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Message from the President

Dear GMA members,

I wish you all a happy and healthy new year! Although this end-of-year message is lengthy, I ask you to read through it all as there is much to share including some really great news.

This last year has been challenging, and the board recognizes that progress has been slow. However, I can assure you that we continue to work diligently to address shortcomings and map an exciting future. We are aware of and share many of your frustrations, but we sincerely appreciate your support on this journey to building a lasting meteorite organization focused on members and our shared passion for meteorites. Before we get to the good news, let's address some of your frustrations:

Feature rich websites are expensive to develop and maintain. Many of you have been frustrated, and rightfully so, by the state of the website and the seeming stall in feature and improvements. To keep costs to our organization low, I have been doing most of the development work on my own and paying for license costs, system administrator, and (when I could not do something on my own) a web developer out of my own pocket. Unfortunately, I could no longer afford to financially support the GMA on my own, thus slowing things down.

The website has suffered some strange outages. Some members were <u>not</u> able to access the site using their home's internet service provider, but were able to do so using their phone's cellular data connection. There have been an unusually high number of hack attacks on our site considering our size. There have been email outages on our web server. Let's just say that these issues have kept me and our system administrator busy.

Running such a complex and feature -rich website is a challenge and these issues have been frustrating for me as well. As you'll read next, we can now allocate additional efforts and funds to address these website issues and will have a stronger website by end of January.

A Look Back and a Glimpse Into Our (Brighter) Future

Major Announcement

Big BIG donation. On Nov. 1, the GMA received a donation of **\$25,000**. As some of you know, my other full-time job is being an international business consultant. My lead client is based Taiwan and during my last visit, I asked if he would support our organization. I put together a proposal and about a month later ... <u>success</u>! This donation represents a major turning point for our organization, and it will be used in 2023 for a long list of projects including website upgrades, education, and many other much needed updates that we simply could not afford before.

As a major benefit to our paid members, we can now permanently set Collector dues at \$20/year (instead of \$35), and Business dues at \$60/year (instead of \$120).





With this donation and board approval, we have transitioned all operating costs from me personally to the GMA, so you will see these expenses start to show up in the Q4 financial statement.

New Members

The Board wishes to welcome the following new members:

- 1) Business: Pierre Antonin, Ian Barrett, Martin Goff, Carlos Muñecas, Juan Aviles Poblador
- 2) Collector: Marissa Fanady, Gianluca Gasperoni, Ernesto Martín, John Mixter
- 3) Lifetime Collector: Leszek Kurnicki (special thanks for added donation).
- 4) Supporter: Mara Corallini, Vladimir Shir, Charles Gaudreau

Status of Previous Goals

- 1) Trusted Business page (click here)
 - a. STATUS: WORKING, with a few more features to add.
 - b. I have made massive changes on the backend, and this feature is now working. I have simplified and streamlined this function and added badges for various types of memberships. Business members will now have up to 3 badges associated with them: Dealer, Services, Products. I am in the process of rolling this out over the next few weeks so that there is a listing of each dealer by category: Dealer, Product and/or Services.
- 2) Catalog of Meteorites (CoMets)
 - a. STATUS: NO PROGRESS
 - b. Requires significant development work and project requires funding. However, with our donation, change is coming ...
- 3) Website Features, Responsiveness and Performance
 - a. STATUS: ALWAYS ONGOING, but significant improvements achieved.
 - b. The website is now loading much faster due to both website and server improvements. Most pages now have load times are under 3 seconds. Pages with complex function like our members page load in under 4-5 seconds. At this point, the only way to get much faster times will be to further optimize images (easy), or have our own dedicated server and/or to have highly customized code for some key functions (hard).
 - c. There is presently an issue accessing membership logos. Getting very close to solving this issue. In the meantime, anyone wanting to access their logo, please contact me at president@gmeta.org.
 - d. Now that major performance issues have been resolved, I will begin porting content over from SkyFall meteorites during this coming quarter. Some of this content is licensed from other people and will require further permissions.
- 4) Education
 - a. STATUS: ONGOING but SLOW





- b. We are working with several scientists to develop slides to explain the classification process and a great explanation of CAIs. Targeting release before summer.
- c. Developing content for all to learn remains a top priority for us.

Other Accomplishments, Good News & Updates

- We had a table at Ensisheim and generated some great buzz for our organization. Our presence led to a new member joining and significantly increasing our visibility. Our collateral material of business cards, banner, drink coasters and lanyards were a hit. Special thanks to Juan Aviles Poblador for paying for our table, Tomek Jakubowski for paying for the lanyards and Sean Mahoney for paying for the coasters.
- New member benefit: George Penneff has very generously agreed to give our members a big discount on his Gem Slicer diamond wire saw. Click <u>here</u> and read more in Treasurer report.
- 3) I have created an entire badging system to identify, beyond the ones listed above, the following type of members: Lifetime, Affiliates, Board members, and Business types (Dealer, Product, Services).

A Look Forward

- 1) Tucson will soon be upon us and for those attending, the GMA will hold the 2nd annual get together. We will be providing details soon.
- 2) What we need is a listserv where Collectors, Business members can email each other, send suggestions with the Board and generally share news. This functionality, like the meteorite-list from Meteorite Central, will be installed by end of Q1.
- 3) I'll be putting together the software requirements to make the next big transformative step in creating a world class web site. Anyone that wants to help and has WordPress system development experience, please contact me. One of the big functions we will be working on is Catalog of Meteorites (CoMets). If you have other ideas, feel free to contact me directly.
- 4) The GMA believes that all board members should contribute by supporting special projects. We are working up the list now and will report on these projects in the next newsletter.
- 5) We need to start preparing for next year's elections. We will start asking for candidate in Q3'2023, so if you are interested, start thinking about it now. All candidate requirements are listed on the <u>website</u>.
- 6) Some other big stuff ...
 - a. We have been remiss in volunteerism and education/outreach. Want to help, let us know especially if you'd like to help in our education efforts.
 - b. Expand membership We are way 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.

c. Changing from non-profit to charity – this activity will pick up steam now that we can afford a lawyer, but this is low priority.

Since the GMA was first conceived, our goal was to make the organization represent the needs and interests of the global meteorite community in an inclusive and transparent manner. We want to include the membership in this work. Please contact any Board member with your ideas for GMA activities and benefits, your concerns, and your suggestions for improvement. More importantly, if you are willing to help working on upcoming projects, please let us know. The GMA is YOUR organization, and we welcome your involvement.

We appreciate your patience as we work through these issues and fix others that crop up along the way. We want to hear your constructive feedback both positive and negative so we can do better and improve our organization for your benefit, so contact us. Don't be shy, email us at <u>contact-us@gmeta.org</u>. We do listen!

Mendy Ouzillou President, #G0002 Global Meteorite Association, Inc.

Message from the Treasurer

Aloha Everyone,

I wish you all good health and good spirits in 2023.

First, I want to say "thank you" to those members who have already paid their membership dues for 2023. Given how busy things are this time of the year, I know that there are other more pressing issues to tackle, however for those who haven't renewed yet, please take a moment to renew now! If you would like me to resend your dues invoice with the quick pay link inside, email me at: treasurer@gmeta.org. Otherwise, you can search your inbox and pay using the link in the invoice you should have received previously from our accounting software.

You spoke and we listened: A few members had difficulty renewing with the new automated charging system that was designed to retain your payment details (if you chose) to allow for automatic dues payments in the future. However, we have disabled this auto-charging feature and streamlined the process so that invoices for membership renewal will automatically be sent to every member annually (except Lifetime members) on November 15th of each year. If you pay by credit card, the 3rd party payment processor will NOT retain or keep your card details any longer. Thank you to those who took the time to provide feedback.



For those still needing to pay 2023 dues, you can pay directly via Credit Card or ACH transfer using the link in the invoice—quick and easy! For those who prefer to pay via PayPal (now or in the future), you can simply send your dues payment to: <u>dues@gmeta.org</u> anytime (please include your name in the memo). Any funds provided in addition to your dues amount will be recorded as a donation and your receipt will reflect as such once input into our accounting software.

GMA Membership Has its Benefits

Several members have collaborated with the Board to offer discounts on equipment and services <u>exclusively to GMA members</u>! Check these out:

Equipment Discounts:

NEW <u>Meteorites, LTD</u> has been providing various meteorite-related services for many years. George Peneff has recently brought to market a diamond wire saw with features typically only found at the highest and most expensive end of the spectrum, and is providing a generous <u>£2,100 (~\$2,500) discount</u> exclusively to GMA members. Information is available along with photos of this professional saw in the <u>benefits section</u> of the GMA website. Please reference your active GMA membership number in any correspondence.

Cutting & Polishing Service Discounts

<u>Minnesota Meteorites</u> is a full service cutting, restoration, and sales shop. We use only computer-controlled diamond wire saws to make highly precise cuts with minimal material loss. We are pleased to offer a <u>10% discount</u> on cutting services available exclusively to GMA Collector and Business members. As a GMA Business member ourselves, we are excited to work with the GMA family! Visit our <u>Cutting and Finishing Services</u> page for more information. Please reference your active GMA membership number in any correspondence.

Restoration Services Discounts

<u>KD Meteorites</u> has been stabilizing and restoring meteorites since 1990 using a proprietary process that will help extend the life of iron and stony-iron meteorites, helping to preserve them for years of future enjoyment. Our stabilization and restoration services have been utilized by many university and museum collections, including the University of New Mexico, ASU and the Maine Gem & Mineral Museum to name a few. We are pleased to offer an exclusive <u>10% discount</u> off of our standard rates for GMA Collector and Business members! Contact us today to see why the finest collections in the world trust KD Meteorites to stabilize and restore their specimens. Visit





our <u>Meteorite Stabilization and Restoration Services</u> page to learn more. Please reference your active GMA membership number in any correspondence.

Classification Services Discounts

 New Mexico Meteoritic Services (NMMS) is a nonprofit service managed by the Center for Meteoritic Studies. NMMS offers analysis and classification services for suspected meteorites in association with the Institute of Meteoritics at the University of New Mexico, as well as the microprobe lab at University of Colorado at Boulder. NMMS provides GMA Collector and Business members with a 20% discount on all analysis and classification services. Please reference your active GMA membership number in any correspondence.

Any members who wish to offer a discount on equipment, products or services and be added to the benefits section of the GMA website (and included in emails such as this) should contact Mendy at: president@gmeta.org. As an added benefit, anyone offering a discount will be badged as an Affiliate as part of their profile to show their support of the GMA.

Support Your Business Members

And, while the traditional holiday shopping is behind us, we encourage you to support your fellow GMA business members to acquire gifts for loved ones, friends, and yourself! See them all (2 pages) at https://gmeta.org/trusted-business-members/trusted-businesses.

Current business members, listed in alphabetical order:

- 1) <u>AZ Meteorites</u> (John & Ashley Humphries)
- 2) Collecting Meteorites (Tomasz Jakubowski)
- 3) <u>Eclectic-Art</u> (Emilie Cebe)
- 4) <u>ExpoMeteoritos</u> (Carlos Munecas)
- 5) KD Meteorites (Keith & Dana Jenkerson)
- 6) Jurassic Dreams (Juan Aviles Poblador)
- 7) Jurassic Jewelry (Ian Barrett)
- 8) Moutinho Meteorites (Andre Moutinho)
- 9) Natural History Laboratory (Matthew Martin)
- 10) Mark Lyon Meteorites (Mark Lyon)
- 11) Meteorites.dk (Jesper Gronne)
- 12) Minnesota Meteorites (Craig Zlimen)
- 13) Mo's Meteorites (Moritz Karl)
- 14) MSG Meteorites (Martín Goff)
- 15) Saharock Meteorites (Noreddine Azelmat)
- 16)Outer Spacer Meteorites (Sean Mahoney)
- 17) Peter Scherff Meteorites (Peter Scherff)





18)<u>Regmaglypts</u> (Doug Chenin)
19)<u>RK Meteorites</u> (Rob Keeton)
20)<u>Yoda Meteorites</u> (Salamu Ali)
21)<u>Skyfall Meteorites</u> (Mendy Ouzillou)
22)<u>SP-Meteorites</u> (Pierre Antonin)
23)Top Meteorite (Dustin Dickens)

Financials

While I'll be working on Q4 financials once we enter the new year, the Q3 financials are below. Note that the large donation was made in Q4, so it will show up in the next report.

QUARTER 3 SUMMARY	In US\$
Q3 Total Income	40,00
Q3 Total Expenses	-10,00
Q3 Ending Balance	3962,13
DUES BY MEMBERSHIP TYPE	DUES RECEIVED
Supporter	40,00
Collector	0,00
Business	0,00
Lifetime-Collector	0,00
Lifetime-Supporter	0,00
Dues Received	40,00
MEMBERSHIPS & INCOME	
Value of Dues (calculated above)	40,00
Donations	0,00
Total Income	40,00
DUES RECONCILIATION	
Wave Dues & Donations Income (Net)	0,00
Wave Fees	0,00
PayPal Dues & Donation Income	27,03
PayPal Fees	2,97
Wire/Bank Transfer Dues Income (Net)	9,11
Wire/Bank Fees	0,89
Foreign Currency Conversion Adjustment	0,00
Total Calculated Income	40,00
Actual Income (from Memberships above)	40,00
Difference (Calculated vs. Actual Balance)	0,00

GMA Quarterly Impact Newsletter



Issue 2: 2022-Q2

PAYPAL RECONCILIATION	
PayPal Starting Balance (Beginning of Period)	1576,84
PayPal Gross Income (Payments Received)	30,00
PayPal Payments Sent	(10,00)
PayPal Withdraws & Debits	0,00
PayPal Deposits & Credits (Incl. Refunds)	0,00
PayPal Fees	(2,97)
Calculated Balance	1593,87
PayPal Ending Balance	1593,87
Difference (Calculated vs. Actual Balance)	0,00
BANK ACCOUNT RECONCILIATION	0407.45
Bank Starting Balance (Beginning of Period)	2407,15
Bank Deposits (from PayPal, Wave, etc.)	9,11
Bank Withdraws & Debits Transferred to	0,00
Bank Withdraws & Debits Paid Direct	0,00
Bank Fees	(48,00)
Calculated Bank Account Ending Balance	2368,26
Balance Change	(38,89)
Actual Statement Ending Balance	2368,26
Difference (Calculated vs. Actual Balance)	0,00
DONATIONS	
Income	0,00
Donations Total	0,00
	0,00
EXPENSES (PAYPAL)	
Membership Refund	(10,00)
PayPal Debits	(10,00)
EXPENSES (BANK/DIRECT)	
Bank Debits	0,00

Wishing you all w wonderful New Year celebration!

Aloha,

Matthew Martin Treasurer & Member #G0005





Global Meteorite Association, Inc.