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Message from the President

Dear members,

Since our last newsletter was August 2021, clearly the word “Quarterly” in our title is more aspirational than a reflection of reality. However, we have been busy on other projects and working diligently to grow (y)our organization.

Let’s start with some exciting news. To quote the famous America Express credit card slogan from the 1990’s, “Membership has its benefits.” The GMA has always maintained that the benefits of membership should far outstrip the cost of the dues. As such, we are pleased to announce the first of many [members-only benefits](#) we will roll out throughout the year(s):

1. Discounted classification costs through [New Mexico Meteoritic Services](#).
 - a. NMMS has also committed to donating 5% of member classifications to the GMA, so both our members and the GMA benefit.
2. Discounted cutting & finishing services through [Minnesota Meteorites](#)
3. Discounted restoration & stabilization services through [KD Meteorites](#).

The board wishes to thank our business members Dustin Dickens, Craig Zliment and Keith & Dana Jenkerson for their generous offers for our Collector and Business members! Stay tuned as there are more exciting deals coming throughout this year. We are working with some European service providers to hopefully be able to bring similar benefits to our European members. If you have any other ideas or suggestions, please let us know.

Now, let’s dig into more details and updates. As someone who worked in many high-tech startups in the past and continues to do so as a business consultant now, I see many similarities between the present stage of growth of the Global Meteorite Association and other young tech startups working to prove themselves in the market. Successful product development, fast time to revenue, a compelling value proposition, and a passionate and competent leadership team are some of the many factors required to turn a determined startup into a thriving

established company. The good news is that the GMA has all these characteristics for success and one indispensable ingredient - our members. The real secret to success is a supportive and dedicated customer (or member) base that is willing to grow with the company, evangelize its benefits, and keep the management team accountable to address any drawbacks or short-term failings.

In keeping with our commitment to transparency, I would like to take a moment to review our top accomplishments since the last Newsletter and the challenges we will be addressing for the rest of the year.

A Look Back:

Status of Previous Goals

1. [Trusted Business](#) page
 - a. STATUS: ONGOING
 - b. Page is now working. However, significantly more work is required to get all business members listed properly on that page. The challenge is listing everyone under their correct category of dealer, service, and/or accessories.
2. Catalog of Meteorites (CoMets)
 - a. STATUS: NO PROGRESS
 - b. Requires significant development work and project is financially unfunded.
3. Website Features, Responsiveness and Performance
 - a. STATUS: ONGOING
 - b. Website is complex and has posed some very tough challenges. We are making steady though slow progress to ensure an enjoyable experience regardless of platform.
 - i. After several bad experiences with managed servers, we have built our own high-performance server based on [SSDnodes](#) and migrated the website over to it. Doing so has given us much

more flexibility and with a top-notch server admin under contract, we are making great progress on performance.

- ii. Members reported being unable to upload images. That issue has been resolved.
- iii. There is presently an issue accessing membership logos. Other website issues need to be resolved first, so anyone wanting to access their logo, please contact me at president@gmeta.org.

4. Education, Education, Education

- a. STATUS: ONGOING but SLOW
- b. Developing content for all to learn remains a top priority for us. We are working with several researchers to develop content for us.
- c. When website performance issues have been resolved, we will begin porting content over from SkyFall meteorites. Some of this content is licensed from other people and will require further permissions.

Other Accomplishments

1. Created and published marketing collateral including business cards, banner and more recently drink coasters and lanyards to be handed out at the Ensisheim show.
2. Held our first, but not last, Tucson show (in-person) party that, considering it was our first event, was surprisingly well attended by GMA members, prospective members and members of our community looking to connect with others.
3. Created the GMA Facebook group and page.

A Look Forward:

1. Ensisheim (Thursday June 16 to Sunday June 19, 2022)
 - a. We will have a table in Ensisheim to promote our organization. On one of the evenings, we will have a member get-together, and this will be a great chance to meet quite a few of our board members.

2. Volunteering

- a. We have had many (generous) offers from volunteers. Though we have had a tough time taking advantage of these offers to date, moving forward we will engage more in volunteer activities. Please contact us if you have specific ideas in mind.

3. Expand membership

- a. We are behind on this activity largely because the last 4 months have been taken up with fixing website related issues. We are almost there, and you will find the board much more active in expanding membership through various activities.

4. Changing from non-profit to charity

- a. We are presently exploring if we are able to transition the org from a 501C6 non-profit to a 501C3 educational charity. Though doing so would be a non-event for our membership, being able to make that transition would make it much easier to encourage donations as they would then be tax deductible. If any of our members have direct experience in this area please email me at president@gmeta.org.

We appreciate your patience as we work through these issues and fix others that crop up along the way. Nearly all costs associated with the GMA have subsidized, however be aware that in the future these costs will need to be repaid as well as recurring fees for maintenance of the website and other fees required to run the corporation.

Mendy Ouzillou, GMA0002 (president@gmeta.org)

The GMA Needs You!

First and foremost, please review your profiles, upload your profile image/avatar, review your information, and update as necessary.

Second, start using your GMA logos in your eBay listings, business cards, metlist email signature and other places that would help bring visibility to our organization. In our own ways, we are all influencers and we need you to help us grow.

If you are interested in offering constructive feedback or volunteering to help, please email us at questions@gmeta.org. We appreciate your help!

The GMA Board

Secretary's Report

Here are highlights of Board activity for the period from 01 August 2021 through 01 May 2022:

1. Approved membership applications for fifteen new Collector members and 4 new Business members.
2. Approved expenses reimbursement totaling \$764.59 for website hosting and marketing materials for the organization.
3. Approved the creation of a Facebook page to represent the GMA and also approved creation of a GMA Members group on Facebook. Both are now available online.
4. Approved two changes to the GMA Bylaws. The first extended the 2021 dues structure to 2022 as opposed to the scheduled increase outlined in the original Bylaws. The second added language regarding dues paid by late-year applications.

Rob Keaton, GMA0004 (secretary@gmeta.org)

Treasurer's Report: Update on Membership and Financials

Aloha everyone! As stated in the previous newsletter, a financial report should be comprehensive and provide relevant details for utmost transparency. By improving this document in an iterative manner, we will achieve optimal transparency, easy interpretation, and effectiveness in its presentation. Our board's golden rule is that it "operates for the benefit of and is accountable to the membership, its volunteers and staff". We want you to be able to clearly follow the numbers from report to report, account to account so that you can implicitly trust our organization and be assured how your money is being spent. Doing so places the greatest burden on the Treasurer, but under my watch, there will be no compromise on the scope and quality of the quarterly financial reports. One change coming will be a breakdown of income from new members vs renewals in our next newsletter. Should you have suggestions, email treasurer@gmeta.org.

Lastly, we backtracked the 2021 reporting to keep to the quarterly theme, so the Q3 report may overlap with the initial report sent out in last year's first newsletter. From this report forward, we will present financials based on a quarterly basis. Note that some members upgraded from one membership type to another so that the "dues by membership type" will appear "off" based on the dues for that membership type.

Membership: We are currently at 83 approved members plus 4 that have not renewed due to personal issues and we will be resolving shortly. You may also notice a "test user" that is being used as part of debugging efforts.

On the next page you will find our breakdown of memberships and current balance sheet up to March 31, 2022 (end of Q1). As of May 15, 2022, the GMA has a cash balance of \$1567.83 in PayPal and \$2365.19 in the Bank account for a total of \$3933.02.

Matthew Martin, GMA0005 (treasurer@gmeta.org)

GMA Financial Report - 2021 QUARTER 3

DUES BY MEMBERSHIP TYPE		DUES RECEIVED
Supporter		\$0.00
Collector		\$0.00
Business		\$0.00
Lifetime-Supporter		\$0.00
Lifetime-Collector		\$200.00
Lifetime-Business		\$1200.00
Dues Received		\$1400.00
MEMBERSHIPS & INCOME		
Value of Dues (calculated above)		\$1400.00
Donations		\$10.00
Total Income		\$1410.00
DUES RECONCILIATION		
Wave Dues Income (Net)		\$0.00
Wave Fees		\$0.00
Paypal Dues & Donation Income (Net)		\$1410.00
Paypal Fees		\$0.00
Wire/Bank Transfer Dues Income (Net)		\$0.00
Wire/Bank Fees		\$0.00
Foreign Currency Conversion Adjustment		\$0.00
Total Calculated Income		\$1410.00
Actual Income (from Memberships above)		\$1410.00
Difference (Calculated vs. Actual Balance)		\$0.00
PAYPAL RECONCILIATION		
Paypal Starting Balance (Beginning of Period)		\$0.00
Paypal Gross Income (Payments Received)		\$1410.00
Paypal Payments Sent (Expenses)		\$0.00
Paypal Withdraws & Debits		\$0.00
Paypal Deposits & Credits (Incl. Refunds)		\$0.00
Paypal Fees		-\$42.43
Calculated Balance		\$1367.57

Paypal Ending Balance		\$1367.57
Difference (Calculated vs. Actual Balance)		\$0.00
BANK ACCOUNT RECONCILIATION		
Bank Starting Balance (Beginning of Period)		\$2015.38
Bank Deposits (from PayPal, Wave, etc.)		\$0.00
Bank Withdraws & Debits Transferred to PayPal		\$0.00
Bank Withdraws & Debits Paid Direct		\$0.00
Bank Fees		-\$48.00
Balance Change		-\$48.00
Calculated Bank Account Ending Balance		\$1967.38
Actual Statement Ending Balance		\$1967.38
Difference (Calculated vs. Actual Balance)		\$0.00
DONATIONS		
Income		\$10.00
Donations Total		\$10.00
EXPENSES (PAYPAL)		
N/A		\$0.00
Total Paypal Debits		\$0.00
EXPENSES (BANK/DIRECT)		
N/A		\$0.00
Total Bank Debits		\$0.00

GMA Financial Report - 2021 QUARTER 4

DUES BY MEMBERSHIP TYPE	DUES RECEIVED
Supporter	\$50.00
Collector	\$300.00
Business	\$420.00
Lifetime-Collector	\$0.00
Lifetime-Supporter	\$0.00
Dues Received	\$770.00
MEMBERSHIPS & INCOME	
Value of Dues (calculated above)	\$770.00
Donations	\$15.00
Total Income	\$785.00
DUES RECONCILIATION	
Wave Dues Income (Net)	\$0.00
Wave Fees	\$0.00
Paypal Dues & Donation Income (Net)	\$736.96
Paypal Fees	\$48.04
Wire/Bank Transfer Dues Income (Net)	\$0.00
Wire/Bank Fees	\$0.00
Foreign Currency Conversion Adjustment	\$0.00
Total Calculated Income	\$785.00
Actual Income (from Memberships above)	\$785.00
Difference (Calculated vs. Actual Balance)	\$0.00
PAYPAL RECONCILIATION	
Paypal Starting Balance (Beginning of Period)	\$1367.57
Paypal Gross Income (Payments Received)	\$785.00
Paypal Payments Sent (Expenses)	\$0.00
Paypal Withdraws & Debits	-\$865.00
Paypal Deposits & Credits (Incl. Refunds)	\$0.00
Paypal Fees	-\$48.04
Calculated Balance	\$1239.53
Paypal Ending Balance	\$1239.53

Difference (Calculated vs. Actual Balance)		\$0.00
BANK ACCOUNT RECONCILIATION		
Bank Starting Balance (Beginning of Period)		\$1967.38
Bank Deposits (from PayPal, Wave, etc.)		\$57.96
Bank Withdraws & Debits Transferred to PayPal		\$0.00
Bank Withdraws & Debits Paid Direct		\$0.00
Bank Fees		-\$48.00
Calculated Bank Account Ending Balance		\$1977.34
Balance Change		\$9.96
Actual Statement Ending Balance		\$1977.34
Difference (Calculated vs. Actual Balance)		\$0.00
DONATIONS		
Income		\$15.00
Donations Total		\$15.00
EXPENSES (PAYPAL)		
Refund of Membership Overpayment		-\$865.00
Paypal Debits		-\$865.00
EXPENSES (BANK/DIRECT)		
N/A		\$0.00
Bank Debits		\$0.00

GMA Financial Report - 2022 QUARTER 1

DUES BY MEMBERSHIP TYPE	DUES RECEIVED
Supporter	\$90.00
Collector	\$480.00
Business	\$580.00
Lifetime-Collector	\$150.00
Lifetime-Supporter	\$0.00
Dues Received	\$1300.00
MEMBERSHIPS & INCOME	
Value of Dues (calculated above)	\$1300.00
Donations	\$137.09
Total Income	\$1437.09
DUES RECONCILIATION	
Wave Dues Income (Net)	\$711.94
Wave Fees	\$8.06
Paypal Dues & Donation Income (Net)	\$513.27
Paypal Fees	23.82
Wire/Bank Transfer Dues Income (Net)	175.32
Wire/Bank Fees	\$4.68
Foreign Currency Conversion Adjustment	\$0.00
Total Calculated Income	\$1437.09
Actual Income (from Memberships above)	\$1437.09
Difference (Calculated vs. Actual Balance)	\$0.00
PAYPAL RECONCILIATION	
Paypal Starting Balance (Beginning of Period)	\$1239.53
Paypal Gross Income (Payments Received)	\$537.09
Paypal Payments Sent	-\$669.40
Paypal Withdraws & Debits	-\$49.00
Paypal Deposits & Credits (Incl. Refunds)	\$506.50
Paypal Fees	-\$23.82
Calculated Balance	\$1540.90
Paypal Ending Balance	\$1540.90

Difference (Calculated vs. Actual Balance)		\$0.00
BANK ACCOUNT RECONCILIATION		
Bank Starting Balance (Beginning of Period)		\$1977.34
Bank Deposits (from PayPal, Wave, etc.)		\$897.42
Bank Withdraws & Debits Transferred to PayPal		-\$101.50
Bank Withdraws & Debits Paid Direct		-\$9.95
Bank Fees		-\$48.00
Calculated Bank Account Ending Balance		\$2715.31
Balance Change		\$737.97
Actual Statement Ending Balance		\$2715.31
Difference (Calculated vs. Actual Balance)		\$0.00
DONATIONS		
Income		\$137.09
Donations Total		\$137.09
EXPENSES (PAYPAL)		
Hosting & Domain	Board Approved	-\$167.76
Hosting & Domain	Board Approved	-\$29.06
Hosting & Domain	Board Approved	-\$15.08
Site Security	Board Approved	-\$52.50
Site Plugin	Board Approved-Refunded	-\$49.00
New Hosting	Board Approved	-\$356.00
Paypal Debits		-\$669.40
EXPENSES (BANK/DIRECT)		
Domain Expense	Board Approved	-\$9.95
Bank Debits		-\$9.95

The Collector's Vector

Hedging the Approval of the CT Group by Dustin Dickens

The search is on, but no need for drones or metal detectors to join this adventure. We're on the hunt for a handful of already classified carbonaceous chondrites that may soon be part of the new carbonaceous *Telakoast (CT)* group. So, digital sleuths and number nerds gear-up! We're searching through collections, eBay listings and bags of stashed stones on this meteorite hunt. Fair warning to our Business members, double check your carbonaceous inventory!

A grouplet of 16 different carbonaceous chondrites which are currently classified as CM2, CM-an, or C-ung, might soon be getting an official group of their own. A stellar team of meteoriticists, including lead author A. Irving, and coauthors J. Gattacceca, K. Ziegler, C. Sonzogni, P. K. Carpenter, and L. A. J. Garvie, have recently proposed this new group in an abstract presented to the 53rd Lunar and Planetary Science Conference titled, [*CT Chondrites: A Newly Recognized Carbonaceous Chondrite Group with Multiple Members, Including Telakoast 001, Chwichiya 002 and Cimarron*](#). The abstract shows that the stable oxygen isotope ratios of the grouplet plot to roughly the same point against the terrestrial fractionation line, indicating a common parent body. The authors report that all specimens have relatively small chondrules with a mean apparent diameter of 280 μm . They also note that olivine shows Fayalite peaks at Fa_3 and Fa_{40} . Perhaps most interestingly, they mention that none of the specimens contain any CAIs. This lack of CAIs is another indicator of a common parent body which was apparently depleted of refractory minerals.

We should keep in mind that this newly proposed group has not been approved by the Nomenclature Committee, and there are no guarantees it

will be. Furthermore, oxygen ratios are only one indicator used to determine if meteorites belong to the same group. However, the sheer number and diversity of current classifications that fit into the proposed CT group, all now arguably misclassified, is quite compelling with regards to an expedited approval.

All of this is important because carbonaceous chondrites are uniquely important to planetary science and represent a rich sampling of primitive materials from early in the Solar System's evolution. They're rich in water and other volatiles and contain pre-solar grains and refractory minerals (CAIs) that help cosmochemists to determine and further refine the age of our Solar System.

At present the currently recognized taxonomy for carbonaceous chondrites, as reflected in the official Meteoritical Bulletin database, includes: Ivuna-like (CI), Mighei-like (CM), Ornans-like (CO), Vigarano-like (CV), Karoonda-like (CK), Renazzo-like (CR), Bencubbin-like (CB), High-metal (CH), and Loongana-like (CL). The C and C-ung designations without a petrologic type are essentially "old" placeholders for carbonaceous chondrites and should not be considered as distinct parts of the taxonomy as much as holdovers from a less specific time in the evolution of carbonaceous chondrite taxonomy. This point is an important consideration for type collectors. Meteoriticists have increasingly adopted more stringent taxonomy guidelines for ungrouped carbonaceous chondrites, with best practices requiring the -ung designation and an associated petrologic type, e.g., 1,2,3, etc. A great example of this new guideline is the classification of the 25 August 2020 fall in Morocco called Tarda, a C2-ung.

So, what are we looking for in this new CT group? Irving, et al have identified 16 classified meteorites that fall into two petrologic types, CT2 and CT3, including the following meteorites:

1. **CT3:** Telakoast 001, Cimarron, Chwichiya 002, NWA 6862, NWA 8781, NWA 12416, NWA 12957, NWA 13671, NWA 13984, NWA 14051, NWA 14139, NWA 14179, NWA 14200.
2. **CT2:** NWA 11699, Sarir Tazirbu 001, Qued Mya 002.

While all 16 of the meteorites listed above will be representative in some way of the CT parent body, the crème-de-le-crème is the type specimen, Telakoast 001. Regardless of if you stumble upon a piece of Telakoast 001 or Chwichiya 002, or NWA 11699 they will all be poised to be reclassified as CT. Certain collectors may prefer an aqueously altered CT, in which case one of the CT2 meteorites in the list would be sought out. What's interesting to note, is that while oxygen plots can reveal parentage and change the primary classification of a chondrite, for example, from CV to CR, it will never affect the petrologic grade. This is because this part of the classification is determined entirely by the geochemical equilibration and aqueous alteration of the meteorite's primitive mineralogy. This means the CM2 and C2-ung in the list should map to CT2, and that the C3-ung should map to CT3.

This author's enthusiasm for the search for these secrets hidden in plain view comes from having already discovered several of the listed meteorites in my own collection. I also enjoy a good scavenger hunt from time to time, and this has a bit of that flavor to it. Though speculation on my part, it seems likely that if the CT group is approved, then the value of these 16 meteorites will increase. There are no guarantees that either the CT group will be approved, or that if it is, it will increase the value of these meteorites, however, seems like a pretty good hedge to me.