As a mentor, Larry was the model of upstanding professionalism and leadership; never impatient, or capricious, or small, as most of us come to be at times. He taught me trace element geochemistry, but also he tried to teach me how a worthy scientist behaves. Often I cannot meet the standard he would have counseled, but in trying it is his example I seek. I no longer work on basalts, and I no longer think much about fractional crystallization, but Larry's most enduring lessons I carry to this day, and for my part hope to pass on in some small way to my students. Larry proved the adage, "They don't make them like the used to." He'll be missed.

Until next issue,

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COVER: Earthrise over the lunar horizon, at the Apollo 11 landing site. Photo credit NASA, scanning credit Kipp Teague. Obtained from the online Apollo Image Gallery, at [www.apolloarchive.com](http://www.apolloarchive.com).