

GMA ADDENDUM – January 19, 2023

Dear GMA members,

Though it has only been a little over two weeks since our last newsletter update, we wanted to share exciting news with you. By the way, the GMA Tucson party info is at the bottom, so you now must read everything below. :-)

Part of our organization's DNA is that we work for the benefit of our members, and so it follows that we must also be responsive to your needs.

SECTION 1: MEMSHIP TYPES

We are **changing our membership structure and requirements** to be more open and flexible as follows:

- 1) We will change our membership structure from “**Explorer, Supporter, Collector & Business**” to “**Educational, Supporter, General Member, Trusted Business**”.
- 2) **Explorer to Educational:**
 - a. Reason: We want to draw in not just primary and secondary students but also their teachers.
 - b. Benefit: The long-term goal is to create a network of students and educators that support science and can spread the joy of collecting meteorites.
- 3) **Supporter:**
 - a. No change
- 4) **Collector to General Member:**
 - a. Reason: We had some business members that did not want to renew as business members but would as collectors, and some that had to be approved as Collectors because they did not have an established business yet.
 - b. Reason: Enforcing a limit on the number of meteorites sold per month was too complicated and would only lead to unnecessary problems down the road. The board did not want to police our members transactions.
 - c. Benefit: Selling limits have been removed.
 - d. Benefit: Our membership can now accommodate any type of member including scientists, researchers, curators, and others that are deeply involved in meteorites but are not necessarily Collectors.
 - e. Benefit: Means we can have some cool mugs, t-shirts, and other swag later this year.
 - f. Info: We will be updating the numbered logos and badges soon. If you are already using the numbered logo on your specimen cards or other printed materials, you will have one year to make the changeover.
- 5) **Business to Trusted Business:**
 - a. Reason: We already had the concept of Trusted Business and now this category will be reserved for businesses that want to take advantage of all the benefits we offer and have been vetted by the board.
 - b. Reason: Requiring 3 recommendations was deemed by the board to be an unnecessary requirement when this new membership type is already reserved for known businesses.
 - c. Benefit: Changing the number of recommendations required from 3 down to 2.

- d. NEW benefit: Catawiki ... see below.
- e. Info: The numbered logos will remain the same.
- 6) All updates to the website explaining and listing the complete benefits and limitations of each type of membership will be listed by the end of the month on the <https://gmeta.org/membership/membership-descriptions-requirements> page.

SECTION 2: CATAWIKI

We are proud to announce that we have secured an **exclusive partnership with Catawiki**. Though Catawiki is located in Europe, accounts can be worldwide, so this benefit can apply to all members. The highlights are as follows:

- 1) This partnership is to be renewed every year.
- 2) Catawiki will run at least 6 “GMA – Meteorites” auctions in 2023 and members that participate in these auctions will have their Catawiki selling fees reduced from the **standard 12.5% down to 9%**. Your own Catawiki auctions (outside these special auctions) are still at same rate.
 - a. Trusted Business (**TB**):
 - i. This reduction in fees would, by itself, pay for a Trusted Business membership after only \$1720 in sales (not including any other GMA benefit with a financial impact).
 - ii. This benefit is included as part of your Trusted Business membership.
 - b. General Member (**GM**):
 - i. As an existing GM member, this benefit is provided for free until next renewals cycle (starting Nov. 15 but taking effect on Jan. 1, 2024)
 - ii. After that time, this benefit will require an additional \$20 to your standard GM membership dues in order to participate in the Catawiki GMA Meteorite auctions.
 - c. TB & GM members will include a link in their GMA profile to their Catawiki profile.
- 3) These auctions will be curated by Francesco Moser who works for Catawiki and is of course a member of the GMA Board. Special thanks to Francesco for making the introductions to initiate this partnership.
 - a. The first GMA Meteorite auction starts Feb. 17 and runs until Feb. 28.
 - b. Contact Francesco immediately if you want to participate or want to join GMA to take advantage of this benefit.
- 4) Catawiki will donate \$1000 to the GMA in the next 2 weeks.

SECTION 3: THE PARTY

Here is the info on the Second Annual GMA Tucson Party:

- 1) Like last year, the event will be held at the Sky Bar (<https://skybartucson.com/>), located at 536 N 4th Ave, Tucson, AZ 85705
- 2) The event will kick off on **Tuesday at 7:00pm, January 31** and go until we just get too tired of hanging out and having fun.
- 3) Spread the love – everyone is invited, member and non-member alike. There is no fee to attend, but if someone is a non-member, then a \$5 to \$10 donation is appreciated (not required)

- 4) As this is an official event for the GMA and an opportunity to increase membership, the GMA will provide up to \$200 of free pizza for attendees. Alcoholic drinks and additional pizzas are available from the bar.
- 5) For our members not able to attend, we will be working on another outreach event in June for Ensisheim.

IN CLOSING

So, regards to all and as always, you can share this information with anyone you desire. This update will be available on the website under <https://gmeta.org/community/quarterly-impact-newsletter> as an addendum.

The GMA Board of Directors

P.S. You have an amazing board of directors. They have an amazing passion and work really hard to make our organization better. There is so much happening behind the scenes, and it will all benefit our members and future board members. We are only 2 years old and the best is yet to come.

Mendy Ouzillou
GMA President