

**MRS** **Featured Volunteer**

**Julia M. Phillips**  
MRS President, 1995

**What is your favorite element?**

Carbon. Where would we be without it?

**What do you read first in MRS Bulletin?**

Table of Contents. Then I check out "Editor's Choice." A lot of the images are both spectacular and intriguing.

**What was the last book you read?**

*Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison....I last read it in high school. It's amazing how the perspective of a few decades can change the way one views things.

**What inspired you to be a materials researcher?**

It was a gradual evolution, beginning with an elementary school ambition to be an astronomer. That led to a series of degrees in atomic physics, followed by an opportunity to join the staff at Bell Labs to do something that was not defined but was clearly neither astronomy nor atomic physics. My work in materials research grew out of the broad interests of Bell Labs, good management, and a sense of where I could contribute.



**What is your Motto?**

The closest is probably *Carpe Diem*.

**If you were not a materials researcher, what would you be?**

I would most likely be a flutist. It's still a strong interest, but materials research pays much better, and I can still play flute for fun.

**What common household item do you use in your lab?**

When I had a lab, a kitchen timer was indispensable.

*Julia M. Phillips is a department manager in Materials and Process Modeling and Computation at Sandia National Laboratories. She is currently a member of the MRS Awards, Membership, and Public Affairs Committees and serves on the Journal of Materials Research Advisory Review Board and Editorial Board and as chair of the MRS Bulletin Book Review Board. She has chaired several MRS committees, co-chaired the 1991 MRS Fall Meeting, and served on the MRS Executive Committee.*

**What did you first do as an MRS volunteer?**

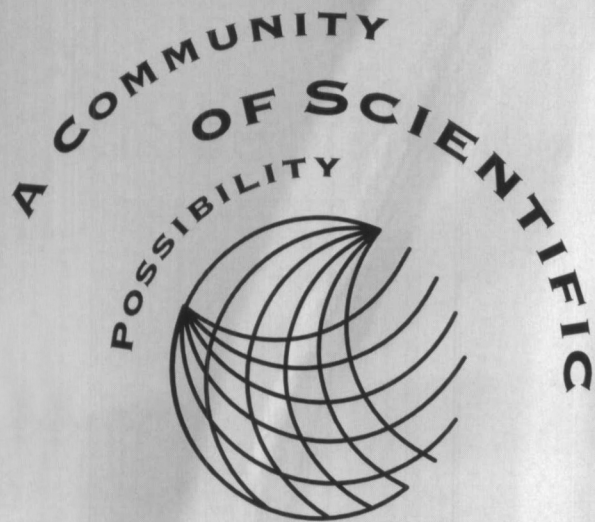
Elton Kaufmann asked me to chair a task force on Publicity and Public Relations which later grew into a committee by the same name. At that time there was barely an MRS Headquarters, let alone support for meeting publicity. I've now been around long enough to see the committee disbanded as many of its functions have been taken over by the Headquarters staff!

To contribute to **MRS Featured Volunteer**, send in your responses to the questions to *MRS Bulletin*, 506 Keystone Drive, Warrendale, PA 15086-7573, USA; fax 724-779-8313; e-mail [Bulletin@mrs.org](mailto:Bulletin@mrs.org). Include your name, volunteer activity, address, fax, and e-mail.

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Your discounted member subscription to *Journal of Materials Research (JMR)* includes FREE Web access at least 4-6 weeks before print issue arrives in the mail!

With the addition of these two benefits, the primary goal of the Materials Research Society (MRS) continues to be service...to its members and to the community of researchers in the science and engineering of modern materials. The Society's interdisciplinary approach differs from that of single-discipline professional societies because it promotes information exchange across the many technical fields touching materials development.

Take control of your professional destiny—enroll today, and join the community of scientific possibility!

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Each year, more than 6000 members from around the world attend the MRS Spring and Fall Meetings and expand their professional network of contacts through the exchange of new ideas and information. MRS members enjoy reduced registration fees for these meetings and for the new MRS Workshop Series.

*"For me, the Materials Research Society is an important and exciting part of the scientific experience and I look forward to the Spring and Fall Meetings each year. These meetings, with their international coverage and wonderful interdisciplinary nature, have enabled me to meet scientists from around the world working in many fields, and have broadened my understanding and enjoyment of materials science research."*

—Frances M. Ross, IBM Research Division, Yorktown Heights, NY

### • NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES & CAREER SERVICES

The annual Membership Directory is your connection to over 12,600 MRS members worldwide. In addition, the Society offers an Employment Center at both its Spring and Fall Meetings.

*"Through various activities in MRS, I am constantly reconnected with old friends. I am always delighted to have an e-mail from out of the blue. And, I often turn to the MRS directory to contact an old colleague for a second opinion in an area that is new to me. We are all woven together with our interest in materials, but each lends a distinct strand to the fabric of MRS."*

—Dr. Bethanie J. Stadler, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

### • UNIVERSITY CHAPTERS & SECTIONS

MRS University Chapters are created on university campuses to foster discussion among students and faculty across a broad range of materials disciplines and to generate student interest in materials science. MRS Regional Sections provide local forums for the interaction of scientists and engineers in various materials disciplines of particular interest to that community. At present, MRS supports more than 40 active University Chapters and seven Sections.

*"MRS is a great professional society for young materials scientists and engineers. I encourage my students to become MRS members and attend MRS meetings. I am pleased to say that UCLA was the first university to establish an MRS Student Chapter."*

—Professor King-Ning Tu, University of California—Los Angeles, CA



# JOIN MRS TODAY!

## JOURNALS & PERIODICALS

The Society offers two premier monthly publications. *MRS Bulletin*, soon in its 25th year, is a monthly news magazine offering technical overview articles and focusing on news and trends in materials research education, policy and industry... and is FREE to MRS members. *Journal of Materials Research (JMR)* is the official journal of the Materials Research Society. Nearing its 15th year, this archival publication is available to MRS members at a special discounted rate, and now includes FREE Web access with all print subscriptions.

"MRS keeps me up to date with the activities in the areas of my current interests, and exposes me to exciting possibilities for future interests."

—Professor Michael J. Aziz, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

## BOOKS & VIDEOTAPES

MRS publishes the proceedings of selected symposia as well as materials research related books. This series has become a standard reference in many areas of materials science and numbers over 620 volumes. MRS members may purchase these items at 15-30% off list price. FREE Web access to new electronic versions of MRS proceedings will also be available to MRS members in 2000.

"The meetings and publications which MRS has developed provide excellent opportunities for both the multidisciplinary contacts and the awareness of new science and technologies which R&D increasingly requires."

—Dr. Peter Lednor, Shell Research and Technology Centre, Amsterdam

## AWARDS

The MRS Awards Program acknowledges outstanding contributors to the progress of materials research, and recognizes their exciting and profound accomplishments. A variety of awards are offered to honor those whose work has already had a major impact in the field, as well as those whose work shows great promise for future leadership.

"For the past 20 years, the Materials Research Society has provided me with outstanding forums for meeting and interacting with a broad spectrum of materials researchers on both technical and professional matters. The technical meetings have allowed me to keep current in several areas of research, and the professional relationships that I have established with other researchers through committee work have proven invaluable."

—Alan I. Taub, Ford Motor Company, Dearborn, MI

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### B. 2000 Member Subscription to *Journal of Materials Research* (Includes FREE access to the JMR online in 2000!)

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