

The Clay Minerals Society

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CLAYS AND CLAY MINERALS®

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Dear Prospective CMS Meeting Participant,

On behalf of the Clay Minerals Society, thank you for your interest in participating in the 44th Annual Clay Minerals Society Meeting. More than 200 attendees from all clay minerals disciplines are expected to attend this six-day scientific meeting which will be held June 2-7, 2007, at La Fonda in Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA. The primary purpose of this meeting is to share scientific research among clay mineral researchers. In addition, three field trips are planned to highlight several mineralogical and geological sites of northern New Mexico.

We would be delighted to have you join us in Santa Fe this year. Personal invitations are not necessary to attend meetings of the Clay Minerals Society. All of the Society's meetings are open scientific events and welcome all persons who are interested, pay the necessary registration fee, and otherwise conform to the Society's Bylaws for its meetings. Each annual meeting is announced to the scientific community through publication of the call for papers in the Society's official publication, *Clays and Clay Minerals*.

Airfare, ground transportation, hotel, meals, travel insurance, and any other local expenses are typically the responsibility of each meeting participant.

If you need to apply for a temporary non-immigrant visa to attend the CMS annual meeting, you are advised to apply for your visa as soon as travel to the United States is contemplated and not later than three to four months in advance. International participants should start the visa process during January–February 2007. All applicants must be able to qualify for a visa on their own merits under the requirements of the Immigration and Nationality Act. The Society cannot intervene with the U.S. State Department or an American embassy in another country on behalf of any meeting participant. You can submit this letter with your visa application to verify the name, dates, location, and purpose of the CMS annual meeting. Once you have registered for the meeting after January 18, 2007, you can also bring your registration confirmation paperwork to your visa interview. However, we will not be able to provide additional visa support nor will we call or generate personal letters to the embassy or consulate on your behalf. Additional meeting information can be found at www.sandia.gov/clay.

We look forward to your participation in "Enchanted Clays", the 44th Annual CMS Meeting.

"Enchanted Clays" local planning committee:

Randall T. Cygan, Sandia National Laboratories
Jeffery A. Greathouse, Sandia National Laboratories
George D. Guthrie, Los Alamos National Laboratory
Duane A. Moore, University of New Mexico

Randall T. Cygan
Chair, planning committee