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THE PAST PRESIDENTS' MEDAL FOR 1988 TO STEVEN D. SCOTT

Ladies and Glentlemen, it is my pleasure to introduce your Past Presidents' Medalist for 1988. As you know, this medal is awarded annually for excellence in research to a scientist who has made outstanding contributions to the mineralogical sciences in Canada. This year our medalist is Dr. Steven D. Scott of the University of Toronto, who abundantly fills the criteria, as you will hear in a moment.

I have known Steve for many years, and remember well hearing about him initially from his Ph.D. supervisor, Hu Barnes, who was ecstatic with the rapid progress and innovative thinking of his new grad student. At that time, Steven was pursuing the problems of stoichiometry and structure of sphalerite and wurtzite, work that eventually led to his well-known development of the sphalerite geobarometer. Indeed, who would have predicted that an economic geologist would be telling the astronomers the pressures and temperatures of the fragments of planetary interiors that reached the Earth as meteorites? While he continued his interest in sulfide mineralogy, structure, and geochemistry, he widened his horizons, first into the origins of massive sulfide deposits of the Precambrian. Work on these deposits gave him an interest in the details of younger deposits, leading him through the Paleozoic, to Kuroko-type deposits and, more recently, to the sulfide deposits on the floor of modern oceans. At every stage of this journey of exploration he has relentlessly pursued excellence and has made sure the work was published in rigorously reviewed journals. His distinction in research has resulted in over 260 invited lectures at scientific institutes around the world. At last count, his *curriculum vitae* lists more than 50 refereed papers and more than 90 abstracts. Most exciting at present is his deep involvement with deposits of the Guaymas Basin and the East Pacific Rise. His involvement is literally "deep", as he goes personally on deep dives in mini-submarines to collect data from his new field areas.

As if all this were not enough, Steve has decided to carry his love of mineralogical research to the public. He has appeared with David Suzuki, has seen his work popularized in science columns of the public press, and had contributed books to the science education of school children.

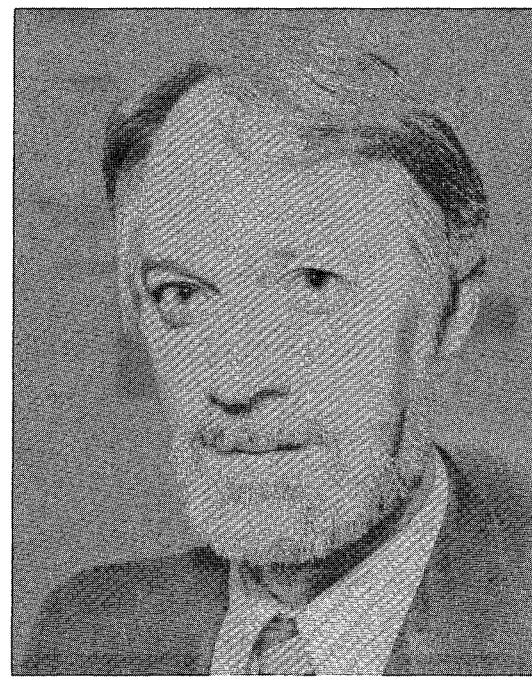
Ladies and Gentlemen, it is with admiration and pleasure that I present to you the 1988 winner of the Past Presidents' Medal, Dr. Steven D. Scott.

Citation prepared and read by Hugh J. Greenwood
Chairman, Past Presidents' Medal Committee

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have probably spent more time thinking about what to say in the next few minutes than I have about the two talks that I am giving at this meeting. Acceptance of this prestigious award has caused me to lift my head from my busy work and take stock of where I have been and, perhaps more importantly, where I am going. Where I am going seems pretty clear as I spend more and more time at sea doing the work on seafloor polymetallic sulfides that is really exciting me now. In fact, I was on board an Australian ship as Chief Scientist of an oceanographic expedition in the Western Woodlark Basin off the east coast of Papua New Guinea when I got the news in January that I was to be given the MAC Past Presidents' Medal at this meeting. My shipmates and I couldn't celebrate in the traditional manner because, believe-it-or-not and contrary to what Paul Hogan would have you believe about hard-drinking Australians, we were on a dry ship!

As for where I've been, some well-worn but true clichés come to mind. One is ".. .behind every successful man, there is a certain kind of woman. . ." (you can define the 'kind' at your own peril). Well,



STEVEN D. SCOTT

I've got a *great* woman behind me. Joan and I celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary last December. Through those 25 years she never complained (much) about my absences as she raised our two children to adulthood. First, it was the long hours that I had to spend, often in the middle of the night, nursing pressure vessels through one crisis or another. Then it was the weeks I spent, often far from home, doing field work on ore deposits. Now it is the weeks that I spend at sea.

Another cliché has something to do with ". . . seeing far by standing on the shoulders of giants. . . ". Well, I am 6'4" (193 cm if you prefer) so I should certainly be able to see a long way if I stand on someone's shoulders. And I have indeed had some very good help along the way. In my high school days, a physics teacher ("Hardrock" Everson), a chemistry teacher ("Doc" Adamson) and the Principal at Stratford Collegiate Institute led me to believe that there was more to life than sports and girls, and kindled my interest in science. Arch Reid, who taught introductory geology at the University of Western Ontario and is now at the University of Houston, piqued my interest in geology and showed me that I could combine geology and chemistry. The late J. E. Thompson, who at the time was Chief Geologist of the Ontario Department of Mines, and Ken Card, who is now with the GSC, tried to make a field geologist out of me. They were temporarily thwarted when, as an undergraduate at Western, I was introduced by Gary Boone (who is now at Syracuse) to what was then the new world of high-pressure and high-temperature experiments, and by the late Gordon Suffel to the focus of my career in ore deposits. At Penn State my experimental, thermodynamic, phase equilibrium and mineralogical expertise was honed under the most capable guidance of my Ph.D. supervisor, Hu Barnes. Hu was a great thesis supervisor. He taught by example, demanded nothing less than the best from his students..... and was away enough to let his students get on with the job! Many colleagues at Toronto have had an influence on me, but I want to single out Greg Anderson and Tony Naldrett, from whom I still derive inspiration and help, and a succession of Chairmen who gave me the support I needed to do my work, starting with Les Nuffield, who hired me, then Dave Strangway and now Geoff Norris.

I suppose I have learned from Hu Barnes that the secret of being a successful university professor is to attract first-rate graduate students, give them some direction and then get out of their way when they start to become creative. Good graduate students make a professor *look* good, and I have been blessed with some of the best.

The awarding of a medal starts with someone caring enough to take the time to make the nomination and drum up support. I do not know who was responsible for promoting me for the Past Presidents' Medal of the MAC but, whoever they are, I want to thank them and the Association for the honor that has been bestowed on me.

Thank you!

Steven D. Scott